

Julia McKee papers

Section 3, Pages 61 - 90

This small collection consists primarily of correspondence between Julia McKee and her parents, Mr. & Mrs. W. T. McKee; letters to her father from her brother Ralph; and correspondence with her friends. Also included is a diary she kept for part of 1933. Some of the letters contain political references.

Julia Marie McKee was born January 25, 1896, in Ohio, the daughter of William T. & Anna E. McKee. She had two brothers, William and Ralph. The family lived in Xenia Township, Greene County, Ohio, in 1900, but in 1910 they were in Cloud County, Kansas. Between 1910 and 1920, the family moved to Topeka, Kansas. As an adult, she worked for United States Senator Arthur Capper and lived in Topeka. She died in August 1979 in Topeka.

Creator: McKee, Julia (Julia Marie), 1896-1979

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[Return Address: 1016 West Fourth, Topeka]

Topeka, April 25, '32

Dear Julia:

Have been trying for several days to settle down for a short letter to you, but have been in a horizontal position most of the time, for a while, and it's not very easy to write in that position, you know.

Talked to your cousin and your Father today, and heard a report that you have not been so good for a while. Hope you are all to the good again and getting along better. Glad to know you have more help in the office. Your father seems as usual. Are you glad for him to be going to Ohio? Seems like a fine thing for him as I know you will be more at ease than if he were there alone much of the time.

Things are much the same with us. Some way we get along from day to day without much change in the monstang. If we do not reach the heights, at least we manage to escape the depths, and I guess that is something.

I had a letter from Dorothy Crawford a few days ago, expressing her sincere sympathy for you, in case you have not heard from her direct. She also told a clever story that I think you will appreciate. Some one asked an English girl if she knew how to make a Maltese cross? Of course she gave up, and the answer was "You pull its tail". She studied a while and then said, "well it must be just because I'm English but I can't see any connection between a Maltese cross and a pullet's tail". Now of course I believe that completely.

Talked to Ethel awhile ago and she seemed real "peppy". Has been out at Henrietta's for a few days helping out as the latter is ill. Said she thought she would go back out tomorrow. I asked her if she had to help out with the spring plowing. She beats the world. Hardly able to be up herself, but

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will go out there and work like sixty. Would they do the same for her? Well you answer. I doubt it. She is so good to all of them, but I have never thought there was much sign of appreciation. That seems to be the way of the world.

We have had quite a bit of rain the last several days, and everything is green and fresh. A few sprays on the spirea bushes are showing white, but it will take some warm days to make things hum. And when they start there's never any good place to stop. We have a few violets along our walk and the lily-of-the-valley is putting out some shoots. I picked the first spray and started it to Japan to Viola Westlund Mitchell. Her husband is studying there now, preparing his thesis for his M.A. from Univ. of So. Cal. They are having a wonderful trip and are surely making the most of it. He is ordained in the Baptist Church, but they have worked & gone to school for several years, so does not have a charge now. Are hoping to locate something in Calif. when they return this June.

There is a cordial invitation from the kitchen for me to come and help eat up the chicken scraps left from yesterday, and if I don't get going, there will be nothing for me, so think I'd better be stopping this.

I hope things are going well with you, My Dear. There isn't a day that we do not speak of you, and I do at least send you loving thoughts if I don't say it very often. Don't think it necessary to reply to this for I know you are very busy. Just wanted you to know you are often in my thoughts. Lovingly, as ever, Helen.

[From Bernice B. Reston, Cleveland, Ohio]
[Postmarked May 2, 1932]
Mon. P.M.
My dear Julia:
I've been thinking about you so much lately, so I thought I'd write to you again. I know this is going to be an awful hard week on you, for I know how I feel when I see Mother's Day signs in the windows and the papers, and it will affect you much more, coming so soon after your mother's death. When I read your letter that you wrote on your way home, it certainly started the tears for I felt so sorry for you. Had been to the doctor on Thurs. evening before that, and I told him I had been trying my best to keep the tears back, and they certainly did yield when I got your letter. Really think it was because I knew what it meant to you, more than because I was losing an aunt. Now don't think it was because I didn't like your mother, too, because I did, but there aren't very many people I care for the way

