



Laura Jane Musser and
family papers.

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Sunday
2:30 P. M.

Dear Laura Jane.

My humble apologies for not writing to you soon! I have not been feeling up to par, so I had to ignore my letter-writing completely. As you most probably know, the day after Christmas I had a tonsillectomy. The operation itself wasn't as bad as I had expected it to be, but the after effects proved to be anything but enjoyable. I lost my speech completely for ten days. I had hoped to see you while at home, but I didn't dare get out of the house.

And Laura Jane, I don't know how to begin thanking you for that lovely Christmas card and letter and the enclosed gift. With the check I bought a purple sweater. Each time I wear it I think of you. When I worked

at your home I felt that I could
never do enough for you.

I realize Laura Jane, that this
is a terribly short note but
I have to rush this along and get
busy with school work.

Affectionately yours,
Mary

Dear Laura Jane.

I am very sure you are enjoying your trip. It seems very lonesome here without you. Has Laurence tried to carry on any more conversations with the French people? I wish you a very happy birth-day. We have played tennis 2 or 3 times on your court. The Methodist ^{& our} choir sang "God so Loved the World" at the Back Laureate services. We went swimming for the first time ~~Monday~~ Monday

I hope you are having a
very nice time in New York.
~~I don't~~ Doesn't the noise of
~~New~~ ^{New} York seem different
from the peace and quiet
of Little Falls? I imagine
you are meeting lots of
people and making friends
with lots of boys & girls.
I'm not very crazy about
Lillian's new fountain pen
because now my hands
look like a mud puddle
made of ink. I will be
in the seventh grade this
fall and I hope I can
like it as well as I
liked the 4, 5, and 6th grades.
I suppose the work

will be harder and harder.
One thing I am quite well
equipped for is cooking.
I made (I mean tried to
make) some Mexican Caramels.
It was the worst mess
I ever saw. When I saw
Leony feeding it to Dotty
I felt sure the poor
dog would die but she
didn't. We are trying to fix
the side yard now. The
bank with all the trees
is going to turn into a
rock garden. We are having
our Sunday School picnic
Wednesday. We are to bring
a cake & I am going to
make it.

We are taking Isabel &
Linnea with us, I
shall be glad to see
you back.

Oodles of love
Curly (Julie)

P. S.

Curly, as you will
remember, is my
Birch Lake nick-name.

Dear Laura Jane - Wed

I phoned the Buckingham
last eve and learned
you had returned from
Europe and gone to Minn.

Sorry to have missed you.
Have been at Whitlock
quite a bit this summer.

My sister from Chicago,
Mrs Regtweyer, & her hus-
band, spent over a week
with me there, and we had
such a nice time. All
my special guests use
the patch work quilt you
gave me and they enjoy
it too. It is so attractive.
We also went to our first
square dance, fair etc.

Hope you had an int-
eresting trip. You must

have been² delighted
with the things you
saw. I'm not sure
which countries you
covered. The weather
here now is very com-
fortable. Well, I'm
glad to know you
are back safe &
sound. Love to you
and the family
Gerda



I shall be free for a
little vacation. All the
long week end I worked
with the philosophy of
Duns Scotus & St. Thomas, etc.
Rose & I are going to
arrange for your coming
up to Boston in the
fall. Shall I forward
a letter to you at the Hotel
So you get one abroad? Love
Ruth

June 5

Dear Laura Jane,

Only a brief note today
to send you Joan & Roger's
address—— for a chat
should you feel lonesome
in Stockholm.

Your plans for the
whole journey sound most

Sorry I couldn't go
to New York to have
a short visit with you
this week — but the
work at the University
has been completely
time-absorbing. The last
exam is Sat. forenoon. Then

wonderful. Hope every
moment is richly
happy for you!

Your plans for Miss
Theobald's coming to Little
Falls are lovely — more
about that later! Your
sharing the beautiful is
of your very essence.

Burtrum Minn
July 11-
Dear Laura Jane: I fully intended
having a letter for you when
you sailed but interrup-
tions came & I "missed the
boat"

So I hope you will be
furnished with this little
missive which brings you
our love & greetings & the
hope that your summer
will be a very happy &
profitable one.

