

Biology Building
June 11, 1932

Mr. Walter M. Cook
Bruce
South Dakota

Dear Walt:

Inclosed find money order for \$50, which I hope will help you out of your present hole. This may not be all you could use, but I feel that I could hardly spare more.

My uncle, Dr. Johnson, was here a few days ago and we talked over to some extent the situation at the farm. We agreed upon, in view of the critical economic conditions, the probable necessity of making financial adjustments with you as concerns the rent. We thought also that such adjustments should take the form of partial relief from your immediate obligations to us rather than leasing the farm at a lower rate.

Now I am willing to "write off" personally the \$150 (\$100 sent in February plus \$50 in June) you owe me, and my uncle indicated that he would do the same for the \$50 personal loan he made you. This makes \$200 in debts to Dr. Johnson and myself as individuals from which you would be released, though you would still be expected to pay the full amount of the rent.

We do not think it at all advisable to cut down on the rent rate, for under present arrangements, after taxes, repair bills, etc. are paid, there is only around \$300 left. A reduction of rent could be brought about only at the expense of the \$300 that is clear and out of which comes material contribution to the upkeep of George and Guy---and, what I mean, they need it. Then, again, I have never looked upon the \$2 per acre as even approaching a high rental; I don't feel that this rate ever has been on an inflation basis.

I would like your opinion as to the fairness of the above proposition.

Please let me know as soon as you receive this money order. Also remember me to your Dad, Mrs. Dean, and other of my friends there. I may possibly get out to South Dakota this summer, but I am not sure.

Yours sincerely,

Copy to Dr. A. G. Johnson
Incl. money order