

Hawthorn Hill

Monday afternoon, March 15, 1926.

Three letters again today, dear. Even if your head is full of high finance you manage to squeeze in a few thoughts of me, don't you, dear? It was too bad your Dr. Bizzell was sick but you had a good talk with him any way, I judge. He's the best one of the bunch, isn't he? I thought you said your lawyer had come to the conclusion that the "best price" meant the heist and that no discretion was left to the Trustees. Do some other lawyers think maybe the will can be stretched a little in favor of the old management? I thought that from what you said to Dr. Bizzell and what he said. It was a long trip down to Norman. I looked it up on the map and learned something, dear. So you were to get to Wichita at half past ten, all my thinking about you and imagining your arriving at midnight was lost, wasn't it? I am sure you had a lovely day with the other two Henrys. I thought it was awfully good that item in the Kansas Notes about how every editor in Kansas was dreaming of how it would be to wake up and find himself the editor of The Star.

I'll be glad, dear, when time makes us all less irritated by the Nelson wills. When things get straightened out and you are settled again – you will be able to forget about the selfishness, mostly. I really expect you to be better off under any circumstances than you were. Mrs. Kirkwood was too used to the loyalty and ability of the staff to get its true value, I believe. A woman with her lack of self control should not be in the position she was – even if naturally she was a fine woman. It is a wonder that you didn't have an unpleasant time of it. But now it will be safer, dear and I hope you can keep the organization together and get control of the paper. But I'd get some cushions ready to sit down on so the ground won't seem to [sic] hard if the bottom of the chair goes through. I wouldn't worry one bit if it does. After you're done all you can to save The Star there is nothing to worry about. Oh – how foolish Mr. Nelson was – even if he was thinking only of himself and his family. The Star would always be his best monument.

Who is the Jones on the Trustees? I understand why the other two men are on naturally – but I don't know about him. Is he a good trustee, too?

I'm awful cross, today, dear. Our Elizabeth is here as a cook. But she can't cook and she doesn't keep things clean enough to suit me. I have delivered my ultimatum to Carrie – who has charge of Elizabeth. Either Elizabeth must cook better or keep things cleaner or depart. I could get along if she would do any thing well. She is too good natured. I can't see why people aren't particular. I can understand why a woman with a family and little children to take care of can't be too nice about ever thing but there is no excuse here. No one ever taught me. I just saw the difference myself. You can see I'm on a rampage, dear.

You wrote me such a sweet letter, on the train to Wichita, dear. I ought to think about that instead of that horrid kitchen and pantry! And all of the letters were dear. I do believe, dear, that you are "hopelessly in love". There are two of us, dear! I'm stupid this afternoon and can't say what I want to say but I love you, dear. (Too many callers and agents!) I saw an Oriental this morning – about 3x7 ft. (I didn't see what the exact size was) a Kerrminshaw, however that is spelled. It was a beauty – but \$135.00! It was so lovely but only a small rug for \$135.00. It seemed to be a show piece. Anne McCormick is going to talk at the Air Institute Tonight on Sculpture. Where to find the great sculpture. I think we'll go. Anne has always been an art student and I know it will be good.

Orv is going to Washington on Thursday afternoon, to be back on Saturday morning. Saturday night the Oberlin outfit will be here for the monthly meeting. We are supposed to have a debate on the question of Oberlin remaining a college – not adding scientific schools and so on. I'm on for the

affirmative. I think the alumni Secretary suggested this discussion to the various associations. I can see how Joel Hayden expects to have a lot of support from the young alumni of Cleveland. There is an awful bunch of them. Hayden is out and out against Cole. My own opinion is that Cole is better than what will be apt to get if it isn't Cole! The young Cleveland alumni (I hear this from John Jameson) are against Cole and for such men as Mr. Holmes. They are for letting Holmes have more time for research work – not so much teaching and so on. But we know that Holmes considers any thing he does under such an arrangement as his own private property. He told us just about that. Holmes may be really an exceptional man in Chemistry. I am sure he is an exceptionally good self advocator. So I am not much impressed with the good judgement of the young Cleveland alumni. I saw the article on Dr. Millikan in your Sunday Magazine. And I had saved that editorial on House and Houston to read to Orv – before your clipping came. It was so good. Anne and Frank roared over it, too. Not very much gets by me – thought once in a while I find I have not seen some thing you send.

I do think House is now suffering from the same disease that Wilson was so afflicted with. He is ridiculous. I don't consider Houston seriously at all, any way.

What is this series of books Mark Sullivan is get out? I see the first is ready for selling – if I understand it. It seems to be a history of the events of 1900-1904. Have you heard any talk about it? No historian in the future can wade through all the stuff that is being published now. Goodbye, dear. I didn't know it was so late – time for Orv to come. You are so sweet to me, all the time, dear. I know you will always be affectionate with me. You are just naturally so – any way. I wouldn't know what to do, dear, if you didn't love me a lot and every thing! “Every thing” is such a handy word. It come so much that I can't get into words. You are home today and I suppose telling the rest of the staff how you got on with Dr. Bizzell. Yes, dear, shine up to Brooks, if you have to. You can treat him afterwards the way Margaret did her cat. Shake him after you are safely through with him! A very sweet kiss, dear.

Your
Katharine