

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL

THE CAROLINA PLAYMAKERS
FREDERICK H. KOCH, DIRECTOR

November 28, 1933

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Univ North Carolina
Drama

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Dear Mr. Marshall:

The stress of our dramatic activities here during the past week has delayed my reply to your good letter. The rehearsals for our next public production, the Thirty-fifth Bill of Original Plays; Experimental Productions of eight New Plays; and our trip to Wilson, North Carolina with The House of Connelly (carrying fifty people) have pretty nearly swamped us.

We had a wonderful time with The House of Connelly at Wilson. That is Paul Green's own country, and Wilson is said to be the largest tobacco market in the world. The people flocked from all the surrounding country and the play made a very palpable hit on the home sod.

I am glad to know of your serious interest in dramatic work among the Negroes. I feel that here is a fertile field waiting to be developed. At present there is a great lack of trained directors and the Negroes seem eager for the work. No one to my knowledge has looked into the situation. I think such information might be secured from the presidents of the leading Negro colleges of the South. President Nelson of Shaw University has come over from Raleigh to confer with me on two different occasions. He is enthusiastic about the work Mrs. Bailey has begun there this year. Mrs. Julia Delany (Negro) has been doing excellent work in this field at St. Augustine's College in Raleigh for several years. I can give you the names of the directors of the five institutions of the Negro Intercollegiate Dramatic Association if you desire them. I wish I could talk over the whole situation with you. It seems to me a very promising field.

I am leaving Chapel Hill this week to fill lecture engagements in Washington, D. C. and will not return to Chapel Hill until next Monday. I have been going over our situation here with my associates in the dramatic work and will send you definite figures on the amount of the salaries for assistants and equipment needs the first of next week.

Yours cordially,

Frederick H. Koch

Kenan Professor of Dramatic Literature.

Mr. John Marshall
The Rockefeller Foundation
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