I do for you. People say you can choose your friends, but you have to take your relatives as you get them, and I am mighty glad to have you for a cousin. I certainly hope you can get someone to make the trip with you this summer. Do you have any idea when you will go back to Kans.? I can't tell anything about my vacation yet, but hope to get a week sometime the last of this month. Eliza and I have decided to take a week at a time this year, so we won't get so tired and doing the work here alone. We don't think the loss will ease. Mrs. Wales may hold me up, for she will be here sometime this month. It will cost me more to take my vacation this way, but I'll be glad to spend a little more, and not get so worn out. I can't divide up my time like I would like, either, for it is so awkward getting places from certain points. Think I'll only spend a day with aunt Maria, for I want to go to Coherston for a couple of days. Guess I am sort of homesick to see some of my friends there, then I want to take plants to the cemetery.

I got a new coat last Thurs. and I initiated it yesterday, and I think I'll like it fine. Hope so, for it set me back quite a little. I only had on two that covered my dress, and the other was about \$20 more, and didn't fit as well - didn't fit my pocket book at all. The better coats at this store were 13 off and this one had been \$69.75, so I got it for \$46.47. Hadn't figured on paying quite so much for a marked down one, but the material is very nice. It is dark blue crepe, and has a gray collar, and no fur on the sleeves. I got a blue crepe dress some time ago, and a new hat, so guess I am all red now. One Thurs. when I wore the dress, H. saw me leaving the show, and when I came out of the rest room, there he was waiting, grinning from ear to ear. After we came home, he told me how nice I looked, and said I certainly should find my widower, more. Said if he would see me, he couldn't resist me. There he is right. He took me to the Dr. that evening, and the Dr. said he that I was looking much better that night. Told Mr. I should have told him my toy friend was waiting and in funds, and that was what had pegged me up.

I've probably written some things in this letter that have made you cry, so now maybe I'll make you laugh. You taking dancing lessons. Hope you didn't fall off your chair. This girl from down home said one night she that she'd take some, and ask me if I would like to, and I said "yes." started on the 2nd term last Thurs. p.m. They tell me you doing fine, and to have known nothing about it, I think you. Miss H. said she wanted me to come to lead, so Minnie and I could dance together, and she gave me about a half hr. of that last week, and I was a wreck of evening. M. said M. & Mrs. Snyder were going out to dinner last Sat. evening, and if I'd come over we'd try it over there. We couldn't get any radio music in that we could stop to, so we tried it anyway. We stopped to rest, and the kid came out of the elch and said "cuckoo", and I said "well we certainly were". We had a lot of fun anyway. He is quite smart, so I don't believe we'll get along together very well. In fact we much longer stop. Miss H. keeps yelling at her to take longer ones, but she doubt it is hard. I told her I'd have to come home and get my bath before Eliza got to sleep, and when I came over, she said H. and I went to sleep. I told her that I'd be out some place, and he'd take a chance on catching me. He'd been there about 40 min. to - I didn't get my bath. Do you do any dancing now? And how many lessons did you take? I'm only going to take 3 more, then I'd like to go to class some. Snyder's are moving this month. They are off the city car line, and they are teaching M. to drive one of their four cars, so maybe we can go to class together. I don't want to go alone, and I don't think she does. I hope of love.
Minnie.



[Postmarked May 4, 1932]

Tuesday evening.

Dear Cousin Julia:

Your letter was received Monday and I was glad to hear from you. Think in time you will be all right. You have certainly done wonderfully well. Somehow I have been lonely today. We took uncle Will to the train or bus this morning and it seemed another chapter in life's history was closed. In a month's time such a change! Uncle left at 7:00 o'clock for Kansas City by way of or on the Greyhound line. Would arrive in St. Louis this eve at 6:00 and in Chicago at 6:00 in the morning. He was well loaded with two grips, a lunch box and a box of flowers, as we thought Mrs. H. might enjoy some of the lovely spirea from the home place. He bought a new grip and, between you and I, he got badly jipped. He is planning great on his visit and I hope that he keeps well but I think he is pretty tired tho he is well. Ate well and slept well. He seemed to enjoy himself here and we did him and he seemed so appreciative of what I did for him and was willing to take suggestions which surprised me. Of course, I am used to men who never take the initiative. He got a nice lot of work done and more than made his fare to Ohio and he didn't charge much either. Well, I got along with the men all right, but really, Julia, sometimes I think I want to run away. I miss Philip so much, his companionship and kindness mean so much to me in life's journey, but then I see him every week and the time is here when I must give him up.

