

Chivost, Alta.
Feb. 25, 1915.

Dear Mother -

The news of Aunt Jenny's death is certainly very sudden and unexpected and I was very sorry to hear of it. In regard to the ^{physical} trouble which was the direct cause of her death I wonder if this was originally caused by her corpulence. I am ~~not~~ asking this for curiosity, but you know I have a tendency the same way. I wonder particularly if it is dangerous for a very fat person to reduce the weight rapidly or even slowly to an extreme. I should think the blood vessels would become stretched & weakened where there was much fat deposited & later when the fat was taken away which supported them in position they would be likely to rupture. I wish you would ask Will about this some time for me.

Eden as I suppose you know is still in Calgary making expenses there, buying automobiles though I guess he won't bring back as much money as he took away with him.

Our financial affairs are giving us considerable worry. We have a new bank manager who is much stricter than the old one and lots of customers are getting out in the

need. I think we will get along with him but it ~~uses~~ us
of pretty badly for the present. We had \$2000 borrowed
at the bank of which we still have \$1000 to pay back.
We are raising a loan on Selden's preemption for the
purpose and after we settle up I guess will be able to
borrow again \$2000 but so much of it has to go for
back debts, \$500 to Mr. Hillis \$200.00 taxes (we had to pay
penalty on this) \$54 due last Jan. to Mr. Loveland \$200 of
overdue machine notes, local bills of nearly \$200 (lumber, grocery
fencing + hardware etc) \$16.50 overdue interest on our mort-
gages (due Dec. 1.) etc. ^{Spine Co.} Has Mr. Loveland written you in regard
to the \$54.00 we haven't yet paid? We simply haven't had
the money yet.

Our financial position while enough to worry us
is not really desperate as we have something to show
for all the money we have spent. You know we have put
nearly \$2000 into this new place counting the \$1000 cash,
improvements to nearly \$1000 more. If we should try to sell
the place we could quite likely get this \$2000 back and
another \$2000 or \$3000 on top of that. If I were running the
business alone that is what I should try to do but Selden
hasn't got a "selling" temperament but rather a "buying".
The act of selling never stirs his imagination except ~~possibly~~
at a higher profit than any one would pay but buying
always stirs his imagination much to my worry.

We have a nice well on the new place sixty six feet deep and half full of water or more - good water too. If it doesn't stay good as often happens when there is such a large supply we have another well capacity one barrel a day for the house & the water is soft & free from any mineral so common in the wells here.

I certainly hope we will have a good crop but if it doesn't come this year maybe it will next year.

The mails are getting more & more irregular. Our Saturday Evening Post hasn't come at all this month I believe. I did get some January numbers about three or four weeks late after previous numbers had been here several weeks. I believe there was one January number that never came.

Have you ever seen in the papers notices that books by Pastor Russell "published by ~~the~~ (I believe) the International Bible Students' Association are banned from Canada and any one found with one in his possession is liable to a fine of several thousand dollars & several years imprisonment! You know the books of Arthur Bee on the liquor traffic (I believe

were also banned some time ago. I believe that
Mr. Nee described the moral condition of the soldiers
in a way to cause the opposition of those in authority.

I suppose if the war goes on long enough we
shall have the inquisition + the sack again. The
war lords in Germany had corrupted the morals
of the people before the war broke out and the war
spirit will do the same in time for us.

I never can remember Ellen's address so I
have to send this to O Berlin.

Willie.