

C34-0422-1

Beloit, Kansas
April 22, 1934

Mr. Edgar A. Francis
Marshalltown, Iowa
Hello yourself Eddie old kid;

I'll be darned if it isn't the Edgar we were so proud of a number of years ago whose letter were read by the whole bunch and laughed over. We tho't you might turn out to be a preacher or something just as bad as that. It was quite a surprise to hear from you, we've wondered about you so often. So you see you were not fotgotten in the least and the favorable impression still remains.

About that tree you speak of, be very careful for you might be liable to run up against some pretty tough ones before you get to the kings and queens. If you do just saw the limb off and let'm drop. I am the only one left of our family and have always been too busy to carry on a correspondence or keep tabs on my forefathers so cannot give you much useful information about them. My family is pretty badly scattered. Sue, the oldest is in Kansas City, V.A., the only boy in the family is in Lamar, Colo, Nita and I are in Beloit. Marg and her husband are in Omaha, Eolia's husband is a druggist and they live in Avoca, Nebr. Nell passed away five years ago in Spokane, her husband and two girls and a boy are still there. Mrs. Francis passed away a few months after Nell.

Nita is still working at the courthouse in the Farm bureau office, counting hogs. She took a speed and accuracy test for the job as tabulator on the Corn and Hog program and made first in speed and second in accuracy. She works 8 hours a day and has a music class of 12 pupils, so she is a busy girl.

I put in my time helping to care for the house and chickens and garden. In between acts I smoke my my old black pipe.

Your Uncle Arthur must be close to 90. I will be 81 in July and he is some older than me. Our garden is all up, peas about 6 or 7 inches high. And our tulips look like a Dutch garden. I seem to running crazy here, guess I better (starting with Dutch the letters no longer are aligned across the page because Alex is typing right at the edge of the paper and on original new page starts here) turn over. Excuse my blunders I'm not much of a typist.

I wish you could meet V.A.'s family, they are a wonderful bunch. Ten of them and when you get them together you are puzzled

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to decide which is the best looking and smartest. Nita and I spent Thanksgiving with them at Oberlin, Kans. There were 22 of us and two who couldn't get there. One in the State Univeristy of Nebr. Studying to be an athletic coach and the other at Hays Normal studying to be a coach. Sam the one at Lincoln took the county, state and national prize in the shot Putt last year. He has a close second in one of Eolia's boys only he goes in for honors in scholarship. He won a scholarship to the State University last year.

My father, James Francis and my brothers Will and Peter all passed in Salem, Oregon. Stuart died in Canada. I can't tell much about Aunt Rachel Francis only that she lived at Irish Creek a small place near Smith Falls, Canada.

Now tell us all about your family when you write. You spoke of your daughter, we are anxious to hear more about her and the rest of your gang. Give our best to the rest of your family. Nita will try to write as soon as she gets through counting pigs. Will close for this time, hoping to hear from you soon.

Your loving cousin Alex Francis

Ed.note: See Edgar's reply to this letter April 25, 1934.