

West Park, New York  
August 31, 1951

Mr. Harry Stark  
c/o Institute of Labor Management  
Rutgers' University  
New Brunswick, New Jersey

Dear Harry:

I was very glad to have your letter the other day and very pleased to know that you are actually sailing for England this month. You may find a small package from me on the steamer so please ask for it if it does not reach you promptly.

I have just heard that one of our active members <sup>of the</sup> Washington Workers' Education Committee has sailed for England and expects to be at the London School of Economics this winter. Her name is Betty Humphreys. She has been active in her union; I forget just which one it is, ~~and~~ She hoped to get one of the Ruskin<sup>s</sup> scholarships this year in Workers' Education. She was appointed as an alternate but since she is not going to Ruskin I suppose the first candidate was accepted. I have sent her your name and told her I was sure you would like to look her up.

Here at West Park, Helen and I have had an extremely busy summer trying to get this house in order once more for family living. My efforts to sell Aberdeen have not been successful as yet, but I feel I have made some progress in getting a more accurate valuation of the property and some expert advice from an appraiser in New York, as to how it should be handled for sale. He advised a five-way division with different parts valued at different prices. It seems possible I shall be able to sell the dock house with a couple of acres of land fairly soon to a young couple in Highland. I expect to hear from them in a few days, they seem to want the place.

As for myself, my Fall plans are extremely vague. I must get back to Washington to settle the fate of the National Committee and see whether or not those labor men intend to do anything further about the Bill. President Blanding of Vassar is evidently ready to push her request for a grant from the Ford Foundation on a two year basis to enable me to write the W.P.A. Workers' Service story. I shall not hear about this until the middle of October. If I do get the grant I may decide to do the work on the Vassar campus, as Miss Blanding suggests. She would supply an office and secretarial services, and I could be near enough to West Park to follow through on my major problem of real estate. In the mean time I am trying to keep up with immediate work in this house as I am cook and housekeeper for the present, and make as many contacts as I can in connection with Aberdeen.

Yes, I too am very happy about Ernestine's new job and I am glad that you saw her in Washington. It seems really a tailor-made job suited to her training and experience and her letters are very enthusiastic about the work itself and the people on the staff. You probably have heard that her father died two weeks ago. They will miss him, I know, but it will make her whole family situation much easier.

I shall be thinking of you, Harry, as you start out on your new adventure. I shall try to send you a list of some of our London Workers' Education friends and some of my Ruskin contacts in case you want to hunt up some of these people. I know they will welcome you and might be very helpful to you in your work this winter.

Yours as ever,

*Jane*

~~Hilda W. Smith~~

HWS/AJC

This is my once-a-week secretary,  
an elderly lady, who signs over  
the typewriter. But a lot better  
than nobody —