

Kansas Memory



Wesley and Elsie Hasenbank Tally collection

Section 24, Pages 691 - 720

This is a collection of letters written by Wesley Tally and Elsie Hasenbank in the mid-1930s. During this time, Wesley and Elsie were dating and the letters tell about their developing relationship. In 1933 and 1934, Wesley was a teacher in Council Grove, Kansas, and worked part time for the telephone company. Elsie worked as a housekeeper and au pair for several families in Emporia, Kansas. Elsie also spent some time in Fort Riley and Alma. In March 1935, they wrote about the dust storms and how they impacted their lives. That same year Wesley had difficulties finding a job and he joined the Civilian Conservation Corp. He was sent to Camp Burns Lake at Cass Lake, Minnesota, where he served in the 1765 Company working in the forests of northern Minnesota. Wesley describes the work he performed in the camp and his leisure activities. Elsie wrote about her work, the weather, her family and friends, and her leisure activities. After leaving the Civilian Conservation Corps in April 1936, Wesley enrolled in the Davey Tree Expert Co. He left the tree service training before finishing the course and returned to Kansas. The last few letters are about their impending marriage and moving to Kansas City, Kansas, to live. A searchable transcription is available by clicking 'Text Version' below.

Creator: Tally, Wesley, 1909-1977

Date: July 13, 1933 - October 8, 1936

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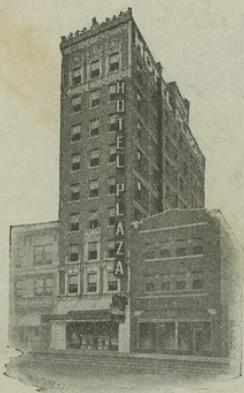
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NEW — FIREPROOF

Hotel Plaza

OPPOSITE UNION STATION

13 East 24th St.

KANSAS CITY, MO.

Sunday night
May 31, 1936
my Darling Elsie,

Here I am in the big city
a long ways from you. Gosh it's hot!
I miss you a lot already. I sure wish
you were here with me.

I came down this evening. I wanted
to be here early Monday morning
and this was the only time I could
come and still be here early Monday.
Besides it will give me a chance to
get a good night's rest so I will be
ready to make a good appearance when
Iäsent my place to work for
my board and room.

I will be here at the hotel to-night
only. By to-morrow night I will
have my boarding place located.

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I got in Kansas City at 8:30
to-night. Madine and I came as
far as Kansas City to-gether. I
didn't figure on having Madine
travel with me about 6:30 but she
wanted me to come this far with
her and I would have taken her
at night anyway so I came
with her. We went to Emporia ~~and~~
on the Katy from there we took
the Santa Fe.

We got back to C. F. on last night
we stopped in Atchison for gasoline. The
Shell station was ~~open~~ so we didn't
have any trouble getting it.

It seemed kind of strange getting
off the Katy at Emporia and not
going on up to your house to see
you.

Even if I get to come home the
4th of July it is going to seem
a long time before I will get to see
you again, but I am going to work
hard and through the time will pass
more quickly because when this
time of separation is over I know
we will get to be together all the
time which will be just about the
most wonderful thing that could

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3.



NEW — FIREPROOF

Hotel Plaza

OPPOSITE UNION STATION
13 East 24th St.
KANSAS CITY, MO.

happen.
I sure did enjoy myself this
past week. I was at your place about
four days I guess but it sure didn't
seem that long. Being around you
just seems to give me new life and
ambition to do something. I guess it
must be love; anyway I love you more
than anything else in the whole world.
I am really proud of you and just feel
like I want to shout it to the
whole world.

I am writing paper is provided
by the Hotel so I thought I might
as well use it and save my arm
to write on later.

It is now 10:30 P.M. and I am getting
 kinda sleepy so I guess I will quit
 and go to bed, so I can get up bright
 and early in the morning shave, get
 a haircut and go find out what will
 be doing the next few evenings.

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I will write you another letter
tomorrow just as soon as I get
located so you will know where
to find me and write to me.

Tell the folks "Hello" "Farewell" and
take good care of yourself "Dear", I
will go to bed now and dream about
you (and me).

Yours until the end
of time.

Sincerely,
Wesley

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HOTEL PLAZA
(Opposite The Union Station)
KANSAS CITY, MO.

