

Dear Laura:

Your good letter just came at the moment that you should have been receiving one from me to express my appreciation of all your kindness and your confidence - and of the hospitality which I enjoyed at the hands of Min Brunda and yourself.

I wonder if you will be disappointed in me when I tell you that no salary increase and no "six months' off" entered into my decision? What did happen however was that I received some assurances from the Trustees that there would be a little more recognition of members of the staff than there has been hitherto, and that they heartily and genuinely wanted me to stay on the job in Worcester. I also cleared up some things with regard to European travel. The achievement, if achievement there was, to induce me to stay,

was entirely one of principle. I did not ask for anything else. Nor even for that. I had told Mr. Putnam that I had no intention of using his offer in a manipulative way - and I kept my word. But if the six-months arrangement had been a possibility in Washington I should have had to accept the new position. And oh how I hated not to!

I am most grateful for the contact. You already know how much I prize the acquaintance I have made with Mr. Putnam on personal grounds alone. My life has always had its share, and perhaps more, of delightful adventure. I cannot quite discount the hope that I may sometime have a closer association with him than my present circumstances afford.

Your words about yourself are things to ponder over. You owe it not only to yourself but to the rest of us

to "hit the trail for timberline" —
We all need what you bring back
from there.

I am in a hectic period — The
climax came today when the most
inspiring ^{member} of my staff received an
offer of \$3000 a year for 3 days
a week (for 40 weeks) — and
I don't see how I can bring any-
thing to bear to match it here!

The annual meeting is a few
days off and a mountain of white
paper lies between me and it!

As ever

J.
Filson.

Don't fail to give me your real Colorado
Springs address.