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Neither am I very enthsuastic about the renters, but uncle Will thinks they are O. K. and here's hoping so. I can explain them not having anything for this is second or third marriage and he has only ^{been} married about five weeks to this woman. She is very neat and clean and the house looks so nice. She seems quite particular with the children. They have put out a lot of plants in the boxes, so it looks like they were going to stay. They like the place, but they should. I will look when I go up town at Crosbys about the cover. I imagine she could and would make a cover if she had the goods. They have not hurt the davenport yet. This woman is very particular. As to the fruit we were going to bring it over and then uncle said it would be all right and we left it. They wanted to buy the cherries, but uncle said they were not for sale. There was no jell in the pantry. I went over the shelves, but not the dishes. Uncle gave Julia D. quite a lot of the groceries and I took some that I could use. There were two boxes of medicine that I wanted taken to the cellar, but lost out. Your foodgrinder is in your trunk. I saw it when packing the stuff away. It seems to me it would be a good idea to have that meter changed. I have the trunks locked. I do not think you need to worry about them taking things. I am busying myself worrying about the rent, but perhaps this is unnessary. They are to pay it to me until you get home and I put it in the bank. You will have quite a task going over things when you come home and fixing it ready for rent. Uncle said he always wanted to keep that for his home for he had been without a home so long when a boy. He may ~~could~~ get someone there so he could have his home with them. Said if he could get work in washington would go back ~~thee~~ with you. Time will adjust things. In the meantime



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will hope that everything goes well.

Edna was over for supper last night and uncle Will took us ^{all} to the waddells. The play was The Family Sap. It ^{was} good and we enjoyed it. Let Edna read your letter as she had hoped to hear from you and did not. Your mother always called or Edna called and, of course, she misses it. Edna is playing golf and is plenty sore. Remember the time you took the daily dozen years ago?

My family are usually well. Had a nice visit with Philip last week tho short. He is very busy. Dr. Curry was here today with his usual cheer. I have a party Thurs. and a date with the dentist. Friday night is the high school play and Sat. night is the formal dance. I am having quite a pretty printed chiffon formal made by a real dressmaker. No sleeves but fortunately there are backs in the dresses this year. We take our dinner out Sunday, and go to a tea in the afternoon. I would like to go to K. U. Sat. to special exercises, but hardly think I will. Life is one merry whirl.

I expect to clean house proper next week. Going to paper three rooms. Have a woman to help or rather do the cleaning. Will be busy from now on as so much going on. Father is real good again. No special news in the neighborhood that I know of. See by evening paper that over 4000 men ^{here} are out of employment and are seeking something similar to the Dole system. The snowballs and spirea are so pretty now. Took flowers to the cemetery Sunday and to ^{aunt's} ~~what's~~ grave. Will fill the large basket with spirea, snowballs and wild crab for Sunday.

Am at the foot of another page so will close. Hope

that you are stronger.

*W Sent phone bill in his letter.
He forgot to mention Dr. Benware's
bill - but said he would pay it.
Sent same statement to C. Ralph.*

Sincerely,

Mary H.

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Postmarked May 23, 1932

Sunday evening.

Dear Cousin Julia:

We seem to be keeping up quite a correspondence, not to be going to write much. This has been a very warm day and makes one feel that summer is not far off. For me it has been restful day, as I had no extra except to bath and shave my father, as I did not get that done Sat. The most restful day I have had for a long time. The men were buried in their books all day. Philip is gone now with a date going out for dinner and what not. Have had such nice time this week end tho he has studied most of the time. Always so glad to have him here. Came home Friday this time. He certainly did look like a sport tonight, yet he is wholly unconscious of it. Sport hat, dark coat, light trousers and sport shoes. Am surely thankful that he is not the smart-elliey kind.

