



Laura Jane Musser and
family papers.

Copyright Notice:

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit www.mnhs.org/copyright.

B. m. h.
1818 W. El Segundo Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif.

101. West 57th St
The Buckingham Hotel
New York, N.Y.



Miss Laura Jane Musser
~~606 Highland Ave.~~

~~Little Falls, Minn.~~

101. West 57th St

~~PLEASE FORWARD TO~~
The Buckingham Hotel
New York, N.Y.



us quite fully so won't enlarge
too much on our life.

We have a little four room
house we live in at present &
a large yard. Trying to furnish
it completely in Early American
& are getting it almost complete.
Pam of course is "drunk" in "in
our bedroom" so the house is now
a little snug "with Pam. But works
at the club of the Western and
golf course & is a fellow of many
arts & he does well at each. I keep
him very busy & I see him
very little at times. Our social life
is so limited that visiting a friend's
home seems our only relaxation. I
just can't keep up with all the
work here at the house but I will
before long. I love working in the
yd. but now for almost 2 years we

June 29 1945

Dear Laura Jane,

What a wonderful surprise receiving
your letter & so happy to hear from you.
My letter will probably arrive late, you
will be in New York.

Thank you so much remembering
us on our birthdays, now I shall debate
what each of us would like. Thank
you again.

I was looking forward to see-
ing you & your family & am so sorry
to hear your not coming out to Calif.
Now your mother I am so sorry
to hear of your mother's heart condi-
tion. It would have been so nice
to see you all & have a long visit.

This is the first letter I am writ-
ing with my right hand so it will be
somewhat of a mess. I am keeping my
arm out all the cost & brace now each
day but it will wear both. My arm is
improving along fine. I broke it again a
month before the cast was to be re-

moved so I had an extra month of the cost. Now I am just waiting for the injured nerve to heal. That will be another two or three months. At the present time I cannot raise any of my fingers of the right hand so try to keep the hand as active as possible so it won't become useless.

Dannie has graduated & it doesn't seem possible. You have had a birth day & I also. Aren't we getting old! I am glad you feel young & gay & feel like you want to do that. I believe after all this siege of bad luck we have had I'll get my youth back I hope!

What a wonderful trip ahead of you. I like hearing from you with all your trips all about the places you shall visit. You

will certainly make a long visit. How fun Laura & make it double for me also & safe voyage.

I see you are still doing nice things for the people in Little Falls. How nice to bring such singers to the people back home. They are very fortunate & do hope they're grateful for such interest & time you give to bring them these people. I haven't been to anything like a concert etc. since we were together last.

Life in Calif. agrees with me & never misses the Morn. winters. When we first came out we had a ragged time at 1st & oh! what people & surroundings we had to put up with. Now we are living on the outskirts of L. A. & Bert works just across the way. No doubt Angelina informed you about

just been out of it. I'm still trying
to get a barbecue built in our
back yard & patio but it seems
we just don't have the time. After
the 9th of July things will lag
at the Club maybe then we can
do all the things we plan. But
vacation came up in Sept. & we
plan on going down to Ensenada
Mexico. I'm a little leary about
taking Pam down but I shall see
what we'll decide at the time.

Pam is now 11 months old.
Healthy, active & a smarty pants.
She has 6 teeth, golden brown
hair, blue eyes & looks more
like her daddy than I. She un-
derstands everything we say to
her, or just about, calls her Daddy
da-da & her mom - nana. She is
just about "house broken" & is try-

to "solo" which should be soon.
I have a photo of her & I'll
send you one when you get back
& then you can tell me what you
think of our little addition. She
means me out & her daddy too.
She loves the out doors & likes
to ride in the car. She has a great
many admirers among our friends
& is a little "spoiled". Would
like you to see her so much.

It is almost midnight & Bert is
still waking & Pam is sleeping so
I had better stop. I'll be waiting
to hear from you soon & do hope
this letter gets to you before you
sail. Have a wonderful trip, take
care of yourself & stay happy.

Love from us three

Delores Bert
Pam

I probably should have written
with my left, maybe it would
be readable. This is written with
my left!



Miss Laura Jane Musser
608 Highland ave
Little Falls, Minn

from
Rosemary
(over)

Best your shoulder pads
nicest things
are wings!

You do the

THANKS!

Dear Laura Jane,

I thanks a
lot for the lovely
bracelet. Its just
loving. We had
a very nice
Xmas. The children
Thank You
were so excited over
Santa. I thank you
again - Love

Greetings
inc.
L 201

MADE IN U.S.A.



