



Laura Jane Musser and
Family Papers.

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ML Kahn
1521 E 65th St
Chicago Ill



HIRE

IT'S GOOD

3 CENTS
3
HIRE
INDICAPPED
POSTAGE
STATES
BUSINESS

Miss Laura Jane Musser
Linden Hill
Little Falls Minn

Monday

Dear Laura Jane-

So glad to get your letter-
sorry your mother was ill
while you are home but nice
for her to have you there-

Only had 1 letter from
Ruth since I left but I know
how hecticly busy she must
have been- 1st concert was last
nite in Chattanooga - & tonight
in Greensboro N.C. then in West
Palm Beach Thursday the 12th -
Time moves on.

If you will be here in Chi.
for lunch-hour would be glad to
have lunch together - so let

me know immediately &
will meet you at the station
& eat there or around there.
Will await your reply.

Otherwise nothing new.
Mr Kahn was here for 10 days
over the holidays & is going
to advertise for any sort of
furnished place - and we will
occupy the 1st bungalow
he finishes in the early summer.
Hope he finds something.

With love & awaiting
your reply Sadie F Kahn
Payorben &
where to meet for lunch

Des Moines, Iowa.
Friday, 7/28/50

Dear Laura Jane:

Received the loveliest note from your mother this morning, which she had enclosed with another one to my sister in Mpls, since she was writing from the lake, and didn't have my address. I see now that you get your charm and your gift of words in part from her - she said such nice things about Ruth, that I am delighted.

I'm hoping Laura that you are having the same wonderful time that Ruth writes she is having - I hope you have good weather and that you are building up experiences and memories that will be a treasure to you for many long years in the future - I have seen colored slides of the Scandinavian country in the summer time, and it is so exquisite and so breath-taking, that you will both be drunk with the natural beauty - so watch your step - - - -hiccup!!!!

Am hoping that nothing will occur that will hasten the end of your journey before the 6 weeks are up - hard to believe that tomorrow, the 29th, is the half-way mark of your six weeks - time does fly, especially when one is enjoying it. We have had a delightfully cool July, with forecasts of hot weather to come, and looks like to-day is the beginning - is up in the low 90's and can't say I like it, but the corn is suffering, and you know when the corn suffers, the farmer suffers, and when the farmer suffers, the townspeople in Iowa feel the pain too????? So here's to hot weather.

Joyce' mother who is visiting them now, arrives next Tuesday p.m. for a visit with us - and I am giving a large tea for her the next afternoon, since I don't know how long she will stay - the rooms at Younkers are air-cooled, so don't have to think about that. Otherwise have begun knitting Ruth's dress, that bright cerise one, and it goes along very well - thought I would take advantage of the cool weather. I am hoping that Russia's coming back to the U.N. does mean that a general war isn't breaking out, but with them, nothing is impossible, as far as civilized standards go, when they are disinclined to consider them - so let's hope.

Mr. Kohn is very busy and has plenty of troubles with his mechanics, materials, etc. but he is bearing up pretty well. We are looking forward to seeing you in D.M. next Fall, and with love and best wishes, and regards to your roomie, Ruth Kobart, isn't it?

Sincerely yours,

Ladie Z Kohn

AFTER 5 DAYS, RETURN TO

Kohn-40-C Frankton
Des Moines Ia USA



VIA AIR MAIL

Miss Laura Jane Musser
c/o Marsh Park #25
23 Rue de la Paix
Paris France.

Saturday afternoon

Dear Laura Jane:

It was so good to hear your voice while Ruth was here and you sounded so happy and full of good spirits I was delighted. The story Ruth tells about her first Little Falls visit with the Mussers is almost out of this world. She enjoyed it so much, said it gave her such a lift she feels like a new person - and that the whole family, the friends of the family and everyone was so warm and cordial that she will never forget it.

Ruth says she knows how much they all think of you and the family that caused them to be so friendly to her - she loved every minute of it - believe me Laura dear, it is hard to adequately thank you for all your generous thoughtful friendship and hospitality to Ruth and to all of us. Ruth says now she knows why you are such a darling, it's partly the family and background - you see she's giving you yourself credit for part of it - - - Does she mean you are partly a self-made woman????

I hope you like the little item I gave Ruth for you and that she had time to get it monogrammed in N.Y. They wouldn't promise it in time here so she took it along to do there - hope it helps you ~~work~~ on the trip and when you get back to the states - hope you both have a marvellous time and keep well and happy - surely no better example to build international friendship could be found than you and Ruth - do strut your stuff.... ..