It takes courage to go on
a voyage these days & I
trust peace will come to
the earth very soon! Such a degree
of uncertainty hovers over us!
I see that idea in my sons.
"If I don't have to go!"

I went in town with Mr. N.
Saturday & while he visited the
barber I ran in to see your
mother. She was realizing that
you were sailing & was feeling
rather low.

Wish we could have more
such experiences.

We are all wishing you
very much joy and know
you will bring us back much
inspiration.

Facelyn enjoyed your dolls
so much. (Margaret too)

Love & best wishes

Sincerely

Josie Belle Orth

We had a sweet little visit
& I came away as I always
do when I spend a few
moments with her, uplifted &
strengthened.

We were in town today & I
knew all the Musser family
were at the lake & it was
nice to know they were
vacationing but the town
seemed vacant.

Our Walter came up over
the week end & we all loved
having him. He left yesterday
- makes the drive - about six
hundred miles in ten hours -
too fast.

I was sorry we didn't have
more time to visit with you.

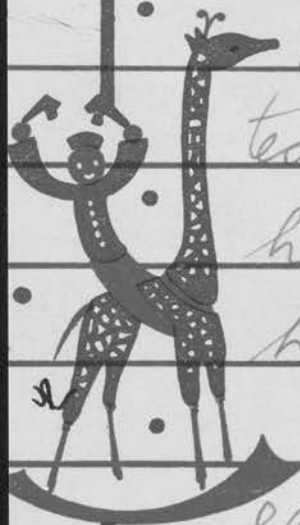
I loved that little visit with
you & your mother in her
room that day - I had a feeling
of exultation all the way
home, I really felt we were
attained to the higher realm.



Dear Aunt Lottsie,

I am sorry I have ^{not} written to you sooner, but I have been very busy with my new teacher from England. He is our Maths and Science teacher. I am now in the 7th grade and I have 4 teachers altogether. Mr. Jones our Maths and Science teacher, Mrs. Langmann our English teacher, and Madame Colombard our French teacher, and Mrs. Gonska (we call her Miss Maria because we knew her before she was married, and we are used to calling her Miss Maria) she is our art teacher.

I have learned new subjects in Maths

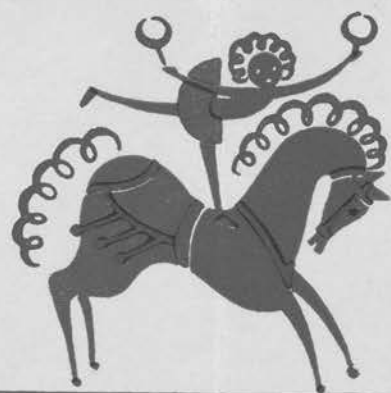


like Algebra, Geometry, and Mensuration,
and old Arithmetic. I wish you were here
to help me with my homework. For Mr.
Jones wants to give us high school work.
And the difference between last year and
this year is very different.

{ 1. last year we were ^{allowed} ~~about~~ to wear pants
2. this year Mr. Jones thinks it is not lady-
like to wear pants. (true, but when it is cold)?

{ 3. last year we would call our teacher by
his first name (Jack) [- we would only
call him ~~by~~ his last name (Goldstein) when
visitors came, but in a funny way it would
sound very funny to call him by his last
name.] (do not approve)

{ 4. This year we address Mr. Jones as 'sir'.



5. last year we (us girls) could play basketball, baseball, soccer and other games with the boys.

6. but this year we cannot. Really, because the boys are to ^{rough} stuff. But sometimes we get to play games that are not so ^{rough} stuff.... (etc)... (without boys)

But just the same I like Mr. Jones because he is jokeful and gay.

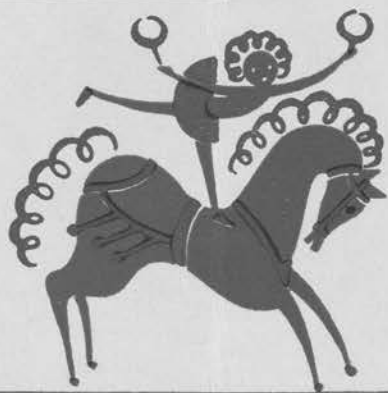
We go to the "Y.M.C.A." (swimming and gym ex association). We go there every Wednesday from 1:00-4:00.

