

Pelletier

September 10, 1930

My dear Mrs. Bruce:

Pray pardon the delay in replying to your note of September 1st. I was out of town when it came to my desk.

I have been trying to find a way to accept your invitation to speak before the Maryland Women's Organization for National Prohibition Reform, but it seems quite out of the question for me to attempt to do it. You see, dear Mrs. Bruce, I am an amateur speaker - always a little horrified by the idea that I am to talk to people. I should not want to speak on this subject unless I prepared very carefully what I would want to say. I cannot possibly take on this extra work with my other engagements. I have been tied in New York all summer with my work and am only now getting away for a short and needed holiday. I shall come back to so crowded a desk that I am a little alarmed to know how I am going to get through the work to which I have pledged myself. In justice to what I already have on hand I dare not undertake what you ask.

It is a real regret to me. I should enjoy going to Baltimore, particularly to meet you and Mr. Bruce. I should like too, if I could be a little help in this important matter. I am afraid all I can do is through my pen. You ask if I could recommend a speaker. I have heard no talks on the subject from any woman. Mrs. Sabin has, however, mobilized a group of speakers - she could give you suggestions which would be trustworthy. I could not.

Regretting sincerely that I can neither go to you nor suggest a speaker, believe me, my dear Mrs. Bruce

Very sincerely yours

Mrs. Wm. Cabell Bruce
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Baltimore, Maryland