Dear [Name],

Well, we really had some excitement this morning. It was about 2:30 when I heard the fire engines going out Main St., and I knew from the number it must be a big fire and I could hear them stop pretty close. I got up and looked out the living room window and I could see a glow over by the college. I put my clothes on and walked down to the street and I could see that the Main Building was completely engulfed in flames. As I walked down the street, I could see the roof fall in and the flames raced into the sky. It looked for a time that they would save all but the Main section as it had already burned out and they had the old dining part under control. We were standing over next to the West wing when the side wall fell in and you should have seen us move out of the way. Over on East wing they were pouring water on the roof when all of a sudden it looked like a giant explosion, the roof the length of East burst into flames. I have never seen a fire consume a building so fast. They finally got it under control where the new part was added and saved that section also. The dorm from East to the old dining hall. All that is standing of Main and East are the walls and the columns in front. It was a terrible sight. The girls lost all of their things in East as they would not let them go back in. They were all over the campus in their night clothes. Finally they got some heat in the church and sent them all over the town and I stopped by the Spears to see if we could do any help but there was nothing anyone could do.
and called Ed about 5:00 a.m. and he came on over. We
went back to the house to get some more clothes, as it
was real cold out there. When I got over there it was not
many people there only the girls and the people who lived
real close. At one time it looked as if the whole neighborhood
would catch as the wind got up and there were showers
of sparks falling over everything. Mr. Phelps said he looked
out his window and all thought the world was on fire
so many sparks were falling. I understand that they had
just moved the registrar's office into the student union
building so all the records were saved. The Business Manager
and all his records and I think they had quite a lot of money
in the safe and we could see it through the window and
it looked red hot so no one knew whether the money
was destroyed or not and I guess it will be several days
before they can touch it. When we were at the school
Mary Blue was in a daze, she would go to the window
and look then look after some of the girls as quite a few were
in the house. I didn't see Dr. Spain but some body said he
and J. J. Harvelson were over on the campus bleeding hands.

All of the streets out our way were blocked off and
to get to work I had to go down by Ed's and then over to
Colonial of the Rock cornel. That has been the topic in Columbia
today. But Fulton set up his broadcasting in the Merry market
and he kept everyone informed on radio what was happening
and he got there pretty quick. They have sent all the girls home for
the rest of the week. I understand they had the building
wet well covered with insurance but right now things
show look gloom. Will write if any other ideas breaks. They didn't
have and exhibit of some fine pictures and of course they were lost.