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1962 - Nov. 27

Carolyn Brown Dodge

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Letter #5 (black ink, envelope)

Envelope

217 N St. S.W.
Quincey, Washington

Mr. Mrs. E.H. Robinson
Rt 1 Box 22
Sidney, Montana

Letter

Nov. 27, 1962

Dear Carol + all

Have owed you a letter too long and will make one last effort before I start the Christmas cards + letters. Have my cards + paper + now wonder how is going to be the easiest way to get it done. I didn't send last year because of Boynton's illness but feel I must do it this year. So many heard from only at Christmas time.

Have survived a very nice thanksgiving. Times change from year to year. The usual Dodge doings at Ellensburg fell by the wayside. Married children in all of the families there now which could add to or subtract from the group. Jack + Sharon had not been home in months + said they'd like to come for thanksgiving. Bill + sandy said if J+S came they'd like to stay here too so we numbered eight at our little get together. We ate plenty, relaxed more, + surely enjoyed the day. Steven thoroughly enjoyed the big big drum stick and we had fixed a little round patio table for Shelley, complete with tablecloth and decorations + she just loved it. Sharon wanted candles on the table + we had them so we were festive. The turkey was a twelve pounder + the last of it finished last evening – with no agony.

Jack + Sharon did not have to go home until Sunday, leaving about noon since it is a four -hour drive. Was probably more than that with traffic heavier and we also had a strong west wind blowing. They report 40 to 50 mph here + 60 to 90 mph on the coast so a bit of a storm. This our third such blow this fall.

We had a nice fall for harvest tho. Nothing frozen in even yet. Had enuf moisture thru the fall so that a few are still threshing alfalfa seed any time they can + one man told us yesterday that they could thresh or combine a few more beans that had been unmoved for some time. Said tho that the moisture content was 29% so it was going to cost quite a bit extra to get them dried out – apparently, beans pay pretty good tho for surely lots of them grown here now – tho much less than a few years ago – largely due to the agonies of getting them harvested. Always too dry or too wet it seems.

We are in the process of planning for Bob's wedding in Connecticut. Looks like Bill + I will go + Boynton's sister may meet us in New York City and go with us. The Hessels (Mary's folks) write that they have reserved a cottage at the Inn for the Dodges which will be quiet, has a living room + can easily accommodate fourteen! Surely wish that many could be there but since Bill's + my fares came to owe \$650 you can see why the attendance from here will be limited. I feel so strongly that some of us must go – Boynton just couldn't make such a trip. In fact has had to pass up three expense paid trips for this winter because physically he can't handle even what he should be doing here. Anyway he thinks I should go – and I surely want to. Sandy bot some

gold and green brocade for a dress for me and its being made now. Will cover some previously used shoes with same material. So I'll get a new dress that way. I found a hat I'd love to have but don't know if it would go with this dress. It's like the new wig hats in that the feathers can be shaped to suit the occasion. Real saucy if worn in bow – gathers combed forward and pretty as can be if in a natural back rolling way. Oh we have lots of ideas and plans and I surely hope that it works out for the joy of all. Oh – our reservation as of now have us leave Seattle Wed. the 26th – about midnight and return on Sun. 30th. How is that for speedy trips? Surely would like to take more time but know we can't see much this time and the main thing is to get there. Maybe sometime we can tour the east – when we retire. I think spud dealers retire about like most farmers do – only when they can no longer lift that pitchfork or fill that shovel.

Later – and I must finish quick if this gets in the mail. Glad to hear Dorothy is doing well as she is. Those tranquilizers can do wonders in those cases and I think that tranquility is important now for Dorothy. I owe Mary a letter tho I've written her since I wrote you. Mary is good medicine for the situation at their place – I do enjoy her and Ed – and also Mark a lot and wish we could see more of each other.

The spuds are beginning to be cellar sorted now. A little market for them and of course they have to try to mow some so the sorter can be inside the cellar when weather gets colder. The company has started so little so far this fall and surely need to try to move a few. Hope this market gets out of its slump – its bee rough. This not a very inspiring letter but I'll let it go this time. Perhaps I need a bit of Ernest's Fairview liquid to perk up my thots!

Hey this had I mentioned for the wedding is not a wig hat – I couldn't stand one of those. But its just a little feather had and was cute so could be.

Take care of yourselves. Perhaps you could do with a little travel yourselves. Come along with Esther and Elvin. Now theres an idea!

Love Carolyn