Do not think I have any news. A card from your father Friday saying that he was leaving there that evening at 8:15, so suppose he is in Newark now. He had quite a stay in Chicago and I hope he got to see the city. Said they were going to sight see last week.

We are getting pretty well fixed up and I am surely proud of the house. Julia D. ironed my curtains last week and I got part of them up. Will be some time yet before I am thru. The painter men cleared all the windows on the outside and put the screens up, also, painted the screens. Uncle Will painted the screen but not the frame. The going is about over for this year. The May day fete was sort of a flop this year. Surely did not compare in any to the program last year but imagine they had to cut down the expenses. A might have been catastrophe almost happened when the temporary erected bleachers filled with people collapsed. Fortunately for the people and the college there was no one seriously hurt. Some bruised and skinned legs and scared people. My friend's little boy was worrying so about Mrs. Hambleton and I told him that I never ventured on anything of that kind for I was too large. Both his feet were caught under the board but only bruised and skinned but they were so scared. The senior class day is Monday. I am going out as they are planning quite a program I have such a pretty new dress, dark blue silk with a broken dot. Trimmed in white.

We took a load of flowers to the cemetery today and I am sorry to say that is the last. I will not have any for decoration except what I buy, so cannot help you out as I thought. The peonies are the sickenist looking things I ever saw. The buds are lovely but when they open seem to be cooked. I got a bouquet from your place and took them out today, as uncle Will reserved one bouquet. Then I gave the Phillips flowers for their mothers birthday. I will send an artificial spray for Austin's grave. Mrs. Lord has lovely ones for \$1.00 and fix one bouquet for aunt.

You did not inclose the speech of Ralph's but I can get it when you come. He was to have spoken the week he was here. Ralph is the most wonderful letter writer that I ever saw or knew.

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only better

He is like his mother in that way. I always thought the letters he wrote to her especially on special occasions were really wonderful and ~~Mrs~~ as a conversationalist, he is very ordinary. I did not see him, if he came up and I told him or wrote him to always feel free to come out. He had not been to the grave either so do not think he has been up. I have not had a line but did not expect it. I am worried about Ralph. His condition I fear is serious and he carries such a load. The responsibility of his position alone is enough for one man and then the million other things. He had better slow up or there will be no Ralph. I did feel so sorry for him the day of his mother's going for it was heart breaking to watch, wait and listen and see the life slowly ebbing away. I could not give him the sympathy that some could for it just isn't my make up and I was keyed up too and very nervous. I do hope that Ralph gets better.

I suppose that I will have to give in about those sermons, but I am of the same opinion that I wrote you, but I may be mistaken or the letter may have been lost. Be that as it may, a small matter anyway. However, I am sorry that I kept you in suspense when they were tucked securely away in that box. Dr. Curry brought them over the day your father rented the house. I did not see him at all. When I came in late in the evening I asked father if anyone had been there and he said "Yes, Dr. Curry and he left the copies of the sermon for Julia." Let me know if you got yours and then I will send the other to Ralph.

If I didn't like the way the account was I would make up one of my own. Uncle Will was right up against it and you know anything you do or say is all right with him. You wrote for him to send you a statement of the expenses and I think he did the best that he could and any changes would be all right with him. He rented the place for \$27.50 per month and I think he was lucky to get it in these times. They pay twice a month and I put it in the bank tho the gas bill, the balance on the stove took most of the first payment to me, \$5.60 gas bill and \$5.50 balance on the stove. Uncle said he wanted to finish that. I wrote you in my other letter why you had not heard from her. I did not have the time to go over any sooner. I do not know whether she liked it or not. Seemed all right the morning I was there. When he brought the rent over he said "that she said she was not going to write now for you would soon be here." He added that she was very careful of the davenport and you need not worry, so that is that. But you don't need to worry for I am sure it is all right. About the curtains. You put up the old ones on account of uncle Will and I left them up. This woman is seemingly such a good housekeeper that I thought it would be nice to have the new curtains up, but no need to bother about it. The little girl brought a letter over Sat' morning that came to the house addressed to you. The stamp does not seem to have been stamped. I had a notion to open it as I thought it was likely for someone here and then thought it was not my business so am returning it and you can start it again.