You're an Angel



Airmail
~~~~~



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
Little Falls  
Minnesota

Wm Brigham  
320 Park Ave  
n.y.c.

Dear Laura Jane:

I can't begin to tell you how much I enjoyed this Agatha Christie book you sent me. And Billy & I have howled over Campus Zoo. You were sweet to think of me in your last hectic moments. Thank you, dear.

The other day I stopped into "Cooks" to enquire about the tour you are interested in, and the enclosed pamphlet has all the information. This is the only tour of that region that they have.

Billy is in Texas but will return on Friday - He has certainly become the Traveler and life gets lonely without him. But now that summer is coming perhaps he'll

be able to spend more time at home.

The nursing home in the country (Riversdale) has received and I moved Daddy Brigham back there yesterday - Bella Marie Doyall helped me and it was so nice to see Daddy in his comfortable room again, overlooking a lovely tree all in leaf. He seems well but weak - can not walk with out a great deal of help. His memory is not good, he didn't even remember being there before but it's so much nicer than the place on 102<sup>nd</sup> street and we feel the care is better there too.

You fortunate girl to be home at this wonderful time of the year - when the flowers are so lovely - I do hope your mother & father ~~are~~ are in the best of health - Give them my love and best wishes - Love June.  
Wednesday.

Mrs. R. H. Werner  
R. R. 4, Box 204 A  
Noblesville, Indiana



VIA AIR MAIL

VIA AIR MAIL

Miss Laura Jane Musser  
Hotel Buckingham #1104  
101 W. 57th St.  
New York City, New York

March 21, 1950

Dear Laura Jane,

We enjoyed your long letter so much that you wrote us some time ago. Your letters are always so interesting and newsy, telling of your life in New York and the interesting people you meet. I wanted to answer sooner but we had the flu here for a month - the real old-fashioned flu - and it really "got us down" for a while. I'm just beginning to catch up on my work. Luckily Bobby didn't get it at all - he has resistance! I was nursing him and that is the reason he was immune.

I'm enclosing some pictures of our kiddies which I hope you enjoy. Bobby was just  $2\frac{1}{2}$  months old then and already looks quite a bit different than he did then. He is now a little over 4 months old but really looks like 6 months almost. He is a big boy - of course, he had a mighty good start in life when he was born - almost 10 lbs. I suppose I shouldn't rave so much about him but he is such a sweet and lovable little guy and we think he is such a handsome baby. His eyes are his outstanding feature - almost as black as the ace of spades - actually they are very deep brown and so expressive. He is gaining weight and his little body is filling out so nicely - he's just 100% boy. And what an eater! I think he'd eat a bone if we gave it to him. Mary was always such a delicate eater that it is a joy to have a child that eats with gusto. He takes his Pablum and vegetables like a trouter and how he loves his bottle. I just quit nursing him a week ago and find I have a lot more energy. I'm so happy I nursed him as long as I did because I believe it gives a child a much better start in life.

And as you can see by the pictures, Mary is growing like a weed, too. She just adores Bobby and has never been the least bit jealous of him. As a matter of fact, she loves and squeezes him sometimes I think it must hurt him but he just smiles and coos about it all. She cut a picture of a baby out of Parent's magazine the other day and said to me, "Mommie, when Bobby grows up, will you please get another baby boy out of your tummy like this one." I'm telling you, she comes out with some of the rarest remarks sometimes - quite embarrassing for that matter. When Bob came home from work the other day she asked him, "Daddy, do you like yourself?"

The pay-off was the other day when I took her to Noblesville to get a hair cut. Her hair is getting so long and she teased me to get it cut so away we went. Bob always takes her with him when he gets his hair cut so she wanted to go to that barber. He was busy so we went to another shop. There were 2 barbers there but they didn't want to cut a girl's hair. They said the beauty operator in the shop would do it. However, Mary flatly refused, saying, "I won't let a lady cut my hair. I want a man to cut it." So we came home without her hair cut and now we have it in pigtails and it is cute. She has always been partial to men, if you will remember.

Enough raving about our children!! We think they are wonderful but they are just ordinary normal kiddies when comparing them with others. Next Saturday Mary is going to start taking ballet lessons. However, she has a notion she doesn't want to but I'm hoping when I get her there she'll change her mind. She definitely has a mind of her own and is quite the independent type, for which I should be thankful, I guess. That kind gets along better in this world but sometimes it is rather hard to cope with.

The little blue hat you sent Mary arrived yesterday and is darling on her. Up to this time she has been wearing the bonnet-type hats but she is growing up now and this hat is very sweet on her. She has a blue spring coat with plaid taffeta lining and cape and this hat will go very nicely with her outfit.

The dress you sent came today and what an adorable thing. It fits Mary to perfection except for being about an inch too long - can you imagine. I note that it is size 5 - now I know she is getting big. I'm going to take up the hem this afternoon as she is teasing to wear it already. She is at the age now where clothes interest her a lot and she gets so thrilled with something new. We want to thank you so very much for the lovely things you sent her. She colored a picture for you and told me to be sure to send it to Laura Jane. I think she does pretty well for a 4-yr. old. She has a "crush" on a 6-yr. old boy near us and believe me, it is quite serious. Her eyes just dance when she sees him and she is always teasing to play with him but he goes to school. She plays with his younger brother during the day but when Stanley comes home from school, the younger one takes a back seat.

My folks are leaving Casper, Wyoming and moving back to Little Falls. Mother just recently got out of her cast and is able to walk alone now but I don't see how she can take that long trip. However, they are so anxious to get back they can hardly wait. I guess when one gets their age, it is hard to pull up stakes and leave your life-time friends behind and of course, most of their daughters are in Minnesota, too. My youngest sister, Joan, was recently married. We were all opposed to it - she is so young and immature for her age, so is her husband - so carefree with no thoughts of responsibility - but there was no talking her out of it. Perhaps they will make a go of it but it's hard to tell.

I guess L. F. is buzzing about the Lovdahl's and your folks no doubt have told you about it. I do feel so sorry for the family. I heard it even came over the radio. Also read in the Transcript where Eva McRae (Mrs. Louis Savage) little boy, 2 yrs. old, died of leukemia. Felt so badly about that. Joyce Regan is having a rather rugged time right now with her little family. You perhaps know she had her second Caesarian - her little boy was born February 6, and then they all had the flu and little Pat was in the hospital for 8 days. Also, they are having a hard time finding the right formula for him.

Vera Kidder was supposed to have her baby this month - her other little girl was just a year old on St. Patrick's day so Vera will be mighty busy with her family. I haven't heard yet whether or not she has had her baby. I imagine Marge's twins are getting pretty grown up by this time. I don't hear much from the kids in L. F. but everyone seems to be so busy with their families.

We are looking forward to going to Minnesota on Bob's vacation, perhaps in June. We have been here over a year now and it is time we get away. However, we have so many relatives to see when we do go that I'm afraid it will be just one grand rush. Bob is going to take three weeks' off. Living in the country has its advantages but I'm anxious now to see some of my relatives and friends. We do go to Indianapolis occasionally for some entertainment and we do most of our shopping there, too. We are so comfortable and happy here though that we are satisfied to stay home most of the time. Our house is pretty small and with all the equipment one needs for a baby, it is smaller than ever but our landlord has advised us he is going to build on a bedroom for us as soon as the weather permits. We are mighty thrilled as one bedroom for 4 people isn't just what it should be. I don't know if I have sent you one of the enclosed folders or not, but I'll do it again and you can see where we live.

