

Hawthorn Hill
Oakwood
Dayton Ohio

Saturday night, February 20, 1926

I am glad, dear, that you feel better after your talk with Dr. Bohan. I think I didn't quite realize how disturbed you were. For myself, I am not uneasy. It is only for you that I feel concerned. I am so anxious, dear, for you to have an easy life from now on. You have earned it and you should have it and I mean to do every thing I can to see that you aren't worried any more than is positively necessary. I would never urge you leaving The Star and Kansas City, dear. But I do think you aren't dependent upon The Star. You could get settled into something else. I do not doubt that, especially now while you are at your very best. But when I think of the good spirit of The Star office and your influential position there, your friendly relations with the Kirkwoods and with every one in the management of the paper, the perfect security you feel that there isn't a lot of wire pulling going on to undermine you, your pleasure and pride in The Star from your long connection with it and your part in making it, when I think of all these things, I wouldn't want you to leave it, unless it were necessary. But you could leave it and do well somewhere else, dear. For sentimental reasons I like to have you stay with The Star. I have a lot of pride and interest in it myself. I sometimes wish you could get East more, be around Washington more and around New York some. It would be good for your work, too – to say nothing of your visiting Orville Wright in Dayton! But seriously, I wish you could be in the East now and then. You always enjoy it so much, too, seeing other men who are doing your kind of work. I should think it not unlikely that the men connected with The Star might be able to get enough money together to keep the star from going into entirely different management. How old is Mr. Susted? Is he influential or has he money? You spoke of him in connection with Mr. Kirkwood and their getting the money to buy The Star. I wouldn't like to bank too much on the Kirkwoods, if they are both drinking too much. It is a shame, dear, and I know you feel badly about it - quite aside from your own interests. But I don't see any thing to worry about, dear. It is a little unsettling but only that. Of course, as you say, it is much better to make a change not under pressure. Wouldn't you have a year or so, in any case? That would be long enough, I should think. Don't worry, dear, however things go = any more than you can help. You can find something you will find interesting and pleasant if you even have to make a change. We'll make an adventure of it and not fret.

I have been thinking, dear, that I might put ten thousand into the house and clean the mortgage. You know I am expecting to get my \$20,000.00 that has been in the Cleveland Athletic Club ground. We will have no option about it. I have been getting 5 ½% which is very good, of course. I won't get that much again. But don't you pay that much interest and more on your mortgage? I should suppose it would be more. It is always as much as 6% now, usually 7%. We'll see. If we can save on it, I'll plunk my \$10,000.00 in on the house. It looks to me, dear, as if the home costs an awful lot! You say the taxes are \$70.00 a month. That is \$840.00 a year. Interest on \$25,000.00 at %% is \$1250.00 and repairs would make it over well over \$2000.00. But maybe that isn't too much. We wouldn't know what to do without the house, would we? We'll enjoy it so much. We will have so much of our life at home – more than a good many people do. I'm afraid traveling expenses will be a worry, dear, if I try to come back here very often. How much is the fare, dear? There is plenty of money, dear, only that would be very extravagant to go back and forth, so far, very often.

I had my luncheon, today, dear. We got some more flowers like Mr. Harlachen sent last week. It made a beautiful centerpiece. Carrie had a nice luncheon. It was funny to see Elizabeth's eyes pop

out when Carrie really got busy in the kitchen. I don't believe Elizabeth has ever seen anything nice. She is very pleasant and may be a little inspired by Carrie's example.

Goodnight, dear. I feel a lot better than I have for several days. I didn't eat much of Carrie's "goodies" today.

Of course, dear. I want to put my arms around you and love you. What did you suppose I wanted to do – you silly boy. I want to talk every thing over with you, dear, and make you perfectly comfortable about The Star situation. You need never worry about me, dear. I love you so much And a sweet kiss!

Your
Katharine