

P. S. Mrs. Blake is the latest addition to the office force.

2705 S. W. English Court,  
Portland 1, Oregon,  
June 6, 1955.

Honorable Anthony T. Lausi,  
Director, Office of Territories,  
U. S. Interior Department,  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lausi:

I would like to bring you up to date on the stenographer situation. Mrs. Sherman has not been back. She has called me on the phone several times. I have not let on yet that I know what happened to her. On May 31st Miss Celorie came into my office for something about the middle of the forenoon. I asked her if Mrs. Sherman was there today. She told me that Mrs. Sherman would not be back. I told her that I wanted to dictate some letters and she told me that she would talk to Mrs. Mickelson. I expected that they would send Mrs. Dunson in, but after about a fifteen minute wait they sent Mrs. Blake in. Mrs. Dunson is a better stenographer than any of them, but they use her for filing and other things they do not want to do. They only have her come part time and she will probably be quitting soon, because she will not be able to stand them any longer. Mrs. Sherman and Mrs. Dunson were never accepted very well by them because they would not stooldidgeon for them. When Mrs. Dunson leaves she will probably not be replaced. That will leave Mrs. Mickelson, Miss Celorie and Mrs. Blake. Neither one of the three could work for me privately. I would not hire them and would not want them around. I cannot imagine either one of them getting by anywhere else and as they do except here. I believe that by now they do not trust Mrs. Dunson. What they did to Mrs. Sherman is proof of how they felt about her. I might as well not have anybody as Mrs. Blake. She is mediocre and particularly so as a stenographer. I will not be able to get my job and work done with her. Even so she is not much worse than Miss Celorie or perhaps even Mrs. Mickelson. At any rate, she is accepted by them and fits right in with them. In fact, I believe that she has been groomed as and is supposed to work for me as their trained stooldidgeon. I would not trust her or any of the rest of them for a moment. Even so, I do not believe that she will be there long, because they are piling too much on to her. Mrs. Mickelson and Miss Celorie only work for the Coes and their own now. This was all figured out by Henry Coe and Mrs. Mickelson and the rest of them are all going along with it. It could even be that Mrs. Mickelson had most to do with it. It certainly makes them all feel important. It also shows what kind of stuff we are dealing with. Mrs. Sherman and Mrs. Dunson both told me that they were instructed to make an extra copy of everything I dictated for them without me knowing it, never to return anything to me before they had seen it and had passed on it, to keep an exact record of the time they spent in my office, to report everything I said or asked or talked about and the like. Without my own secretary or stenographer I am going to be sunk from here on out as far as the Department's work is going to be concerned and it was carefully planned that way. So in plotting against me they are plotting against everyone and everything that I do and am supposed to represent and our work and duties and responsibilities and everything in general as far as we are concerned. By the way, the woman about whom they made the furore when the auditors were here has been gone for a long time. She quit soon after that, because she claimed that she had gotten a better job. I doubt if she even knew what they tried to put on. They were trying to scare the auditors. They also wanted to make me look bad. They would frame someone if they could. I hope my own stenographer will become a reality soon. Sincerely yours,

B. F. Keller