

January 14, 1923

Dear Mother, Father and Pete:

I just said a charm over my Drama Topic. It is all ready to hand in, at 4 P M Sunday and is not due till Tuesday. Pretty good! It is much better than I thought I was going to be, but it took terribly long to write it. And I typed it so well, you wouldn't know I did it! It is thirty single-spaced pages--I suppose it is too long for you to read, Pete! But I paragraphed it very carefully, so that you would have no trouble!

There was quite a fire in North last night on the third floor. I broke my usual feeling of aloofness to the mob spirit and watched it for a while. North is certainly getting its share this year. The girl's clothes were saved, but not a semester topic which she was going to hand in this week!

Speaking of topic reminds me that I told Jane I left mine at home, and in my presence a few minutes later she asked another girl for hers, and asked her if she knew whose she could get! I had lunch with her yesterday--off campus. Kindly remember what I told you in the special note the other day, Mother.

After the fire I went to hear the famous Tony Sarg talk about his Marionettes. He was most interesting. I am sorry I missed the beginning of his talk. I thought it most amusing at one point when he told about his first attempt to get the marionettes into the movies--he showed his picture to a group of twenty men--he did not know how to put it delicately, but they had all at one time or another been in the "wholesale coat and suit business"! He then proceeded to describe the costume of the one with whom he had to deal--white spats, large black and white checked suit, cane, bowler, waxed moustache. He ended up the interview by telling Sarg that "he had a hell of a lot of noif". In addition to that his demonstration with one the marionettes, showing how they are manipulated, was most interesting.

In the afternoon I went up to Senior Parlor to hear the Heidelberg student speak informally on "conditions" in Germany.

Unfortunately he spent most of the time playing the piano for us and showing us some very new-fangled drawings made by a student in the new dancing school that he is hipped about. It is a school of self-expression, and the girl certainly didn't express much to me. But he thinks they are wonderful! I think perhaps it was the girl behind the pictures, and of course I could not appreciate that! Then he talked for a while about conditions in Germany, but very scantily. His English was too poor to understand with ease. I think if he had spoken in German I should have gotten more out of it. There were only six of us there, and from the moment when I supplied the English word for him for a German one that he used and could not think of the English for, he addressed all his remarks to me. It was most embarrassing, because several times I had no idea what he was trying to say. One thing, however, caught my ear and stuck in my mind, and that was when he was talking about Alsace-Lorraine, he said "of course, in case of German invasion, it will be absolutely defenseless". It will take more than the treaty of Versailles

to settle it. As he said, "the continent of Europe is really a most complicated thing"

But my letters dare not be anything [but] foolish, so I shall desist.

The Freshmen accepted the Harvard challenge. Do you know "Mr. Bowers", Pete?

Miss Ellery signed my petition to take nine hours in history next semester.

I am curious to hear your interesting story, Mother. Don't forget it.

I hear Louise has already has her reception. At that rate, she will be married in a few weeks!

Hope Harold continues to improve.

Your special came today, Mother. They are delivered on Sundays. Also recieved you wire yesterday. Thank you for it.

Just at present I feel as though I don't want to see a type-writer again for ten years.

It is terribly cold and snowing all the time, it seems to me.