I must close for now and get busy. Dr. Winters, a professor of Animal Husbandry at the U. of Minnesota, is down here for a few days - he is engaged as a consultant on genetics and comes here about 1/2 times a year. He is personal friend of Bob's and is coming over for dinner tonight so I must get going.

Thank you so much for the lovely gifts and write again when you have the time. I hope you have a happy Easter. Hope we can see each other before too long. Maybe you'll be in Minnesota when we are there this summer. I hope so.

Love from all of us,

Lew, Bob,  
Marge + Bobby

R. R. 4, Box 204A  
Noblesville, Indiana



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
Little Falls, Minnesota

January 18, 1950

We have had lots of rain here and the river near us overflowed and many people had to be evacuated. Luckily we weren't quite that close. However, the river near the farm where Bob works broke through the levee after the men had worked for a few days and nights trying to save it. We had lots of excitement around here for a while.

Bobby is waking up for his bath so I must close. He'll be hungry too and believe me, he really sets up a holler when he is hungry.

Thank you again for the lovely silver cup and do let me hear from you soon.

Love from

Dave, Bob,

Mary and Bobby

Dear Laura Jane,

The other day we received the lovely sterling silver cup you sent Bobby and we want to thank you so very much for remembering him. It was very sweet of you to sent him the cup and he'll surely get good use out of it before too long. Right now I am still nursing him and the pediatrician wants me to continue until he is six months old and then he'll wean him right over to drinking out of a cup.

Last Friday the four of us - Mary, Bobby and Bob and I took our little guy to Indianapolis to a pediatrician for his monthly check-up -- quite an occasion. Bob even took off work to go with us. He is mighty proud of his son, I can assure you. The other day he said to me, "Do you think he'll be a sissy?" I said the way he swings his fists around he looks like a fighter already. Bob is so good with children and is wonderful to Mary. You'd never know he wasn't her real father.

Genevieve Norsted  
1301 Vermont Ave. N.W.  
40 apt. 804, Wash. 5, D.C.



VIA AIR MAIL

Miss Laura Jane Musser  
Buckingham Hotel,  
8 St.  
Ave. New York, N.Y.

1301 Vermont St.  
NW.  
Wash. D.C.  
c/o apt. 804

Dearest Laura J:

Here I am in the East  
again and wonder if  
you are back in N.Y.?

I'm leaving January 30  
for Miami so would  
love to see you. However,  
I doubt if I can make  
it to N.Y. as you know  
my expenses always amount  
to more than I planned  
on it seems. Oh well, that's  
always true, isn't it? I  
wrote you at Little Falls  
recently. ~~Read~~ a wonderful  
article about Thelma V.

in the N.Y. Times recently.  
Hope you are feeling very  
well and also having  
an enjoyable season,  
Dear. You're still a  
sweet little girl that  
looks like Betty D. to me.

Best regards to Ruth K.  
too. I'm glad you, ~~two~~,  
are looking after one  
another, so the artist's  
one encounter ~~will~~ always be  
just harmless ones? Yes?  
You are both "little" girls yet. Yes?  
Affectionately,

Genevieve N.  
I'd love to hear from you, Dear.

March 6, 1950

Dear Laura Jane,

I received your very lovely letter about a month ago and I am so sorry I didn't get a letter off to you sooner. Since my last letter so much has happened to me that I am in a "conventional ditch"! This will very probably be a surprise to you, as it was to everyone else. John Kerguel and I were married on January 21! We were married in Ann Arbor,

Michigan on Saturday morning and left immediately for Chicago where we had a short honeymoon for 5 days.

I had to get back to register for school. We let no one know about it except a girl friend of mine and a friend of John's who were to be witnesses. The survey was due to the fact that my parents would object because of religion, and this they did! Of course we sent them ~~the~~ a wire Saturday evening from Chicago telling them the good news — or bad news as it was to them. You see they like John very much, but because they are so fanatically religious and he is now Catholic and divorced they don't approve.

It is a very sad and unfortunate thing when parents and children disagree on the fundamental principles of life, principles which determine their course of life. We both have our principles, each one very different and yet in our hearts we believe in the same wholesome principle of being honest to ourselves and to others, kindness, decency, mercy and fairness. It hurts me very much to upset their mental equilibrium and dogmatic beliefs, but I could have no respect for myself, nor would the world respect me if I obeyed them blindly without consideration to my heart and mind. I love John very much and he loves me, and when two people are in love they get married so we did, and we are both very, very happy. I think mother realizes this now and knows she can do nothing about it.

I started school this semester but decided to drop out and joining the home team. I will go back next fall tho, as I only have to take 4 more courses before I get my B.S. Right now I am just a housewife and love it! We would like to go to Florida the end of March but John isn't sure he can leave his work then.

I am so glad you liked the Stignani records. Thank you so much for the records you sent me. I had Le Cap Roi, so exchanged it for "A. E. E. Program." This is a very lovely album with Norita Gould conducting the Oslo Nord Cell orchestra. There are 8 sides and the pieces are "Morning Mood," "Swedish Song," "March of the Dwarfs," "Norwegian Dances No 2 and No 3," "I Love Thee," "To Spring," and "Wedding Day at Trolldhaugen."

When ~~Harvard~~ ~~Chicago~~ we were in Chicago, we saw "Miss Mc  
Hale," I thought it was very good but not as good as  
"Gumans Rainbow." Last month we saw the Detroit Civic  
Light Opera's production of "Song of Norway". Henry  
Baker played the part of Hågen but the rest of the  
cast was local talent. It wasn't bad considering the  
short time they have to put it up. Every winter  
they put on 10 operettas each one playing for one  
week, and usually the same cast for each one.

Laura Jane, John and I would like you to come  
and visit us any time that is convenient for you.  
We have plenty of room and ~~the~~ a lovely piano  
for you to play. Just let us know when you  
are coming and we shall be at the station with  
bells on to meet you!

Please write to me ~~soon~~ soon and my new address  
is 15180 Woodbine, Detroit, D.C.

Love,  
Bernadine



Miss Laura Jane Musser

Little Falls

608 Highland Av. Minn.

Thank you so very much for mine,  
Laura Jane, and be sure to come  
over when you are home.

Much love

Pearl.



My dear Laura Jane,

I hear you will soon be coming  
home, so I'll address this note, Little Falls.

I am so sorry to be thanking you  
this late for my Christmas book, but

the books didn't arrive till after I  
had left for Chicago. so when I  
came home the first of March  
here were these lovely books from  
our loyal friend, Laura Jane.  
I sent Maxine's on to her, and  
I'm sure you will be hearing from  
her, if not already.



Miss Laura Jane Kusser  
Linden Hill  
Little Falls  
Minnesota  
U. S. A.

From Miss J. Hambury

#7 Hampton Court

Cook St. Victoria.

B. C.

Canada

Now I am soon to start off  
on another adventure - my  
Motor Bus trip - and am  
thrilled with <sup>happy</sup> anticipation  
over it. I may go around  
in your part of the country  
when en route West again,  
you will agree I have an  
itchy foot.

Again, many thanks dear for  
your noble effort to find me.  
 kindest regards & best wishes

Very Sincerely Yours

Emma Sanbury

COPYRIGHT 1900 CANADA



# 7 Hampton Court  
Cook St. Victoria,

March 22nd

My dear Laura Jane,  
I thought you might  
be interested to see the  
envelope which travelled  
around some & found it finally  
tracked me down. The Van.  
address was a large Guest House  
where I lived for two years

2 when the War was on before moving  
to Victoria in Jan. 1946. A very good friend  
of mine still lives there & readdressed  
it to what was my Victoria address till  
the end of Jan. when I moved here.  
I hope you will not think I am just  
some ordinary tramp. Please explain to  
your dear Mother I was sorry to discover  
I had written this latter part of her  
letter on a non-matching sheet of paper.  
I just picked it up by mistake from  
my desk when I moved over to the  
Chesterfield to sit beside the Radio  
as we were getting some very fine music  
from Toronto. I wonder if you are  
still studying music, I remember  
hearing you were concentrating on  
Piano work I think. I just cannot  
believe it is seventeen years since my  
very happy visit with you all, you  
probably do not remember me at all,  
but I have wonderful memories of  
that visit and my whole life.