Was so delightfully cool when Ruth was here, although we had the same hot days Saturday and Sunday that you had - gotten warm again to-day but after a respite, we can take it.

Well Laura, again a million thanks - have a wonderful time, and be sure to reserve a good long visit with us sometime in the Fall - we really want you and hope you will enjoy it - will certainly do all we can to make it interesting. With lots of love and best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Radie F. Kahn

Kohn
40-C-Franklin Ct
Des Moines Ia



Miss Laura Jane Musser
c/o Hotel Buckingham
101 - W 57th St
New York NY

Thursday p.m.

Dear Laura Jane:

Last Saturday a pkg came from Mpls and thinking it was a delayed birthday pkg from Joyce, I opened it and was I ever surprised and overjoyed? You shouldn't have done it, honey - at all, I know you have an Xmas list that's long enough - but this is really a beautiful, elegant and exquisite compact - and while I don't need a reminder of your friendship, this will certainly be a lovely one every time I powder my nose - so thanks a million.....

Just got my first letter from Ruth since she got back to N.Y. and she tells me what a very pleasant visit she had in Little Falls, that she thinks the assembly liked her program, and also that the date for her concert was set for Sunday afternoon May 6th, a very good date I think. So the Mussers will be having company from Des Moines for that weekend, (if the invitation is still good???) well the Mussers are tough and can stand a lot of abuse, I have noticed, so I won't spend any time feeling sorry for them, but only concentrate on the fact that we will be enjoying our weekend up there, Ruth and I. Very nice prospect to anticipate. My daughter's agent is certainly a very influential person in Minnesota.....

Then Ruth goes on to say that you went along to Duluth in spite of the cold and the snow - was really sweet of you Laura J and I hope you enjoyed it. Wasn't that funny about the measles? And wasn't it fortunate that they discovered it before Ruth got there rather than afterward? I hope you liked the program as well as the rest of the audience. Sally K wired me Fri that the program was a terrific success there - I know it probably wasn't classical enough for you honey, but after all most of the audiences aren't musicians, or critics - and to coax them to learn to like classical items, one has to offer something more within their understanding. If you know what I mean. Men are more honest than women. Women go to a concert, mostly in foreign language - read the libretto, the lights go out, and then you spend the time wondering which of the stories you partially remember, each song is about - it's really a state of confusion, and I know I am certainly not dumber than the average - so I am sure many others in the audience are going through the same experience. And yet they keep on doing the same thing over again the next time.

At least if the program is in English you can understand it as you go along. There is plenty of room for reform in this particular.

I have been in bed mostly since Sunday - some sort of cold I didn't seem to be able to check - in the throat and chest - finally got the dr. and he gave me some cough remedy which has helped a lot, and am hoping I can get out by Saturday. I never knew the days could drag so - am used to being busy, and the days all too short - so this is a new and rather unpleasant experience. Have another dress to finish for Ruth, a dull blue taffeta dress and jacket, and it should be very attractive -

Our Sisterhood study group is meeting Saturday to hear a talk on China and the rabbi's wife and I are to lead the discussion. This is certainly a controversial question nowadays - hope I can hold my own. When are you leaving for New York and how long are you

going to stay? Seems there are loads of wonderful new shows - etc. Ruth says it is good to get back and unpack for a while - tee hee - guess one can get too much of anything. I am hoping Laura that you can stop off here on your way back from New York for another visit with us - would like very much to have you so try to plan it that way if you can. Ruth says Vera has a very good looking new car, a Mercury - so imagine she will be enjoying that.

I hope when you do get to New York honey, that you will help Ruth to get some auditions - it is easier to ask for someone else, I know - and I feel if enough people hear her, she is bound to find someone who will want to help her - she has a lot to offer, and this trying to work without an agent is just too much work for her and too wearing on her - it's enough to prepare the programs, etc. I know I can count on you, and so since I know you like to have a project on hand, hope you will enjoy this one, of trying to place your protege... I can just see you tearing around, wearing (I hope) that new scarf and the red darnation, giving the impression of a very refined girl with a touch of daring in her makeup - and making a big hit wherever you go - and throwing off witticisms here and there in a most nonchalant way - Gads, Miss, I am sure you'll be wonderful - - - and enjoying it all a lot.....

Gotten much milder here - Mr. K has gotten some long overdue material so he is feeling better - and he's wondering what the future may hold for builders - and so time moves on. I hope all the Mussers have a very happy holiday season, filled with good health, mirth and revelry - and that the new year brings to them all whatever each one most desires.....