POST CARD

PLACE
ONE CENT
STAMP
HERE

This is a view
of the Hotel Plaza

"C. T. PHOTO-COLORIT," PUBLISHED BY THE ALLIS PRESS, KANSAS CITY, MO.

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Kansas city
June 6, 1936

Dear Elsie.

It sure was windy here in
the city to-day.

I didn't get my boarding place
located for sure to-day. I went
to a couple of the places but the
faws that they wanted me
to work would not fit in very
good with the school faws.

One other place I am going to
in the morning I think will be
OK. The man at the office told
me to night that just after I
had left the office this morning his
woman called him and said she
wanted some one or more of our

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far I could go to school whenever hours I wanted to.

anyway I am going to see her in the morning and get myself located.

I will surely let you know just as soon as I am located.

Take good care of yourself "Dear" and I love you always.

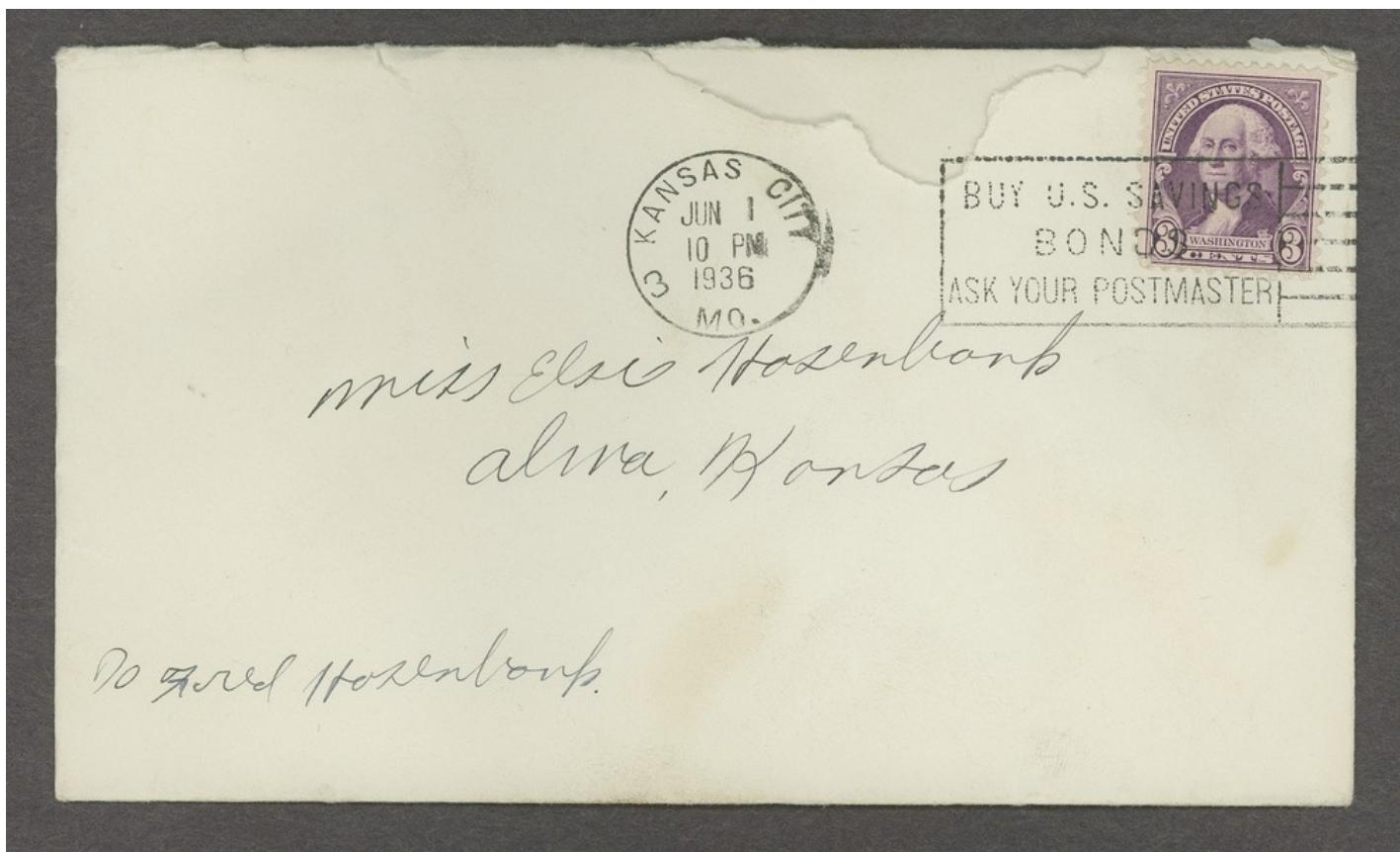
Sincerely
Wesley

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Kansas City, Mo.
June 2, 1936