Once we are settled in our new abode, you'll have to visit us again and see the latest addition. I'm enclosing some shots of the family taken just after Christmas. Soon will make some pictures of Lorna and I'll send you some of them.

March 26

After an interval of three days, I finally got a chance to finish this letter. Our little Lorna is very good during the day, but she gives us a concert every evening and wants to be held and comforted. Which spoils the few peaceful hours after the other two are in

March 23, 1950

Dear Laura Jane,

Thank you so very much for the lovely kimonoas you sent for little Lorna. They are almost too pretty to use, and I shall save them for special occasions when she is to be shown off.

I enjoyed your last letter very much. It seems to be a pleasant association which you have found with the people in the church in the Village, one from which you get much satisfaction. And I am happy for you in your new found feeling of

closemess with your family  
which you have as a result  
of your experience during  
your visit at home. I hope  
your mother has had no  
further trouble and has been  
otherwise well this winter.

Do your parents plan a trip  
East to visit you and Mary  
this spring? How are Mary  
and her family?

Since Christmas, we have  
been devoting our week-ends  
to house-hunting and to some  
redecorating of our house,  
preparatory to putting it up  
for sale. We had just started  
to advertise it when this

spell of nasty ~~with~~ weather  
set in, and that, combined  
with the imminence of the  
baby's arrival discouraged  
any further activity for  
the time being. But now  
we are resuming our efforts  
and I hope we will soon  
find a buyer. We have found  
a house which we want to  
buy and which is being  
held for us pending the sale  
of this house. It is a 3-  
bedroom house, and I am  
most eager to get into it.  
This house has become just  
too small for comfort, what  
with our ever-increasing  
family.

as I can. Please don't be offended if I ask you not to call me during the day. It's just about impossible to fit telephone conversations into the daily schedule (or lack of it) here.

With much love,  
Lillian

bed.

I came home from the hospital on the sixth day after Lorna was born, and three days later I started doing all my own work again. I had a very easy delivery this time, and I feel fine; but by the time evening comes, I'm pretty tired. I am nursing Lorna and she wants to eat at three hour intervals, so a large portion of every day is spent in feeding her. In between feedings, I have to get my housework done and find time to play with Daguid and Knute.

whose eyes are just a bit green because I have to spend so much time with the baby.

And so it goes, every minute busy and not nearly enough time in the day for all the things I ought to do; but it's fun. The children are growing up so fast. Before we know it they'll be in school, and I'll miss them terribly during the day.

Thank you again for the beautiful kimono. I'll write again as soon

LANC ELOTT

HEAD OF WALLDORF

Box 9-7530

Miss Anna Jane Fraser  
Buckingham Apts  
57 St and 7 Ave  
N. Y. C.



Mr. Biddy 29-62, 168 St. Flushing N.Y.  
Station A.

Mr. LANGELOTTI

APR. 25.  
TUES -  
11 AM -

APR. 25.

TUES -

11 AM -

SEE MR. LANCELOTTI

Mr. Bidy 29-62, 16887. Feb. 1.

~~Station~~

B R O A D W A Y

T A B E R N A C L E

55th Street and Broadway --- New York 19, New York

4/19/50

Greetings!

April brings Spring weather and with it Lafayette James Robertson returns to the Broadway Tabernacle for a poetry recital.

On Sunday evening, April 23, 1950, at 7:30 P. M., the Christian Endeavor Society will present Mr. Robertson in POEMS FOR TODAY, a program, with musical accompaniment, in the modern theme.

This writer has long been a resident of Hartford and is familiar with its traditional culture and what is expected of New England poets. Farming and cycling through the countryside have brought him close to nature and the realities of life. His verse reveals him as a keen observer and sympathetic patron of the arts.

Much of his life has been spent as a teacher and club worker with young people. He has been of help and inspiration to many. His correspondence is voluminous with friends in many parts of the world. From such a vital personality comes wit and spontaneity which enhance his poems.

Mr. Robertson's published book, "The Golden CHARIOT and VICTORY Verse," reveals an extraordinary awareness of the human touch which makes his poems popular with so many. He writes for no special group but rather for "the public," of all ages, in all places. The following from this volume (1946) shows the cheerful philosophy of good hope which is characteristic of his poetry.

#### R E P O S E

The eventide of life need not be dark.  
How brilliant are the colors of the western sky  
That celebrate the close of day.  
Through years of sorrow, joy, familiar cares;  
Life at its best -- a rounded cup we drink;  
Then sleep, to find that peace  
Which is the heart's embrace.  
And spirit fettered in a mortal frame,  
Throws off restraint at last  
To seek a haven in the March of Life  
Which ageless destiny proclaims.

The public is cordially invited to enjoy this special program. May we have a good representation from your organization to welcome Mr. Robertson and listen to how a poet deals with the serious problems of our times. Thank you for telling others about this.

Cordially  
Margaret Shaw Beldy.

# FIRST RECITAL HERE BY PHYLLIS CURTIN

In Debut at Town Hall, Artist  
Sings Works by Mozart,  
Faure and Mussorgsky

Phyllis Curtin's recital at Town Hall yesterday evening was that relatively rare event, a first New York recital with a genuine musical contribution to offer. Although this young soprano has been heard a number of times hereabouts, chiefly in concerts of contemporary music, this was her first full-length recital on her own, and a most interesting and rewarding one it proved to be.

Miss Curtin's voice is altogether lovely in quality, and is used with equal assurance throughout its entire range. But her concern was so exclusively with communication that one was conscious only of the music itself. And the music was chosen with remarkable taste and intelligence, consisting entirely of unhackneyed selections.

First came a group of four numbers by Mozart, including two beautiful lieder that reminded us of Mozart's sometimes forgotten eminence as a song writer. These were followed by a group of Faure's songs—most of them unfamiliar, and all of them full of Faure's exquisite delicacy and originality.

Then the musical landscape shifted to Africa, as Miss Curtin sang a group of three settings of native Madagascan texts by Faure's pupil, Ravel, scored for voice, piano, flute and 'cello. The delicate and exotic sonorities that Ravel contrived to find in this unusual combination were expertly explored by the flutist, Samuel Baron, and the 'cellist, Seymour Barab, as well as Miss Curtin's sensitive and capable pianist, Gregory Tucker.

After the intermission, the musical scene shifted again, this time to the Russian nursery of Mussorgsky's children's songs. Miss Curtin was particularly charming in these little vignettes, picturing the joys and trials of a child's life with his family and his toys. In such episodes as a gallop on a hobby horse, or a bedside prayer in which the child experiences some difficulty in remembering the names of innumerable aunts and uncles, Miss Curtin showed an imaginative

power and conviction that was altogether delightful.

To conclude the concert, Miss Curtin offered some Latin-American selections quite unknown here. A group of four songs by Oscar Lorenzo Fernandez, director of the Brazilian Conservatory of Music till his death in 1948, were traditional in harmony, but quite beautiful and individual, and altogether a pleasure to hear. Alejandro Garcia Caturia's three Cuban songs were more modern in idiom, full of vitality and excitement.

Perhaps it might have been possible to pick minor flaws in Miss Curtin's performance—one could imagine a greater inwardness and sensitivity in the Faure songs. And lovely as her voice was, one was sometimes conscious of the variances in quality between its different registers.

But these were minor matters compared to Miss Curtin's gifts and achievement. She is already a mature artist, who can make a recital a rewarding and pleasurable event. If she can continue to grow, her future should be brilliant, indeed.

E. L.

## TURCANO AND LIGETI HEARD IN 'TURANDOT'

Two changes in cast last night's performance of Puccini's "Turandot" which the opera house in

4.  
With much love -  
Margaret Belsky.

90 Morningside Drive  
New York 27 N.Y.  
Aug 14, 1950

Dear Sam & Jane: -

Every day I  
planned to write you  
but with my sickness,  
and work in the Hospital,  
and now my resting at

Ann's I find I am way  
 behind in my work in every  
 way. I expect to stay here  
 another week or so. Anthony  
 sleeps at home but he comes  
 here to see me every day.  
