

(Dr. W. S. Thayer) ^{CUS 417/117.33}

30th (Jan. 14)

Dear W.S.

So sorry to hear of your mothers illness, but under the circumstances I hope she may not linger long I have just heard today of Barkers refusal & your nice long letter comes this eve. I do hope you may accept There is really a comic element in the whole affair if it ends in you & B. changing places. You have been a trump about him all along & I am sure you will make him happy. I am awfully sorry for him, and I cannot but feel a bit sore. Apart altogether from the whole time question there is an academic principle involved- whether the University is justified in changing the conditions of tenure of a Professorship so as to make it impossible for a man to remain in a post for which is well fitted & in wh. he has given every satisfaction. I do hope for the sake of the school you can accept It would never do to have a man as chief who would necessarily play 2nd or 3rd fiddle in the community. I hope the clearing out will leave you in good form. I like immensely Xians suggestion, wh. is one which Pepper had in mind 20 years ago, & often discussed with me. I am looking forward to the Oct. meeting & am arranging t leave Sept. 5th. We have had a very busy season. Do send me your remarks on Fitz. Mitchell is a sad loss. I owe him much. Love to Sister Susan

Christina[?]

Every yours,

W.O.