I hope that you get to come home at the planned time. Yet it will be a sad homecoming for you. I hope that the rest of them don't pile everything on you to do and three days to make the trip! Do not feel that you must write to me with your many other doings tho I am very glad to hear from you. I would like to know if you got the sermon. With the best of wishes to you, I am,

Sincerely,

Mary H.

They are in your chest.

Newark Q May 23-32

Dear Julia

Maria & I took supper with Geo yesterday
had a good supper - a good time. Geo has been
let out for a time at least, he doubts if he will
ever be called back. I am going down town
this morning to get Tramma a pair of shoes -
I wish I could do better by her - I am glad
H & are getting those home painted.

Maria seems to be real spry and well -
haven't seen Clark yet -

The Holdfere was determined to hold me
there longer. have you dropped Harry.
Mary says it looks as if Roy White was going
back to Wichita -

Almost sold enough for fruit here -

I spent most of one day in stock yard at the
a salesman came up - shook hands
with me - said are you buying or just
visiting. I told him just visiting from Topeka K.
he said how far is that from Concordia -

I told him I had lived there - he said did you
know Backe there I said yes I have a head &
foot of him he said his girl took dinner with
them last Sunday. The girl was the most
distinct place I have seen he showed me a nice
bunch of cows he had just sold for \$2.00 %
and rougher as low as \$1. - 1.25 - I am going to rack
" come as low as \$2. - make down to 6
as I have to write to Edna - Geo Tucker & wife write
more next time. had a good letter from those Wichita
will keep it for you - had an awful stack of mail here
with Love W T M



that - I have been afraid she would
break under the stress of it - but she
will soon be through for this year.
Last week they had their Junior-Senior party,
one of the events they all look forward to
from the time they are freshmen. Last
week they went to Keokuk & had their
class pictures. So those two events are over.
She has the Salutatory speech for
Commencement - & with she & the boy who
is Valedictorian wrote their speeches
without help which is very unusual.
Lora & Clyde spent the week end with
us. Lora has been transferred to Eastern
Iowa & so gets home oftener than
she did when in Dakota. Mattie is
in Chicago & has been for three years
& her husband held his job against
odds a long time but about two months
ago they laid off all their men but one
& I am worried terribly about them. They
can't live in Chicago without a job &
Mattie says there are thousands who are
without & I am powerless to help. Haven't
seen Aunt Mattie Jones for some time but
hear from her occasionally. Will you be at
home there for a while let me know for we
want to send you one of Frances's pictures. With
much love & sympathy from all your cousins
Mabel Cain



Downell May 1st 1932

Dear Cousin Thomas yes, it is too bad
we don't hear from each other
often. Strange I have thought of
Anna so much this spring. Wondered
how she was & always thinking &
would write. But it is so easy to put
off writing when we have so many
things to do. We were so sorry to hear of
her going. I know how sad you are. Hard
for Julia to go back to her work I know.
But it is the way we all must go & it
is not for her we grieve but for the
lonely days without her that makes it
so hard. She is alright, doesn't ever
need to suffer or grieve for anything
again. But we who are left never get
over the sting of it. Seventeen years next
March since Mama died & two years later
Papa & each spring when the flowers
bloom & the birds sing there seems to be
something lacking in the beauty of it all.
Just an emptiness that I can't describe
but feel until it makes an ache somewhere.
We are wondering what you will do. Will
you stay on there in your home? Is



^{Julia}in Washington all of the time? Wish
she could be there with you. We are
glad to hear that Ralph is getting along
so nicely in his office at Wichita. We
like both him & Olive so much. For these
are trying times we are having & I am
afraid we will see worse as far as human
suffering goes. We have been able so far to
keep our heads above water (or at least keep
from drowning) but it is about all we can
do & sometimes we feel like we will never be
able to make it - but hope we can hold out
four more years. Frances finishes High
School the 25th of this month & this
summer will be our last in Bowden.

