

## Announcement

*Friends of the blind wish to call attention to the following situation:*



HERE are in this city several blind young women trained for stenographic work, and seeking employment. They use a Braille shorthand machine, with which they have a speed of 80 to 100 words per minute, a speed quite sufficient for most business purposes. They transcribe their notes on the ordinary typewriter, turning out very neat and accurate work. The prevalent notion that it is impossible to do anything well without sight makes it very difficult for blind applicants to find positions. They are not given a chance to show what they can do. The truth is that much of the work done by a skilful blind person could not be better done with sight. These people do not want charity. They have the ability to do good work, are anxious to be self-supporting, and can be if they are given an opportunity to do the work for which they are prepared.

If you are in need of stenographic help and can possibly arrange your work so that one stenographer can have stenographic work exclusively (or that and answering the telephone), will you not give one of these girls a trial? If you cannot make use of one of them yourself, will you kindly call the attention of your friends who may be in need of such work to these young women? They are all willing to go and live near their work if positions can be found for them.



## Advertisement

Friends of the blind people will continue to the following situation:

There are in this city several blind young women trained for stenographic work and seeking employment. They use a Braille shorthand machine, with which they have a speed of 80 to 100 words per minute, a speed quite sufficient for most business purposes. They transcribe their notes on the ordinary typewriter, turning out very neat and accurate work. The prevalent notion that it is impossible to do any thing well without sight makes it very difficult for blind applicants to find positions. They are not given a chance to show what they can do. The work is that much of the work done by a skilled blind person could not be better done with sight. These people do not want charity. They have the ability to do good work, are anxious to be self-supporting and can be if they are given an opportunity to do the work for which they are prepared.

If you are in need of stenographic help and can possibly arrange your work so that one stenographer can have stenographic work exclusively for that and answering the telephone, will you not give one of these girls a trial? If you cannot make use of one of them yourself, will you kindly call the attention of your friends who may be in need of such work to these young women? They are all willing to go and live near their work if positions can be found for them.

A few thoroughly proficient musicians desire pupils in voice culture and theory. Skilled masseurs and piano tuners wish employment; and certain other blind people would be glad of an opportunity to do such manual work as folding and inserting circulars, stamping and sealing envelopes, etc.

Your attention is also called to the fact that there is a department in Rothschild's store, State and Van Buren Streets, Chicago, for the sale of goods made by the blind, and that a more extensive patronage of this department would be a great help to many struggling blind workers. These goods include woven rugs, hammocks, baskets of various graceful forms, and fancy articles (crocheted and knitted shawls, center pieces, babies' socks, hoods and jackets, and bead-work necklaces, napkin rings, boxes, hatpin holders, and ornaments). They will be found to be artistic in design and of excellent quality and workmanship.

The foregoing three-fold advertisement has the cordial endorsement of the following members of the University of Chicago faculty: Professors Thomas C. Chamberlin, Rollin D. Salisbury, Forest R. Moulton, Samuel W. Williston, Stuart Weller, Wallace W. Atwood, Harlan H. Barrows, Albert Johannsen and Mr. William P. Gorsuch.

If you are interested and wish further information, address

**CHARLES E. COMSTOCK,**

Teacher of the Adult Blind,

4424 Berkeley Ave., Chicago.

(Phone Oakland 4676)



A few thoroughly proficient musicians desire pupils in voice culture and theory. Skilled masseurs and piano tuners wish employment and certain other blind people would be glad of an opportunity to do such manual work as folding and inserting circulars, stamping and sealing envelopes, etc.

Your attention is also called to the fact that there is a department in Rothschild's store, State and Van Buren Streets, Chicago, for the sale of goods made by the blind, and that a more extensive patronage of this department would be a great help to many struggling blind workers. These goods include woven rugs, hammocks, baskets of various graceful forms, and fancy articles, crocheted and knitted shawls, center pieces, babies' socks, hoods and jackets, and bead-work, necklaces, napkin rings, paper holders, and ornaments. They will be found to be artistic in design and of excellent quality and workmanship.

The foregoing three-fold advertisement has the cordial endorsement of the following members of the University of Chicago faculty: Professors Thomas C. Chamberlin, Rollin D. Salisbury, Forest R. Moulton, Samuel W. Williston, Stuart Wallace, Wallace W. Wood, Hylan H. Barrows, Albert Johanson and Mr. William P. Gersbach.