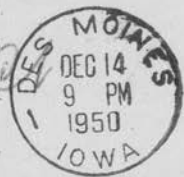
With love, I am, Sincerely yours,

Radie F. Kohn

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO

Kohn

40-C-Franklin
Des Moines Ia



Miss Laura Jane Musser
Linden Hill
Little Falls Minn

Wednesday p.m.

Dear Laura Jane:

Your letter at hand and contents noted - will also discuss when we are together. Always glad if my comments offer you food for constructive thought - I maynot be able to solve my own problems, but you know from the outside looking in, one can always help the other fellow, or try to. Tee hee.

Regarding your mention of the date Sunday the 22d of April, am awfully sorry that I have already filled up that weekend - hope it won't disappoint you too much. As a matter of fact I think it would be nicer if you could plan to arrive on Thursday April 26th, and then have the weekend together to about Tuesday. It's easier to see people and things that way, if you don't mind. So let me know what time Thursday the 26th you plan to arrive, and if this time is o.k. and I will go ahead with plans.

You don't need to bother with a letter, honey, just drop a card, airmail saying it is o.k. and when to expect you. Have been having bad weather consistently, and am sure that by the end of the month it should be over and have sunny skies. And both of us in our spring outfits - hoops-a-daisy.....

Love, Sincerely,

Radie L Kohn

Sunday night.

Dear Laura Jane:

Enjoyed your very nice long letter - the things you say are most interesting and provocative and if you don't mind, will not answer in detail at all - I want to enlighten you as much as I can regarding all these phases of prejudice that you encounter because you are a fearless and independent thinker - and the masses who either through lack of intelligence, or interest, or understanding of what fair play and justice mean, follow blindly the easiest way and accept conditions as they find them - are resentful, jealous and suspicious of the independent thinker..... So you have to accept that fact and only be sure not to let it embitter you - that would be the real danger and harm.

I am saving your letter - and hope you have been jotting down any items you want my opinion on - not that I am an authority, but I can express my reaction and conclusions, and you can consider them and if useful have the benefit, and if not useful, discard..... So bring your notes when you come.

Am sorry you are disillusioned about Ruth - and regret much that I ever enlisted your help - as I know you were so eager and willing and did it to help - - - but don't take it to heart - Ruth has her good points and her failings, as most humans do - we have just had a new weekend storm, after a week of horrible snow and winds etc. And so close to the 21st, so-called first day of Spring. And same thing but worse in Mpls.

Regarding Ralph, I don't mean to be unsympathetic, and understand his motivations, but I still feel that he should be grown up enough at 25 to understand how unfair it is to make mistakes that others have to help to pay for in service or other ways - sorry I can't be influenced by sympathy alone, but too much sympathy can be weakening - something stronger is needed to help such a person's maturing - and everyone is happier when self-reliant and thoughtful and considerate of his obligations to others. Hard cookie, isn't she, this Sadie Kohn????

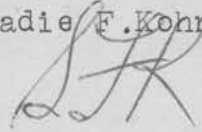
My sister writes that Ralph went back to work, and then had to come home again. She also mentions your having sent her tickets, does that mean that the concert in Little F is a certainty??? Am sorry it has hit so many snags. When you know that it is a certainty, won't you let Ruth know - her last letter she says she was not yet sure. She mentioned a very pleasant day with you at the Frick Museum and at Temple.....

Wore my new spring suit and hat and blouse - but not yet the coat, has been too cold - and must admit it felt good to wear something new. Dorothy Hall has asked us to have lunch with her while you are here and is looking forward to your visit. Hope you are looking and thinking about what I can knit for you so we can select something as to style, color, etc. while you are here, and you can be measured. Was delighted to hear that Ruth finds the new extra blouse satisfactory. I have been fired as her seamstress - after 8 yrs. I imagine I have earned a rest and I do have much more time for myself. It was a pleasure but a responsibility also.....

There isn't too much else to write Laura, and whatever there is will save till you get here. Do let me know as soon as you know, just what date to expect you - hope we will enjoy it a lot.

Keep well and enjoy yourself - I love the story about how L.F. folks ended up by resenting your mother's trying to bring cultural projects to the town - it's so typical of people - so what the h- - one must follow one's own best ideas and rest content in that, if you know what I mean. Love and have a Happy Easter - although that season is associated in my mind with the hundreds of thousands of lives of jews killed at easter time, on trumped up charges by those in command, of towns and even of churches in Europe for hundreds of years, I still feel that the idea itself could have been pure and holy - - as it is it often spreads hate - - - as you say, what price organized religion?