 Susan is still at Camp Andree  
 but has applied for a "Campership"—  
 which means that she has  
 applied for the job of waking  
 the campers up every morn-  
 ing by her trumpet. If she  
 is chosen for the "Campership"  
 she will remain at Camp

Andree <sup>for an additional</sup> ~~for another~~ <sup>(3) two weeks stay</sup> ~~in the camp.~~

The C. E. has unfortunately had to  
 get along without me this summer  
 but they are such friendly good  
 people and have all helped to  
 keep up the meetings and teas and the  
 Friday dinner socials.

I trust you are enjoying your  
 summer in Europe and we will  
 all be eager to hear you tell about  
 your trip when we see you.

WU



Miss Laura J. Musser,  
Buckingham Hotel  
57th St. & Sixth Ave.  
New York, N.Y.

*Linder Hill  
Little Falls.  
Minnesota*

THE JOINT EMERGENCY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION AND  
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTERS  
25th Floor  
Municipal Building  
New York City

November 21, 1950

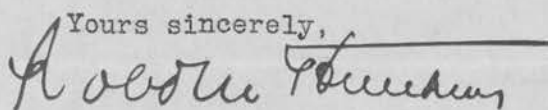
Dear Friend:

This emergency committee was formed in greatest haste to protect the national interest in securing the allocation of a fair proportion of television frequencies for educational purposes.

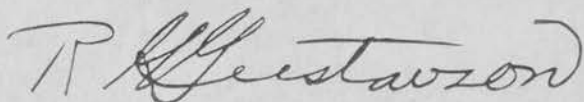
We are confronted by a crisis. The Federal Communications Commission has called hearings on these allocations beginning November 27th instead of, as originally expected, some time in February or March, 1951. If we do not act now, television will go the way of radio and this magnificent educational and cultural medium will be lost to the people irrevocably.

The facts are set forth in the enclosed memorandum. We have not a penny available at this writing. We urge you to read this memorandum and to respond as generously and as quickly as you can, remembering that we have only a few weeks in which to protect one of our greatest cultural resources from almost total debasement.

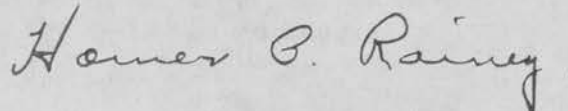
Yours sincerely,



Robert M. Hutchins  
Chancellor, University of Chicago



R. G. Gustavson  
Chancellor, University of Nebraska



Homer P. Rainey  
President, Stephens College

PS: Please make checks payable to W. I. Griffith, Treasurer, the National Association of Educational Broadcasters. If possible, wire or special delivery your gift to Robert M. Hutchins at this address, that we may make your support immediately available for pressing tasks during the weeks of the hearings.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION:

Beginning on November 27th, the Federal Communications Commission will hold hearings for a period of two weeks regarding allocation of frequencies for television.

Today there are 107 television stations broadcasting on allotted frequencies. Two hundred and fifty very high frequency channels are still to be assigned. Twelve universities are now ready to apply for educational television licenses. In many instances appropriations have been voted by Boards of Trustees or State Legislatures to make their work possible. Many others have definite plans in various stages of preparation.

Originally it was expected that the F.C.C. would not hold hearings until February or March, but the precipitate decision regarding color television has opened the question of channel allocations on short notice. It takes time to convince regents, legislators and other authorities, and hundreds of universities and public service organizations are not yet prepared to take advantage of the opportunities offered by television.

A Joint Committee on Educational Television has been organized in an emergency attempt to convince the F.C.C. that at least 25% of all frequencies should be reserved in perpetuity for public interest educational purposes. The Joint Committee will represent the nation's leading educational institutions and cultural centers, the National Educational Association, the National Association of Educational Broadcasters, the National Association of State Universities, the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities, and has the support of the U. S. Office of Education.

This is the last chance of ever securing a national decision to devote

some fair share of television frequencies in the public interest rather than for primarily commercial exploitation. Aside from the 250 channels in the very high frequencies which are to be allotted (the best and most practical channels with present equipment) there is a strong possibility that the entire two thousand channels in the less desirable frequencies will be preempted by monopolistic interests. Even if a few of these should be allotted for educational purposes, the Bridgeport experiments conducted by Radio Corporation of America indicate that fifteen to twenty times the amount of power will be required to operate on these frequencies in order to cover only one third as large a geographical area, thereby placing public service programming at an even greater disadvantage than now exists on AM and FM radio.

Ohio State University is loaning the services of Mr. Keith Tyler to organize the presentation of the case for the general public. General Telford Taylor, former General Counsel for the F.C.C., has agreed to serve as Chief Counsel for the Joint Committee with the assistance of other leading counsel. Substantial out of pocket expenses must be met to bring university presidents, leading representatives of 112 member stations of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters network, museum directors and other exponents of American cultural life to Washington to serve as witnesses, produce transcripts of our statements, prepare rebuttals to arguments offered by commercial network and station representatives. Most of all, the basic issue must be made available to the intelligent public.

At the moment the tangible equipment with which the Joint Committee works is a single desk at the National Education Association.

In some localities, the saturation point has already been reached in

allocation of the desirable Very High Frequency channels. The basic purpose of traditional American preferential treatment of education is at stake. In the growth of our nation, our country allocated a first portion of each township within the Northwest Territory for public schooling in 1787. Later, with the expansion of the West, we not only granted substantial tracts of land to expedite development of railroads, but we also made grants of land to colleges as part of an experiment in popular democracy.

The issues of our day demand that we develop mature judgement on the part of our citizens, and further the function of citizenship, so that people may decide public issues on the basis of hearing every side of every question.

It is regrettable that the heads of our universities must now go hat in hand to a government agency to plead to have our cultural values recognized in the utilization of perhaps the most potent educational medium of our day. Over a period of nearly three decades, the F.C.C. has shown extreme reluctance to make any decisions contrary to the immediate interests of the large commercial networks.

We have allowed radio to be despoiled. A large part of present television service is used to show Grade B, C and Z moving pictures, with occasional interludes for commercials. We do not suggest any unfair restriction of free competition for product merchandising. We merely insist that universities and public service agencies devoted to the physical, mental and moral well-being of the population have a right to operate their own television facilities.

This very crisis is bringing together men and women who are now planning to pool their resources through the collaboration of our major symphony orchestras, museums of the fine arts, agencies for the extension of the public

health, our schools of engineering, medicine, science and the liberal values. The American people have every right to see on their television sets productions of the great dramas; interpretations of our national collections of sculpture, paintings and our architectural monuments; ballets, concerts and other fine American achievements available to relatively few citizens until the development of television.

Singly, even the greatest universities are powerless before the legal onslaught of several billion dollars represented by NBC, CBS, MBS, ABC - the major manufacturers and merchandisers of our business economy. There need be no such conflict if all concerned will come to a temperate agreement. There is considerable danger that the commercial interests will demand and get the whole hog.

A minimum of \$25,000 is needed to make anything like an effective presentation of the fundamental facts. We need financial assistance urgently prior to the date of the hearings, but we will continue to need financial help during the two weeks of testimony. Contributions are urgently needed.

November 20, 1950

