18

December 18, 1936

Dear Ada:

All my letters begin with apologies these days. I seem to be behind everywhere. However, there have been more or less legitimate excuses. It is still hard to write with my hand - a touch of influenza and the P & B Fiesta. We are doing well, however, or have done well. You will be pleased to know, I hope, that the P & B made enough money to balance its budget and then some - about $1400.00. It lasted three days - dreadful weather - but the rooms were fairly full all the time and everybody in good spirits. I think everyone had more fun than usual and certainly we never had so pretty a Bazaar.

I hoped to get away to the country the end of this week but complications have forbidden. I go Tuesday and hope to stay a couple of weeks while Hila comes down here to get a much needed change.

Of course I have been greatly interested in what you told me about Hila? She writes me regularly and I know she appreciates your goodness to her. But do not let her become a burden. She will be busy enough with her studies and her extra work, so that you must not feel you must ask her out unless you really feel that you want her. It is a great load off the minds of us all to know she has a good friend.

I shall take care of the allowance in January and write you later more fully about it.

I do hope you are going to have a grand Christmas. I should have liked to pack a big box for you with all sorts of funny things in it, but the truth is I have not been out to pick up anything much and the little package I am sending you is something I hope you will like.

Give my love to Fred. A happy Christmas to you both.

Mrs. Fred McCormick
Tucson, Arizona

Digital Image, 2009, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library