Seven Colleges [1929?]

Saw Bigelow about article for seven colleges - outlined the scheme as the committee presented it to me. He doesn't want that sort of a study - shies at history though is willing there should be a background - short, I take it, and general.

McCracken of Vassar was to do an article, Bigelow's idea being that they ought to have something that would bring the colleges money. He wants $10,000,000 for them but says McCracken's wouldn't get them five cents. He is willing I should do one paper, which, I take it, he would like to have present as strongly and as glowingly as possible, the work the women's colleges have done. He says he is all for co-education but that there are evidently plenty of girls who either themselves or their parents want a girls' school, and they ought to have what they want. He is for letting the girl find her way. I take it he would be willing for me to make as strong a plea as I could.

Telephoned Miss Stewart, and she is pleased. Tells me to go ahead. They will drop the other scheme until a way opens for it.

Telephoned Reynolds that it is all right. I am to have 6,000 words, as I understand it.

Think the article might be run for the fall. Might begin with a paragraph on the large degree to which youth is setting out for itself - chooses what it wants. Large proportion of those thousands of girls are self-directed. They seem to prefer the women's college as men prefer the men's college. The proportion of those that are merely sent is probably small. Definiteness of purpose has increased as years have gone by - they know what they want.

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Improvement through the college particularly of the social life of the country - taste of the country. Interest in contributions to the community life, to schools, intellectual opportunities. These community contributions are more important than the direct ones to professional life although these are considerable.

The girls' college no barrier to marriage. The degree to which peculiarly feminine interests are studied in colleges, interesting - Smith working on the career and home problem.

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