

HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE*236 North Clark Street • Chicago 1, Ill. • Central 3348*

April
30
1947

Dear Jessie:

Things are looking up despite the continued financial stringency. The finances are only stringent because we all are agreed on the necessity of holding our gains even while suffering battering resistance from time to time. But if we can now keep going with the great staff the School has, and with Martha and my having more and more time to devote exclusively to building the support, that will be cared for. We don't have the statistical comparisons at our finger-tips as we would like to have, but I know that the School has never had such strong support from so many in any past year. Eight have contributed \$25 a month or more during the past year (since last May 1) for a total average of \$492 per month. Including these, 34 have contributed \$10 a month or more for a total average of \$781 a month. This is only a start when we realize that it will take \$1000 per week to do the job outlined for next year, but it indicates possibilities. A total of 600 have pledged \$25,507 in the past 12 months, of which \$9800 was HGSSS-NY. This is half the amount required for the full program outlined.

It will be grand if you can be getting on this way soon. You are needed terribly. Just as soon as you came you would immediately open up new areas of production which now must either be neglected, done with poor-timing, or done at the expense of the very thing which is needed to save the situation. Despite the need for my keeping right at finances, I decided yesterday was the last moment for pulling the conference together for three weeks ~~for~~ Friday so I took time out for that. If you could get here shortly, what you would do would make a big difference in the success of the conference. Not everyone can do right off, if at all, what your understanding and abilities permit you to do. Everything is shaping up for the conference, much easier than last year when the planning was all new to me, but this only shows how much more can be done with extra, qualified manpower.

Our new mimeograph is a blessing. Tomorrow we're renting a robotyper to test out our own producing of Hoovenized (automatic) typewritten letters. We found that Hoovenized letters increased the financial response to the same letter by 50 per cent.

Bob (fideman) has suffered a great tragedy. Cathy died last Friday, suddenly. She had had the flu about a month before. While the doctors diagnosed the case ^{Friday} as diabetes, and gave treatment for that when Catherine went into a coma Friday morning, there is some question but that the trouble may have been infection lingering from the flu. She passed away at 5:35 Friday afternoon. Bob had gone down to Earlville the night before (they were staying on Catherine's papa's farm, Bob going out there week-ends), because on Friday Catherine was planning to see a specialist somewhere in Indiana. Bob was going to stay with the children over Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, till Catherine got back...At any rate, Bob took it all standing up. In accordance with Catherine's wishes, long agreed to, there was no funeral or other service, cremation taking place in Chicago on Saturday. The children were told the facts straight and life went on. I drove Marien to Earlville Saturday morning. She asked Bob if he and the children would take the upstairs at 1650, which after consideration he accepted. They all moved in Monday. And what a Great Family it now is! Seven beautiful, wonderful children! Marien cares for all 7 during the day, meals are had downstairs, but Bob takes over when he gets home with Lin, Nicky, and Cynthia. Cynthia was born on Marien's birthday, July 22, and was weaned only a week ago. Lin is a precious person; Nicky has a mind like Archimedes--he's always looking for the answers to his myriad questions.

Sincerely,



Mrs. A. C. Matteson Jr.
c/o Weld Carter
R.2
Manheim, Pa.

Enclosed:

Conference agenda (mimeo)
List of materials desired from each Extension for exhibit
Spring term bulletin
Spring term doublepostcard sample
Spring term advanced class schedule
Educational Events in Chicago, May 1947

AIR MAIL