

300 E. 21st Street, Cheyenne, Wyo. March 15, 1924

Dear Nelle:

I'll try to supplant my brief note of a week ago with something like a letter - I don't know though how long I can sit still - Mollie is sick in bed today and I am cooking and with Edgar's help doing the thousand & one other things to be done -

My, how I wish you all had been here this week - We had such an interesting company for dinner Thursday night (I wonder if you all are keeping up with the Teapot Dome scandal. We devour every word in New York, Denver & Cheyenne papers - If ~~xx~~ you have you know the scene of action moved to Cheyenne this week where the big lawyers for both sides came for a hearing before Judge Kennedy - who you remember, I'm sure, was very nice to you when you visited us before you were married.

Well, as you'll see from this newspaper clipping I'll enclose, we had a dinner for Senator & Mrs. Pomerine, Mr. Roberts & Mr. Littleton - It was truly a charming and interesting company.

In addition to the few Cheyenne friends invited we asked Mr. & Mrs. Hylton of Douglas to come for the dinner & to spend the night - Both of these men went deep into their pockets for Will's personal campaign expenses & we hadn't done anything for either. Both men and their wives are really very attractive & fortunately added to the company rather than being "lame ducks" And I just wish you could have seen their evident appreciation of being included in this distinguished company - for truly it was, of all our dinners, the one of outstanding interest -

Mrs. Pomerine was lovely and charming - Senator Pomerine has honesty, refinement & dignity written all over his face & with it a manner as courtly & gentle as I ever saw -

Mr. Roberts too is very attractive & looks like a man of the highest type - but it was none of these that was the bright & shining light but Mr. Martin W. Littleton - whom you remember as the lawyer who defended Harry Thaw and since then has been in many of the biggest cases that have been before the nation - By the way, he was born in Tennessee, moved to Texas, then to New York & years ago went to Congress from there -

Of course you understand, he with Judge Lacy & others is representing the oil interests & Sen. Pomerine & Mr. Roberts were appointed by the President to represent the government.

Bradford is talking to me every minute - which accounts for a lot of these scratches.

Well to return to Mr. Littleton, after he was gone (The honor guests had to leave early to catch a train) the whole company just sat and marveled at his charm & brilliance and the men sat for an hour trying to recount to us women the talk he had given them all as they sat in the library smoking - Will said they all sat silent & entranced before the man - Now I'm going to tell you the thing that will surprise you - He came to the house so drunk that Edgar had to support him through the door. I didn't notice it at first - He could talk all right - but he dropped down on the davenport with a lady beside him - Nearly everybody was standing and he said to me - "I would stand if I could but I think it really isn't safe to try it" - This may not sound funny ~~xxxxxx~~ as you read it but O, if you could have heard it! Well the good gentleman seemed quite himself by the time dinner was ended and after he had gone & all the rest Will & I agreed that no sober guest could have, by his stories and conversation & personality, been the object of more interest & pleasure than this one whose normal state, we understand is one of intoxication. However we are not craving another in

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that condition.

William asked those other lawyers whether he was simply brilliant or really a great lawyer - They said both -

William was greatly impressed with the large soul of the man - Before I saw him he had been telling me that he just radiated good feeling and sympathy for his fellows - He said at the Rotary Club he leaned up against a pillar & began to talk simply about nothing in particular & soon had them all entranced -

Mr. Arnold said over & over that the dinner was wonderful, unique - that Mr. Littleton's presence took it out of the usual into the dramatic -

Though you'll see twenty named on the list we had just 17 at the table, including Ambrose who came in unexpectedly ten minutes before dinner - the Haggards & Millers were leaving town & I filled in their places.

Leslie Miller, by the way, was the man who started a movement for this investigation & Sen. Kendrick the one who introduced the resolution demanding it - They certainly did start something didn't they - there seems to be no end of the debauchery in high places -

It's an ill wind that blows no body good" I hope it will help the Democrats in the next campaign & the Teapot Dome being in Wyoming, our state ought to get some good advertising.

Enough of all this -

I was so interested to hear about Lois & her position - in fact every word of your good long letter was of great interest to me -

I think it so good and sweet of you & of Sara too to have taken Lois to your hearts & to be so interested in her development & happiness - Of course we know her uncles are, too, but undoubtedly young girls are more helped by the women about them -

I am sure her mother and father are missing her terribly but I feel sure that a time away from home in a new environment will do her good just as we feel sure it helped our boys to go South & as you feel about Howard. And before she goes home she must certainly visit us - If she is still working that will be something for her to save money for - (As you go to the Lake why couldn't she come as far as Chicago with you? I think she wouldn't have to change cars after that -

This mountain country would all be new to her.

There has this moment come by express a box of gorgeous roses from Laramie 26 of them - from Mr. & Mrs. Arnold - both pink & red.

And let me tell you Dr. Hylton is a collector of old plates & when he & Mrs. Hylton came down the other day they brought me one of them - as lovely a plate as I ever saw - I just love it and appreciate it -

And I do appreciate these roses so & wish they would last - like the plate - Do you see the moral?

William is over in Laramie today attending the dedication of the new University library building - We are having a big wet snow & its pretty cold too - just like our usual Spring weather -

I'm very glad Howard is going to Washington & Lee - We will have in him both a gentleman & a scholar, I'm sure - I heard, through the Waltons, about his promotion lately, about his going to Milwaukee & a number of other things - all nice things.

A card from George today said he was just back in camp from a 25 mile skiing trip - that he was just departing on another of equal length - and that he was well -

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O, yes, Nelle I should try to write - I did write a few pages in a diary - since I came home I've been sleepless a lot (which means much exhaustion) had a lot of indigestion which has left me little "pep" after all the demands on my time have been satisfied. Still, I am going to try. If you think my letters record any interesting episodes, do keep them - I might sometime use them for reference.