Sadie F. Kohn



THE MORRIS L. KOHN AGENCY
General Insurance
4615 Waveland Court Phone 5-4006
Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Laura Jane:

Tuesday A.M.

Well I have done my duty and voted..... Because I know you are interested and will share my pleasure, I want to tell you that the whole community here, and I as well, were literally ASTOUNDED at the MARVELLOUS improvement in Ruth's SINGING. I don't know whether it was the rest during her trip, (resting her voice I mean) or added to that the intensive lessons she took before leaving New York, but suffice to say that EVERYONE said they could not believe it was the same voice.

It has gotten so brilliant, so free and clear, especially in the upper tones, that it was amazing and thrilling.... Added to that her interpretations are WARMER and RICHER - and since the Sisterhood insisted, she had no other choice, but to give 2 Lemonade Roles, the Mother from Mendelsohn's "The Stranger" and The Witch from Hansel and Gretel - both in COSTUME. Well the sisterhood members, and they are above average in culture, knowledge, and experience, all RAVED and RAVED - such dramatic ability, such beautiful speaking voice, such intelligent comments, etc. And these are home-folks, who come to criticize, NOT to praise. The most enthusiastic ones were the ones who had dramatic or vocal training in a professional way.

Now it isn't the fact that people here liked it, but the fact that she has IMPROVED so much - very very satisfying, and the odd thing is that in spite of the fact that Miss Sten (her teacher) had told her the same thing, she still does not believe it - cannot hear the change..... I had begged her for two years to give the Lem Op roles, but she refused, but now she is going to include them on about every program - they were such a success..... As most people said, anybody can get up and sing straight songs - but few have such dramatic ability, charm and poise with it - -- so her New York stay has finally achieved its purpose.

When she goes back to N.Y. in December she is going to prepare an operatic role, - she is really ready for it now - so am confident if she continues to want a career, that she can have it - and if not, she still has something very fine she can use the rest of her life. I am paying for a couple records when she gets back to N.Y. so that she herself can hear the change.

Laura - I wrote the above in 3 copies, since I am rushed and tired, but did want to get the wonderful news about Ruth's singing to the family and to you. I think you know that I have not looked at Ruth's singing through rose-colored glasses, and so this is REAL progress, not fancied, and as her Agent this season, I felt you should know. You are going to be thrilled... You have certainly been working wonders - all the Thebom tickets sold - wonderful - I don't think you know your own strength. It's wonderful, and all the other things you have in mind. Laura dear, you can promise a LOT in talking about Ruth's concerts, and no one will be DISAPPOINTED..... Take my word for it - am so thrilled I could almost burst, as I didn't expect it - Did you see where Thebom

took out a marriage license last week? May be in Little Falls on her honeymoon,,,,,, I am attaching an explanation of the purchase of Young Quinlan store in Mpls - you remember we talked about it? I think this is the real inside information, as that is what I asked for, as per my promise to you.....

in Dec.
Ruth tells me she has promised to come to Little Falls to sing at the schools - I know they will love her. Thanks so much for your invitation to come to Little F for the Thebom concert - it would indeed be a treat, honey, but impossible just now for various reasons. However, should Ruth give a concert in your town in the Spring, I will be happy if it is convenient for your mother, to come up for a day for that event. I am looking forward to meeting your parents, and of course, you, again... ..

Am so glad your visit with Esther was such a satisfying one. And I know how beautiful Minnesota is in the Fall - this was a very lovely one here too. Mr. K is still so busy - has sold all his houses but the last one, which is just being floored over the foundation - the REAL trick is to get them finished, but know that with a lot of aggravation, delay etc. they will eventually get done. The unusual thing is that all who have moved into their finished houses, are so very satisfied and complimentary - this is something new in our experience, usually they try their best to find fault.....

That was a nice letter from Templeton's agent - Ruth is to see Colston-Leigh when she gets back to N.Y. Maybe a letter from you to them about her Narrative RConcerts, and how interesting etc. they are to the audience, etc. might help. Address Mrs. Hazel Rublin, 255 W. 84th St., New York City. She was asst. to the head of their Concert Dept. and she told Ruth they are discontinuing it, but she thought maybe this approach of a Narrative Concert might sell to Women's Clubs and College Concert Courses - what I want to say is don't mention the Jewish music, but tell of her personality etc. and her reception by the audience who heard her in Little Falls last Spring. This should help - at least it won't hurt, and I think would be preferable to have the letter typed - looks more business like, if you know what I mean. I hope this isn't burdening you too much - in fact, you could send this late in Nov. as Ruth won't be getting back till December 10th. A good STRONG recommendation ought to be helpful..... Thanks.