We think we will go to Macomb in
time to enter her in Western Illinois
State Teachers College this fall. We wanted
to enter her in Carthage College but the
tuition is \$185⁰⁰ per year & we just couldn't
do it. Macomb having a state school there
is no tuition for those planning to teach.
She won a scholarship but even then
we didn't think we could make it. She
has given us every cause to be proud of
her & we feel that she deserves an education.
She is very busy, has so many outside
activities because of her music & dramatics

Hamover Q May 9-36

Dear Julia.

Ralph called Homer about 7 a.m
he came up after me & was making
doors for a garage for a neighbor
just a cross the road; we were there
at 8.30 took dinner with Homer and
Alta; Alta had her usual big dinner
and of course Ralph got stuck.
about three we went to Stellas and on
to Hries and back here for supper
another big feed and he about four
o'clock; Homer took us up to Lees
Provins and Lees but Maria over.
& came home about 10-30 P.M Ralph
left the next morn at 6-57.
he seemed to enjoy every minute of his
stay here. as we got to Homer Ralph
saw a bunch of sheep and he said
that is a tough looking set of
sheep; Just then Homer stopped; R
got red in the face and said do
you live here. you should have
heard H laugh. he was still
laughing about it at Sunday school
this a.m

he seemed to be quite cheerful
here and was pleased with my
people here and say one liked him.
& didnt take him to Bertha and I
heard she was terribly cut up about it
she was away and I didnt know she
had come back.

we are having a nice warm rain
today and if it keeps warm & will
likely plant corn this coming week.
oats are doing fine and the fruit
is still alright. had a letter from
Mary last week; said Wiseman that
he couldnt pay more than \$25. word
doesnt seem to be much good.

they got quite a lake on me & folks
~~at my~~ shore

Eleven fifteen - was called here to
Maria's this boy was here in 80 min
Maria had a stroke and may not last
quite morning. the children are all
here. will write more in the morning
blood pressure ran from 200 - down to 170
Monday A.M. Maria seems about
the same cant talk is more
irritable; liable to pass away anytime
nice bright moon with love W.T. McKee

[1937?]

Martinsburg @ April 1st
My Dear father
It has been so long since I
have written to you don't
know as I know how but
I'll keep me informed
but I haven't heard from him
so some time I am in
Martinsburg now have been
here 2 weeks your father told
me you had been sick hope
you are well now & almost
everyone has been sick this
winter suppose I'll have
told you that I have given
up house keeping but I still
have my room and can go
home when ever I want to
and they are so good to me

but they are young and I
feel like they don't want to be
bothered with an old woman
and I don't stay there every
long at a time but I had
gotten to the place where I
couldn't keep my house as
it should be kept but I think
am getting home better have
high blood pressure and
that makes your head feel so
crazy. Cecile is a very nice
house keeper and her husband
is real nice and calls me
granma. Gus are all working
and are well as far as I know.
They have her father with
them now.

Clark is some better now but
not able to work much
don't know as have any
thing prospects to write
will be here until after
the 16 of this mo.
when do you expect to leave
Washington and how are
you going home
with lots of love and
write me soon
Aunt Maria

1937

Wartinsburg May 1st

My Dear Alice was glad to
hear from you and to know
you are so well hope you
stay well and know you
have no time to be sick
I see by the paper Basy is
taking a vacation soon
still at Wartinsburg but
think will go home soon
Berts are talking of going
back to the farm and I
think that is the place
for them Bert dose love
to work on a farm but he
is working too hard is
just killing his self
with his other business

haven't heard from
Bill only thru the paper
since I came here. guess
he is getting along all right
it was to bad Mr. Coffer
had to be sick but hope
he is all right now I
heard it over the radio
well don't know nothing
to write haven't heard
from Newark for several
days but over all well
when I heard last I got
a letter from Bernice she is
still having a hard time
I do wish she would come
to Newark and get a job and
live with me will close
and hope to do better next
time



I don't seem to get well
but am as well as I
was when I came here
Dr. Told me high blood
pressure couldn't be cured
but can be helped a fellow
cant do much work
smile as often as you can
Aunt Maria



