

Hawthorn Hill  
Oakwood  
Dayton Ohio

Tuesday evening, February 2, 1926

The house is lonely, dear. The album came this afternoon and the letter you wrote Saturday night and Sunday morning. Would you believe it but I didn't remember that you had a stone wall at this home. I thought you did have at the other house, where we had dinner in 1919. It is so lovely, just right with the house, too. It might be a little spot in New England – though I don't know New England at all except from pictures! The planting must be very pretty, dear – and the porch loos nice and comfortable and secluded. I didn't remember that there were windows in the garage. You told me there were but I didn't think of its being as it is. And I love the iron work on the "stoop" and the brick walk and the brick on the steps and front of the stoop. The interior pictures bring back to me the way the house looked. But I am very hazy about the library. I remember now that I like the way the door frames go on to the ceiling. That is a pretty architectural feature. The stairway too is nice. Now, dear, since I've got more idea of the house, I can see more what I think would be nice upstairs. Let's keep it Colonial – maybe chintz- papers in some of the bedrooms any way – not too "chintzy" and spotty. Maybe plainer paper and the little figured stuff for hangings and bed draperies. It is a lovely home to work with, dear. And we'll talk every thing over and agree before we do any thing. Maybe we won't need to do much but rugs and paper and window draperies. The windows want to be simple, I think. I don't like bed-room windows all covered up. I was thinking we might keep the two rooms that open together – the study and bedroom – in colors that are about the same – only varied in use. We might make the bed room old gold and the study old gold and blue – not too delicate. If we find a Chinese rug we can have these colors. But the rugs will be the determining thing – especially if we do get an Oriental for the study.

The book cases in the living room are "charming", dear. I don't often use that word but it fits that whole feature – the fire place and book cases. The books look as if you lined them, dear. I wish I could remember the library. Do the books go to the ceiling there, too? – I love Henry's captions. He was proud of the new house and feels that the captions should keep up to the dignity of the house. I'll send the album back in a day or two. I am so glad you thought to send it.

Ollie has taken good care of the house, hasn't she? You are so lovely to have been able to keep her – after she was trained in the house. I haven't any body yet to help Carrie. I got a good dinner tonight myself, dear, if I do say so, or shouldn't. Very simple but god – and digestible – Carrie has been teaching me to roast beef and chicken. Tonight I had roast beef, browned potatoes (done with the roast) lettuce, with French dressing and ice-cream that Carrie made. It was an unusually nice roast and I got it just right. I'd ten time rather get the dinner than have this awful cooking that most people put up with. There are few good cooks. I'm no cook at all except for just a very few simple things. We need a good cook very much.

Orv is going to Washington day after tomorrow to be gone until Saturday morning. The Collie Trphy Committee will take Friday morning and the Advisory Committee, Friday afternoon. It is getting late, dear, and I must go to bed. Goodnight and a goodnight kiss.

Your  
Katharine.