R.R.2, Sparta, Mich.,
Dec. 16, 1930

Hello Folks:

No good news. He is a brother of Mrs. Knowles. This is one case that is as I expected. He is a tuff, hard boiled, hard hearted son of a ——. He knows everything. He is the most important guy in this country so it seems. We are having some canabalism and I suggested using straw for litter so they would have to do some scratching for grain. He half way made fun of me for saying that and said to paint them up. That would stop it. So he went to the drug store and brought out a bottle of stuff. It was oil of tar and glycerine. It was black. The canabalism had only bothered in one end up to Sunday.

I hadn't noticed any in the other three flocks until then. I used his black stuff on the ones that I found and Sunday I took care of the whole outfit and discovered cannabalism in 3 or 4 of the flocks. So his black stuff hadn't had any effect on those other flocks. I wanted to stop the cause of the habit and he wanted to stop the habit. So far we have done neither but he thinks that his dope is doing wonders.

Well this seems to be what he expects of the two of us. He wants the two of us to be in the 4 pens all the time and pick up and dope every bird as soon as she is picked at. Also to do our regular work and build nests and a few other things.

So this afternoon I had a talk with him and asked him if I was satisfactory and if not I would rote bring my family.

He said, "I want a man that knows what he is doing and don't have to experiment. He should know how to handle every condition that comes up. That is the man I am going to have. If you think you can handle it all right if not say so." I told him that I hadn't found anybody that actual knew the cause or how to handle canabalism But according to foundry rules the man in charge should know whether anybody else does or not. He is comparing it with factory stuff but I think he should be comparing it with doctoring as it is more on that line. Doctors are continualy running into new things that puzzle them and the poultryman certainly does too.

I know he will be impossible to get along with very long and don't believe he had better move.

I asked Scott (the fellow working with me) about him this afternoon and I found out something.
He said that he lost his job at Muskegon because he had too many women running after him.
He says that he has fired 40 or 5 foreman in the foundry. I was just recently. He said some of them were good men too and everybody was surprised. They were probably not slave drivers enuf for him.
He says that he has plenty of enemies around here too.
So I think that he is a hard boiled slave driver in the foundry and expects to do the same here.
He is very unreasonable in his ideas too. You know that night he mentioned about giving me a commission enuf to make $2000 and she said "Hadn't you better wait and see how things come out first?" She was nearer right than he was.
If he gave me $2000 per year

we would have to do exceptionaly well for him to make his interest etc. Eggs are way down now too and I think it kind of gets his goat. Last week his eggs brot him 18¢ - 23¢ and 28 cents.
We are (I mean have been) selling our small eggs here for 26 cents. Last Sat. I spoke to him about droping that price. He said "no. It is worth something to chase after them and wait on them." A store keeper drove up a little later and wanted ten doz. and asked the price. When I told him 26 he said they are selling out of the store for 24. He said "eggs are down." I told him that I knew it and that I had spoken to McFall about dropping the price and he said no. The store keeper said "All right," and drove away.
It is going to be impossible to

get along with very long I am sure. I would like to come up and see you folks Sunday. I don't know just what I will do.

He told me today to go ahead and do what I thot best. Here help if necessary. So I am having 2 carpenters come tomorrow to build nests and am getting 2 or 3 tons of straw for litter.

Scott said that he was quick tempered and I guess he is.

I got my check from Chic. S & L Co. today.

Got a kind of cold and headache today. Haven't had anything to eat today except 4 doughnuts and a cookie this morning. I am going down now to get something Supper.

How are all of you folks. Your mother especialy.

I don't dare mail this to you as I get it back.

It is awful dusty here. I got some steam from Thursday last night the barrel of water. No good place to stay.

Yours

Chas. Delaymatter