

My dear Professor Binns. —

Only recently have I been able to leave our Departmental Office long enough to look over the supply boxes and barrels stacked into my pottery studios, in quest of the one containing my summer's pottery, fays etc. — which Mr Whitford sent to me. I find a paper tacked on the barrel stating that it was delivered here and was not accepted the first time because the Janitor would not pay the fee. Some one from the Ceramic School must have forwarded the money as the barrel is here with no unpaid charge to be found. I am enclosing a cheque for the sum and my many thanks for your attention. Mr Whitford might be interested to know that everything in the barrel came in perfect condition.

Also may I ask your advice about my kilns? The entire pottery equipment was moved, during the summer, from the Margaret Morrison Division to the College of Fine Arts building. Because of the fire hazard, the only safe place for it is in the basement of the Arts Building. The only place for the chimney stack is through an elevator shaft which is at least 20 feet from the nearest available spot for the kilns. The chimney will be about 80 feet in length from the horizontal <sup>making 100 ft. tall.</sup> 20 ft. The outside dimensions, <sup>width & depth</sup> are limited to 21 inches by 11 inches. The cost of the chimney will be approximately 700<sup>00</sup>.  
My problem is — will such a chimney be

a practical one for the three kilns which I have. They are a Special No. 7, a No. 6 and a small circular one, all Revelations. Also in time I plan to have a fair kiln attached to the same stacks. Of course the Pottery Department would be just about killed if I let the chimney be built at such a cost and it does not serve the purpose.

There are two other possibilities - The first is Director Breaucy's suggestion. To extend a chimney horizontally from the kiln out a window for 40 feet perhaps, then up far enough to find good air currents. Perhaps it would be necessary to have some sort of a fan in the chimney to produce sufficient draft. This idea is being discouraged because of the unsightliness of the structure and also because few of us feel at all certain that it will work.

The second possibility is my own idea. Back of our school is a small building approximately 60 ft. by 18 feet and perhaps a story and a half in height. It has windows on all sides is plumbed, and lighted well. To make it more attractive there is a garden & sort of court in the back. Also at right angles to one end of it there is another similar building - on the same court - which would make an excellent place for weaving or jewelry - or whatever craft we wish to put there. At the present both buildings are very much occupied by carpenters, painters & various offices - which will remain there for at least 2 years. Then it might be available. I feel that they might be temporarily moved rather than place the pottery in an impossible place.

I shall have quite an ideal place in the Arts

Division if the chimney of which I have told you  
can be successful. I have two adjoining studios with  
a small office back of one of them. The equipment  
and classroom being together is a decided advantage  
over the previous arrangements in the other  
Division with three flights of stairs between  
studio + helms. Also an advantage in that  
we now belong to Arts Division and our courses  
are very closely coordinated with theirs.

This semester I am teaching weaving, a class  
in Applied Design + doing much executive work  
in the Departmental Office. Before I become  
really discouraged over pottery I shall wait your  
good word whatever it may be.

The supply of new energy and new ideas which  
Alfred and all of you good people there, gave me,  
are helping me to combat Pittsburgh and keep  
rather enthusiastic over my work even as scattered  
and not of my choosing as it is.

Alice Ayers is in Cleveland as you doubtless  
know. During the last week end she was with  
me here. Reminiscences of Alfred filled much time.  
She is very happily settled in Cleveland. I'm  
most grateful to you for sending her there.  
She is quite enthusiastic over it and realizes the  
value of the position to her.

I thank you most heartily for any suggestion  
which you may give me about my chimney—  
I hope I am not asking too much of your time  
and thought, with which you are always so  
very generous.

With the best of good wishes for you  
and your family, I am  
Yours very sincerely

October the 31<sup>st</sup>,  
507 Shady Avenue,  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Paul Ella Canfield