
Letter to Rachele Ragozin in New York from C.E. Ruthenberg in Chicago, June 26, 1920 [excerpt]

Typewritten document in Ruthenberg Papers, Ohio Historical Society, microfilm reel 2.
Hardcopy in box 3, folder 1.

Chicago, Saturday [June 26, 1920], 4 pm.

Rachel "Sweet":

Your letter of Thursday [June 24, 1920] just came. I had written you the special delivery letter about which I wired¹ before receiving your letter of Wednesday [June 23], in which there was the good news that you were coming to Chicago. If I were a sensible person I would have argued, she is coming to Chicago before the end of the week, why urge her to make the trip to Pittsburgh Sunday [June 27]. I took it for granted that the special delivery letter had not reached you, and, before receiving the letter dated Thursday, in which you tell me that you had been disappointed in not receiving a letter from me, I had decided not to wire and leave the Pittsburgh trip to chance of your receiving the letter about it, but all I needed to change my mind was to read that sweet letter of yours and then I wanted you, not Thursday or Friday, but tomorrow, and so the telegram was sent 15 minutes ago, and in spite of the fact that it is foolish, nonsensical, etc. to ask you to travel five hundred miles to spend a day with me, when only three or four days later we will have many days together, I am glad that I sent it and I hope that you will [be] equally as foolish as I have been, because, dear, I do want to hold you in my arms and see that sweet smile of happiness again, and to be happy myself because I am with you.

¹ CER in Chicago to Rachel Ragozin in New York, June 24, 1920.

Yes dear, I expect to be here during the entire summer and when I leave here it will be to move to New York with the office. Do you know what I have done? I have promised the technical director [L.E. Katterfeld] to find him a messenger, in anticipation of your coming. We talked several times about finding a girl, because we thought there would be less suspicion attached to a girl, to transact certain business for the technical director. It will be dangerous, you may get locked up, but I think you can have it if you want it. We might arrange that the messenger stay very close to the editor [Ruthenberg] — and to a telephone. Will that be “nice”? We will talk about it when I see you.

* * *

So you will know in case we do not meet tomorrow, my plans are to leave Pittsburgh tomorrow night for Cleveland and to remain there until Wednesday night [June 30]. We have a full meeting of the CEC scheduled for Thursday [July 1]. Since that will make it difficult for us to have much time together that day even if you got here, I suggest that you plan to leave some time Thursday. * * * Please wire me so that I can meet you. It would be “nice” if we could meet in Cleveland and come on together and if it were not for the CEC meeting I would wait for you.

Good-bye, “Sweet.”

C.E.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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