my darling Elsie,

There is another day gone by
and I have missed you a lot after
being with you for awhile.

I have been busy the past
two days and I haven't done very
much either.

Yesterday morning I went up
to the office of the country teacher I
tell you I was getting part of the
tuition from. They had an add in
the paper for me a place to work
for my board & room.

Yesterday afternoon I went to see
a couple of the places but neither
of them would fit in with my hours
at the school.

This morning I came out here

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To see Mrs. Warren I told you about in the letter I wrote to you last night.

I am staying here for the presentation. I don't know for sure if I will stay here all the time or not.

The one thing it is a long ways out of town. This woman lives here by herself and mostly what I have to do is take care of her yard and garden and a few birds and flocks around the house. I won't know anything to do in the morning before I go to school which will be quite alright.

She is a woman somewhere between thirty and fifty, of course I don't know so very much about her yet but she seems quite queer. But I think it will be alright after I get used to the place and the different routines.

I am about eight miles out from the part of the city where the school is located. It takes about an hour and fifteen minutes to go each way. I walk about six blocks over the ride the street car the rest of the way. It takes me right to the school.

This woman (Mrs. Reed) also gives me my carfare so I get my board room & carfare for what little work she has for me to do.

The school hours are from 8:30 in the morning until 4:00 in the afternoon and on Monday & Friday they have night classes from 7:00 until 9:00.

I am starting in at the school in the morning. I will mail this letter to you when I get down town.

After I got my boarding place located I went down to the school and made all arrangements to get started in the morning.

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as I said I am not sure what I
will do my boarding place but I am
going to give it a trial and if it happens
to make one change I will let you
know so I will be sure to get all your
letters.

Another one of the boys at the
school is working for his board and
room just the same as I am, he
is going home the last of next week
and I may take his place. If I do
it will be a little busier.

I guess he said enough for
now, I will quit for now and try to write
more later.

My address for the present is

To Mrs. M. B. Reed,
8312 Ward Parkway
Kansas City
Mo.

I have to love you a lot dear.
and I always will forever and ever.