Hope that the audition in Mpls will work out - and that you will give Ruth the name and address of Mrs. Louis North, you mention. Good advice is what Ruth can use too. I have offered to finance Ruth for learning an operatic role when she gets back to N.Y. all that is left to be determined is which one, and I hope she can get some advice there so she will be learning one which will be saleable and in demand.....

I am waiting to answer the letter about your ministerial friend on the coast, when I have more time - his students come to drink of the waters of knowledge and spirituality and are poisoned with the germs of hatred and anti-Semitism - it is worse than MURDER - perhaps not done deliberately, but how can one be so UNJUST and NOT know it????? More anon about that.

I would NOT advise you to answer this man at all - I think it would be IMPOSSIBLE to open a closed mind - enough when that mind is young to try to open it, but at his age - impossible - so don't give it your time and effort. Many BLIND minds under the guise of

religious leadership - and every word is poisoned..... Yes I begin to see why you have been so influenced against organized religions.

Thanks for the copy of Bob's symphony sermon. I have had such a hectic 12 days since Ruth was here that am almost exhausted, but feel sure a few days of rest will restore me - am really so pleased that you consider this your second home - I really don't know why, maybe it is your talent for making yourself at home - - - am sure we cannot by any means claim all the credit.

Hope you do write your aunt in Kansas City about Ruth - she is going down a day earlier than she had expected, as they booked her for a concert for the Religious School children on Sunday morning, November 26th, so she will need an extra rehearsal. She will leave Mpls Thanksgiving night and get into K.C. Friday morning, November 24th - I know she would enjoy seeing your aunt, and if she could give Ruth a helping hand, would be very nice..... I am leaving it entirely to your judgement and knowledge. Did I tell you that my sister says your aunt reminds her of me in personality???? (Sh!!!!!! Never having met her, want to know is this a compliment or not???????)

Ruth had a letter from Carleton Music Director, saying he would be interested in a concert in the spring - so I think she is going down to see him from Mpls. Laura, she has sent in the revisions of her brochures so they will be suitable for general use, rather than specifically for the Jewish sources, and she will probably have some for you when she comes up to Little Falls - I hope so.

Am glad you like the ascot - it's just a little remembrance, and hope you enjoy it - will be getting to the smock before too long, although have loads of small things to do for Ruth and have to finish my sister's blouse..... So you're trying to reduce - believe me Ruth was really on the war-path, she ate so little, I guess I scared her telling that if the knit dress didn't fit, I would behead her - - tee hee. And she looks so much better thinner - much to my joy and amazement, the knitted dress which I made entirely from the teacher's measurements of Ruth, FITS PERFECTLY - isn't that marvellous? Have to get it sewed together, blocked, and then ready to wear - and Ruth LOVES it - it is beautiful, and I hope she enjoys it a lot - but what an undertaking? I don't think a second one would ever be the mental strain..... Ruth mentions you might go up to Duluth for her program there - that would be wonderful, Laura dear - honestly you'll have a BIG agency before you know it. Ruth says you may arrange for the Symphony Director up there to hear her - I didn't know they had a Symphony up there. Did I tell you that the wife of the man here who headed the Civic Music Ass'n and built it up to where it now is, heard Ruth's program at the Sisterhood here, and is arranging for their talent committee for our local Symphony Orchestra, to hear Ruth when she comes back in Feb. for next season - I hope she can put it over. She said, this is something wonderful, something new - - - and she is really a musician and a good judge - - so let's hold our fingers crossed. They have this year Arrau the pianist, and Erica Morini the violinist. 3d one is one of their own vocal teachers, and 4th the winner of the local auditions - -

Think I'll write a special delivery to Ruth to get some of the revised brochures to you as quickly as possible. Loads of love and regards to your folks - hope this long letter isn't too dull.

P.S. Just found this clipping about Rise Stevens -

if she can go to such a small town and such a tiny college, certainly Ruth would be happy to go to any size college - I understand they sell their concerts along with their activity books, in all colleges, so that it isn't so hard to sell them - as where people have to go out and sell tickets special to any one event.

So I hope you will go after the colleges of Minn. and Iowa, etc. Another friend just called and said Ruth is absolutely marvelous, such diversified talents, and such a personality.....

Love,

Dadie L Kohn

Dear Laura - I don't mean to be snooping, but am wondering if any of the suggestions I made about being more relaxed have resulted in an improvement - would be happy to hear that this is so.

