Letter from Ralph B. LeCocq to Nelson Nieuwenhuis, January 4, 1977

Ralph B. LeCocq

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Mr. Nelson Nieuwenhuis;
Hospers, Iowa 51238.

My Dear Mr. Nieuwenhuis:

It was a great pleasure to receive your letter of Dec. 27th. It awakened many pleasant memories for me and gave me much pleasure to note that you will be engaged in writing a history of Sioux County. I am certain that I had a picture of Henry Hospers. But in the havoc of moving back to a five acre tract, which I reserved when I sold the farm in 1915, it has been displaced. I am sending you a few photos which show that they were taken in Iowa. It is possible, but not likely, that you might recognize some face and use it for your history of Sioux County. I wish you success in this effort. It will be pleasant work for you, to dig up the past. I wish you big success.

I wish that I could be of some help in retaining your position as Curator. You have a hard nut to crack there. As a rule a former banker looks with very dim sight on anything just having historical value, UNLESS he can see, no matter how dimly, some MONEY in the matter.

Yes, I have quit the law practice. Now that I can look back over the years, I can see that it was time for me to quit. Things have changed too much. I would not feel right any longer.

To illustrate what I mean: In moving my desk et cetera from the office to my little den here, I found my first ledger of 1914. The third item was this: "Syl Weidkamp, to drawing deed $1.50."

Now they charge from ten to twenty-five dollars. And the next item was this: "To 10 gal. of gas—$1.80."

—how things have changed. We are too old to get used to the new way of living. I hope Carter will do something really fundamental and good, but I have many doubts. However, I believe the world is ready for a new age. Perhaps it is going to be the beginning of the new age of 1000 years. With this I hopefully close with sincere wishes to you and yours for a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Sincerely yours,

P.S., Under separate cover sending you some photos of people whom I never knew. But the photographers were all from cities near Hospers. Don't bother returning them.
Newman de Haas
1937 (Physicist)
1893

Tony a printer
De Vriege Hollander

414 House 80 8 Court
House

Tony came to DC
in 1901 (about)
some (1901) 94 years
this summer

Tony was 19 years old when he came to Kern
County.

Frank de Haas
rifle man

Tony de Haas
job work

Basement - Herman's
Herman
father - Hoering & Haas

Harrison, Arkansas
daily

Conservative Democrat
Martin van Oostenhout
P.O.'s father (M.D.)

owned land around
Rock Valley

1893 -
Started - 1914
84 years ago
1977
88
93 years age
will be 87 years in June

Jan. 1977
1889
1988