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JOHN FERGUSON BENNETT

FREDERIC L. SHERWIN
1870 - 1938

January 7, 1943

Miss Laura Gilpin
807 Carter Avenue
Wichita, Kansas

My dear Laura:

Your father called upon me this morning and spent the better part of three quarters of an hour discussing his problems and yours. I did not mention the fact that I had heard from you and think it would be just as well for him not to know that you and I are in correspondence in this connection. I consequently, of course, made no mention of having any knowledge of the disposition of the proceeds of the sale of the Cheyenne Road property or of your financial dealings with one another.

The sum and substance of it all is that I told him in my judgment his place was with you and he agreed to that to the extent of saying that it would be the natural combination but that he just could not bear the conditions at Wichita, at least while the weather continues as it has been. It is a problem, of course, to find some way to add sufficient to his fixed allowance to keep body and soul together under decent conditions, but at his age and with his limitations I personally cannot see how his earning capacity can amount to his needs, which at a minimum, I would say would amount to \$40.00 a month. He said if you would send him one-half of the Government bonds which you purchased out of the Cheyenne Road property, he would be able to take care of some obligations here and get along somehow, and incidentally remarked that he had put some \$2500.00 into that property, whether in money or in work, labor and services I did not ask him. Also, he said you had told him you were leaving one-half of the Government bond investment to him by will which in view of the disparity in ages is hardly a hopeful expectation for him.

It may seem out of order for me, in view of what I know you have done in the past, to make this suggestion, but I think if you would write him that you will furnish him with \$40.00 a month to the extent of \$750.00, which is one-half of the investment in Government bonds, and then either send it to him direct or let us dole it out to him here, you will make his last days much happier than any other way I can think of, and if he lives until that \$750.00 is used up, why then by that time you may be able to figure out some other way, but I do not think of any better investment for \$750.00 at this time.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Victor W. Hungerford

VWH-S