

Holsteinchester. 36

bei Lippens

March 18, 1928

Dearest Margaret and Mr. Slee:

I am now home from the hospital. But it exhausted me so from coming that it laid me out two more days completely. I'm now in bed half the time and then up and then down again. Am still weak as a cat for some unknown reason and I seem to recover very, very slowly.

I'm now starting high sun rays treatment. Jo Bennett comes by taxi and takes me. I hope to regain strength, so. For I am also very anaemic and have too little blood altogether. The high sun rays are supposed to help.

My recovery has been too slow. They said I'd be in the hospital 10 days. I was in 18 days. And still I'm here.

I want to thank you both from the bottom

of my heart for your help. you sent me enough  
money so that I can now be further treated until  
I'm strong. I was operated on by Professor Dr.  
Lipmann, one of the most noted German surgeons  
and gynecologists. The whole thing cost me  
only about M. 700 but I had extras to pay because  
I could not eat the food in 3<sup>rd</sup> class. Prof.  
Lipmann gave me a room to myself - in reality  
a 2<sup>nd</sup> class room - for 3<sup>rd</sup> class price. I shall  
have to go to him for further examination and I  
expect that to cost considerable, - or something.  
Anyway your money was a god-send. I don't have  
to start work at once now and I can travel  
by taxi for my treatments. I can pay my  
rent and have extra food until well. I suppose  
it will take me about a month to regain my  
health, although I seem to go so slowly and  
when I stand my legs tremble under me.

Margaret - they gave me the new narcosa -

Sterilization?

in a syringe through the rectum, which is this new thing by the Munich Professor. I went to sleep as pleasantly and comfortably and did not feel one thing such as both you and I suffer from from breathing the narcosa. I did not even notice that I was going to sleep, but I felt very, very comfortable and warm - as one feels when falling to sleep when very tired in a soft, warm bed. They give you an amount according to your weight. But it is new and so they do not know all its effects. For instance, they gave me what they thought was enough to keep me asleep for an hour. But I was asleep from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. - 6 hours. They could not awaken me, though they tried. Jo made them stop - she fought them because I told her I could not endure the nervous shock of voices when coming to. So finally she had her way. After this new narcosa you feel no effects - such as nausea causing vomiting

or a sweet smell or taste. The maresa pieces of  
through the urine. But because they gave me  
too much (not knowing my sensitiveness) I think  
I suffered much more afterwards. My heart bothered  
me very much, and I had a high fever.  
For 4 days I was almost finished, half  
conscious much of the time and suffered unexpect-  
able tortures from gas. Then one lung seems  
to be affected - my left; down in the very  
end under the lower ribs. They treated me  
with electric baths & heat pads there, but the  
pain remains. I hope to cure it by the  
high sun rays treatment.

Jo stayed by me from early morning until  
late at night. The service in 3<sup>rd</sup> class is  
very, very bad, and I owe more to Jo than I  
can say. She was exhausted after a week. She  
has been unspeakably wonderful to me. She  
left me only to eat or to bring extra food  
or medicine for me. I love her beyond

5)

words for her silent dove. As soon as I was  
conscious, I told her to write you about the  
narcosa because you suffer as I do. She said  
she would. You need have no horror from  
the new narcosa, Margaret. We feel the same  
way about it and I would not say this to  
you unless I absolutely told the truth.

This week Dr. Wolff is coming to me and,  
I hope, Dr. Schmiede with her. We will then,  
with Jo's help, build the B. C. Committee here.  
I will be in it — if for nothing else than  
as a control. They must do the work  
but I'm going to sit there ~~with~~ <sup>a</sup> watch.  
There are some people I don't want in the  
work. For instance, Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld.  
Forgive me, Margaret, but he is so widely  
known as a homosexual and as a student of  
homosexuality that it is not good for  
B. C. to have him in the clinic. He can  
have his own clinic if he wishes and will do

