

May 28,
1948

Mr. Hiram H. Dow,
Haswell,
New Mexico.

Dear Mr. Dow:-

Your letter came yesterday and I appreciate greatly the trouble that you have gone to in my behalf, and your comments and advice in regard to this land in Lea County.

All this has come as a surprise to me for I did not know of the existence of this deed, as my father seldom discussed his business affairs with me. I do remember that my brother had active interests in this region, did, in fact, hold drill one of the short wells in the region, and I presume that it was on his advice that my father bought this small acreage. This Mr. Dunk who called on me last week, had gone to a great deal of trouble to hunt me out, hoping to buy this property. While his price of \$15. per acre is too low, he did expect to pay the legal expenses of having my father's will probated in New Mexico, which, I understand, will be necessary to prove my title. After I talked with you on the phone, I wrote to my own lawyer in Colorado Springs to find the cost of this, as that is where my father died in 1948 and where the will was filed. I have found no papers relating to this with the exception of one letter from geologist George Jenkinson (whom I used to know many years ago) who informed my father that he thought the site had no value.

I have talked to the State Land Office here, to learn what I could of these matters, and am informed that I should do well to lease the acreage, but retain the mineral rights. I definitely want to find out if my interest here is all in good standing and what is necessary to perfect my title. I also want to find out if there could be any leases which are still good which are in my brother's name. His widow is living in San Antonio and I am writing to her to see if she knows of any such. As my brother died very suddenly, it is quite possible that there are incomplete affairs of which neither she nor I are aware. I have a feeler out for a lessee and shall endeavor to get information

as to what is going on in this area. It was very evident that Mr. Funk wanted the land and had into the title at great length and was very disappointed when I did not accept his offer on the spot. I certainly was not going to sell anything I did not know all about at a moment's notice.

I see your daughter quite often and always enjoy a chat with her. And we have a very dear mutual friend in Anne Parrish with whom I went to school and who has been one of my good friends ever since childhood. She is all this business brings me to Roswell as some future time, I hope that I may have the pleasure of seeing you. While I have never been to Roswell, I have known several people from there, chief among them being the Lagerman family. Mr. Percy Lagerman was one of my father's close friends, and he nearly always comes to see me when he comes to Santa Fe.

Thanking you again for giving me some idea of what I should do, I am

Sincerely yours,