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January 10, 1941

Miss Irene McAdoo
Kinsley, Kansas

Dear Miss McAdoo:

Your letter of January 8 has been received and I too feel depressed for you. It seems as if our troubles never come singly; they come in bundles and large bundles at that sometimes.

The recital of your tough break causes me to wish that I had sent the letter on to Miss Mann as I had planned. I remember so distinctly of having a long conference with you regarding the payment of your bill that I felt it my duty to check up with Mr. Weaver and when I found that you had not written him then certainly there was reason for uncertainty in my mind. Had you written him and told him that you were having difficulty but you still expected to pay your bill, then that would have been evidence that would have been much in your favor. Even though a person cannot pay any on his indebtedness, a note to his debtor many times is like gold; it pays a certain kind of a debt that nothing else can pay.

The letter that I sent to you was the original one that I had written to Miss Mann. I had it already for mailing and then decided that I should check up on the debt before mailing it. I had dictated this before we started for New York but something told me positively that I should not send it until I had checked up. You can appreciate the administrative detail that one is subjected to to follow out all of these leads before he writes a very simple letter when he is desirous of helping an individual.

Had I known of your family background and your difficulties I would have been impelled to pass up some of the inhibitions that I placed in your way and would have taken the chance on your paying out.

I appreciate the great debt that you feel you owe your mother; and no one knows that obligation better than you. However, if you feel that you can work this out and you desire me to write the letter to Miss Mann that I did not send her, I will still recommend you. I am sure that Mr. Weaver and all the other people that you owe would be very lenient under the conditions and I would be very happy to be one of those individuals to intercede in your behalf.

You state that this amount is not very much but would have meant everything to you; then it is, Miss McAdoo, a very great thing and if it means everything to you we are willing to help you because we believe that if you can surmount these difficulties you will have done far more to make a success out of things than you would if you fold up and quit.