

F W Crosby
Billings Mont
707 N 30th St



Mr J N Crosby
Barthle
Cuba

Oriente Prov

Billings Mont Jan 27th 1918
Dear Son

Yours of 16th Inst - at hand Glad to know every thing seems O.K. there We are all in usual health here and hope this may find all well there I hope the new venture on Tractor may pan out to your entire satisfaction and enable you to secure the amount of logs needed to keep you going in good shape I note what you say regarding legalising partnership for business purposes and as soon as you can forward the necessary papers I will do any part here I can

idle these days can not seem
to pick up any thing to do
so am compelled to hibernate
I had hoped to be able to pay
at least a part of my way
through the winter season I am
very anxious to get Bertha
through the school without delay
so that she can be self supporting
I shall get busy at the earliest
opportunity It costs me now
about 100 per month and I
have not quite enough on
hand to pay me past Feb 15-
rent is payable in advance
also tuition and both came
due about the 15th of the month
It will require perhaps 50.⁰⁰ more
than I have to pay me to
March 15 and then about 100.⁰⁰
at that time to run me till
Apr 15 & about the same per month

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until the school is done as till
I can earn some to help out
If I keep well I can about pay
Mamas away and mine when
I get to work again I am sorry
to call for help but can see no
other way out of the present strain
and perhaps get a little nervous
when the cash runs low This
seems to be a cash in advance
town and do not know what
would become of us should the pile
run out I have not heard
from George for some time
and do not know when he
thinks of coming to the ranch
He talked of being gone about
four weeks when he left for
the east - Has delayed coming

until the weather is so wintry
he could very little if he were
here now. He has 180 acres of
wheat $\frac{1}{2}$ of which belongs to him.
The present prospects are good
for a crop & helped all last
summer until the wheat was
sowed and he left for home.
Then I built two miles of wire
fence for Anson to close it in.
Anson paid me for the work.
There has been no building on
the place except a 12x14 shack.
There is talk of building a good
2 story frame house there as soon
a weather will permit. Oleo
seemed to be throwing cold
water on the scheme the latter
part of the summer and
wrote me a rather strong letter
demanding Georges immediate
return to her and for me to

get my nose out of his business
and keep it out This letter she
told me to show to George I
did so and returned it to her
without comment I have had
my doubts about her coming
west and trying to help to
make a home for the family
She made it quite unpleasant
for Mama and the girls so they
had to leave her before she wrote
to me George could have had
100 acres more broke in the
fall and ready for spring wheat
oats and flax but she could
not let him alone so he has
no ground ready He could
have made several hundred
dollars at job work after he left
plowing and breaking for

other people Now I hope she may
come across and do her part
as he has a good chance to
get a start in the world if she
will do her part The only thing
now as far as we are concerned
would seem to be to stand back
and give her room I have no
idea at this writing what I
may do when we have got
Bertha through the school and
on to a job somewhere

It is quite wintering here these
days Well must close and
get this in the mail

Best regards to you all
and to any inquiring friends
hoping to hear from you
soon I remain as ever

Your Father & well wisher
J W Crosby