BOOK RISE STEVENS.
WAVERLY, IA.—Singer Rise
Stevens will appear in the
Knights gymnasium here Nov. 14
under auspices of the Wartburg
college artist series.

Dear Laura, Hope you're
well and busy - there's
nothing nicer -

Also hope your dad
is keeping well. Hasn't
it been a beautiful
Spring?

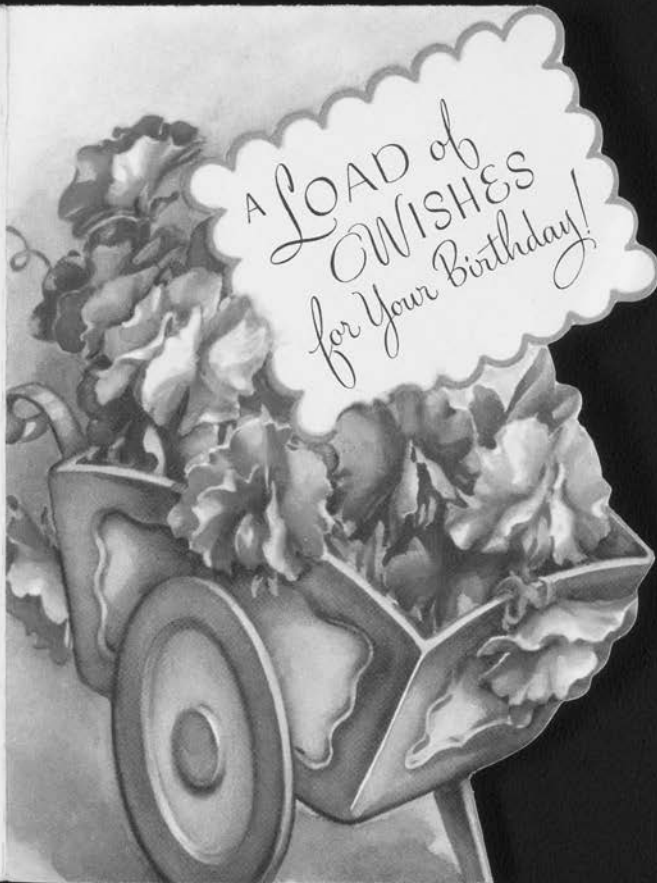
Going to Boston for
Brandell's Convention
the 8th and then to NY
to see Ruth. Am beginning
to feel stronger. Love



57K

SBG 1011
COPYRIGHT
RUST CRAFT PUB.

A LOAD of
WISHES
for Your Birthday!





Whatever you wish for,
I'm wishing
you too —
In fact, a whole lifetime
Of wishes —
come-true!

Radie Z Kohn

(over)

Wednesday p.m.

Dear Laura Jane:

Hard to believe that it will be seven weeks next Saturday since you girls left, and that you will be back here in the good old U.S.A. Friday - welcome home and hope you both had a glorious time.

When you have time will appreciate hearing when you plan to come to Des Moines - I don't mean to rush you or anything, but after September 12th, any time, you will be most welcome. My sister and her husband are driving down for the Labor Day Weekend and she is staying over for 10 days.

Nothing new since I last wrote - Joyce (Howard's wife) is in N.Y. as delegate to a convention this week and hope she stays over to see Ruth - and my sister is taking care of Naomi at her house. She is always so very generous with her time and effort.

Mr. K is busy with his building, getting new frustrations every day - when there is labor, there is no material - then when the material comes, the labor is busy - just one emergency after another - so had to stop being floored by them, or cut one's throat, and that hurts, I have been told!

Will be looking for a letter when you know what your Fall plans are, - best wishes and hope to be seeing you and getting some of the many details. Love, & hope you're well -

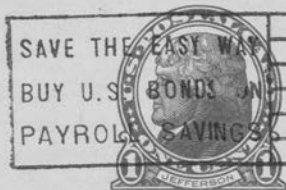
Sincerely,

Sadie L Kohn

M L Kohut St
1248 W 39th St
Des Moines Ia



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Miss Laura Jane Musser
c/o Hotel Buckingham
101 W 57th St
New York 25 NY

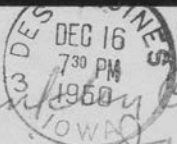
Dear Laura -

Monday -

Was expecting to hear
in Chicago about how beauti-
ful you look with your
short haircut & permanent-
when lo & behold - my sister
wrote me you couldn't !!!

