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**Letter to Oakley C. Johnson  
and Ann Rivington in New York City  
from Rose Ruthenberg in Lakewood, Ohio,  
May 15, 1944 [excerpt]**

Handwritten. letter in C.E. Ruthenberg Papers, Ohio Historical Society,  
Box 10, Folder 1, Microfilm reel 5.

May 15th, 1944.

Oakley Johnson  
Ann Rivington

Dear Friends:—

Sorry I can't give you very much information about Mr. [Max] Hayes. I never met him. I remember that C.E. and he were not very friendly. Hayes was very sarcastic. Never attended many meetings when he was active. Daniel [son] and I usually met his father [C.E.R.] after the meeting and either visited friends, theater or concert, or in the summer went on hikes in the park.

\* \* \*

When C.E. knew he was going to prison [in 1918] he intended to draw on his insurance policy for us. But the [Ohio State] Executive Committee voted to pay us his salary (which I think was \$30 a week). I went to headquarters every day and did the clerical work such as filing, making stencils, sending meeting statements, and taking ticket settlements. Walter Bronstrup usually took care of the correspondence and Tom Clifford was Editor of the *Socialist News*.

Mrs. [Hortense] Wagenknecht, M. Prevey,<sup>1</sup> and I usually visited the boys every Thursday and took them goodies to each and books and magazines.

Daniel attended high school and my mother lived with us at the Clark Ave. apartment.

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Excuse delay and scrawl.

Sincerely,

Rose Ruthenberg.

*Edited by Tim Davenport*

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<sup>1</sup> Marguerite Prevey and Baker had a close personal relationship. According to 1940 correspondence between Wagenknecht and Oakley Johnson, Prevey left her estate to Baker at the time of her death on April 14, 1925.