I just went downstairs and found your letter in the door - Oh! Thank you, letters from you are always so interesting and welcome -

No indeed, I hadn't heard a word about Sara - From what you say her condition must not be too serious - I sincerely hope so - I am going to write her - but I was going to ask you to hand this letter to Sara & Alfred to read - And then won't one of you send it on to Mother Sammie that he & his family may read it, requesting him to return it to you if you want it again.

Its quite an effort to write such a long one - Of course my letters to you are always too long but there's always so much I want to say to you - much of it what I would want to write the others too

I'm so interested in your Garden Club work - I know you will enjoy it & I think it is a great compliment giving you the chairmanship of such an important committee.

I'm glad to hear about your refurbishings in Georgie's office & your having your new dress or rather the brown one made new. From the description, it must be lovely.

While I think of it I want to tell you that Will thought the fur on my blue dress made it - He said it always lacked something -

I have to slip through this summer on the least possible clothes - Taxes, life insurance, interest, necessary entertainment, not to mention ordinary food & raiment & servant hire swallow up that little salary at one gobble - then Ambrose's school expenses too

There's one thing sure nobody who ever lived in this house ever got along with less than twice the domestic help I have - But of course the others have many times as much money as we -

While its hard to maintain the position on so little, I have no quarrel with my fate - I'm much more fortunate than I deserve - If you knew the kind comments that come to us from over the state, about my part, you'd know I find balm in them.

Last night was the night of Elizabeth's club dinner - I'm sure they had a grand one -

By the way, sometimes when you are in a little doubt about some of the conventions don't you find Emily Post' book an ever present help in time of need? I have.

I enclose Mrs. M'Mahoney's letter - Isn't it sickening we missed that luncheon for Mr. Lloyd George - Of course you would have been invited too - If we had known we would receive the invitation, wild horses couldn't have torn us from Washington that day, could they? Think of how you and I craned our necks to get a glimpse of him when we might have lunched with him.

Will had such a nice letter from Governor Neff, in reply to his, telling him he regretted so much that he didn't know that he was going to be in Denver, so that we could have invited him up here. Will liked Gov. Neff very much.

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If you get this letter Monday before you go to Mrs. Pritchards won't you give them all at your club my warm regards? In fact I believe I'll send it special delivery so that you can take a message from me - They were all so kind to me - I'll not forget it.

I wonder if Mr. & Mrs. Nickey will pass through Cheyenne - If they do I wonder if they couldn't be induced to stop off here -

Tell George we enjoyed the cartoon. We hadn't seen that one - I wonder what he thinks of Coolidge's status now - And whether he doesn't agree with us that Mr. McAdoo has put himself out of the running - Please give my love to George and Alfred & their wives & children & if this letter goes on to Texas I'd have it laden with love for the family there.

Devotedly -

Nellie

over

In regard to our out of town dinner guests again I want to relate an episode I think a very fine tribute to the character of one of the lawyers.

Will said as they sat ~~xxx~~ talking & smoking in the library, Mr. Littleton started to tell something being in a quarrelous state pertaining to this case which it seemed would be prejudicial to the interests of his clients - Mr. Roberts stopped him instantly, saying "I'm your attorney tonight & I forbid your telling that!" Mr. L said "Oh, yes I will tell it!" Mr. Roberts said firmly & emphatically "No you are not going to tell it" Mr. Littleton settled back & said "Well, I guess I'm not then."  
Wasn't that fine?

Letters enclosed with letter of March 15, 1924:

2400 Sixteenth Street - March seven

My dear Mrs. Ross -

Mrs. Pomerine is going west with Ex. Senator Pomerine, who has been appointed to investigate the legality of the lease of the Teapot Dome, and with him will stop in Cheyenne a few days next week - I will appreciate any tiny courtesy you and The Governor can show them -

You will find both Senator and Mrs. Pomerine delightfully informal and interesting people and the time given them worth your while.

I will ask Mrs. Pomerine to call you up on ~~xxxxx~~ her arrival, but no doubt you can anticipate it by ~~xxxxxxxx~~ phoning The Plains for the date of their reservations.

I am sorry to add one burden to your already too full life, but hope it does not prove the "straw"-----etc. ----- and the "camel."

By the way, our friend Mr. Rinearson, of Middletown, Ohio, whom you visited last fall, came in to dinner Wednesday evening - He spoke flatteringly of you all and was so pleased and proud that you gave them the opportunity to entertain you while in their state.

Hope you are all well - regret so much that we were not in Washington when you attended the Governor's Conference - wasn't it fun? I always adored it.

We all send our love - Risa-Maye (?) is by my side & joins me in heaps of it -

Is Ambrose going to work on the OW next summer? Hope so -

Affectionately - Eileen (?) Kendrick

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No date - Burlington Hotel - Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Ross -

Greetings from Washington! I'm just having the best time. I've been renewing acquaintances with my old friends, and my days have been very full. Had an interesting time today when Mrs. Coolidge received Mrs. Kendrick and me. She is very attractive I think and most friendly.

The McCrackens are stopping at this hotel for a week. They have already found an apartment.

You may remember Miss(?) von der Nieuling (?) who visited me the summer of the campaign and whom you so kindly drove around Cheyenne. She tells me that she was out of the city when you came last fall, but immediately upon returning hastened to call upon you at the Willard, only to find you had just gone. She lives at the College Club and wished to invite you to luncheon to meet Lloyd George who was to be their guest, I am sorry she did not see you.

Joe went to Chicago yesterday to the McAdoo meeting. What thrilling times these are!

With all good wishes to you and Mr. Ross - Most Sincerely yours,  
Agnes O'Mahoney