Hanover Ohio May 16-37

Dear Julia your letter came Friday
last Sun Pth Homers drove in and said
Lecil called - wanted me to come up
immediately. I changed clothes and was
there in 30 min; I kissed her and she
kissed me but couldn't speak. Mrs Bigly
came a little later and she knew her
she soon went into a stupor and rem-
ained so until 3:40. Mom couldn't swal-
low water; didn't seem to suffer.
She was layed away in a quarter
Oak casket; must have cost \$400.
The boys were all standing by her
and I said boys you are putting her
away beautifully and they said with-
ing is too good for her.
The fall bearers were Johnny Price
Mr. Eshman Harry Walters Walters
and the City carrier who drove Les
home after you got home from Wash.
I can't recall the others.
Bernie couldn't come; she sent flowers
she is quitting her job this week and
coming to Delaware. Paul - wife
Annie Alice and one of Annie's granda-
ughters were there.
Les I took an old slip out of her bed

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put it on a chair. felt something
hard looked at it and found \$113.00
tied up in it. she left \$12.00 in money
beside her home. she told me she
wanted the boys to come there and
divide her things. and she didnt
want there with about. & told Geo
he said they woud be there. but they
are trying to but in now.

Bert was made Administrator.
there was a vast amount of beautiful
flowers. there were several from
Tracyburg. it rained some in the P.M.
Aunt Sam wasnt able to go.

Eddie Tibout is in rather a serious
condition. they had an auto smash
up on there way from Florida.

got James picture. - invitation.
I gave her quite a lecture which I
imagine wont please her a bit but I
wanted to get it off my chest. told her
one had to have energy in order to
make a success of anything.
am enclosing a dollar to add to your
gift. comes rather hard on me as
Geo Warfel and Pauline. - I am graduate.
have Geo picture and " " are going
to give me there. Paul flatly refused to
graduate. quit the last month to keep

from it. he certainly is a problem.
am glad you like your car. we think
our Plymouth is fine. did & tell you
Homer has a Chevy - Bertha a Teraplane.
Bertha was quite cut up because & didn't
take Ralph to see him.
Homer Stella & Bertha - & each gave
a dollar for flowers.
we had quite a rain & which delayed
corn planting. More W. & up & let her
down - two chairs: she is quite
proud of them
& want to go see an old friend this
afternoon who is fast 80.
glad you got to go to Baltimore.
& really think this is a blessing in
disguise for Ralph if he had had
a fall like this ten years ago he
might have had something
worse up: he has had it too much
his own way. am sure he will
have something worth while soon

Yours with Love

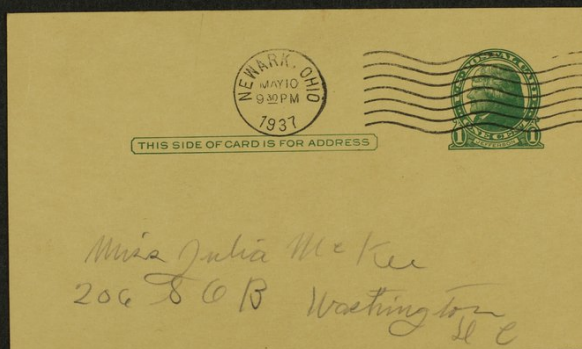
W T McKee
on Friday before Maria - More Bigby
were down town ate dinner together
done there shopping Maria but a dress
went home with More B ate supper
they took her home and she put



the dress in the box with the
other things she had to be hurried
in every thing all complete.

W-T M

Dear Julia
in my rush I cant
remember whether
I sent you a card
or not Maria died
at 640 this P.M.
buried wednes at
Martinsburg 230
W T M



Topeka, Kansas.
October 29, 1937.

My dear Julia:

In the morning paper
is the story of some friends
of a bride who were dilatory
in giving her a bridal
shower and before they
got around to it they
found a shock shower
would be more fitting.

Conditions may not be
so bad in our case but
"procrastination surely is
the thief of time." At this
late date I wish to
thank you for your



generous hospitality and kindness
to me while in Washington and
perhaps I should add patience.
I did appreciate and enjoy ~~and~~
my visit in Washington so much.
Again I thank you for the
privilege of making the New England
trip with you - My vacation trip and
visit with Philip - you and Dorothy
are the "real" letter days of my life and
my only vacation for many years.

I thank you and may God bless
you and keep you -

Sincerely -

Mary Hambleton.