

January 4, 1929.

C. L. Close, Esq.,
United States Steel Corporation,
71 Broadway,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Close:

I think I have talked to you of my industrial hobby, the combining of a trade and a farm, though possibly, in the multitude of matters of which we talked you have forgotten. Anyway it is a hobby of mine that every mill and factory worker ought to have a chance to dig a bit daily in a little dirt of his own. I think a good many of them are doing it. What I want to find out from you is if you have any records that show a tendency of this sort among the steel workers. I remember, years ago, when we visited Vandergrift, that I was told that there were a number of Rollers that owned farms near town and went to and fro daily in their Fords. Have you any numbers of these men? Is it a half dozen or several dozen? Is there around in the vicinity of your other plants any such tendency and have you any way of encouraging it?

Again, I want the latest reports on the gardens of the Frick Coke and Coal towns and if you have any other equally brilliant gardening exhibit I would like the figures on it. Possibly a little later you will let me come down and talk with you on the whole subject. I had hoped to get down before this, but since I came back from Italy in November I have had a rather serious time, illness in my family and a sharp attack of the Grip myself. I am only just beginning to get into harness again.

A Happy New Year to you.

Sincerely yours,