And when we get there we have to go to the locker room to change our clothes. First we go swimming



and after swimming we change and go to ^{have} gymnastics. It is a lot of fun and I can in the deep water but cannot dive off the diving board yet.

Wednesday, first thing in the morning when I ^{arrived} ~~got~~ ~~at~~ school I talked to the whole class about 'Birds.' You see all of us kids in the 7th grade were supposed to pick a subject on anything ~~they~~ ^{we} would like and ~~to~~ talk about this subject for 10 minutes. My subject was birds and I studied at home from a book and then at school I showed some pictures of different birds and told ~~there~~ ^{their} names and characteristics. (without reading from the book of course).



I received your letter and thank you
very much for the beautiful handkerchief
and check. I have a picture for you
but I can not send it in the letter
because it has glass over it and it is
framed. When you come to visit I will give
it to you.

love, and Kisses

Norma



P.S: Please excuse my
writing but my hand hurts
me when I ~~write~~ ^{write} so much,

but I enjoy writing to you and I wish
I had more to tell you to make
up for the months that went by with-
out me sending you a letter [Phone: OL-7-8275]

P.S.S: I also take sewing lessons in Jamaica for 2 hours every Saturday (except before Christmas and before New Year).

I finished (just about), a blue dress that I sewed by sewing machine. I am also making another red, corduroy dress but have not finished it yet.

I also take Piano and Dancing lessons in Parkway Village. Mrs. Arinaldo is my piano teacher. I am now play the "Unfinished Symphony", and the "Waltz" and the "Yarantela", and the "Turkish March", and "On Wings of Song", and "Alphonse et Gaston", and the "Minuet".

My dancing teacher is Mrs. Nelson. At the recital we will dance to the "Nutcracker Suite".

Mrs. David Betts

Dearest Laura Jane,

After two attempts of talking with you by phone failed I decided to send a note to thank a very sweet person for a lovely handkerchief.

I shall have it with me often and think of you then and many other times.

My warmest wishes to you.

Love,

December twenty-second. Jessie

Dear Laura Jane,

My sabbatical in London is proving a fascinating one. Study is pleasant, the teacher is splendid. Also I have heard a great deal and seen much. To be on the island where the Atlantic seal rots & rears its young, was a thrill! I got baby seals & took loads of pictures! Before I return in July I hope to see some of the continent as well.

Hoping you & your Dad are fine.

My best to both—

Love, too,

Irene Johnson

Valentine's
CLOTH & GOLD
CHRISTMAS
CARDS
MADE IN GREAT BRITAIN



Creetings



An old, old wish this card conveys,
For year's content and happy days;
Christmas joy and right good cheer,
Be yours to-day and through the year!



Your Christmas surprise
was delightful —
You are much too
generous!

Let's get together
when you return to

For your Christmas thought
And the pleasure it brought...

Thanks and a Happy New Year
Louise Holzer

New York.

Mr. Feick + Mr. Sawyer
look forward to your
visit.

Thanks so much and
a Merry Christmas!

5NY262
NORCROSS
NEW YORK

R. H.

thank
you

GREETINGS



A Gibson Card
GIBSON CINTI., U. S. A.

Dear Miss Musser: -

I want to thank
you for the Christmas
gift of \$3.00 you left
for me with Mrs. Lederer
I appreciate it
very much

Wishing you a
very pleasant &
holiday

Sincerely
Elizabeth Hughes

Buckingham
Telephone operator.

Just want to say
"Hello" to you,
And "A very Merry
Christmas" too!

Sunday morning

Honey:

Eli and I spent all of Thursday and Friday in Northfield, coming home weary and exhausted each day. Yesterday I had to go down town on business, and tried to locate you at the hotel, but no record there. I was ~~so~~ SO concerned after visiting with you on the phone. Why you allow yourself to get so upset and disturbed and go through such mental turmoil I cannot understand. Don't you know that even big important ~~xxxx~~ things are not worth it, especially little trivial incidents? And the saddest thing is that you seem to feel they are INTENTIONAL, while I feel absolutely positive they are not, things just sometimes work out differently than we plan, and for your own physical good, you MUST not allow yourself to get upset.