I never knew you were
such a conservative - almost
a fraidy-cat ?? Why
snooty - it will grow
fast - haven't you any
curiosity = I came here
last Wed & Ruth came in Thurs. &
left last nite for Denver. She
looked beautiful & had fine
reception everywhere - We
have an apt. will be finished
Mch 1st. Love & get busy
milk

John
40-C-Franklin St
Des Moines Ia



MAIL
EARLY
FOR
CHRISTMAS



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Miss Laura Jane Musser
Linden Hill
Little Falls Minn

Dear Laura-

Friday

Our letters crossed!
Thanks for letter & clipping.
Hope date for concert can
be changed to Sunday
before. Do open that
little pkg now - you
are supposed to !!

Will try to get packet
started & if not done by
time you go eat, will
send it there. Glad

you're so happy &
hope it continues. Will
write again later.

Love
Dodie F. Kohn

Wednesday p.m.

Dear Laura Jane:

Just a line to say that I couldn't find your last letter when I wrote you, but just now in going through some correspondence, I found it. It came after Ruth had left for Kansas City, so I couldn't give her your aunt's name and address, nor give her the message about sending the music to the accompanist. I hope that it didn't cause too much inconvenience and am very sorry about it.

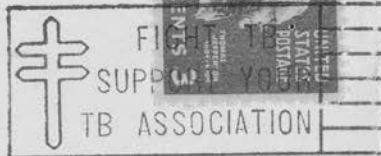
Otherwise it has gotten terribly cold and windy, 4 below last night, and for the 62d time, I want to say I hate winter..... I see your comment about developing your sense of humor - that's wonderful although you will find that a lot of people not only have no sense of humor but even do not like it in others - as for me, I was born that way, and it does make life much more entertaining and pleasant - tee hee - so if people like it, o.k. if not, don't tell them you know me - - -

It's really a way of looking at life, objective, and does take out the sting many times - it gives me a lift, and I don't see how people without it get along - but I suppose you can't miss what you never had - so go ahead, next time I'll see you, we'll pass out numbers, so we can each take our turn at wise-cracking- - - satisfactory???

Lots of love, and regards to your parents,

Radie Z Kohn

Kohn
40-C-Franklin Ct
Des Moines Ia



Miss Laura Jane Musser
Linden Hill
Little Falls Minn

Tuesday forenoon.

Dear Laura Jane:

Sorry I couldn't get at a letter to you before, but the stay in Mpls so very hectic - the children were unfair to themselves and to me not to have notified me that their decorating etc. on their house had been so delayed that they were still torn up and in the midst of it - so trying to lead a normal life was rather difficult - and they insisted I stay with them instead of my sister - I did finally get over to her house for the second half of my visit. It was nice to see them all and find them well, and Naomi growing so much mentally and physically - so all in all it was very nice.

Besides I took up some new things for Ruth that I had cut out and basted, and will now try to finish them and send to N.Y. as soon as possible. They promise to look very beautiful. She has gained quite a little weight since she left here, people are so generous with eating invitations, and I really scolded her - its criminal for her to do that - the knit dress came out so beautifully - she really has the figure for it - and everyone admires it - is very practical besides and for a first attempt I feel very proud of it. Want to make her an extra blouse for it too. I love to have knitting lying around, as when I get tired, can sit down and rest and be knitting at the same time - in fact when I don't have some of it on hand, find I really miss it - what a dumb attitude to have cultivated.....

Took out the sleeveless sweater I started for Mr. K last spring and will get it finished also. I found a very cheerful pattern for your smock before I left - it isn't blue, but as I visualize you in it, I think it will be very becoming and practical - medium weight so it can be worn all year - don't know when it will get done, but at least you have it coming - and this is NOT a holiday gift either, please - it's just that I want you to have a little reminder of us.

Hope the concert at the high school turned out satisfactorily. Howard had planned to go up to Duluth to hear Ruth, but in this kind of weather, hardly feel it is safe to drive. When I got back Sunday evening, found it had been clear of snow and not too cold here, but this morning a real Minn. blizzard and I do NOT like it. I don't think I wrote you yet how nice it is that Carleton is having Ruth for a concert, and I think it is quite interesting that he REQUESTED her to include a group of Hebrew songs - he's a man with a mind. I know they will enjoy it. This was very sweet of you, Laura J, and you do have influence.

