

311 S. Lake Street, Carleton, N. M.
March 4th, 1960

Prof. Ralph H. Rives

307 Burnetts Ave., Enfield, N. C.

Dear Dr. Rives:

First let me thank you for your very kind letter and your warm invitation, added to that of your mother, to visit you in Enfield.

My wife and I hope to take advantage of this when circumstances permit, and we shall look forward with much pleasure to meeting you and your father and renewing my acquaintance with your mother.

Next, I would like to know how I should address you. I note from previous correspondence, that you have a Ph.D. and that you have achieved distinction in the field of education. Do you occupy a chair in a college or are you Superintendent of City Schools in Enfield or County Superintendent for Halifax County? Perhaps you are now dedicated exclusively to writing. I enjoyed very much your historical sketch of the Littleton Female College. One wonders how these small, church-affiliated colleges could furnish such teaching, training and character building for the small sum charged for tuition. But it was only made possible by a corps of devoted and consecrated women, whose high ideals and fidelity of soul, inspired them to look for the reward in results achieved, rather than in salary. I think that I shall send your article to the Presbyterian Historical Foundation at Montreal, to be filed in the archives there.

You would enjoy a visit to this institution. Just as letters or news-paper accounts written seventy-five or more years ago, throw light on the events of that period of history, so will letters and well written accounts of life in our small colleges be of historical value.

a generalization or more hence.

Mar. 7th. Attention to a sick wife and home hold
chores prevented my continuing this letter, begun several
days ago. I am glad to report that the wife is much
better and able to be up for half of the day.

My daughter has a very hard schedule, more work
than should be given one person. Her salary is much
better than a teacher would be paid for the same work
in North Carolina. But we are glad that she will
marry and not be coming back next year.

Millions of years ago, this region was the floor of
a great inland sea. The soil is heavily charged with
soluble minerals, so the water is hard and unsui-
table for cooking certain foods and not good for
washing clothes unless a softener is added.

We used it at first for making coffee and found
the coffee unpalatable. So now we use distilled water
for coffee and cooking certain foods.
Some may say that the water is so hard that
one must chem it before swallowing, but do not
attempt this if you wear false teeth, otherwise you
may swallow them and suffer a grating abrasion
in the stomach.

I would expect the children in this region to have
much better teeth than the average child in the East
and I judge also that goiter would rarely if ever
develop in this region. This would be due to the
abundance of fluorine and iodine in the water.
But the great drawback is the superabundance of
the salts of lime. One must use special soaps and
detergents. Ordinary shampoos leave the hair quite
"goosey".

On Feb. 27th, by invitation, I spoke at the First Pres-
byterian Church of this city, giving an account of the
mission work of our church in the Belgian Congo.
I tremble to think of the time not far off, when there
will be a country as large as
the United States, ~~the third~~ as large as the United States
containing twelve million natives and nearly one hundred
million whites.
With warmest regards to you and yours, I am,
Sincerely yours, J. L. ...