I cannot tell you how sorry I am not to have written last week as I promised, ~~xxx~~ with suggestions of things to stress at the meeting tonight, but we worked so furiously those 2 days at Northfield, that I don't know how I had the strength to get into bed. However, I hope the meeting goes well, and you really did have sufficient information and exhibits for the central theme. Do let me know the result. You know, this is a phase of education, which always must go forward slowly, so do not be discouraged if the results are not visible right away. The important thing to me is that all of us UNDERSTAND each other, and that we all UNITE in SERVING GOD, each independently and in his own way. It would be too bad if we all had to drive Fords or Cadillacs, and all had to take the same highway. It seems to me that God's concern is not the road we take, but what we do along the road to help other travelers that counts. I would be so proud to be there tonight to observe the meeting because I know you will conduct it skillfully and fairly.

I've such an avalanche of work ahead for the next ~~xx~~ two weeks that just thinking about it frightens me, but shall have to take it one thing at a time. My brother's daughter became engaged this week, which of course caused quite a little excitement, she is such a darling girl, and of course, ecstatically happy now. ~~Her~~ Her young man is in service, they do not plan to marry soon, she is returning for her junior year at Wisconsin U next week.

Please do think about some of the matters we discussed while I was ~~xxx~~ with you, dear. Both ~~x~~ your parents need your companionship and your love, and as you have probably read many times, sometimes those we love best we hurt most -- entirely unintentionally. I am sure they want you with ~~xxxx~~ them as much as you want to be with them, so do try to

enjoy them and your home this winter. With the four of you there all winter, you, Alice, mother and dad, you should have a good bridge game going much of the time, and with your other interests, should keep happy and contented, and the cities are so close that for entertainment you can always slip down, if you miss the theatre, concert or other forms of entertainment. I think you owe it to yourself and to your parents to give it a GOOD test this winter, and I am sure you will find the reward most gratifying. Try not to be too precise about plans for things, but relax and be CASUAL, you will find everyone will be happier, including yourself. You cannot tie yourself up in a knot and be happy at the same time.

After sober and considerable thinking, honey, about many of the matters we discussed, I do feel that perhaps you have magnified more or less the attitudes about you. I know that with myself, trivialities of which I was never even conscious in my busy, working years, now loom up like great walls that fence me in, it is not that things are any different, it is simply that I, with nothing to occupy my mind and time, give it FAR too much importance and attention. And so with you and with all of us, keep your mind on the REALLY important things you want to accomplish, and let the rest fall where it may, and DON'T get yourself all worked up into a lather about ANYTHING.

Any time you want to come down, or want to spend a little time with me, remember I am always here, and happy to have a visit together. And please tell Pauline for me how much I enjoyed her wonderfully delicious food. I had fully intended to go in to say goodbye to her, but when so many people converged there on the porch all at once, it was a little confusing. She was so nice, and I'm glad we at least had one little visit together. Really, all of you were so cordial, I can't tell you how I appreciated it. And our visit around the grounds was such a joy. You have many, many things to be grateful for, dear, so try to think of them daily, and enjoy them and your family.

With much love,

Echel

Dear Laura Jane,

I received a letter from you
around Easter, and I am terribly
sorry I didn't answer sooner. Please
forgive me.

I have never had a busier semester
than this past one. Now that it is
over I shall find some time for myself -
that is after final Exams. I shall
be finished with my exams on June 14,
and will leave for Little Falls immediately.
I'm so lonesome for my family I could
just about die. School gets quite
boring after awhile.

15 B16894

AN American Greeting CARD
CLEVELAND © U.S.A.



You wanna know
what you can do
To make me mighty glad?

Just have
the nicest Birthday
You've ever, ever had!

Love,

Bernadine

OVER

This semester I took Physics, Pharmaceutical Organic Chemistry, Public Health, and Economics.

The physics & Chemistry took up all of my time, and I'm certainly glad I am finished with them.

I am going to Summer School again this summer, so I shan't have a long stay in Little Falls. I have to be back June 27.

I had such a nice visit with you at Xmas, and I can hardly wait to see you again in a few weeks.

My cousin Shirley, the one I live with, was married March 1, and my cousin Betty, Aunt Cleo's daughter, is getting married June 25, on the same day my best girl friend in Detroit is getting married. She's the one you met at school with me. I shall soon be the only one left.

Well Laura Jane, I shall see you soon in Little Falls.

