CARLOS C. ALDEN

March 7th, 1914.

Dear Mr. Lodge:-

I have your recent letter regarding conditions at the lake. I judge from your letter that the purchasers of the dam (damm) lot acknowledge that their purpose was to hold us up. If the Harris estate still owns the property at the head of the lake, it will suffer the greatest damage if we let the lower level be continued, for it will be too shoal for a row boat even at their boat-house. The estate should have protected itself, and us, too, when selling the separator lot.

Did I write you that I ran across a Mr. Thompson here in Buffalo a couple of months ago, who stated that he was one of the men back of the railroad kark proposing to go through our property, and that the scheme was still very much alive and probably would go through in the comparatively near future? That would have a bearing on what we would want to do in paying tribute to keep up the lake level.

Have you any means of getting in touch with the executor of the Harris estate, and finding out how much was paid for the lot? I suppose if we are to club together and buy the fellows out, it would have to be on some basis of contribution proportioned to the values of our respective propeties. My idea is to wait till May, and the usual level is more nearly reached, and see where it leaves us, before attempting to negotiate. I hear from Carpenter that he will not be east this year, so I will be at the lake this summer, I expect.

We are sorry to know that Alvin has had to go through typhoid, and are glad to know he is back in condition again.

The family's regards to yourself and family heden