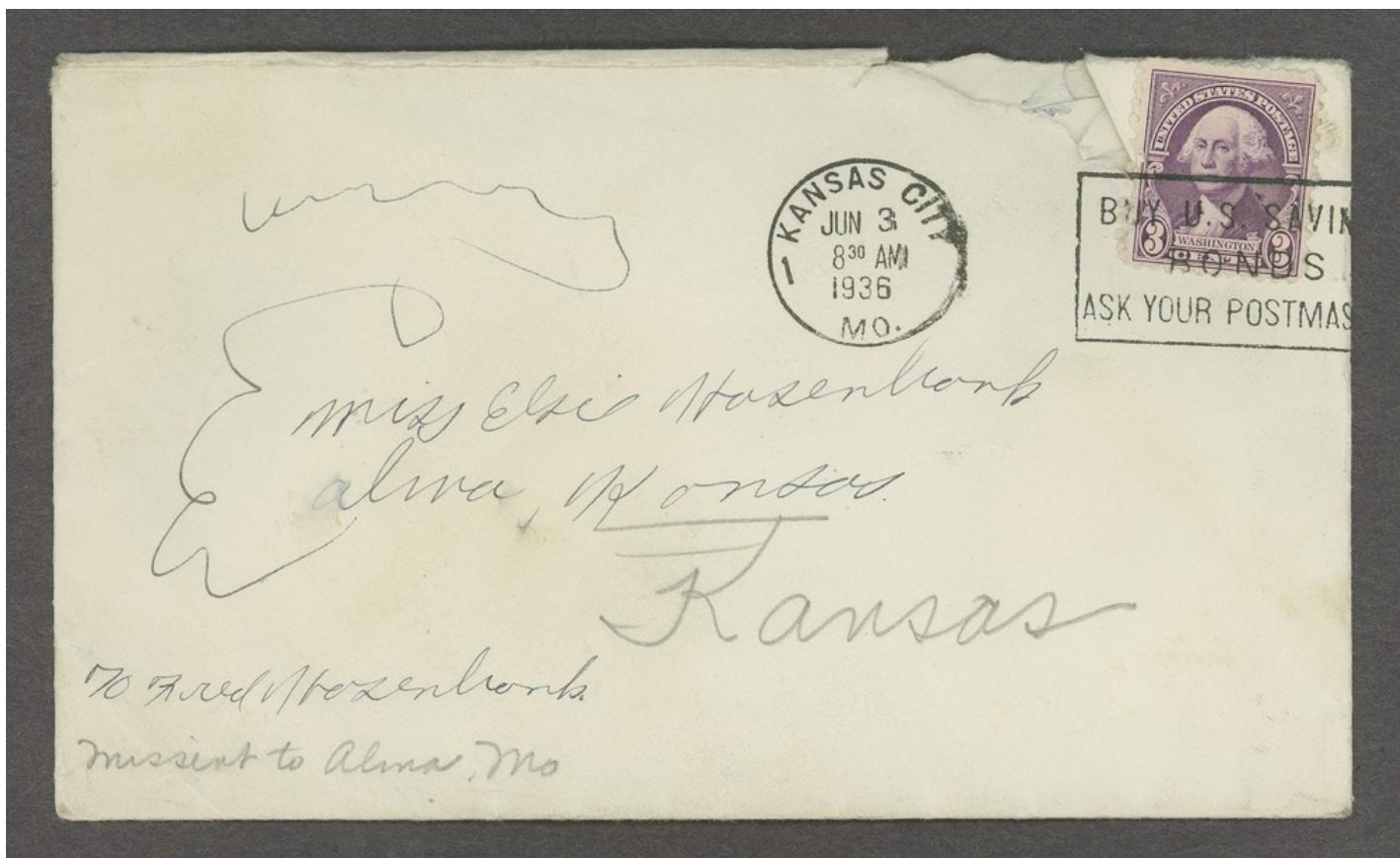
Sincerely
Wesley.

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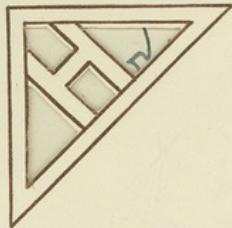


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Alma, Kansas
June 5, 1936

Dear Wesley,

your very welcome letters got here O. K. The one you wrote June 2nd was missent to Alma Mo. so it took until this morn for it to get here, but I got it anyway. I am glad you are O. K. and I hope your place is bright.

Alvin started for Estes at a little after six o'clock yesterday morning. Lora went to Emporia Sunday morning. Mother and I have been clearing house. Dad and Raymond working in the

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field so we are all going places and doing things.

I got a card the other day from Mrs. Ondyke and she got to New York O.K. She was starting for Chicago soon, so I guess she will be home before too long.

It rained this morning and it still looks very dark.

I was in Alma yesterday and I may go to Wamego and then to Alma again this afternoon. The folks have to go, so I may go too.

There was a band concert in Alma last night but the crowd was small. It was the first one this season.

We surely are having cool weather for summer days.

It seems like I just can't write very good this morning.

I was invited to a shower Tuesday evening, but I did not get to go. I was down at Wamego. Alvin and Raymond had made a date to go fishing and dad had a deacon meeting that evening so I decided to skip it.

Well, I will try to write more soon. I'll try to mail this in town to-day if I can.