Love,

Bernadine

May 22nd

Dear Laura Jane! Please pardon
my delay in writing and thank-
ing you for your Easter
greeting and dainty basket.
I appreciated your thoughtfulness
of me -

Recently I have taken the agency
for a wide variety of Magazines
and have been very busy con-
tacting for subscriptions and
renewals.

Grace sends me clippings from
the Transcript - Items about
the few people I know in Little
Falls now, most of the names
are strange. She told me of the
concert you are planning
there in November. It would
be sad to think that the Musical
Art Club had disbanded were
it not for the fact that those
you desire can so easily
Motor to the cities and hear

The artists appearing there.

I am so glad you are in New York and can hear and see all the splendid things there.

I enjoy hearing of your associations and studies, write soon and tell me the recent things you have seen and done.

Yours again — Lovingly
Laura B.





Falsterbo. Strandhotellet.



Foto & ensamlr: Berndt Johansson, Malmö.

Dear Laura Jane, June 18.
Sweden is a lovely
country, I'm sure
you will enjoy it
very much.

The people are very
friendly and know
how to make you
feel at home.

Falsterbo is a summer
resort in the very
southern part. My
aunt lives near Malmö
and some of her friends
drove us down there.
Have a nice trip.
Love you,
Sincerely, Margaret Johnson

Forlag: Berndt Johnson, Malmö. Nr B. 51



Miss Laura Jane Muses
Buckingham Hotel
New York
New York
USA

May all the Joy
And the Beauty
Of that still, Holy Night
Be with you

At Christmastime
And make the whole year bright!

Sincerely,
Rosemary Petronie

(over)

Dear Laura Jane,

How are you and
are you teaching music?
I only hear from my
old friends at Christmas
time so I never hear
much news.

Our baby boy, Mark
Valentine, was born Oct. 19,
5 weeks too soon. He is
coming along fine now
and beginning to look
like something! He Tammy
will be three in Jan. We
are planning to get her
a phonograph for her
birthday and start a
collection of records.

wanted like to enroll
her in the "Children's
Record a Month Guild"
but may wait a
year for that. Some
day we hope to have
a piano. Wish you
were in Wash. and
Tam could take
lessons from you!

What do you think
of Howard Mitchell
the conductor of the
Wash. National Symphony?
The orchestra certainly
has its financial
troubles.

Best wishes for
a grand holiday
season.

Sincerely,
Rosemary

Wednesday Morning.

Dearest Samma Jane: -

I hope you are remembering you are to be the speaker at the C. E. this Sunday. I couldn't come how get in touch with you up to now, so I sent your ~~name~~ name in to the

church calendar anyway.
Hope you are well.
Anthony and I are the
sen Hostesses again so
will look for you at
Teatime.

Love -

Margaret Belsky

My dearest Laura Jane,

At long last - a breathing spell when I can sit down and have another rambling chat with you - as you know, I never pretend to write an-orderly letter - I just skip from this to that - but then, you don't mind, I'm sure. Why, I even had to snatch this paper from Mary Lee's drawing tablet - but who cares between friends whether it's Cranes or not - I'm just lucky to find something left at all what with this little so-called "artist" in our family - even envelopes melt away!

First of all - must toot the family horn ... on January 17, came the full-dress show and Susan Ann was born - so, now we are the proud parents of two lovely daughters. She made her debut at seven pounds 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs., so you see she got a pretty good start in life. And, if you will hide that smile of yours, I'll risk the stigma of all new parents and say that - she is just a darling and so pretty. Mary Lee is going to be the blue-eyed blonde and Susan Ann will be the darker eyed brown-ette, as her father says! We had a merry old time after we got home. She picked up some bug in the hospital and after three weeks of constant crying - no sleep for us either - we took her back to the hospital for six days and now she is getting along just beautifully. We brought her home last Thursday and what with the few little re-adjustments you'd expect, she has been good as gold - what's better, content herself and not having tummy troubles. Honestly, we were about to give up the ship ourselves for you can do just so much and then you are helpless if they don't respond. But - that's all over - I hope - and we are enjoying her so much.

Mary Lee just loves her little sister to pieces and we haven't as yet had any problems over the newest member. I must say that no little girl could be more helpful - sometimes too much so. But her little heart means well and she can hardly wait for Sue Ann to grow enough so that she can really play with her.

