

10:40 A.M. 6-9-20

Dear Bob-----

Am just sitting around the office waiting for some more work to do and decided to write you and let you know how things are shaping up down here. It has been raining so we haven't done much of anything for two or three days except make a few sand and rock tests and sit around on the same thing I have been sitting around^{on} for the past (almost) twenty years. When it dries up we will go back to work putting in that strip of Mass. which has been out all year. When working we just sit around or stand around and see that everything is being done correctly, once in a while getting up nerve enough to tell some workman to do such and such---or else we survey and set out stakes which is a little harder but not bad. We get \$4 a day regardless of the length of time we work. Most days lately we have been putting in 9 or 10 hr. days, but put in only 4 last Sat. and got the same pay for all days.

This job will last for quite a while I believe but am not sure just how long. Have applied at Eudora but they said it would be 2 or 3 weeks and didn't even sound too promising then. Dad sent me a telegram the other day and said that I could get work in Big Springs on a new Bomber School they are building there. I will hear definitely the end of this week. I wont get my first pay check until the 25th so will have to probably stay here until at least then before I can leave, and then will probably stay until the end of the month so that I will have a nice \$52 pay check sent down to Texas for me on the tenth. I believe I will come out to Russell for at least a day before I leave because I probably won't come up here again until New Years. Nothing is very definite yet so will let you know.

The only trouble with living down here is that I am practically starving. I never have any money and you don't just eat on good looks down here--not even my good looks. No kidding I have been having to miss at least one meal a day and sometimes two, and that

just doesn't have it. I don't know yet exactly I am going to have to do but I am going to have to do it fast if I expect to remain healthy. That is one of the reasons I want to go home---I may not earn quite as much (probably only \$125 per) but I will be eating regular and plenty and won't have to spend almost \$50 per to live. I believe I will go down and ask George at the DeLuxe if I can have a charge account until the 25th. Hardly any places are open on the hill. The Hawk and Bricks are closed. Only one open is the Rock Chalk, and they won't charge.

How was the wedding? Boy I was sorry I could not make it to Russell for it, but I am going to have ask for the day off Thurs. for Sis' wedding and know I hadn't better ask for two off ing the same week. Are you going to get to come down for this one? I hope so.

This town is sure dead. Very few fellows are still here, and practically none of your Arrow girl friends. By the way I was almost Air Corpsed the other night---whew. Would you have liked to have been in my shoes.

What is this little rumor I heard about you being out at the damn with Connie Bennet the other night? Sounds O.K.

How is your job coming along. Are you going to save some money this year and pay some debts or are you going to let Beck drain you of it again? DON'T!

I am working with three Sigma Chi's. They are all swell fellows. They are Leo Brady, Don Wetsel, and Fred Meyn. Two bosses--the state resident engineer and a regular engineer---good fellows.

Write you sun of a gun and let me know the dirt about Russell.

I remain your Lawrence correspondent

Your pal Smith

P.S. The Marx twins are still here. Better come down for a Week End!

Francis Bernard Smith KS

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RETURN AFTER FIVE DAYS TO

DIVISION ENGINEER
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OF KANSAS

121 WEST 21ST STREET
TOPEKA, KANSAS



Mr. Robert Joseph Dole

North Maple Street

Russell, Kansas

Who knows!

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