

8 Haviland  
8 Pale Blue Band  
34 Blue willow  
6 orchid

2 Sterling vegetable dishes  
2 Sterling cake plates (round)  
1 lace cloth (not for 96' table)  
2 India prints  
2 print sheets  
Monday p.m.

Cora...

56

\* Thank you for your nice letter and assurances of help. Was a relief. As to dishes, etc. had decided to rent them here but since will run into trouble if Helen won't come down Sat. and bring them and I have no assurances of that, will be interesting to know what you have in your good dishes and cups and saucers..also silver. Borrowing is so time consuming until thought would be easier to drive up to the rental place and drive off but since won't know about Helen's plans for some time your things could be an ace in the hole or reduce the cost of my rentals by using some of your things.

\* Sarah Maine will get I believe 12 table cloths and offered to get the tables but hate to ask it. Anyway, I will have the tables, cloths, and such at the library for you to begin arranging Friday afternoon. Will get the flowers here Wed. and bring to Estill Wed. p.m. so will have then for you to use then. Would like to hear suggestions as to what you want...As you know some flowers can be gotten around Estill...Assume you mean florist flowers for a special arrangement or two...

Sarah Maine also has a pretty casserole holder and 3 inserts to fit... also another caserole holder not quite so elegant looking...

\* Still plan to have only country ham, asparagus casserole, congealed salad, cheese biscuits, and probably pickle on the plates (serving buffet) and coffee and then a applesauce crunch cupcake from bakery here with a blob of whipped cream on it for dessert...I plan to serve it from a tray and slide it on the used plates in a paper container...Lib Clyde recoiled at the idea but I recoil at the idea of removing 60 dishes and then serving 60 bread and butter plates with this on it. Mary Eleanor Rouse and Margaret Baker had a bridge luncheon I attended last year or this spring and they did this, I think. Went to Sumter Sat. p.m. and Ruth Pate was trying to talk me into stuffing baked potatoes with mashed potatoes and something or serving baked potatoes, but I think what I have is adequate...I could add potatoe chips but I can't see any more since there is only one stove at the Library and you can't have all these last minute things to do on it. Of course the baked potatoes could be wrapped in tinfoil and used. Do you think this is necessary? Would mean butter for each table or sour cream or something...also salt and pepper.

Think there are about 50 chairs at the Library...The old wooden straight chairs. Not elegant but will have to do. There is a big library table that can be used to serve from or if you have nice covers for those aluminum tables they might be better...

Don't know just how long will be able to keep Miss Margaret out of this because I don't see how I can explain my absence to make salad, cook hams, fix asparagus casserole, etc. and too it's easier to work at home. Would be easy enough if she could be out of town, but with her at the house, will have to give it a think...Have heard from three of my invitations committee members and out of 56 have 38 takers...Betty Hanna and Joe Rhodes have 48 more to ask so if get the same results you can figure the approximate number. Should hear from them by tomorrow a.m.

Haven't planned to serve a cocktail before lunch. Do you think this is necessary and if so what? ~~XXXX~~ Rhine Wine and tomato juice?

I absolutely am not interested in adding to my menu unless you think it is too skimpy...then I will condescend to add only small baked potatoes wrapped in tinfoil... Let me hear.

Think will be up here this weekend also so if you can get off an answer to all these questions mail to apartment in event it comes over the weekend when the office would be closed...

Ruth Pate offered to come and help but said very casually Randy could drive her and I hate to put a 250 mile trip on him so thanked her. If they weren't making the trip to the Island Thursday would feel free to do that but think he is pushed right much. Sure could use her help tho but she just does not consider driving herself, and from my meetings with the children it will be some years, if ever, that I would recommend John for a trip as driver.

Must get off a couple of other letters. Excuse this typing..Taking my dinner hour to do these personal things ...after running out to see about getting our stove at the house repaired the first part of the lunch hour...Always a thousand things to do. Hope you have been able to get your heaters installed by now.

Much haste...

Love —  
Ruth  
—