Now - late as usual - but none the less sincere - thank you so much for the unusual bracelet you sent me at Christmas time and Mary Lee said before she went to bed to send you a big kiss and hug for the hankies from her Aunt Lotsie. I do so hope that you can plan to visit us one of these days. Mary Lee had heard about "Aunt Lotsie" and of course she can't understand why she can't see you. We must do something about that - really make plans. I'd love to see you again and I think you'd enjoy my little family, too.

Your letter was so full of interest and in truth, gave me a short "visit" in New York. What a grand time you are having along with the work, too. If it were only in the budget and some good fairy would wave her wand and care for my brood - how I'd love to pop in on you for a few days and have you show me the sights. Wouldn't that be fun? Oh well - it's only a pleasant thought, but who knows - sometimes even wishful thinking can come true. Much as I love my life, you can't blame a gal for wanting to kick up her heels once in awhile - at least mentally!

I had a letter from Mother today and all seems to be well in Tucson. Dad has licked a slight case of the flu and fortunately Mother didn't come down with it. Seems that colds and flu have really hit the whole nation. This town is full of it. My Aunt Olive has been having a hard time with virus - even a trip to Rochester hasn't found the solution. I've tried to talk her into going South this winter, but you can't budge her. She hates to go alone, but I can't

go with her much as I might like to help even in that way.

Mother said that she expected the Haatvedts to stop on their way home within the next week or so. Eleanor has a new baby, too - think it was another little girl. Rosemary and her husband are in San Diego for the winter - and that's about all the news I know from Little Falls. I never hear from Joyce or Marge any longer - oh, a card at Christmas, but I guess we all get so busy that we don't get our thoughts on paper.

In May we will be moving into a larger home - thank goodness! We've loved this little home, but it's just too small. We had hoped to build but it's just out of the question now - as anyone can understand what with these so-and-so taxes! This house has eight rooms plus a sleeping porch, two side porches and pantry - and lots of closets! We are going to make some changes and do some re-decorating which will be a lot of fun. It has worlds of possibilities and we have spent the last month making lists of what to do and when. The yard is lovely and will give the children a place for play and me a spot for gardening. You know how I love to putter though I don't have a true "green thumb".

I hardly dare mention this for fear of what will happen - but there seems to be a hint of an early Spring in the air. The past few days have been wonderful - so bright, sunny and quite warm. Everyone is pussy-footing around with that I can't-believe-it look on their faces and afraid to mention it for fear we'll be buried in snow the next minute. Last year March was our worst month - so, we're keeping our fingers crossed. Lots of my tulips are up and I've seen a robin. Could be the gods are smiling this year and will give us mortals a break. Anyway, each day is getting closer to the end of winter!

Well, my dear, I must make some more formula, start another load of diapers and put the dog out for an airing...before he sprinkles my carpet. Do write when you can and I'll send pictures of the wee one as soon as we have some good, clear ones. Send my love to your parents when you write - I think of them many times and fondly.

Much love to you,

Shirley

7/ Miss Laura Lane Musser
Barfegor Plaza Hotel
Room 1529/

Ali-Kuli Khan
(Nabil-ed-Dowleh)
New York City

Ali-Kuli Khan

(Nabil-ed-Dowleh)

New York City -19-

Ducted.

127 - W. Fifty - Eighth Street.

Dear Miss Messer.

My daughter, Margie
Gail, wants very much to
see you, about an impor-
tant matter, regarding

Marnie Anderson.
Kindly telephone me at the
office, - Circle 6 - 3257
about half-past two o'clock
this afternoon. Margie will
be at our apt. between 4.30 p.m.
& 5 o'clock, today, as you can make
another appointment with her. -
With best wishes from us all,
Sincerely,
Ali-Kuli Khan



IT'S HERE
AGAIN!

May yours be a
MERRY /
one /

Dear Laura Jane,
You have no idea
How much I've enjoyed
your cards. Teaching is a

hard gone but getting your miles and others
compensates for all the worries one has while
on the job.

