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July the 19<sup>th</sup>, 1926,  
P.F.D#43,  
Norwalk,  
Conn.

My dear Professor Bliss, —

The list of things which I want to tell you is growing longer each day — soon it will be so forbidding that I shall hesitate to start a letter which will say it all — so I take my pen in hand! as the old saying goes.

Yesterday I fired my first film here — and haven't yet opened it to report very particularly on that. However I know that it is all right and that as soon

as I can get a larger sized compression tauts, for the kerosene; and five bricks enough to brick up the door; and a good husky lad to pump it for a portion of the day all will be well. The list looks a bit formidable but it is all to be had by the coming Saturday.

I have plenty of students, both children & adults to form interesting classes & to do some good work. However the really talented ones are, as usual, not particularly numerous. A great many of that type are lending either personal or professional support to the pottery & teacher!

I went out to the Hauch burner manufacturing establishment, when I was in New York and a very kind 'Mr Billings', spent a half day showing me Hauch Burners of many varieties. We seem to have the best of the group for our particular need. However there are several others which might interest you there at the school. One with motors for compressing air, as a part of the unit - others to be used with any supply of compressed air.

Two points to do with our burner I should have reported to you before. Mr Billings says that the valve governing the flow of kerosene into the burner should never be more than a quarter

of a turn open. I am not certain yet that we obtained best results that way, but his point is, that carbonization takes place in the burner if more kerosene is turned on.

The second point, is, that the little strainer just back of the spray vent, (which Mr Whitford cleaned after he had opened the four bolts in the burner head) should be removed after the burner has been used 2 or 3 times. It is placed there simply to catch any scrap of filing which might have lodged in any of the pipes, during construction.

I will send the circulars which Mr Billings gave me, to do with burners which I thought

you might sometime, use. You  
should see the type shown  
inside the letter head - being  
demonstrated there at the  
factory, in what seems equal  
to the fire chamber of  
a huge kiln. Government  
of it seems absolute.

Through Emma I think  
that you have heard of  
my report from Miss Mason's  
Newark position. As yet I  
have no definite information  
about it. Miss M. brought the  
woman who is the head of  
the Fawcett (Newark) school, to  
the Pottery. They both talked to

me of the school & on leaving said that they hoped I would be interested enough in the school to come & work with them sometime. The school is being buier during the coming winter. Also, as Emma suggests, I too, wondered why the young woman from the Fawcett School is up in Alfred studying Ceramics this summer unless perhaps they are to have two people. The same woman was here with Miss Mason's party. I told her something of Alfred.

Be that, all, as it may —  
I have recently joined a very good agency in New York.  
I took the liberty to give you

name as a reference - so you  
will doubtlessly be asked for  
a recommendation - which  
I regret, since I dislike  
writing them myself. This  
agency has already written  
me of an opening in one  
of New York's best settlements  
~~where~~ a new Craft department is  
being opened this fall.

As you see, I am determined  
to locate something real - for  
the coming winter.

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I have tried to find the  
right person as a companion,  
in this **LOVELY, LONELY** house and  
have at last almost decided  
to choose one who is not  
just right - in preference to

being alone.

I have heard very little of Alfred and the pleasantness of being there this year — but I know it must be as it always is, — a joy to be working there with you.

I couldn't have chosen another place that would <sup>have</sup> given me the pleasure socially and the content of achievement that I've already found here — except Alfred —, where they are given to me.

With my kindest regards to your family. Best wishes for a pleasant & prosperous summer. I am

Most sincerely yours  
Ruth Curfield.