

Bristol Hotel,  
Oklahoma City, Okla.,  
May 23, 1945.

I have to drive over to Pryor--160 miles, in the morning, for a trial starting at 10:00 a.m. Going to leave here about 5:00 a.m. I wanted to visit with Emma and Sis Temp. They are staying at the hotel. Your letter and clippings from newspaper were received here yesterday. Emma and Betty and Sis Temp were waiting for me in the lobby of this hotel at 5:30 when I came in from work. Emma and Betty had driven Bob to Dallas and came by and picked up Sis Temp at Frederick and stopped at Waurika, but Eleanor had lost the husband of her dear neighbor and had been helping them his last sickness, and was too tired to come.

We all were most pleased to learn of your appointment, and are duly proud of our nephew and kinsman. I know you will make a just judge. I feel sure to you will not think you know more than the lawyers appearing in your court and attempt to try their cases for them like some of the ---judges in Oklahoma.

I have been an assistant in the Attorney General's office at the Capitol for a year and a half. Since we have been letting the negroes register in Wagoner County, a Democrat candidate there has no chance to be elected. Judge Watts was here one day and the Attorney General had lost a number of assistants, who had gone into the armed forces and was trying to get some more. Watts recommended me and I applied and was accepted. I resigned as County Attorney. I took the place with the understanding that I'd surrender it upon the boys' returning and wanting their old jobs. So, I am expecting some of them back soon.

There are ten of us men assistants and one woman assistant. We give official opinions to the State Departments and officials and bureaus and to County Attorneys. We also upon direction of the Governor assist the County Attorney in trials of cases and of course handle the State's law-suits. I'm supposed to be in the criminal end of the business, but do everything.

It seems to me they hand me the stuff the other fellows don't want. I've been assigned in a number of criminal trials over the State and have been quite lucky or successful; also have some civil cases to try, that is, to help the County Attorney.

I have to work like a slave---months behind. We handle all criminal appeals which go to the Criminal Court of Appeals. Of course, I have had and have a large number of them. Twice a week we have conferences of our staff. I'm not fitted for that. I don't like to have my work criticized and I don't care much what the other fellow does about his. We assistants in the lower brackets get \$3,600.00 and beginning July 1 of this year, will get \$3,800.00 yearly.

I've gotten so I rather like Oklahoma City, but shall not regret returning to Wagoner, although it is small and dinky and nearly everyone is poor and hasn't much prospect of doing better.

I imagine it will be hard for me to get up there when you are sworn in, as much as I'd like to be there. I thank you for your invitation and also for the invitation to visit you and Bessie. Maybe some day I can visit you.

Again, I want to say I am very happy over the appointment.

With best wishes,

Yours uncle,  
Elbridge J. Broadus.

(over)

Prater Hotel,  
Oklahoma City, Okla.,  
May 23, 1943.

I have to drive over to Pryor--160 miles, in the morning, for a trial, starting at 10:00 a.m. Going to leave here about 5:00 a.m. Couldn't go this afternoon, as I wanted to visit with Emma and Sis Temp. They are staying at the Skirvin Tower with Bower and Hattie, who have an apartment there. They have sold their home in Muskogee. Sidney and his wife are at McAlester for several weeks. There is a Naval Ammunition depot there. He just came back from Guam or somewhere in the Pacific. He is a Lieut. in the Marines. Harriet Ann lost her husband on the first day of the fighting at Iwo Jima. He was a Lieut. in the Marines. She is graduating in law at O. U. at Norman, and ranks highest in a class of four.

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Again, I want to say I am very happy over the appointment.

With best wishes,

Yours truly,

W. B. R. Brodus

(over)