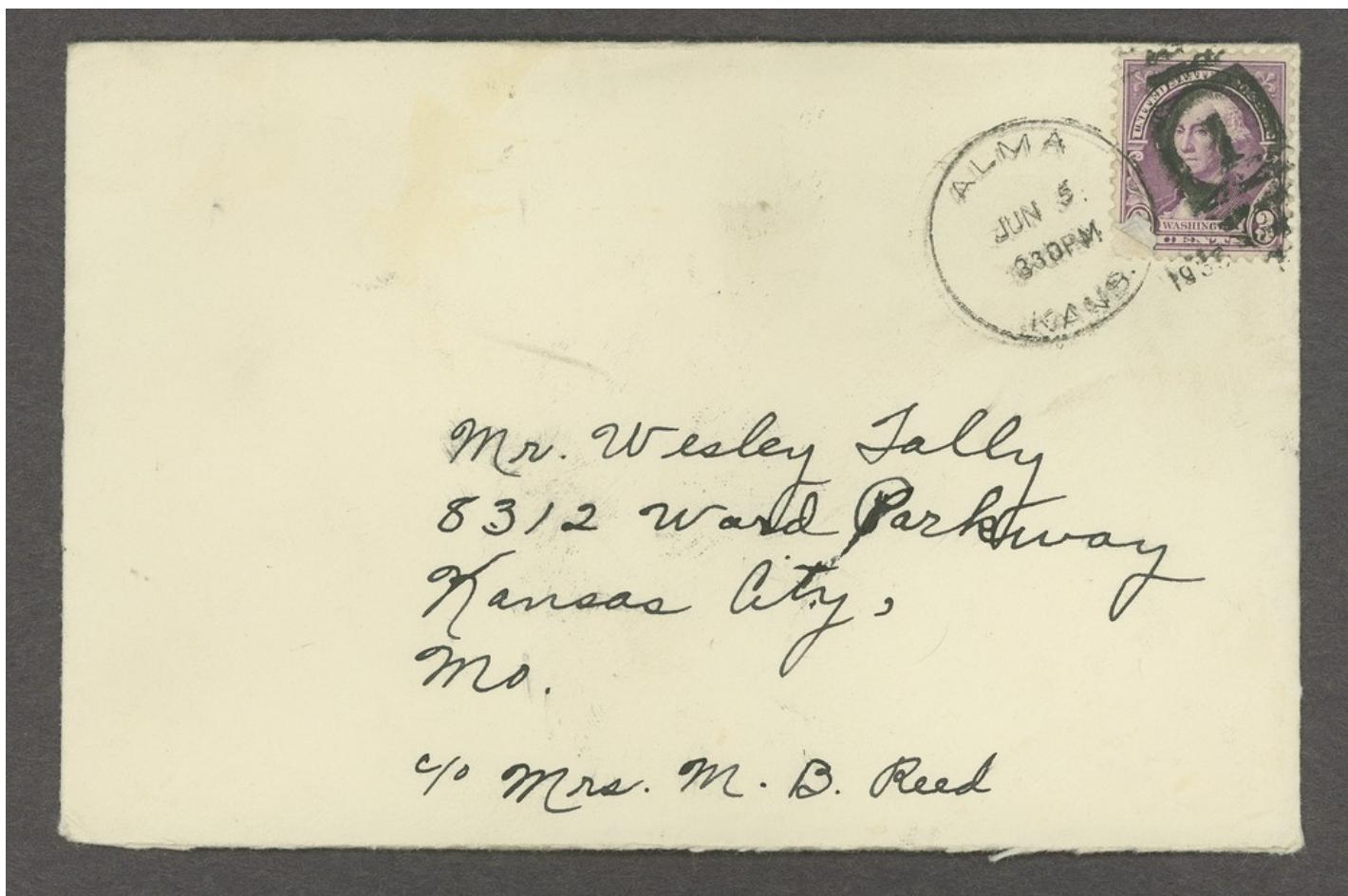
With oceans of love,
Elsie

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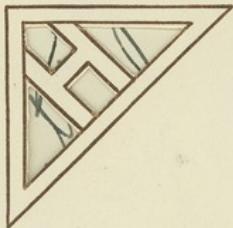


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alma, Kansas
June 6, 1936

Dear Wesley,

It surely doesn't seem like I have been home very long yet.

Mrs. Gedycke called me to-night, and she wants me to start work Monday morning, so I will go back Sunday evening or Monday morning early.

I told the folks to send any mail I got here at home, to me immediately so if you have sent any letters to Alma they will see that I get them.

My address will be 24 Mer-

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chart again now, so you can give the postman a job carrying letters to me again.

Well, I hope you are getting along fine. I am O.K. and plan to be at my job Monday.

We got a card from Alvin and he got to Denver O.K., but it rained on them most of the way.

