May 5, 1933

Dear Jim,

Everything moved on schedule. There was virtually no dissent. The debate was rather dry and much of it off the point, but the votes were there. When it was all over, Rayburn remarked he did not know whether the bill passed so readily because it was damned good or so damn incomprehensible.

Moley seems to have no knowledge of the Senate situation. He asked me to speak to Byrne, who, (illegible) the above, gave me the idea that he knew nothing more of the Senator’s plans than when he spoke to you. I am seeing him however in the morning. He did feel however that Rayburn had fumbled in not nursing Fletcher more carefully. Rayburn on the other hand remarked that he thought Jim Robinson would be able to handle the Senate.

If the situation at the school is no too “hot”, don’t hesitate to return Monday without further word from me, as it is naturally always helpful to have you here. Perhaps I can get some better idea tomorrow of the Senate situation through Webbich. If Robinson gets the Senate to take up the House bill, I don’t think we will have much to worry about, as any very bad amendments could then be removed in conference. On the hand if the Senate takes up Thompson’s bill, there probably will be little we can do until the conference and there we will have a tough fight.

I hope you are dreaming of other things than annuity contracts.

As Ever,
Yours truly, Ben V.C.