

Wednesday Night 3 16 61

Dear Lucy:

Found Arnold Bennett's "How to Live on 24 Hours a Day" in the library after some searching by the librarian. Heard Sunday on t v it is - after 50 years - again on best-seller lists. It deserves to be a dogooder. It is a dogooder. - To me. It says to work, not to say you are tired after you get a day of office work done, including batting bad boys around and stepping on the tails of their trillion dogs, but to use the hours between dinner and midnight for work of some kind. It's a right cute book to read. I used to read A. Bennett's novels, but there's not one to be found in the library now. Maybe they are out at the dump or away in a corner of the cellar under the library. - -

But I'm a tryin' to write a letter, liking to do it because it will be a talk with you, hating to do a stupid belabored thing. (Last night I went to hear a woman history prof at the "Adult Ed class" night at the library and tried this afternoon to write a report of her rapid reading of a lecture that was cute, learned, sophisticated but done so fast that I couldn't get much down for listening and enjoying. So I said it was about a woman, vigorous, turrible strong, beautiful, ubiquitous, one big strong creature striding over the prairies nursing Indians and settlers, teaching, hatcheting saloons, being beautiful and efficient - - Betcha the good earnest souls hearing the lecture will complain of the fool old reporter - -

I have the Congo in my office. I have a black boy with a voice like a rhinccerolion and he is seeing what kind of endurance of noise and impudence I've got. If I fire him everybody will say it is because he is black. Tomorrow I shall talk straight out to the boys. They must tell their parents it is not because he is a Negro but because he is loud and insolent and a nuisance and a destroyer of eJan. I am challenged. I shall fight. Me, with my hating of pejudiced whites.

Son wrote that Bob and the rest of the Whitehaven High debate team will go to Miami and vie in the all south tourney. He wanted to get Margaret's address and I wrote to her. It would be fun if Bob could see Con and Vic and their grandsons who are going to school - I believe - in Coral Gables, two boys anyhow. Bob has applied at Antioch College in Ohio. His father is determined that he shall have a chance for competition, hard work. Well, maybe it would be a good thing. He gets a lot of attention for his singing and acting and math ability - -

I talked to Peg Sunday. Charles has gone to Buffalo, N.y. for the week to attend for Phillips a conference on corrosion of which he knows lots. Roger is ~~making~~ to play bass fiddle to show Bartlesville kids how it is done.

I think I will set and teevee a little. I am jangled.

Love, esd

Kan Collec

D792

1961

3-16

Draper, Edythe Squier, 1882-1964.

To Lucy [Elwood] [Van Nuys, California]

[Oswego, Kansas] March 16, 1971.

1p. 22x28cm. XC:TL.

Original: Mrs. Tom Elwood.