Uncle Charlie called and invited us to a picnic at Warner park to-morrow noon, so I am going to try to go to that before I go to Emporia. ^{If} did you have any rain? We had a good shower here the other day.

I am rather tired and I can't think of anything new to say so I guess all shall have to stop, with hopes of hearing from you soon and that you are getting along fine.

With best wishes
and love,

Elsie

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HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Kansas city, mo.
June 7, 1936

my Darling Sweetheart

I started to write to you this afternoon but I didn't get the letter mailed (I did get written) so I will write another one now.

I got your most welcome letter yesterday yes "Honey" I sure was glad to hear from you. It seems like a couple of months since I have seen you instead of just a week. I sure would like to be with you to night. To-day has been the longest day. It doesn't seem right not to be with you on Sunday.

I raked the grass on Mrs Reed's yard yesterday. She had a man cut it with a mowing machine and I raked it up and carried it off the yard.

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I am going to move the last of his week. I don't have much to do here but I just don't like the surroundings. I won't have much to do at the new place either but it will be much nicer place and is only two blocks from the street car line. Here I have about 3 miles to walk. It will take me about the same length of time to get down to the shop. about 45 minutes. at the new place I don't have to work on Saturday so I can spend that much more time at the shop. my new address will be 710 N. 16th St. Kansas City, Kansas. So even if I am not with you I will at least sleep in the same state as you. I will probably have to quit the school by the last of July or middle of August. I don't know if I will be good enough to get a job by that time or not but I sure hope so. So far I haven't learned very much, didn't intend to specialize in

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lady & bender work & the rest of the work
I can take later.

I find it's to ask you but I could
you help me a little more with the money
problem? at my new place will
have to buy my own carfare which will
amount to \$1.25 per week and my other
insurance I told you about is \$2.20 per
month, of the five dollars you gave me
I used to pay my accident insurance.
If you don't have it to spare I will get
along somehow or other.

If you can't send it in it will be best to
wait until I get to my new address
before you send it. ^{Post office for information}
~~I hope some day we will be fixed~~
so we will not have to worry about
money.

I saw my great-uncle to-day. I am
staying just along 6 blocks from where
he lives & works. I knew the name of
the place where he was but didn't know
it was so close to me until last night.

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To-morrow night (Monday) will be another one of the night sessions at the shop. They are held twice a week.

It surely will help me when after September gets here open we won't have to write letters or be lonesome for lack of you. I sure like to see your letters but I would much rather be right there with you.

I don't know if you will be at home when this letter gets there or not but I'll wait it out and if you or not your folks consider it out to you.

We sure had cool weather this past week. To day was quite warm though.

Good night sweet heart and remember I will love you forever & ever.

Luv,
Wesley

Monday morning.

I am just along ready to start to town I will mail this on my way.

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Monday afternoon

Dear Elsie

You will probably get
this as soon as it leaves
I mailed this morning.
I am writing the
afternoon.