If you are interested and wish further information, address

CHARLES E. COMSTOCK

Teacher of the Adult Blind

4423 Berkeley Ave., Chicago

(Phone Oakland 4620)



7  
Chicago, Nov. 2, 1911.

My dear Mr. Robertson:--

I received your letter of yesterday, and wish to thank you for the assistance you offer to give me. It is gratifying to know that you feel that I am capable of doing the work I have taken up, and that you are willing to recommend me to others. Any suggestions that you may, at any time, make, as to what further steps I might take to secure employment will be gratefully received. You may be sure that I appreciate every effort made in my interest, even if it does not immediately result in securing the desired ends.

I herewith send you the circular I spoke of in my previous letter. It speaks for itself.

Thanking you again for your kindness, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

Amanda Manske.

5703 Drexel Ave.



4  
Chicago, Nov. 2, 1911.

My dear Mr. Robertson:--

I received your letter of yesterday, and wish to thank you for the assistance you offer to give me. It is gratifying to know that you feel that I am capable of doing the work I have taken up, and that you are willing to recommend me to others. Any suggestions that you may, at any time, make, as to what further steps I might take to secure employment will be gratefully received. You may be sure that I appreciate every effort made in my interest, even if it does not immediately result in securing the desired ends.

I herewith send you the circular I spoke of in my previous letter. It speaks for itself.

Thanking you again for your kindness, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

Amanda Menzies.

5703 Drexel Ave.



Chicago, Oct. 30, 1911

My dear Mr. Robertson:--

You probably no longer remember me, but I think you will, when I tell you that I was in one of your English composition classes, several years ago. I am writing you now to ask if you would be kind enough to speak a word for me, if you should happen to hear of any one who has stenographic work to do. I am sure you realize that we, who do not see well, have only a very limited field in which to work, and so find it extremely difficult to secure employment. Furthermore, there prevails, among people in general, a strong prejudice against the work of blind people, and many still cling to the old idea that, as soon as a person loses his sight, he also loses his mind, and is, henceforth, incapable of being of any earthly use either to himself or others. Consequently, a word or two from those who know us and have worked with us, often goes far to persuade people to give us the work we desire.

I have finished my under-graduate work at the University, having received my degree in June. I should have liked nothing better than to have continued my studies this year, but circumstances make it imperative that I engage in some sort of employment before returning to college.

As early as March, I began applying for the position of literary teacher at the schools for the blind; but as no vacancies had occurred, nor were expected to occur, I was un-



Chicago, Oct. 30, 1911

My dear Mr. Robertson:--

You probably no longer remember me, but I think you will, when I tell you that I was in one of your English composition classes, several years ago. I am writing you now to ask if you would be kind enough to speak a word for me, if you should happen to hear of any one who has stenographic work to do. I am sure you realize that we, who do not see well, have only a very limited field in which to work, and as find it extremely difficult to secure employment. Furthermore, there prevail, among people in general, a strong prejudice against the work of blind people, and many still cling to the old idea that, as soon as a person loses his sight, he also loses his mind, and is, henceforth, incapable of being of any earthly use either to himself or others. Consequently, a word or two from those who know us and have worked with us, often goes far to persuade people to give us the work we desire.

I have finished my undergraduate work at the University, having received my degree in June. I should have liked nothing better than to have continued my studies this year, but circumstances make it imperative that I engage in some sort of employment before returning to college.

As early as March, I began applying for the position of literary teacher at the schools for the blind; but as no vacancies had occurred, nor were expected to occur, I was un-



successful. Although I have my application in every school for the blind in the United States, there is absolutely no prospect of my securing employment as teacher for at least a year, and probably not then, as all the appointments have, by this time, been made, and teachers do not, as a rule, resign during the school term. Besides, there are few superintendents who are willing to appoint an inexperienced teacher.

Being, therefore, obliged to abandon my long cherished hope of becoming a teacher of the blind, I took up the Braille short-hand system, in the summer, with the hope of securing employment as stenographer. I have not yet applied for a position down-town, because I thought it better to try first to get something done at the University, or, at least, in this neighborhood. It would be much easier for me to get to my work here, and furthermore, it is here that I have my friends and recommendations.

Inasmuch as I am only a beginner, and so have not yet acquired the speed of an experienced stenographer, I am willing to begin for five or six dollars a week. If there is any one who feels that he cannot employ a stenographer for all day, I shall be glad to work part of the day, as I might be able to fill in the rest of the day with work elsewhere. Besides, something is better than nothing. I am also willing to do piece-work, charging by the page. It may be possible that there are some



unsuccessful. Although I have my application in every school for the blind in the United States, there is absolutely no prospect of my securing employment as teacher for at least a year, and probably not then, as all the appointments have, by this time, been made, and teachers do not, as a rule, resign during the school term. Besides, there are few superintendents who are willing to appoint an inexperienced teacher.

