

Jan 11-1917

Mr. C. V. Means,  
c/o The Manor,  
Asheville, N. Y.

Dear Charlie:

I am just in receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., and am leaving at 11:40 today for New York; will return the first of the week. Am going there for a conference in regard to the output of our steel plant.

We have not started pouring steel, as yet. We expected to be pouring in this month by making some temporary arrangements, but the permanent structure is so nearly ready that we decided to delay until material could be erected for permanent use. We, however, expect to be in operation by February with the furnaces; of course, the Blooming Mill will not be ready for operation before April or May. We have had fairly good construction weather, and have been working pretty hard. The deliveries are still held up on account of embargoes, car shortage, and everything else that is possible to interfere with prompt service.

Considerable snow fell last night; the ground is white today, with a cold spell. I do not think it advisable for Tom to make his trip to Ashland until we have a little better weather, or especially until I return from New York. I expect to leave about the 21st for Syracuse to attend Kentucky Solvay meeting, which I believe I wrote you about, but I will return to attend our own meeting on the 25th of the month, so you see my engagements for January are rather strenuous, and would hardly have time to show Tom around until the last week of January, or most any time thereafter.

I have not noticed the new ruling in regard to Income Tax, in that everyone is required to make a return whether they have any revenue or not. You may be right, but I hardly believe that it is a fact. However, will look into this matter and let you know. It will be no trouble anyhow to make a report for the Committee on account of Evelyn's income.

I did not reach the Bank yesterday in time to attend the annual meeting, as I was held in my office with a conference, but got out as soon as possible, and when I reached there was only on time to take the oath of office as Director. They intimated that they had elected me to the honorable position