

Treasury Dept., U.S. Mint Service, Denver, Colo. (no envelope)

March 16, 1944

Hellie dear:

My last letter was unsatisfactory I know. I wrote it on the wing when I first came & my program was uncertain.

Now this is my schedule, assuming I can get the reservations for which I have applied. I will know for sure tomorrow & if there is any change will inform you promptly.

I plan to leave San Francisco April 3 arriving in San Antonio the morning of the 6th. Will stay in San A. until the night of the 7th. And then go on to Hot Springs if you can carry out your plan to join me there; otherwise I can't see myself going there. What I have to do ~~is~~ is get off the train at a place (about noon on the 8th) called Gurdon & take a bus down to Hot S's. Several go daily I understand.

I don't know a thing about hotels at Hot Springs. Don't you suppose some of your Memphis friends do, & would advise you. And will you my dear make reservations? If rates are quite high & you would favor our taking a room with twin beds it would suit me all right. Or if you think we would get more relaxation if each had a room that would suit me too. I think it would be ~~quite~~ safe to make reservations for April 8. If there has to be a change of a day or so it could be made later. I can't tell you how I love the thought of our being there together. I love you so much my dear good sister. I always feel that we understand each other so well that we can be relaxed in each others company.

Helle I went to Cheyenne Sat. evening & stayed until Tuesday morning. Such a good time I had! Jim Walton came for me & brought me back; otherwise I could not have gone, the train schedule being what it is. The Loomises & Jim had the grandest dinner party for me Sat. night but sad to say Ruth took down with a severe case of something verging on pneumonia & was not able to be out of bed the night of the party or all the time I was there. She is still very ill. Then Sunday night there was a delightful dinner party for me at the Governors. I felt simply overwhelmed by the kindness of my friends.

Ruth, I think, may go down to Hot Springs when you & I are there, to hasten her return to strength. She is such a grand person I feel sure her being there would add to your pleasure as well as mine.

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She has about the best trained servant I ever saw - one of those Japanese interned at Heart Mountain. Bradford & I have decided we will try to get two, one for each of our two households. Mary, my cook, was drunk for about three days before I left. Bradford & his family had to go over & take charge. Imagine her doing like that just as I was leaving! She is really not very efficient. I thought that dinner we had the Sunday you left was poor enough & I wanted it to be so good. Her hard sauce was terrible. I had told her to put rum in it. It had no flavoring & was stiff & ~~horrid~~ horrid. (I guess she was saving the rum to drink later.) She has her good points; has always been so solicitous about me.

I'll have much to tell you about this trip. O, no, my dear I can't go by Memphis. I don't want to go farther off my route than is necessary.

George is so good to be willing to spare you for awhile. I've an idea those baths will do you a world of good. I think you need them perhaps more than I.

Give Georgie & all the family my love. Tell him & the girls again how very much we enjoyed them in W. To have three such attractive daughters & all so different should, & does I know, make you & him very proud. I leave here Sunday the 19th for Seattle; thence to San Francisco, arriving there the 26th.

Devotedly,

Hellie