You must have had some interesting
experiences since you left Little Falls. I'd
love to spend a winter in New York, I think
I'd see every play there. I do miss Minneapolis
in that way. Int. Falls is so very different
from other places I have been but I do
enjoy it. I have been here seven years now
and feel I can take the out looks as well
as the average "lumberjack" —

Are your folks still living? I remember
how much I used to enjoy being at your
home for dinners. Your folks were both
such charming people. I've heard that
May is married — where does she live?

It has been so long since I've been at
L. F. even tho I do have a car. It seems
I'm always in a rush when I do happen
to go through there. I do hear from Adeline Bell

at Christmas yet.

I usually spend my
summers on the go but
my mother has been
poorly the last two years
so I've stayed pretty
close to Minnesota.

Presume you will be
home for Christmas so will
send this to that address.

Thank you again.

AMERICAN
HERBERT DUBLIN INC., NEW YORK
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10 XH 206

Sincerely,
Joan H.



Slumwood Spring
Colorado

Dearest Laura Lane!

July

Your sweet letter gave me a prove that you feel happy to be home again and that you liked my dinner and my company. Thank you and I do hope we will have a good time back in New-York again.

We are enjoying Slumwood-Spring very much with its hot Sulfer-Swimming pool and the lovely situated place between green mountains. We could not interrupt our trip up to here, because we rented a little house from July first on and the time was too short. But on the way back to New York, if we should decide to drive ~~back~~ by car again - we will be delighted to visit you people in little Falls around beginning of September. We shall let you know in time. Have a wonderful summer and much love and good wishes

from us both to you and
your lovely parents, yours

Stepz

The Runnys address is:
120 East 64th St. N.Y.

Did I tell you to get
your ticket at the N.W.
counter at the airport?

Be there 3:30 -

departure 4:15. Tuesday

"Pansies bring
friendly thoughts"

arrive N.Y.

Idleness

10:40

Sorry I couldn't

be there the other day but David
is quite insistent! It was so
nice to see you - wish we
could have had more chance
to visit -

Hope you have the Stratosphere
as much as I do - The trip
simply wonderful -

Have a lovely birthday
+ I'll be thinking of you -
much love Helen

Chilton
1958

AIR MAIL
PAR Avion



Miss Laura Jane Musser
Pinder Hill
Little Falls, Minnesota
U. S. A.

Mrs. L. B. Avrit

40 P. A. A.

Beirut
Lebanon

Much love to your father
and to you and best wishes
for a good New Year.
Sincerely,

40 P. A. A. Beirut
Jan. 9th

Dear Laura Jane.

It was very thoughtful of you
to remember me half a world
away out here - and I certainly
appreciate the check! Many
thanks. We have to restrain
ourselves forcibly from buying
the fascinating wares on every
side - Many of the same things
can be purchased in the
States but at a much higher
price of course. However the
44 lbs. of luggage allowed us

by Tourist Air neetrains us - we
always ask what we'll throw
away if we buy anything - Because
of customs & pilfering, etc. shipping
is not too successful. Now we have
a car - but we'll have to remember
we're flying back from France so
we won't load down the station
wagon en route. Just by sheer
coincidence - one of those "how small
the world is" events - Margy met her
cottage roommate here. She & her
sister had driven from France &
were going to go on east by air -
They couldn't sell the car for what
they wanted, so are trusting us
with it. Eventually we'll deliver
it in Le Havre for shipment to the
U.S. (Its ticket is already paid for)
so it's a wonderful break & we
are enjoying many side trips here.
Over Christmas we went to
Bethlehem & Jerusalem - a very
moving experience. This is a
fascinating country. We plan
to stay at least until March
altho' we have no definite
plans & could change them
any day! That's part of the fun -
However if you write, this
address we'll find us - By the
way, you spoke of my card - Hope
you also rec'd my letter (3 or 4 this
year actually! Only 1 plus Christmas
on the trip I think) Excuse my
scribbling. Writing on my lap. Would
love to hear how all goes there -

NEIGHBORHOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
LAGUNA BEACH, CALIFORNIA
PHILIP E. GREGORY, MINISTER
726 GLENNEYRE STREET

IV

hymns in our Hymnals. Hence -
"Necessity is the mother of invention".
I understand it is to be published
in Congregational Minnesota this
month, I hope you like it
Sally, and will be able to find
the tune "Dismissal" that tune
is in a former edition of The
Pilgrim Hymnal. I will improve
the hymn sometime: but at least,
we don't all die in the last
stanza as we do in the singing
of so many of our hymns.
The poem on the back of this page
I recently found in "The Christian
Century" & I'm going to use it
in my morning devotions a lot
this year. You & Drew use it
too. Harriet joins me in
sending our fondest love to
you all. Sincerely yours

Philip
[Gregory?]