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION

Representing:

National Association of Educational Broadcasters  
National Education Association  
Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities  
National Association of State Universities

1337 Rappahannock Ave  
Johnstown Pa



1950



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
The Buckingham Hotel # 1104  
101 West 57th St  
New York City, N. Y.

or contact with others I may find a better absolute to replace the old - but I never toss them out until I'm sure I've a better one to take its place. Of course we humans are always beset by doubts and unanswerable questions - but it should not disturb us to a tragic extent - for if we knew all - we would be God, and we're not -

To me a honest doubter who never gives up seeking is by far the best person in the world - for when we become too sure we know the answers then we have closed our minds

1337 Rappahannock  
Johnstown, Pa.  
Jan. 31, 1950

Dear Laura Jane,

Thank you for your friendly interesting letter and I do hope you can find time to visit us. I'm sure you must carry a heavy schedule. I'm so sorry you have been ill and hope it is all in the past and you are now fine. Certainly it is difficult to go through the duties of the day when one's body is crying for mercy!

I certainly agree with you when you speak of being tolerant of others.

3/ He like trying to solve a mathematical problem without such absolutes as  $2 + 2 = 4$ . Maybe it doesn't, we don't know, but we must assume for the present that it does or we would be lost in a helpless maze - Perhaps some genius will someday discover that it does not - But until we have a better absolute to go by we must work on this basis.

I have certain basic beliefs which I have chosen to accept as my absolutes - then I try to keep my mind open so that at anytime from my reading and study

2/ The only thing I am intolerant of is intolerance, I think! One must broaden oneself - and yet I think it is possible to become so broad we are flat and have no convictions nor beliefs. Then a person is indeed a pathetic creature - tossed to and fro by the doubts of life. There are people who try to throw away everything they have ever been taught and build a religious belief with no absolutes - and it just cannot be done. We must begin with a few absolutes which are assumptions, of course, and build from there. Otherwise it would

to further truth.

Marcy! That sounds like a preacher, doesn't it? I'm sorry. I'm alone, it is midnight and late at night. I always was philosophical (or something) - anyway I like to think and I have a passion for knowledge and truth.

We've had such a grand experience by sharing our ~~home~~ family with this displaced Persons family. The Ostapiaks came to us in October. A father, Mother & five children - ages 7-19. 2 boys, 3 girls.

3/1 Mother and Daddy are here, also. They enjoyed their visit with you so very much. They refer to it often. Dad is feeling much better - for which we are all thankful.

I have a big house and we are glad because we can have big crowds living here without feeling crowded.

It is past midnight and I am terribly sleepy - so I shall send this on to you - hoping I may see you before too long.

Sincerely,  
Mary Cover Bowman  
(Mrs. Clarence)

3/1 The next week after they came they went to a home provided by our church, and I had just the oldest daughter, Maria (age 19) with me. She's a lovely girl and we love having her here with us. She has her college degree, tho' she can speak very little English.

They were a rather well-to-do Ukrainian farmers, whose home was destroyed by the war and their property taken by the communists. They spent 5 years in D. P. camps in Germany before coming over here.

408 Moss Ave  
Endicott, N.Y.

Air Mail



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
608 Highland Avenue  
Little Falls  
Minnesota



I just remembered I forgot  
To wish someone I like a lot--

A Happy Birthday!

6/5/50

Dear Laura Jane,

I hadn't really forgotten. For  
some time I've had it in mind  
to get a note off to you for  
your birthday if I didn't (inside)

manage to before. But last week the baby was sick with a bad cold and then I had a four-day bout with stomach flu so I had little time or energy to think of anything else. So please forgive my tardiness and know that I do hope you had a very happy birthday.

I hope this finds you in Little Falls. Are you going to spend at least part of the hot months there this year? You spoke of a possible trip to Europe in July. Any further plans? How was your trip West. I presume you visited as many of your relatives as are still living out there? Where are all the Walkers and the Taylors now? It is years since I have heard anything of them.

Everything is going along as usual here. We still have had no success in selling the house; and unless something develops soon, we are prepared to purchase bunk beds and start stacking the children one atop another. Now that the nice weather starts I am so eager to get out into the yard where there is always so much to be done - almost as much as there is to be done indoors, and much more fun to do. But this summer Lorna will take most of my time. She is coming along very well, growing and gaining rapidly. She smiles and "talks" and plays with rattles in her play pen. The other

day she turned herself over  
from stomach to back - to her  
own great bewilderment and  
dismay.

Now I must go make  
Lorna's formula, give her  
her last bottle for the day,  
and then to bed. Please  
write when you can and  
let me know what you are  
doing.

Much love,  
Lillian



15B262-3

©1957  
HALL BROTHERS, INC.

Sorry I Forgot Your Birthday





Miss Laura Jane Mussel

The Hotel Buckingham #1104

101 W. 57<sup>th</sup> Street

New York, New York

Saturday Evening

Dear Laura Jane,

Thank you so much for the lovely letter! I have liked your recent letters especially much because of the happiness and serenity they reflect. I am so glad that you have a glorious summer ahead of you. The journey with your mother will be an experience to cherish; the one to Scandinavia, full of gaiety and learning. Should you like to meet a former student of mine (from Minneapolis) who is in Stockholm

with her husband, I'll be glad to  
send you her address. Both Joan  
and her husband are studying there,  
she in ceramics and he in economics.  
Joan is lovely and would be happy,  
I'm sure, to share some of her  
best loved sites of the city with  
you. Since they've been abroad  
more than a year, Joan no doubt  
speaks the language somewhat  
fluently. That might be a help to  
you also.

I'm glad you've had happy  
hours with Marion Anderson again.

I somehow felt you would. I  
heard her speak one Sunday

afternoon during an Opera intermission  
(via radio). Her voice, quiet  
and calm, brought to mind  
her charming quiet and sweetness,  
spirit as we found them during  
the few moments we saw her  
in the Nicolet Hotel long  
years ago. Do you remember  
how generously you shared  
her song & person with  
many, many friends? And  
you were radiant that  
Sunday afternoon in the  
midst of your many, many guests!  
We heard the last Symphony

of the season last Saturday.  
Beethoven's Pastoral & a Brahms  
symphony became rich and  
moving and tremendously exciting  
music through the gifted direction  
of Dr. Munch. He is indeed a  
sensitive, confident artist!

The forsythia are out — a golden  
glory everywhere along New  
England fences! And magnolia  
trees are a cloud of white  
and delicate pink between  
the grey and yellow houses.  
We watch the violets appear  
and daffodils nod in the wind.  
We wait for plum & apple fragrance.

Perhaps you read that  
Longfellow's grandson, Professor  
Dana, died last week. He  
was a charming tie with a  
Cambridge that has passed—  
the era of grace & culture  
found in the days of  
Emerson, Lowell, Hawthorne, etc.  
I wish you might have  
met him when you were here.

Since Rose & I shall be here  
until July 1, you can come  
by later, we hope. (Rose  
is making chocolate cookies & cake of course!)  
Wish you could come by for tea even now.) Pleasant  
with



Mrs

Laura Jane

Misser

608 HIGHLAND  
AVENUE  
LITTLE FALLS.

Minnesota  
U. S. A.

E. Dygaard  
Fjaerland  
Sogn  
Norway.

Fjarland

Sogn

Norway

10/11-50

Dear Miss. Müsser,

So glad I felt to receive your letter. You are kind - as I felt and thought you should be. At Mündal Hotel I saw so many people this last summer. But I do see you clearer than the others. I could like to dance with you - I feel it still how you could better than others understand the world which is mine (my one). I felt like that we had seen each others and played together for many years. I have my farm - have to work rather hard. Seldom I do see other people than them in my house - my family. But this summer I now and then went to the hotel to get a dance. I am fond of

Dancing and I am fond of  
