

EXCERPTS FROM ACTUAL LETTERS RECEIVED
BY THE COUNTY RELIEF HEADQUARTERS

1. "I cannot get sick pay, I have six children, can you tell me why?"
2. "This is my eighth child. What are you going to do about it?"
3. "Mrs. Brown has had no clothing for a year and has been visited by the clergy for a year."
4. "I have been cohabiting with several officers from headquarters, but without results."
5. "I am glad to say my husband who was reported missing is now dead."
6. "Sir: I am forwarding my Marriage Certificate and six children, I have seven but one died and was baptized on half a sheet of paper."
7. "I am forwarding my Marriage Certificate and two children one of which is a mistake as you will see."
8. "I am writing to say my baby was born two years old. When do I get my money?"
9. "Unless I get Husband's money soon I will be forced to an immortal life."
10. "Please find out for me if my husband is dead. The man I am living with now can't eat or anything until he knows."
11. "I am very annoyed to find you have branded my boy illiterate. This is a dirty lie as I married his father a week before he was born."
12. "In answer to your letter I have given birth to a boy weighing 10 lbs. I hope this is satisfactory."
13. "You have changed my boy to a girl. Will that make any difference?"
14. "Please send me my money at once as I have fallen into error with my landlady."
15. "In accordance with your letter I have given birth to twins in the enclosed envelope."
16. "I want my money quick as I can get it. I have been in bed with the Doctor for two weeks but he doesn't seem to do me any good. If things don't improve I'll have to send for another doctor."
17. "I have no children yet. My husband is a bus driver and works days and nights."
18. "My husband had his project cut off two weeks ago and I haven't had any relief since."

CHARLIE MCCOFFUS

A field engineer named Charlie McCoffus,
Worked all day in the field and all night in the office,
Checking contracts and vouchers and estimates, too,
To be picked all to bits by the Washington crew.

For the boys in D. C., in their double-lensed specs,
Their sallow complexions and fried collar necks,
Care not for the time nor the money they waste;
If a carbon is missing, a comma misplaced,
They bounce back the paper with ill-concealed jeers,
To harrass the hard-working field engineers.

To get back to Charlie, he struggled along,
'Till an ache in his head told him something was wrong.
He went to the Doctor, and "Doctor" said he,
"There's a buzz in my brain; what's the matter with me?"

Well, the medico thumped, as medicos do,
And he tested his pulse and his reflexes, too,
And his head and his heart and his throat and each lung,
And Charlie said, "Ah" and he stuck out his tongue.
Then the Doctor said, "God, what a narrow escape,
"But a quick operation will put you in shape."

"Your brain's overworked, like a motor run down,
And you're flirting with death every time you turn 'round.
I must take out your brain for a complete overhauling;
In the interim, take a rest from your calling."

So Charlie McCoffus went under the knife,
He struggled home brainless and kissed his own wife.
While old Doctor Loomis and two other men
Were putting his brain back in order again.
Well, the weeks rolled along and Charlie McCoffus
Never called for his brain at the medico's office.
The Doctor got worried, gave Charlie a ring,
Said, "You'd better come over and get the danged thing."
"Thanks, Doc, I don't need it," said Charlie McCoffus,
"I'm being transferred to the Washington Office."

So Charlie now wears a fried collar to work,
And he hides in the lairs where the auditors lurk,
And his letters bring tremors of anger and fear
To the heart of each hard-working field engineer.
And the pride and joy of the Washington Office
Is brainless, predaceous, young Charlie McCoffus.

To parallel the policy of the War Department not to admit to the army any one unable to pass a rigid physical examination or whose age is over sixty, the following men should have been either at once discharged or not accepted for service by their respective governments.

