

Dear Ellen:

I have been thinking about you so much since receiving your letter saying Nell has the gripe, and hoping that all will come out well.

This afternoon I went down to see about a rug for you. Mr. Redosian is going to send one to you by parcel post on approval - we paying the post. I suggested taking it, but when there proved to be only one that I cared to consider, I didn't think the postage would amount to much. Please notice how much the postage comes to, for you can never tell how much these Orientals may tack on. He said he would clean the rug and while I was there he cleaned a little spot to show me how it would look. No extra price for that. The rug is twenty dollars. If you don't like it, you can return it. It is charged to me and need not be paid

for till I return after spring vacation. I'd put it down on the floor right away and give myself time to see whether I wanted it. It is the best he has for the price & seems to me worth that. I thought it would do in front of your front door, tho' it may not be large enough for that. However, I sent you the decision of it.

Miss Fairchild told me when she was here that she thought all the classes were going to have costumes for commencement. I remember the year I got my Ph. D., which was a very big reunion year at Yale, a lot of classes there did that. Some wore them all the time. No women did, of course, & not classes of graduate students. It bores me beyond words to make a fool of myself, but perhaps people would think less badly of us than if we were not good sports enough to go in on what others are doing. I'm not sure but I agree with you about not bothering on the designing.

3

I wonder if I ought to write to Mary Cochran that you can't undertake it, or if we shall just let it go till she writes to you? I don't think she would do that.

Yes, I think the "book talk" ideas are great. I wrote a couple of days ago to Helen Bennett of the Chicago Bureau of Occupations asking her if there was any way to go at getting these jobs & if she got them.

I forgot what else Mary spoke of besides the Parliamentary Law. I nearly did that here last fall, you know. Somehow it fell through. I am not awfully interested in it.

I wrote to Mary in reply to that letter and asked her how she'd advise getting engagements for book-talks. I wish I could get some in Ohio for the times of the year I should be there so as to begin working this up right away.

My first two replies from people I've asked to take local chairmanships have

just arrived - both refusals! Begin again.

I may not write to you again before I see you, as I'm rushed with so many things. So I give you the date here now. I leave Elkins by the Exp Wednesday night, March 28, reaching Youngstown Thursday morning. I'm not sure of the exact hour, but I think the train arrives about 7.30. I will probably be out to your house before you are dressed. This is a week from tonight that I leave.

If you don't like the rug, I could perhaps take it along with me. If I hadn't too many things, I'd just as lief. Since I'm not taking a trunk, I may have to mail some of my stuff home, for I need to take lots for fixing & this and that.

I will enclose a letter I received from the French girl you will remember being in Oberlin one spring vacation when you were there. I answered it by re-

then mail & sent the recommendation she wanted to the man she named.

I felt awfully sorry about not having written at the time. It is about the only letter of an important request I ever ~~forgot~~ ^{forgot} to write in my life. I was ill at the time & then lost the letter.

Good-night, Pie darling. I hope Fieil is better & you happy.

With loads and loads of love,
Mary

March 20, Elvira.