

35-6 West 22nd St,
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January 29th 58

Laurie dear:

What's doing out your way? Are you beginning to get used to being a celebrity? And do the autograph hounds give you any time at all to yourself?

We're all delighted with the splendid review by Edwin L. Sabin in the Saturday Review of Jan 21st. Of course you've seen it? Have you registered with a news-clipping bureau (you should) or do D.S. & P. send along batches occasionally? They must be so pleased that the book is fulfilling their high hopes & faith in it. As for your pals around here, they're just bustin' with pride. A note from Edie "gloats" over it.

Incidentally, a queer little question arises in my mind as I glance for the umpteenth time at some of the photos of Indian women, with their bangs way down in their eyes. And I remember, when June was little, a doctor warned Shirley that it was very bad for the youngster's eyes if the bang were allowed to grow so long as to reach the brows & be visible to the wearer. And I wonder if Betty, in her nursing work with them, ever persuaded, (or tried to) the women to cut theirs at least above the brows? I should think the women themselves would find it annoying, shouldn't you? Or does the hair possibly protect their eyes when they are out bareheaded in the glare?

I'm rather looking for a first royalty check this

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week from Watson. Guphill, on my old "Sculptor's Way".

It will come in might handy, because what do you think Alice Campbell & I are planning for the merry month of May? A flight to England! She's never been across at all, and I haven't been in England since you & I were there in '22! And I do so want to see more of it, & something of Scotland before I get too old & decrepit to enjoy travelling about. Flying would give us almost the entire month there, enough to take in a bit of London - on through Winchester & Exeter to Plymouth for a few days with Veril. Thence up via Bath to Gloucester (& perhaps Yintern from there) - on through Chester to the Lake region (which we never got to) - and up & across to Edinburgh for about a week near Eva Allan, & ~~some~~ walks in the Pentland Hills; thence down to York, Cambridge & London again. What do you think? Are we crazy? It ought to be lovely in May, & early enough to avoid the trippers & their char-a-bancs. We intend to travel economically, & stay at small out-of-the-way hotels, to offset the cost of the flight over & back which is expensive. Alice has already bought herself a capacious knapsack; and for me (whose back won't take a knapsack) - a very handy light-weight canvas bag which will hold everything from folding-umbrella to an extra pair of shoes & maybe a wooly nightgown.

My family, bless 'em, are all for it: - so now I'll just have to get my Washington job finished up in April. I have Solon almost

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finished, (our plastic backgrounds only arrived last
week, delaying everything, but I got my own casts
to make me one a month ago) - and Maimonides
well laid in. I think the architects now plan
to have the carving done by June or July,
& install the plaques during the summer
recess.

Meantime, have been pretty busy on the
Academy Council, because the Recording Sec'y
resigned a couple of months ago, & the new
President asked me to pinch-hit until they
could elect another. In any normal year,
this would only mean one meeting per month,
but as this is our 125th Anniversary, with
special exhibits, etc., and a drastic reorganization
of the office force, we've had meetings every
week, & it's taken a lot of time. But at last
we have a new R.S., & I can take it easier.

But, I've nothing whatever to exhibit at our
big Spring show, so last week I went through
my animal scrap-book, & found a wonderful
Emperor penguin, brooding her egg (held on her
2 funny feet) and bending down to poke at
it lovingly with her beak. So I went to
work, & you have it pretty well along. It
really makes a wonderful shape - pure sculpture
& quite "modern". It has been fun to analyze
& mull over, & I have a date on Wednesday
at the Museum with Dr. Murphy, who was
with Admiral Byrd in Antarctica, & is going
to put me wise as to details of beak, flipper,
& tail, which I can't quite be sure of from photos.

I have so enjoyed my photos from you, Laurie — but as yet no bill from you? Why not — these and others were a commission, I need them, & have been hoping you could send along at least proofs of some of the others you took, so I could order the whole batch at once.

Do get at this when you have time, won't you? I had to take 50 of my best prints up to the Nat'l Sculpture Society last year; they need them for their collection which is not only referred to by prospective buyers or committees planning memorials, etc., but as possibilities for more of those small books on American Sculptors. So my stock is much depleted, & I need others.

Can't write more tonight as I'm feeling a bit groggy after a third typhoid shot. Alice has been "playing safe" & insulating us both. It doesn't bother much, excepting the first day after. Did you have 'em before you undertook the Texas-Mexico part of the river?

Goodnight, my dear — & let me hear from you before too long.

Ever your Brendie