Nice radiant-looking ladies.

I do not know why. But  
ladies are like flowers. The  
fullcome blossoms are in my  
eyes those ladies who are  
natural (not sophisticated) so  
natural that they in colours and  
in form in mannere. So not  
keep away from a newgrown  
Spring-blossom. I havent seen  
any American - but here  
my best is to see the first blossom  
just after the snow is disappeared.

Music is not nice-ar.

A poem - a picture is not more  
nice. Only a girl who  
is brought up neare Nature  
can be prettier.

I found so much beauty  
in you. That gave me  
stenght for my work.

When I was young  
I dreamed about to come  
to an American College  
for to learn  
but I could not help in much misery.

(2) Beauty if we think of it - is  
gives courage and hope  
and delight. I thank you  
Of all the roses you  
got into my memory and  
stopped there. I will  
give you an advice:  
Be so open - so child-like  
so simple so kind to  
others so unselfish as you  
for one seemed to be at  
Hotel Mündal - and you  
will in your life find  
true joy and be able  
to look forward in  
happy hope. You must  
excuse my bad English.  
I have reached myself.  
And if I use some words  
completely wrong so  
that you find

Your friends - the ball one - 3 also could see has been well brought up -  
I think the American youths of to day are more natural than the

An other meaning - perhaps -  
opposite what I mean - you  
must not be offended.

I am writing from my  
heart - not from brain -  
though I believe it .  
also is the the only way  
we are happy go - the  
way our heart show.

First I will tell you  
that I have a nice wife and  
three sons and one daughter.  
My eldest son is 26 years old.  
My second 21 my third  
16 - my daughter 24.

She married for over a year  
ago and so live far away  
so I miss her very much.  
She was so like you.

When I saw you I thought  
it was my daughter.

If you have time I hope you will write me again.

I do like reading books, magazines  
newspapers. All the winter  
which is long here I do not  
come out from my farm.

But I have a kind dog, 4 horses  
cows and sheep.

The animals are tender  
like you and always do  
look to me with twinkling  
eyes. They cannot speak  
but I understand their  
language. People I  
do meet in books, in  
papers and in letters.

I am not isolated  
as long as I can read  
and write. I am just  
in bed after an exciting  
day, but before I  
think of sleeping I read

I am no thinker after I know ledge - that kind who helps me  
to develop my personality - as long as we grow we are  
growing.

(3) My second son is a student. He broke his leg the summer 1949 — and broke it a new The spring 1950. He is just coming home after 26 weeks in bed at a hospital — and he can still only walk with crutches. I thought I should loose him after an operation with complications following. He was so clever — but on football camp he broke — His exam he took in bed though he had fever.

My youngest son is at Balholm at a High school.

I am not well situated economical, but I do live an interesting spiritual life.

Morning: Good!

I light my little paraffin lamp.

It is 7 o'clock. There is not light before 9 now.

I read a little. I play: Fallen Angels.

I am glad of reading plays.

I have not the opportunity to see them in theater or Cinema, like you.

When the morning starts with some

words reading where it is nice style

and music and poetic — it

makes me to see the beauty

when I look through the window.

Each day is another one. Not two are like. Different. New pictures!

Nature is kind. We who live lonely have to look at all these pictures —

we feel them — one day is cold

an other warmer. One day with

mist, & lay over the tops — one

day bright. The sun so shines

I hope you are kind to your father and mother — I was once of them to send you to away where they had their honey moon.

(4) your letter once more  
and have a talk (chat) with  
you in this letter. I do write  
all my letters in bed. The body  
have a rest while my thoughts  
get some exercise.

And when I have you  
in front of me (image)  
I feel the contact - and  
I am sure of a good sleep  
and a refreshing night.

My wife let me have  
my fully freedom.

I can choose my friends  
and she can have hers.

So spiritually we both are  
independent. There is cold -  
but I train myself to sleep  
all the winter without warm  
air - window open.

Now my hands are cold -  
and I will say Good night.

But when he knew so come our cards all the dead's - we are not  
longer with them. We can live in hope for a new spring.

The air is thin  
as not easy - it is heavy with all the leaves fallen  
and all the dead leaves - we do so easy given my head  
more.

on this sort of struggle.

We should hope it may not be  
a new World War.

I can understand very well all what  
you write - and you can write just  
as if it was to an American - just  
natural. I have a dictionary.

I like to hear about your father and  
mother and your sisters. I had relations  
in America. But now I do not know  
their address. You are lucky who live  
in such a big world and could make  
a trip to the European Continent. I

do not travel now. My safe money I  
must use to education for my sons.

I do like them to learn languages -  
After they must choose to be ~~three~~ sweepers -  
if they want - but I knowlege also them  
will be easy for them to carry.

I do hope you will have a  
good winter with much joy and with that  
kind of work that make you happy.

Yours sincerely Erik Oygard

Remember me to your friends - and your my love to your mother and  
father - then  
min

nice and interesting  
you seem and felt  
education, so  
a good  
you  
have given  
11

(5) only about an hour now.

We have just now so much that to  
keep it white. On the mountain  
 $1\frac{1}{2}$  yard snow.

You are kind while you  
have in thought to send me magazines.

You do not know how much joy you  
give me with that. If you in  
the newspapers you read do see  
Culture stuff - I mean articles about  
literature, art - Philosophy - Psychology -  
outlook on life - Peace - personality -  
education - you could cut some out  
and send me in open envelope as  
print. I would be thankful.

I have not skomnie to read all  
newspapers - news and politics I am  
not so interested in. Have you  
any relations in the Korea War?

I am sorry the world keep away



# The Methodist Publishing House

● 150 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 11, NEW YORK

HARRY F. KEISER, *Manager*

November 24, 1950

Miss Laura Jane Musser  
Linden Hill  
Little Falls, Minn.

Dear Miss Musser;

Your order was referred to us since we are the retail distributors for the Abingdon Cokesbury Press. We have ordered your book sent from our manufacturing division in Nashville so that if a copy is available, we will be able to send it to you.

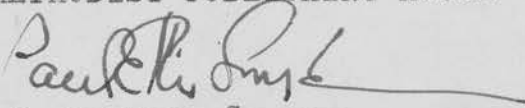
Dr Sockman's books include;  
HIGHER HAPPINESS 2.00  
DATE WITH DESTINY 1.50  
HIGHWAY OF GOD 2.00  
LINE FOR TOMORROW 1.25  
NOW TO LIVE 2.00  
RECOVERIES IN RELIGION 2.00

All of these we have in stock, and will be happy to send any of them to you.

We hope we have been able to help, and look forward to being of whatever future service we may. If there is anything further we may do, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Yours Sincerely,

THE METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE

  
Paul Ellis Snyder

— PATRONIZE YOUR PUBLISHING HOUSE —



CHRISTMAS

726 Glenmeade St.  
Laguna Beach,  
Calif.



Miss Laura Jane Musser,  
Little Falls,  
Minnesota.



## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The Manse,  
726 Glenneyre Street,  
Laguna Beach.

December 18, 1950

My dear Friends:

In these pre-Christmas days I am thinking of my favorite Christmas stanza from Tennyson's "In Memoriam" ---

"The time draws near the birth of Christ,  
The moon is hid, the night is still:  
The Christmas bells from hill to hill  
Answer each other in the mist."

How often, as a boy, walking through the snow-clad countryside of England at Christmas time, I have heard the bells of the village churches vying with each other as they proclaimed the good news of the approaching Holy Festival!

The sad condition of the world would seem to be a repudiation of those ideals that came to mankind when Mary brought forth the World's Hope in the manger at Bethlehem; but it is not so; the Christmas bells are ringing, and I hope we may all hear them in our souls, and find new courage and faith at this Christmas time: faith in goodness and love, in kindness and truth, in brotherhood and peace. These are the eternal truths that Christ taught and lived, and therefore the realities of Christmas.

My wish for you is that you may find a beautiful and abiding peace at this Holy Season as your faith in Christ is renewed and strengthened. The future looks ominous, and we who love freedom may be tested to the last ounce of our courage; but fear not! The Christmas bells are ringing and they shall continue to ring!