"Yes, this is the time, my time and God's time!
And now I make the day good by the good I give it,
Every minute beautiful by the way I live it;
The morning is bright because of the way I greet it,
And everything is touched by loveliness from the way I meet it,
On then for my great day, onward I go,
And this becomes my great day because I make it so."

Sheldon Shephard,

1117 4th Street So.
Bemidji, Minnesota

Dear Friends:

One cannot help but find in the story of the birth of Christ, the note of joy and praise. This is remarkable when we remember that it was a dark time in Israel's history because of the Roman oppression and spiritual bondage caused by the empty ritual of priest and pharisee. Yet, when Jesus came, those who heard of it believingly, in every case, received the news with rejoicing. When Jesus comes to your heart and mine and is permitted to have His rightful place, he does bring joy and cause for praise regardless of the conditions around us.

John said, that Jesus came to be a light in the darkness. Let us keep Christ as supreme Lord and loving friend and the light of faith will shine brightly in our hearts and shed its light to others who are in darkness. Jesus said, "That in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

After the events of the past year, I have found nothing sensational: we have lived ordinary lives, enjoying friends, old and new, sharing with others in a small way and in turn being heaped with abundant blessings from both God and man.

As to temporal benefits the Lord has supplied this year for plastered cracks (I. Standleys and A. Dagmans) a better truck, heat runs, flooring, cess pool and drain, also additional wiring (Dad Bergman) and a piano (a result of prayer and a surprise birthday party).

In both Religious Instruction classes and the summer Youth Camp we had the privilege to pray with quite a number who were eager to give their hearts and lives to the Lord.

After spending March in Carrot River, John was called home to his sister Edith's funeral, April 9, then in June his mother was also called home to be with the Lord.

In May, Wilb Lemmen, his brother-in-law, and John went with Irv-ille Harrington by plane on a survey trip to Lynn Lake, a mining town. In August Ralph Smith, Wilb and John returned to build a gospel mission. When the Lemmens moved to Lynn Lake in Oct., Curt Berke and John helped again.

When school was out, Byron went again to work on the Levi Carlson farm where he has now spent 4 summers. All winter classes were disbanded and some one else was in charge of the P.P.'s prayer band. Hazel went with John to Canada to help in D.V.B.S., camp work and to fill in at Carrot River which is, at present, without a worker.

While John was in Lynn Lake in Aug., Hazel was thrilled to go on a grand holiday with the Chas Littles of Carrot River, Sask. to the Canadian Rockies. How thoughtful is the Lord's provision.

After taking Hazel back to the states and Byron was settled in his Junior year at school, John went to Churchill to help Jay Jennings on the chapel building. Wayne Born was also a great help. Wayne and Lois are leaving after Christmas to continue language study at Maguse.

On Thanksgiving Day we were showered with canned goods, a coat for John and a gift of money for the house from the Goodrich relation who had gathered at the home of the oldest sister, Cora.

Time and space will not permit to give the precious details of the loving thoughtfulness of our many dear friend. How we love you all!

May we not forget that it is not the things we touch and see that are the most valuable, but as we bestow the proper emphasis to these earthly gifts, the beauty of the eternal treasures are revealed.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. and Mrs. John Goodrich & Byron

Dear Laura Jane,

When we were in Little Falls in Nov. I was sorry I was unable to talk to you as we were at Mother's and Dad's place. But I realize you were more than busy getting ready for Marian's concert.

As I had had the privilege of hearing Marian before I wanted to hear her more than ever but we just could not afford to both of us attend and John wouldn't go without me so I had to be content with the "write up" in the Transcript which Cora sent me later. I also enjoyed the article about your attending opening night of the Metropolitan Opera and the dress rehearsal.

How is your "Green play house" coming along? I wish you would write to me sometimes.

May you have a blessed Christmas.

I recall with pleasure the Christmas afternoon we spent together during our H. S. days. How is your father? He greet him for me.

Lovingly,

Hazel