

May 31, 1921

Mrs. H. L. Wickes,
The Coit-Alber Lyceum Bureau,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mrs. Wickes:

Thank you for your letter of May 18, which would have been answered earlier but that I have been out of town.

In writing you as I did on May 18, I overlooked entirely that I had already made an arrangement with Mr. Alber for work in New York and vicinity, similar, I suppose, to that which you want of me in Boston and vicinity; that is, work for clubs and special occasion.

This arrangement was that I should allow them to place me for these engagements - they usually being those for which tickets are not sold - for from \$100 to \$150, I to pay the office 30% for the booking.

The arrangement I have made with you might or might not work out a little more advantageously for you and a little less so for me - I do not know. What I do not feel is quite right, however, is to have different arrangements for the different bureaus about this kind of thing. I rather think Mr. Alber would not approve of this, and I am not willing to do anything that would not seem to him to be entirely fair. At the same time, I want to be perfectly fair with you.

Would it be practical for you to change the arrangement I suggested to you - that is, \$500. for eight engagements to come within a week, or at least not over eight days? It strikes me that the arrangement I have made with the New York Bureau through Mr. Alber is more easily handled. I should think that the Syracuse engagement might come under that as it is with a club that does not sell tickets. That is, if you could place me for \$150 there and I gave you 30% it would be satisfactory. Would not this be a simpler arrangement?

You understand, of course, my dear Mrs. Wickes, that I have no desire to wench on my former suggestion. It is only that the thing be uniform and keep a feeling of entire fair play all around.

Kindly let me know about this at your convenience.

Very truly yours,