

Crary Feb. 14, 1922

Mrs. Emma Moen

Dear niece,

You may have given up the hope of hearing any more from here because it's been such a long time since you heard from us. We are all well and we are living as usual – both the young ones and the old ones, but the death has been knocking on our family's door, since the last time I wrote to you. My youngest brother, Peder died January 9th and he was the youngest and last one left of my brothers. He was 61 years when he passed away after a few weeks of illness. We have been neighbors since we came to this country, both when we worked the farm and after we came into town. When you have been living so close for almost 40 years, you miss them much more. There's an empty space which no one can fill. But sooner or later we all will be separated from all them we love. It's a good thing if we can think about that while there still is time because nobody knows how long we will be here.

If you subscribe to *Gudbrandsdølen* or *Lillehammer Tilskuer*, you may find the announcement regarding my brother's death and funeral.

We are sorry to hear about your mother's death and with no doubt you must be missing her a lot because nobody is like mother. "Mother" or "mama" is the first word the child is learning and she's the one that is gathering everybody both in happiness and in sadness.

You may wonder where the magazines have gone as you didn't get the last issues. We had to cancel the subscription because we have been hard up and we were looking at ways to cut our overhead. Hopefully it will soon be better, and then we'll send you a magazine again. It's hard times for the farmers now because the prices of all the products are getting lower than the costs of producing. On the other hand, all the kinds of factory made products keep their good prices.

The weather last Christmas was fine, but after that it's been very cold and we've had many bad storms. We have just enough snow so it's fine for the sleighs. We are living a quiet life – retired from the demands of the farmers' life. When the weather is fine, some of our children will be coming to visit us and then it's a lively time while many of their toddlers are gathered together. Crary doesn't grow any bigger. It's not a big town like Chicago. The population in Crary is 300 people, but we do have a good primary school with 7 teachers and about 175 children.

Hereby, I have to finish with lovely greetings to you, your husband and your children from

Your uncle and aunt  
Mr & Mrs C.P. Dahl

The next time you write to us please tell us, how are the children that your aunt Agnethe left? We haven't heard anything about them.