

Dear FinP

It seems to me too a long time since we have written. I hope the Lady has sent on some of my numerous letters written to her.

I am so *delighted* that Caroline is proving so nice and am so glad you risked giving up Helen. By the way Helen acted at the end it is plain to be seen that she would never have become really satisfactory to us who make so much of "character". I hope Caroline will like it so well that she will want to stay with you for years. That is the way, I think, for both sides to be most happy when a girl stays long enough to get a feeling of the place being *her* home as well as yours.

I found out after I got here that I had left the little salts at Youngstown; but I hated to make you the trouble to send them. If it is a bother, it is all right to wait till I visit you next.

You remember Will gave me a five dollar bill among the other things he had for me at Christmas time? You will like what I got with it, I think. I got some dishes - a half dozen cups and saucers, a *cute* teapot and cream and sugar, and a plate in that blue dragon design that we have quite a few things in at home - I like to get things here that will fit in at home because I am always looking forward to being there to live some time in the not distant future. That many dishes didn't use the five dollars all up and I put the rest with a little and got a brass engagement calendar, for that is a thing I absolutely have to have - use it *every day*. The reason I got a teapot instead of a strainer was because I can bring in enough hot water to make tea in the pot and not have to have any contrivance in here to heat it, but if you make the tea with a strainer, you really need to have the water *boiling*. The

Lady likes a teapot too and we shall enjoy it at home some time.

I have written to a Chautauqua headquarters about a chance to lecture at summer Chautauquus. What wouldn't be at home, of course, but it would be a way to get up a reputation as a speaker, provided the lectures went well. It is pretty late to apply for things of this sort for this summer and like enough it won't land anything, and like enough I haven't the reputation to get a job of this sort, any way. However, the people on these Chautauquas aren't such great shakes that one need be greatly impressed with their wonderfulness.

I think teachers' institutes might be a good source of money if one could get the engagements. I wrote to a teacher in the Painesville school who took a course with me at Lake Erie last year about this - haven't had any answer yet.

I am getting on faster with Foote since I got my new typewriter, but there is a tremendous amount yet to be done. Yesterday I had time to work on it, but I was just so sick of the whole business that I couldn't do it. It wasn't really Foote I was tired of but the typewriter. In the morning I had a long seige (shall never in the world know whether the e or the i comes first in that word) with the typewriter agent, whom I had asked the company to send to see me, and then I wrote all afternoon on the thing typing copy for the examinations and by evening it just made me feel kind of sick all over to even see the thing. I have thought so much about this machine trying to decide whether to buy it or not.

It is just a peach of a machine in a lot of ways but like everything else in the world, has some bad features. However, I have decided I like the good ones better than I dislike the bad ones and have decided to take it. It is expensive, you know, over \$90 with the extra types I have and that is a discount. 1

Your new georgette dress must be set

be sweet. I got some awfully nice georgette at a fine bargain here the other day - didn't know exactly what I needed it for, but it was too good to "pass up" to use your phrase. For once in my life, I really have enough clothes - in fact, I have never yet worn that little cheap beaded one that I got in New Haven last summer. I had to fix it before I could wear it, and by the time I got it done the winter was so far gone that I just thought maybe I would save it till spring, as I think I won't get any new things then. I hope by the time it won't look like a last summer's affair bought when out of style. People don't dress here nearly as much as at Lake Erie. The difference is made obvious to me when Dr. Hight tells me that Dr. Habbis is so dressy, for she wouldn't be thought so at all at Lake Erie.

I have about stopped going out except when I absolutely have to because of that bad leg: it still stays so bad and I am worried about it. Some of the time I have kept it bound up. Today I am sort of scared about it, thinking I must have bound it the wrong way yesterday, because this mornning it is swelled up on the ankle. The binding was on all night. Dear me, I wonder if I ought to go to a doctor about it. I have had it propped up all night most nights since I came back from the holidays.

I have got to wash my hair fit us so dirty it will simply fall off if I don't get it washed pretty soon.

Do you want to send this letter to Pint? she might send it to the Lady. With loads of love to my darling Pinnywinks,

Mary

Elmira College, January 21, 1923.