

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE  
BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY  
BRYN MAWR, PENNSYLVANIA

March 22, 1940

Dear Viktor:

Did you have fun at the meetings? I wish I could have been there but it wasn't possible this time.

I think I have good news for you, but it is a bit premature & you mustn't be glad about it till you hear it from someone else. I think that after all we shall be able to have Laverne back if she wishes to come. It has worked out this way: Miss Gardiner wishes to take a sabbat. second semester next year. If she does, I'll have to give up my second semester

to take over her graduate seminar. As space, she is giving me Laverne as an assistant to help me as I wish in the laboratories. (comp. anat. & embryology) She said she was going to tell Laverne today (who has heard nothing about it) but L.V. didn't

come in - (it being the day before Easter) - but I trust she will tell her Monday - & I trust Laverne will accept it. The funds will be available, you see, for substitutes to take over Gardiner's work.

It will mean a heavy year for me - but I shall be glad about it nevertheless especially on Laverne's account because I think she should come back & because I shall be glad to have her working more directly under my wing than this year. - What I do not like about it is that my research time for the year will be nil - but this semester I am learning a little to fabricate research time out of nothing & perhaps in another year



I shall be more expert at it —. I am going to try to get a grant for a technician for myself too but am not too hopeful of the outcome —.

Will you be at Woods Hole this summer? — I hope to do what I did last year — but if I can't manage to have any better success <sup>amused</sup> while I go to New Haven I may end up at Woods Hole <sup>in July</sup> as well as in August — I'm not too hopeful about any of it — it's a pretty complicated situation.

I have neither seen nor spoken to Tucker since Castelnuovo has been here. So I have as yet no way of knowing how her work is. I have however managed to see her a couple of times. I think she is glad to be at work & glad to be independent — but she is definitely a complainer. I hope she is limiting her complaining to me — that too I will know about later. — She is fussing about having to do all her own washing, etc., though it was made clear to her from the outset that this would be the situation (I know because I was there) — and about various other equally unimportant matters. — However she does have something on her side: the Penn set-up is in many ways a very queer one & not too easy for a strongly independent person to adjust to — they are all pretty secretive about what they are doing — in some departments to



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a most uncomfortable extreme. — Also I don't think Lucke encourages too much initiative on the part of his assistants, & I think Castellnuovo considers herself unable to remain a ~~pure~~ <sup>were</sup> technician — & I presume fiction on that score. — I've been warning her pretty strongly about it but I'm not sure it's made an impression. — It is a hard knock for her to be in — it would be hard for any of us — but I hope she does adapt herself to the situation. — As I say, so far I have heard her side only; eventually I shall investigate the other side & shall let you know. — In any case, as you say, it has been a good psychological lift for her — and perhaps she merely lets off steam to me & is happy when she is actually working. — She's tentatively stewed up about her family for which one can't blame her — I know Lucke is very kind to her — I thought the Rudnick-Hamburger paper was excellent.

With all good wishes to you all —

Zelus  
 June