

Scarsdale, N.Y.
The Buckingham
c/o J.T. Akers
May 19, 1947.

Mr. Earl Clarke, Vice President
Polytechnic Institute
San German, Puerto Rico

Dear Earl,

I have been much concerned about your letter of April 2 and particularly because I have received no answer to my reply of April 15. In that letter you said that Dr. Seel thought a 3/5 sabbatical salary was an established policy for a faculty wife. In my somewhat lengthy reply, I tried to show that (1) it had not been established as a policy, and (2) if so considered, was retroactive and unfair. In the same letter you stated that he feels that the matter must also be considered in relationship to the money available. I wrote nothing on that point, but I fail to understand why it would be just to single out the sabbatical salary of a faculty wife for discount. Were other salaries cut during the year?

As I stated in that letter we came up here with the understanding that I would receive my sabbatical salary as would any other bonafide faculty member who had served long enough to be eligible. Our plans were made on that basis and we need the money badly.

I have received no comments from Dr. Seel on the subject. I hope you were able to share my letter with him.

I also pointed out in that letter that when I had taught a 3/5 load I carried the full responsibility for the department, although my salary was estimated at 3/5 of the total \$2700 instead of the full \$500 (differential as head) plus 3/5 of \$2200. If I were trying to be mercenary I should be asking for that difference as well as credit on sabbatical salary for full time work. You may recall that my leave figured up to one semester on full time and one on 3/5 time.

Sometime past I told the administration that if these, and numerous other discriminations I could bring up, were proposed in order to bring about resignations of faculty wives it was unnecessary to wait for mine. I was assured that such was not the purpose and that my services were desired. I continued to carry on my work, and now I am tempted to regret it. For years when there were no sabbatical leaves it was only through the combined salaries of husband and wife that we could stay on at the Institute, bearing all the expense of necessary trips north and further study. Certainly we could not lay aside for the future; indeed the last time we were up here for a winter I had to teach at the same time. I cannot see why we should be penalized now. It is indeed most unpleasant to both Boyd and me to begin our relationship with a new administration by having all this uncertainty about a problem which we both understood was settled when we left.

I shall very much appreciate any information you can give me and shall welcome suggestion. With kind regards to you and your family,
Yours sincerely,