Being, therefore, obliged to abandon my long cherished hope of becoming a teacher of the blind, I took up the Braille short-hand system, in the summer, with the hope of securing employment as stenographer. I have not yet applied for a position down-town, because I thought it better to try first to get something done at the University, or, at least, in this neighborhood. It would be much easier for me to get to my work here, and furthermore, it is here that I have my friends and recommendations.

Inasmuch as I am only a beginner, and so have not yet acquired the speed of an experienced stenographer, I am willing to begin for five or six dollars a week. If there is any one who feels that he cannot employ a stenographer for all day, I shall be glad to work part of the day, as I might be able to fill in the rest of the day with work elsewhere. Besides, something is better than nothing. I am also willing to do piece-work, charging by the page. It may be possible that there are some



who have work only occasionally or who, having no machine or office, are unable to employ a girl regularly. In such cases, I could come and take the dictation of several persons, say, in the morning, transcribe it on my typewriter at home, in the afternoon, and return it the following morning. I use the Remington typewriters. My work is, of course, limited to dictation. I could, in addition, answer the phone, stamp envelopes, fold circulars, etc.

I have filled a temporary position, at the University Press, working for Miss Chamberlain, during the busy season, when extra help was needed. Miss Chamberlain has kindly given me leave to refer to her any who desire references, and said she would be glad to tell them what sort of work she thinks I can do. Miss Daisy Heath, 5412 Ixington Ave., will also be glad to supply, at any time, whatever further information my work is desired.

I intended enclosing a circular which explains the work of blind stenographers more fully than I have done; but as I have none with me at present, I shall be obliged to send it later. If, at any time, you should chance to hear of some one who has work that I can do, you can reach me by calling up Mrs. Bevins, Midway 3282. I can arrange to call at almost any time.

Please do not regard this letter as a specimen of my



who have work only occasionally or who, having no machine or office, are unable to employ a girl regularly. In such cases, I could come and take the dictation of several persons, say, in the morning, transcribe it on my typewriter at home, in the afternoon, and return it the following morning. I use the Remington typewriters. My work is, of course, limited to dictation. I could, in addition, answer the phone, stamp envelopes, fold circulars, etc.

I have filled a temporary position at the University Press, working for Miss Chamberlain, during the busy season, when extra help was needed. Miss Chamberlain has kindly given me leave to refer to her any who desire references, and said she would be glad to tell them what sort of work she thinks I can do. Miss Daisy Heath, 5412 Lexington Ave., will also be glad to supply, at any time, whatever further information my work is desired.

I intended enclosing a circular which explains the work of blind stenographers more fully than I have done; but as I have none with me at present, I shall be obliged to send it later. If, at any time, you should have to hear of some one who has work that I can do, you can reach me by calling up Mrs. Revins, Midway 3282. I can arrange to call at almost any time.

Please do not regard this letter as a specimen of my



typewriting, as I was obliged to write it on an old #2 machine, which does not do good work, and which, is, moreover, greatly in need of repairs.

Hoping that I am not troubling you too much, and thanking you for whatever assistance you may be able to render me, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

Amanda Manske.

5703 Drexel Ave.



Typewriting, as I was obliged to write it on an old #2 machine,  
which does not do good work, and which, is, moreover, greatly  
in need of repairs.

Hoping that I am not troubling you too much, and  
Thanking you for whatever assistance you may be able to render

me, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

Amanda Menaker.

5703 Drexel Ave.



Chicago, October 31, 1911.

My dear Miss Manske:-

I shall be very glad indeed to refer to you anyone who desires the kind of assistance you are prepared to give. I may say that although you apologize for the form of your letter because of its having been done on an old number two machine, it is a very good piece of work. I am dropping a line to some of the offices calling attention to your willingness to take up dictation.

Sincerely yours,

D. A. Robertson  
Secretary to the President  
Secretary to the President.

Miss Amanda Manske,  
5703 Drexel Ave.  
Chicago.

*a blind student*



Chicago, October 31, 1911.

My dear Miss Hanks:-

I shall be very glad indeed to refer to you anyone who desires the kind of assistance you are prepared to give. I may say that although you apologize for the form of your letter because of its having been done on an old number two machine, it is a very good piece of work. I am dropping a line to some of the offices calling attention to your willingness to take up dictation.

Sincerely yours,

D. A. Robertson  
Secretary to the President  
Secretary to the President.

Miss Amanda Hanks,  
2703 Drake Ave.  
Chicago.

A blind student