good work, perhaps. But I'd like to see the  
Clinic under the care of physicians pure and  
simple, with no homosexuality or venereal  
diseases or tubercular appendages. Perhaps some  
of my Communist friends will advocate Dr.  
Hirschfeld also, but unless you request me  
to bring him in, I will not. And even then  
I can not be associated with him. I say  
nothing against him at all - except that B.C.  
and homosexuality are two different things and  
must not be confused in the minds of the  
public. And if our Clinic is attacked, it  
must be on a straight issue of B.C. and  
nothing else. I'm perhaps conservative here.  
I'm willing to fight on B.C. but not on  
homosexuality. I talked with Dr. Wiesner &  
Jo. about it. Dr. Wiesner values Dr.  
Hirschfeld. So do I - but in his own field.  
At first I did not intend to be on the  
B.C. Committee. But Jo & Dr. Wiesner went

to Dr. Hirschfeld's institute for a dinner. There they met some 20 people (among them Dr. Herta Riese from Frankfurt) and many people active in homosexual research. Dr. Wiener looked about and said:

"Well, here's our B. C. Committee <sup>right</sup> here!"

Then I decided to go on the B. C. Committee, and I told Dr. Wiener that I could not support his viewpoint. He said:

"Yes, you are right. But Dr. Hirschfeld will also recommend Mrs. Sanger in Moscow and help us get her an invitation." I answered:

"That is very good, but a different question. This B. C. Clinic Committee is a matter of tactics. The minute the Catholics & the Deutsch National learn of the Clinic they will attack us ~~for~~ on our weakest link. and that will be homosexuality if Dr. Hirschfeld is there. We must make it a clean fight - and if we do, will get all progressive people with us."

So will do everything she can while here. She

is very much interested and it is a loss that she returns to Paris in May. She has been going with Dr. Wiener to see all kinds of scientific exhibits but that she will write you about.

So now, Margaret:

1 - Let me know if it will be possible to get money to run the Clinic? you said you could get \$100 a month. That is sufficient. Can you also get M. 1,500 to equip it first? Let me know.

2 - Are you in agreement about keeping Dr. Hirschfeld out on tactical grounds?

3 - Can you send me copies of all forms, etc., used in the N. Y. Clinic? Everything that can help us start to work here?

We may not be able to open the Clinic more than 2 hours a day. We will start with that.

4. Do you object if they call it, as Frau Dr. Wolff suggested, the "Margaret Sanger Ambulatorium," or

1)  
shall we call it the B.C. Clinic? Because of financial reasons I prefer the latter. I fear they expect you to support it forever. What do you think?

I'm enclosing a letter from the "New Republic." What shall I do? go to Frankfurt anyway? I think I shall later. But I fear it will be at least a month before I'm any good at all.

Kaethe Kollwitz came to see me in the hospital. We thought we'd work - translating your chapter. We tried a page or two but I was so weak that I had to speak very slowly and rest often. She refused to go further and is coming to my house this week for lunch and afterwards I'll translate. She is in agreement with the publishers' proposals about a set sum for the pictures. When she comes I'll take care of all the business end with her and try to send at once the drawings already made that you can use. I think we need only one or two new drawings.

10  
And as I love, Margaret. I greet you both in  
love and thanks for your friendship and help  
Agnes

R.S. Dr. Wiener is a fine person. It is a loss that  
he has gone to Edinburgh. He has the enthusiasm  
and youth and idealism necessary in B.C. work.  
We was often in the hospital to see me and  
he, Jo and I talked at length about the  
Clinic and film. It is a great loss, really,  
that he has gone away. And then when Jo  
goes - well, it will be bad.

I'm going to try to bring Frau Dr. Edenhuizen  
in on the B.C. Committee. I'll try to break  
down her plan to make her profession pay - only.  
Her name is important. But I don't want  
Dr. Turman or anyone like her. And I want the  
Clinic to open and be run without the firing  
of one gun. The Monarchists, etc. here have started a  
population propaganda here.

Love, dearest Margaret. Agnes