

(9/2)

August 22, 1932

My dear *Alice*

What has become of you and of *Cale*? I listened daily after the middle of July for a ring from you saying that you were on your way to Maine. But it did not come and no letter; and now I am wondering where you are. Do let me know.

I am writing at the moment to ask if you can tell me anything about Jean Thomas. I have seen her now annually for three or four years in New York where she has come with her folk songs - "Devil's Ditties" as she calls them. She has talked interestingly at the National Arts and the P. & B. Club, but I have heard it intimated that she offers nothing new, at least her talks last year were a repetition of those of the year before. She has told me about her American Folk Song Society, the Festival that she has started near her *home* province, and of rather grandiose plans for further work. What she has done has interested me but never deeply impressed me. Am I wrong about this? I have been asked to give my opinion of her confidently by a foundation which deals out scholarships. Should I qualify my endorsement as my impressions of the woman's work lead me to do? I would like to be very generous. If anybody wants a Fellowship I would like to see ~~them~~ get it. But there are so many that really deserve it that I do not feel like backing the doubtful ones. At your leisure my dear give me a word.

I have had a rather worried summer. We had to put Sara into a hospital in June - Bridgeport. The first of this month I took her up to another hospital in New Hampshire - Franklin. It is a delightful small place with more the atmosphere of a pleasant home. She is getting on beautifully - is there now. I spent ten days with her and really rested and then went on for a few days with Esther who is in the north of Vermont and has a delightful spot for a cunning cottage. She is really working out things successfully; and what an encouragement it is to find somebody that is doing that in these troublesome days.

Do let me know about you and believe always that you both have my deepest affection.

*and*  
Mrs Cale *Judy Rice*  
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