

Saratoga Spgs, N. Y.  
June 8, '06.

My Dear Bill,

Your splendid letter deserved a speedier answer, but you know how a fellow hates to write until he really gets at it. It isn't so when he's away from home though. Letters are mighty nice.

Your account of the men in camp reminded me of "Black Rock" or "Sky Pilot." It seems sometimes as if a fellow could invest his life among men like that to as good advantage as in heathen lands. They are the real thing, and are worth saving.

The Y. M. C. A. scheme would work. It would make a practical appeal to them, and could be started without much capital. You could probably get help from the International Association, and State Headquarters.

International Committee Y. M. C. A.  
3 West 29<sup>th</sup> St. N. Y. C.

Do something before you leave, old man. I'll bet you have dandy chances for Brotherhood work.

I suppose Brotherhood picnic will happen before long. Hope to get home in time for it. Wish you might do the same, but suppose you'll stay thro' the summer. Tell me.

Brotherhood has fallen into the old rut lately of just having some nice book read to us. No business, no reports, or work much as a consequence, attendance falling off. You never see boys quit a thing because it's too lively! I believe they have one more meeting before summer vacation.

Perhaps you'll wonder what I'm doing off up here. Well, about the hardest job there is - just waiting. I can't go home or can't stay. Lots of work here at from \$2.50 to \$5.00 per day, but can't tell where I'll be an hour ahead, so must just loaf. But it won't last always, and then I expect to work in O. for a month or so. Lots of work in Oberlin especially carpenters.

H. Dulmage and Dwight <sup>and</sup> I worked together a month at it. They expect to stay by it all summer. Fellow with little experience can get \$2.50

I spent a couple of months in the new machine shop "National Metallic Packing Co." Fine machinery and lots of fun, but poor pay. There's something the matter with every "snap" I've ever found. You'll come home with a big wad in your pants, but I've spent my entire earnings in hunting jobs and bumming around,

I've just returned from a fine trip  
in the Adirondacks, Lake George, Mt McGee,  
Lake Luzerne, etc. Would like to camp  
there all summer, but it wouldn't pay.  
This is the place to live, all right.

Don't you like the mountains? If we  
could only trans-plant Oberlin to  
a decent climate and ~~country~~, it  
would be a nice place to settle down.

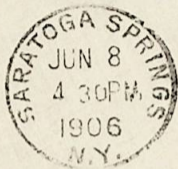
But Saratoga is worse than Lorain  
morally. All gamblers and sports, the  
races make the town. Haven't found  
a live Christian organization here yet.  
Splendid Y.M.C.A. building, well-equipped  
with gym, reading room, elegant rooms,  
but no religious meeting of any kind.

Seet's all leave, because they can't  
get support. Last one fired because he  
started too many Bible classes, etc. among  
the 400 members. Couldn't stand for that!

Must quit now, old man. Your ans. is  
due now, don't wait. Use old address.

Yours bro. Sid.

227 E. College St. Oberlin, O.



W. H. Belden

~~Monroe,~~

Wash.

Seattle  
To Parker Lumber Co



SEATTLE, WASH.  
JUN 14  
6-AM  
1906

SEATTLE, WASH.  
JUN 13  
7-AM  
1906  
RECEIVED