Am so glad the Thebom concert worked out satisfactorily - and hope you have continued success with your work. I noticed in the Sunday paper that the Twilight Concerts of the Symphony have lesser lights on their program - also that the U puts on programs, they had a Cellist they presented free of charge - and noticed they are trying to form an opera group in Mpls - here the State Federation of Music Clubs is also trying to form an Opera Group - musical activity is really broadening out everywhere and it is a good development. I didn't hear what became of the audition for Ruth you originally wrote about, but hope if it didn't materialize now, that it may when she comes out to Carleton. She finally got her brochures partially rewritten with the Jewish features omitted, and hope she gave you some of them. She should really go over BIG at these colleges out here

as her program is so modern, and alive. Never hurts to sugar-coat the bitter pill of education???

Snookie, thanks for your enclosures in the letter which Mr. K. forwarded to me to Mpls - I am returning, and what happened is this. The HSK's have a new puppy, a dachshund (what spelling) and I did put the letter out of reach, but seems that the enclosures fell out and the first thing I knew there he was playing with some printed matter, chewing and tearing, and I never dreaming what it was - but Joyce is smarter than I am, so she pulled it away, and lo and behold, it was your enclosures - was my face ever red - that little pup would be in dog-heaven, if my wishes at that moment had come true..... So do forgive me - and after this I will put any enclosures that have to be returned, under lock and key -- honest Injun.....

I'm so glad you enjoy the prayer books and bible, etc. that my sister has sent you. Yes indeed the Jews as well as all other humans are not angels - they have all the human faults, and while they as well as others, try to be God-like, it isn't easy - or how could the world be in its present state. Just read a book up there Interview with India I think it was - such a horrible picture of those millions of human beings, living like sub-humans - and when I think of what the Communists can do with them and let them loose against the western world I shudder at the possibilities, or should I say, certainties - we have so much to lose, and they have so much to gain. This is a deadly era we are living in - and what the outcome will be is hard to foretell - I only hope that we can be intelligent enough to avoid complete destruction. But here too, only afterward, can we tell whether our judgement was right or not - They're so smart, the critics, in telling afterward what should have been done..... And they put their political party, their church, their group, FIRST instead of putting our country FIRST - -

Well sitting around in foreboding helps no one, especially the older people with reduced physical strength. So will try to keep up my courage - and hope that somehow things may not end as badly as now seems possible. Hope you have a very happy Holiday season - if you have any names that Ruth should have to consult when she returns to N.Y. I know you will give them to her - you are certainly a devoted and intelligent friend - and we are aware of it.

Regarding the improved relationships at home - nothing could make me so happy Laura dear - and you will find that it becomes easier to maintain better relations, just as it is easier to maintain worsened ones - in other words, habit is as strong for good as for poor practices. You should find this a help in your relationships with all people - and I hope you can remain relaxed, hopeful, confident, and happy. And this with your earnest desire to be helpful and inspirational to others, should make your life a full rich one, even as you yourself desire it to be. If in any way I have helped you, it is a great joy to me. And I am always at your service in this regard - to help you solve any problems that you cannot analyze clearly, because you are so close to them, and involved emotionally.

Love and best wishes for a Very Merry Holiday Season.

Radie L Kohli

Dear Sade:

discard

I just got back from hunting this morning and found your letter of Thursday. The story about Rothschild purchasing the Young-Quinlan Co. is, of course, as cockeyed as stories usually are from people who haven't any knowledge of the facts. The facts of the matter are this, and it is not hearsay: The original Young Quinlan Co. was operated under Miss Elizabeth Quinlan, but had operating difficulties for a number of years owing largely to a lack of adequate financing. The company was sold to the Lytton Co. of Chicago, operators of the Hub Clothing Co. in Chicago, an extremely large and financially sound company. This occurred several years ago, and the Lytton Co. attempted to continue the operation of the company as the Young Quinlan for a period of time with very limited success. However, the physical property being well located, and the M. L. Rothschild Co. being located in an area opposite from the direction of the normal movement of loop trade, they made the purchase of the business from Lytton. You understand, of course, that the M. L. Rothschild Co. is one of the very oldest firms of Minneapolis, the largest in the field of men's apparel, and with a very large following in women's apparel, and with a large store (the largest women's and men's apparel store) in St. Paul. When they moved from their former location into the Quinlan building, they retained the Quinlan name as well as their own, under the name of M. L. Rothschild—Young Quinlan Co. The story you got is typical of the stories that start with, "I know a fellow who was married to a girl whose uncle's brother heard that---. Try to chase these stories down to their inception and you usually wind up with someone who has no knowledge, but does a lot of speculation out loud, and under this speculation others develop the story to suit their own fancy.

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