

Benham, Ky., Jan. 21, 1919.

Mr. W. H. Dye, Auditor,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

Because of various recommendations we have accumulated an amount of \$1743.94 which we are carrying as deferred charges to the hotel.

This money covers the cost of a screened in porch adjoining the kitchen so as to allow better ventilation for the kitchen help, also some new sections for the furnace and overhauling the entire heating system in the hotel. It was also recommended that the basement be cleaned and a coal bin built, which also included cement steps into the basement. Due to the crowded condition of the hotel, it was also recommended that we put a partition across the front hall up stairs making a new room as well as buying furniture for it.

In the operation of our hotel we have attempted to take care of the minor repairs as well as any deferred charges of a minor nature also depreciation on three cows that we took over from the farm so as to provide milk for our use, and taking these into consideration the operation of our hotel just about broke even or with a matter of about \$7.00 to the good.

Of course you understand that it is not possible to operate this hotel with the income we have and take care of all the various recommendations that are made as this year we were obliged to take care of more employes than usual and neglect our transients due to the limited number of rooms we have. The increase in our organization force has caused us to take care of a number of married couples while they are waiting for houses and the more employes we take care of in the hotel the less income we have as our charges to employes are \$25.00 per month for the girls and \$30.00 a month for the boys in double room and \$35.00 for single room. These rates to employes would not pay for the provisions not to speak of the other expenses such as salaries, repairs and maintenance, laundry, fuel, depreciation, fire insurance, etc. As it looks very much as though our hotel is to be crowded with employes this year, I do not see how we are going to be able to take care of this \$1743.94 deferred charges if we have to carry it over and I wish you would get us authority from Mr. Biggert to write it off as it properly belongs in last year.

While I am on the matter of the operation of this hotel, I would like to mention that Mr. James L. Price, who is our Employment Manager, is now living at the hotel and asks that we buy him some furniture to fix up his room. This, of course, will be another item to defer on the hotel and before going to the expense I would like to have some authority to do it as this item will run into money and we cannot be expected to operate this small hotel without an income of some kind. Mr. Price will want the following:

- 1 Morris chair
- 1 Library table