address now

710 N. 16th St.
Topeka

Topeka City

Topeka

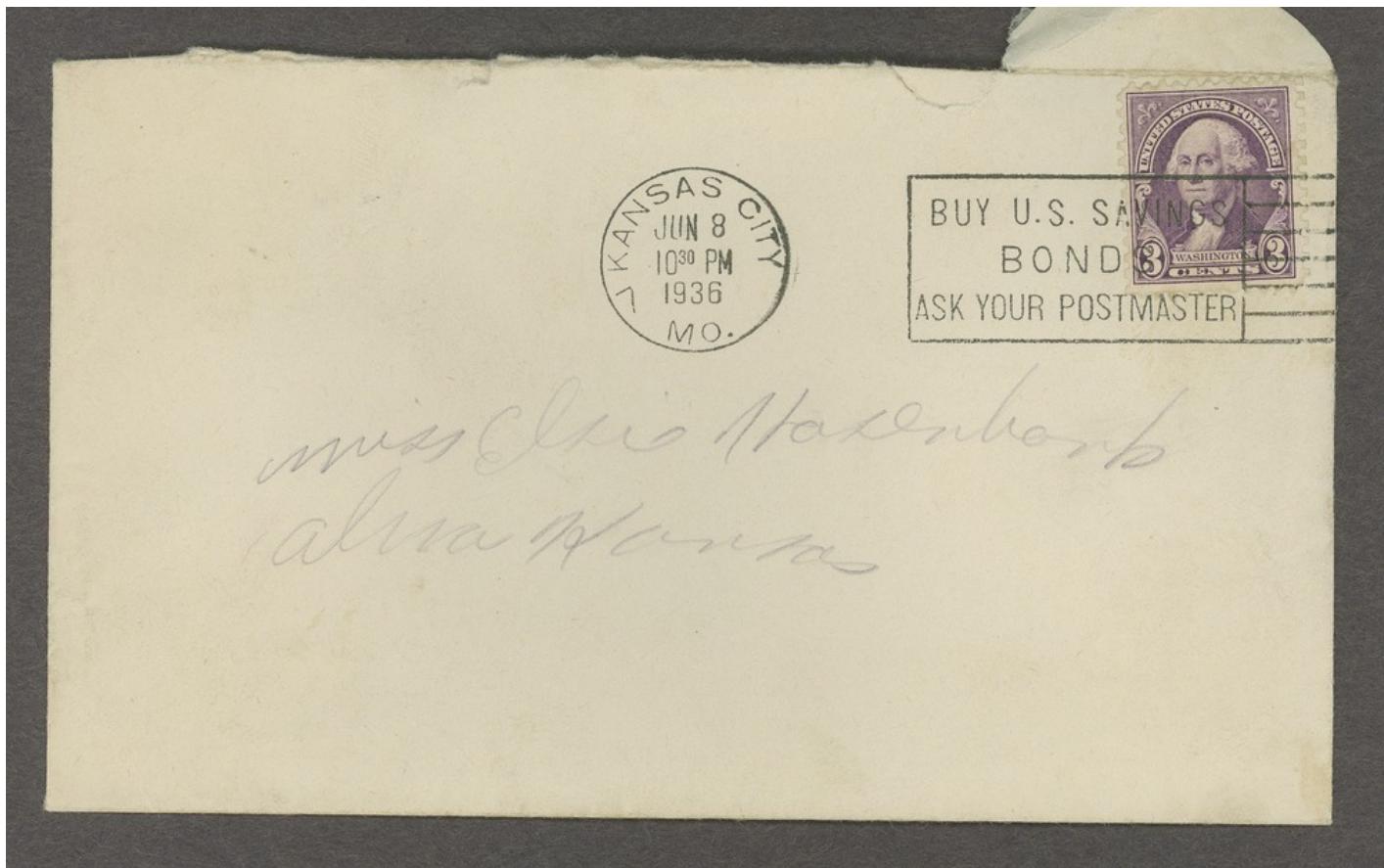
I wish I was with you.

Love

Wesley

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

24 Merchant St.,
Emporia, Kansas
June 11, 1936

Dear Wesley,

The folks sent the letter you wrote June 7th to me and I was glad to hear from you. We surely are having a nice evening here to-night. Padyckes went out for dinner this eve. I'm out here on the porch and attempting to write this letter, before it gets dark. I like to sit on the porch these nice evenings, but I would enjoy it still more if you were here.

I went up town for a few minutes this afternoon and I

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saw Lora and Beulah. They are O. K. Beulah is staying nights at 920 Congress Street.

Lora likes her place swell. There are six girls at her house.

I am listening to the program on the radio given by the National convention to-night.

I have been rather busy this week getting things in order again. I cleaned Monday, washed Tuesday, ironed Wednesday and cleaned house again to-day. I will clean some more to-morrow and Saturday; and I don't know what I will do Sunday yet, except go to church, I guess.

Friday A.M. Well, it is rather cool here again to-day. It doesn't seem like it were near the middle of June, when one thinks of the nice cool weather.

I got a nice letter from one of my cousins this morning she was wondering if I was alive yet because she had not seen or heard from me for so long. I think I had written last but some reason we just had not written to each other for a long time.

How are you getting along? I hope O.K. I will try to send you a few dollars as soon as I know you are at your new place for sure. I don't want to send the bills in a letter so I will see if I can send it in a money order, or some other way. I don't have a checking account or I would send a check.

I must get to work now and there aren't any news around here so I will close for this time. Hoping to hear from you soon.

My people are going to Best wishes and love, Kansas City Sunday to listen to Elsie Christian Science lecture wish I could come along to see you, but I guess they won't let me.

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