

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Lubec Historical Society

Date: Nov. 7, 1913

Description: Jacob Pike to Sumner Pike, his son with advice.

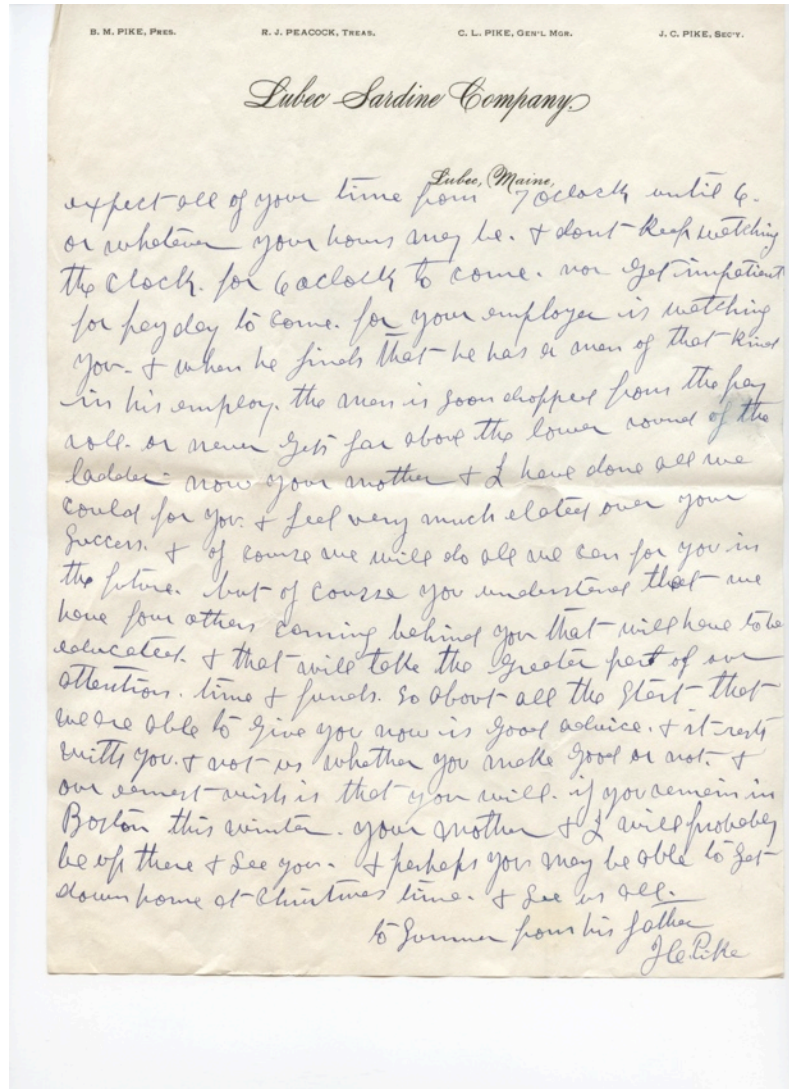
B.M. Pike, Pres. R.J. Peacock, Treas. C.L. Pike, Gen'l Mgr. J.C. Pike, Sec'Y.

Lubec Sardine Company

Belfast ~~Lubec~~, Maine, Nov. 7-1913

Dear Sumner

I received your letter this evening. Glad to hear from you, but must say that it makes me feel a little sad when you say you have gone to work for yourself, as I realize that you have left home for good, will only be home on an occasional visit. But of course we have been expecting this. But it came sooner than we thought it would, as it only seems like a fortnight ago that you were a baby playing around the house floor. Now about the only thing that I can give you is a little advice. There are three things that ruin the larger percentage of young men. These are the evils: rum, bad women and the use of funds that don't belong to them. Now in starting out in life to fight the world's battles, I am going to ask you to shun the three mentioned vices. Of course there are many other vices that lead young men to ruin, but I cannot go into detail and mention them all. They will all come up to you sooner or later and I ask you to guard against them. Now I want to say a word or two to you in regard to your employers. Now they



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expect all of your time from 7 o'clock until 6, or whatever your hours may be, and don't keep watching the clock for 6 o'clock to come, nor get impatient for payday to come. For your employer is watching you, and when he finds that he has a man of that kind in his employ, the man is soon dropped from the pay roll, or never gets far above the lower round of the ladder. Now your mother and I have done all we could for you and feel very much elated over your success, and of course we will do all we can for you in the future. But of course you understand that we have four others coming behind you that will have to be educated, and that will take the greater part of our attention, time and funds. So about all the start that we are able to give you now is good advice and it rests with you and not us whether you make good or not. + our earnest wish is that you will. If you remain in Boston this winter, your mother and I will probably be up there and see you, and perhaps you may be able to get down home at Christmas time and see us all.

To Sumner from his father

J.C. Pike