

O, Pui:

June 1928

Am in the state that you're always getting into, so worried I can't sleep because I think I've made a big mistake. But the Lady's sweet letter the other day told me not to worry about anything & it's too late about this now. I see too just exactly what I could have done now it's too late.

It's about a job I'm having Dr. Fowles do. I know we need more book-case space downstairs. According to our plan I had him put the one that was where the door is cut by the fire place, but it is smaller there, as it had to be lower. So that gives us less - rather than more room. So I thought he could make over the one in the garret that has movable shelves & put in parlor where those two cases were by the window. Karl made over one for me at college & I was thinking of doing it that way. I called it built in, & did not realize it wasn't what a carpenter would call built in. So I gave this job to Dr. Fowles - he has said it might be such a big job. Then, when it was so late I didn't think it worth while to say anything I woke up to see that he was building it really in. He removed the base boards & cut it so as to put it in front of the book case like the old ones. <sup>on opposite wall</sup> The way mine is at college would be really better because it can be moved. & The small steps the same, while this can't except with a lot of carpenter work. And of course this is more expensive. It has



take a great deal more time than cutting the door back.  
Oh, dear, I do feel so badly. Why didn't I think of  
the two ways of doing, Karl's and this? And may be  
nobody will like them. And I've too hard up to spend  
a single extra dollar. Oh, dear. Piii!

Please say you think it's all right.

I almost have a notion now not to have the mirror  
reused. However, I guess I will. Oh, dear.

But may be it's having this job that made him  
say he'd put that water spout on the porch without  
cost. Last summer he said it would cost us between  
\$30 and \$40 and that's the reason we didn't have it  
done. Having that money that we had decided to spend  
will go a long way toward the sink & tub. But I  
don't know whether we ought to put that in or not.  
I haven't had Mr. Hasky do these little repair jobs making  
to get this decided. But they'll need to be done before  
Frances comes home, as one is in the lavatory. I  
do wonder if we can afford that. I do so much laundry  
& I don't see where I'll do it if we have roomers  
on 2nd floor. And any way I want to be at my work  
down where Frances is. I hate to send the stuff out.  
Things get lost & faded & torn & have to be counted and



then there's the expense too.

I had a boy today, but after today I'm going to finish this work alone. The boy is fine - colored - son of one of the women I had at first. Every thing is in a mess downstairs because Mr. Fowl's work makes dust & I don't want to clean till its done. The upstairs is nearly done. I'm hanging curtains in 2nd floor, a job I loathe. I'm in a hurry to get that place looking attractive, as Mr. George Jones's reflex is to come some time this week to look at it. I wish I knew what to charge. If I can't get around to make inquiries before he comes, I guess I'll put it at \$40, but I was hoping maybe we could get more. I wish I had time to paint the dining-room furniture for that room. ~~That~~

Maureen seemed to fear we couldn't heat the place. But won't we have to do something about that even for ourselves? I plan to rent 3rd floor & 2 rooms on second & hope I can. I do hope it's the wise way: I can't think how else to do for money, for I fear in the end we'll have to do something for the heat even for ourselves. I'm just so worried about the money, for we'll need cash for



maid & nurse & so many more things than we do  
some times.

Oh dear, Pui, I'm just so afraid I'm not  
planning the very best. Do you think I am?  
I'm working every minute so as not to pay any  
more than necessary for service. And I'm going  
to paint the lavatory myself.

If it only weren't for the book-cases, I wouldn't  
be so worried. I've not even seen it's good  
to have them there, tho' Inamma & I have often  
said we wished we had built in ones there. You  
see in the end he had to get some new lumber. Oh  
dear.

I need advice. You know I've always had  
either you or Inamma to advise with. I guess  
I'm not spending nearly as much as last year  
this time (I mean excluding the porch), but  
I'm border up. Still, my salary is better than  
it was this time last year.

Well, good-bye. Write lots of love.  
Inamma

Monday 1902

Oh dear