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Dear Joy

Until Lil reminded me and we both had a good laugh about it I forgot to tell you the real truth about the guest appearance on the Steve Allen Show. Lil may have been ~~in~~ the only person ever introduced on a coast-to-coast broadcast who was not there. In the theater but not in the wings to walk in on cue!

After she became the national chicken-cooking "Queen" there were a number of such appearances. We were both on the first coast-to-coast morning TV show the next morning, Will Rogers, Jr.'s. *CBS*

The 13 poultry princesses of the northeastern poultry states were also on that Allen show. Remember, that was 1956 or 1957. These were pretty girls from rural areas and there then had been no bikinis or miniskirts accepted. They were told to have cocktail dresses for the Allen show and probably some had bought them for that appearance. But once the show was started one of the young producers insisted that the girls display all the flesh possible in very skimpy costumes for that day. Some were embarrassed, fearing the reaction back home. And Lil was one of their chaperones. If I recall correctly she and I were to look out for about half of them. In any event, some protested to Lil, she spoke to the hot-shot young producer who had probably cooked up that change, and he stalled and Lil said that unless the girls could go on as earlier agreed to she'd not. And she didn't! Allen did introduce her from his cue cards but she was not there. Some of the girls did go on in the skimpy costumes, we do not know now whether all did.

But she did make a number of personal, radio and TV appearances <sup>*the year*</sup> ~~the year~~ of her queen-ship.

This coming Thursday Lil has a dental appointment. We can make it without rushing if we quit at 11 but if you think you may want to go into more and want to start earlier, fine.

Best,

*Harold*