Moses	Over age -- eighty when he took command
Abram	Over age when he went against Edom
Saul	Insane
Alexander	Inebriety and temper
Charlemange	Over age in last campaign
Mohammed	Catalepsy
Djengis Khan	Paranoa
Richard II	Hunchback
Wm. of Orange	Chronic asthma "an asmatic skeleton
Luxenburg	Hunchback " hunch back dwarf" age 66 at Landen
Sckomburg	Over age at battle of the Boyne
Oliver Cromwell	Precancer of skin
Charles II	Tuberculosis
Cortez	Repeated disobedience of orders
Baron von Steuben	Over age
Frederick the Great	Kyphosis and suicide obsession
Duke of Wellington	Under weight
Marshal Blucher	Over age -- was 73 at Waterloo
Julius Caesar	Epilepsy
Napoleon Bonaparte	Chronic stomach ulcer and under size
George Washington	No opposing molars
Columbus	Over age last voyages
Lord Cleve	Mental instability--suicide complex
Naaman	Leprosy
Nathaniel Forrest	Illiteracy
Garibaldi	Over age in Franco Prussian war
Winfield Scott	Senility at Civil War
Count Bismark	Over weight
Gen. Shafter	Wver weight and unable to ride a horse
U. S. Grant	Inebriety -- once forced to resign for same
W. T. Sherman	Nervous -- thought insane by some
John A. Rawlins	Plural effusion contracted at Fort Sonelson
Mike Lawler	Over weight -- hero of assault at Vicksburg
Stonewall Jackson	Paralysis of hand from gun shor
Gen. Hancock	Gun shot of leg, later amputated
Philip Kearney	Lost arm in Mexican war -- in Civil War
Gen. Halleck	Over age
Chas. Fergusomn Smith	Over age -- assaulted Ft. Donelson
Benj. Butler	Nearly blind one eye
Kaiser William	Birth palsy and atrophy one arm
Serg. York	Conscientious objector
Joseph Wheeler	Over age at Spanish Am. war
D. W. Hill	Over age at Spanish Am. war
Abraham Lincoln	Disproportion of weight and height
John Paul Jones	Bad temper and under size
Horatio Nelson.	Loss of one arm and an eye

The President, the Secty. of the Navy, the Secty. of the Army, and many officers are past sixty. Does the army differ from all activities of life where brains come first, physique second, and age last of all? Have we reached a point where ability and age count less than the vigor of youth with its lack of experience?

If so, it would not surprise me to see Gen. Marshall superseded by Lt. Gen. Jo Lewis.

WHEN GRANDPA REES SAID GRACE

MANY things do I recall
From out the days gone by,
And, like some previous gift,
These mem'ries satisfy
And slake the thirst for one dear look
Into a long lost face,
But best of all I do recall
How grandpa Rees said grace.

He used to keep a hardware store
In Francesville, up state,
And later ran a groc'ry store,
When I was some past eight;
In both these stores I've had great days,
For many times he'd lift
From off a shelf or from a case
Some pleasant little gift.

Once a wagon, red of bed,
Another time a gun
With BB shot enough to keep
The tomcats on the run,
He gave me tops and toys and sleds,
And fed my empty space,
I cherish all, but best recall
How grandpa Rees said grace.

He'd call me Old Bluff Efferson
And Johnny Shinglenail,
Then pinch me hard, and when I'd jump
He'd call me Wiggletail;
And if I wished a big mustache,
He offered me this tip,
"Put cream beneath your nose, and let
The kittens lick your lip."

At eventide, when shoes came off,
His grandkids then would meet
And try their best, by hook or crook,
To tickle grandpa's feet.
O me, what fun! We howled and screamed,
And rolled about the place,
But best of all I do recall
How grandpa Rees said grace.

WHEN GRANDPA REES SAID GRACE

"Most merciful and most righteous Heavenly Father --"
In accents soft and low
He thanked the Lord for daily bread
And blessings here below.
His voice was clear and rich and firm,
The weight-clock slowed its pace,
Each head was bowed and hearts were light
When grandpa Rees said grace.

He didn't shout none at the church,
He didn't pound the seats,
He chewed old Granger Fine-Cut,
And smoked Virginia Sweets,
But, goodness me, you folks who say
He's out of heaven's race,
You never felt the hush that fell
When grandpa Rees said grace.

I hope the day may come again,
When 'round another board,
That family may bow their heads
To worship of the Lord,
And that we'll hear as once we heard,
Each fellow in his place,
The quaint, good sound of that kind voice
As grandpa Rees says grace.

Sent to you with the kind wishes of Boss Johnston,
Master of Ceremonies of the R.F.D. Hour from Station
WLW of the Crosley Radio Corporation, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Cast off the bounding jar today
Wheel out an army ship
Sold up the way ~~for~~ Cleaver
Can take another trip.
Immobilize a fighting plane
Fetch oil and gas galore
For that old gal is off again
For some enchanted shore.
For 20000 miles she goes
To have her weekly fling
And rub her nose against the nose
Of some damned Gulu King.
By design and not by luck
She chose this distant shore
The only place she hadn't stuck
Her damned nose in before.
Now having rubbed the Royal nose
She crossed another sea
To scare the natives I suppose
And watch them plant a tree.
This happy thought occurred to me
As homeward bound she sped
Why couldn't they have shipped the
tree
and planted her instead.