Mrs. Gregory joins me in sending our affectionate regards and our best wishes for your happiness.

Sincerely yours,

*Philip Gregory*

P.S. The enclosed envelope is for your convenience if you wish to make a special gift through the church for Christmas. This gift is not for our own church, but for the needy of the world.

P. E. G.

Dear Laura Jane -

Your very thoughtful  
Christmas gift came to us and we are  
going to enjoy reading the book I  
know. So glad you could be home  
for Christmas. We remember some  
very Happy Christmases in your home  
when you were a little girl.  
This Christmas letter to my parish  
has been so well received that I  
thought you might like to read  
it. Also my favorite Christmas poem  
about "The Crèche" on the church  
program. These words have been set to  
music & Harriet's Little Sunday School  
choir sings it. Mr. & Mrs. Musser  
remembered us so generously this  
Christmas too. I will be writing to  
them & so will Harriet. Happy New  
Year! We both send our love.

Sincerely yours

Philip Egeorgy

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS EVENING, Sunday, December 24th, at 7:30 o'clock, a beautiful and inspiring program of Christmas music will be given at the Community Presbyterian Church, by The Festival of Arts Choir, under the direction of Dr. David Young. The program will last one hour, and has been put at an early hour in the evening in order to enable us all to attend and still have time for the traditional family gatherings on Christmas Eve. If our building had been finished this service of music would have been held in our church. The program is so outstanding that we should all try to attend.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CHURCH will be held in our new Parish House on Wednesday, January 17th. It may be that everything will not be completely finished, but we'll manage somehow. A pot-luck supper is to be served under the auspices of the Woman's Association at 6:30 P.M. An excellent program of music and fun will be given by Mr. and Mrs. Willard Bassett and Mr. Arthur Cannon, of Santa Ana. Reports of the work of the various organizations will be given, also reports of the Pastor, Treasurer, Church Clerk and Moderator of the Church Council. Officers for the coming year will be elected and other business transacted. Further announcement of this important meeting will be made. Please save the date — January 17th.

TWO NEW COMMITTEES have been appointed by the Church Council as we plan to begin to use our new Parish House:

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Mr. Gilbert McKinzie, Mr. Carl Hind, Mr. Lloyd Seilset, Mrs. Robert E. Myhrman and Mrs. Howard W. Planalp. The committee will be convened by Mr. Lloyd Seilset and will elect its own chairman.

THE LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE: Mr. Vann Newinger, Mr. C. R. Cameron, Mr. James Austin, Mrs. W. F. Atkinson and Mrs. Ernest Hilsdorf. Mrs. W. F. Atkinson is the chairman of this committee.

THE WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION has had an excellent year of progress and fine fellowship under the capable leadership of Mrs. Harry Mills. The Friendly Service quota of one dozen sheets has been filled, and the sheets have been sent to the Flint Goodrich Hospital at Austin, Texas. This is the only hospital in the South where Negro doctors are permitted to do interne work and where Negroes and Whites work side by side. Extra sheets have also been sent to the Congregational Missionary Hospital at Grants, New Mexico. The contribution of clothing and Christmas gifts to the Migrant Workers was most generous. Individual projects are continuing to bring in money for the Talent Fund which goes into the Building Fund of the Woman's Association. One member sent in 75.00 which she had raised by making and selling Christmas cards. The biggest task has been the furnishing of the kitchen in the new Parish House. We are all going to be very proud of the excellent equipment the ladies have provided. We thank these ladies for the dedication of themselves to the service of the church.

THE CHURCH IS TRYING to raise the necessary amount of money for the budget for the 1951. All our people have been sent subscription cards through the mail. Some have responded and sent in their subscription cards to the church treasurer, but there are many more yet to come in. The treasurer informs us that more than half the people who have sent in their cards have raised their subscriptions. For this we are very grateful because we are to face some rather heavy financial obligations this coming year. Weekly envelopes are provided for those who care for them. Mr. Planalp, the Treasurer, will be at the back of the church today at the close of the service to give out these envelopes to those who will be wanting them. Please get your subscription card in right away. Thank you!

BREVITIES: Thanks to Mrs. Planalp and her helpers for the beautiful Christmas decorations in our place of worship. - - - The Discussion Group, studying, "The Life and Records of Jesus," meets each Wednesday at 4:00 P.M. at the home of Mrs. Marjorie Beach, 1007 Gaviota Drive, under the direction of Dr. William Middlemass. - - - The next meeting of The Service Committee will be held on Thursday, Jan. 4th, at 2:00 P.M. at 1095 Hillcrest Drive. - - - Welcome to visitors in our church today! We hope you will find our service inspiring and challenging and our fellowship warm and friendly. If you live in Laguna Beach and have no church home, we invite you to make your home with us. Please sign the Guest Book of the church. - - - The pastor is as near as your telephone and is anxious to be of service where there is need. Please call him, Phone, 4-5004.

MAY THE PEACE OF WHICH THE ANGELS SANG ON THE FIRST  
CHRISTMAS MORN BE IN YOUR HEARTS AT THIS HOLY SEASON  
AND THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

Litho in U.S.A. No. 5080L  
Copyright 1949 Augsburg Publishing House



# NEIGHBORHOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

OF LAGUNA BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Minister: The Rev. Philip E. Gregory

726 Glenneyre Street, Phone 4-5004

Church Secretary: Miss Winifred Lombard

Church Treasurer: Mr. Howard W. Planalp

Pianist: Mrs. Leonard Wood

## A CHRISTMAS SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1950, 10:30 A. M.

The Preparation for Worship:

"Prelude" ..... Bach  
"Consolation in D Flat" ..... Liszt

The Pastoral Call to Worship.

The Invocation, with Lord's Prayer and Response.

\*\*

The Responsive Reading, No. 645.

Hymn, No. 105 "O Come, All Ye Faithful!"

The Scripture Reading, Luke 2, 1-20.

\*\*

Songs....."Shepherds, Awake!" ..... Davis  
"Mary's Song" ..... Franck - Tkash  
The Double Trio

The Period of Quietness and Silent Prayer.

The Pastoral Prayer, with Response.

The Offertory....."Cello Solo  
Jack Lighthart.

Songs....."I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" ..... Noble Cain  
"A Joyous Christmas Song" (Norwegian Carol) ..... Hokanson  
The Double Trio

A Christmas Meditation....."Good Tidings!"  
The Minister

Hymn, No. 98 "Silent Night! Holy Night!"

The Benediction, with Dresden Amen.

The Postlude....."Joy to the World" ..... Handel-Ashford

\*\*Intervals for Ushering.

The congregation stands for the singing of the hymns as  
the pianist commences to play the last line of the music.

The host and hostess for our service today  
are the Rev. and Mrs. William S. Middlemass.

The Double Trio: Doris Shields, Virginia Tomlinson, Gerta Seilset,  
Martha MacDougal, Margaret Sheppard and Margery Thomas.

Accompanists: Nan Wood and Ailene Adams.

"FEAR NOT, FOR BEHOLD I BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY  
WHICH SHALL BE TO ALL PEOPLE: FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY,  
IN THE CITY OF DAVID, A SAVIOUR WHICH IS CHRIST THE LORD."

## A SERVICE FOR THE NEW YEAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1950, 10:30 A. M.

The Preparation for Worship:

"Andante Religioso" ..... Grieg  
"Ave Maria" ..... Liszt

The Pastoral Call to Worship.

The Invocation, with Lord's Prayer and Three-fold Amen.

\*\*

The Responsive Reading, No. 606.

Hymn, No. 177 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past."

The Scripture Reading, Psalm 90.

\*\*

Solo....."Evening and Morning" ..... Spicker  
Doris Shields

The Period of Quietness and Silent Prayer.

The Pastoral Prayer, with Palestrina Response.

The Offertory....."Pastorale" ..... Yon

Hymn, No. 174 "O God, the Rock of Ages"

The Sermon....."FACING THE NEW YEAR"  
The Minister.

Hymn, No. 459 "Standing at the Portal of the Opening Year."

The Benediction, with Dresden Amen.

The Postlude....."Angelus" ..... Massenet

\*\*Intervals for Ushering.

The hostess for our service today is Miss Grace Bridge.

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE CRECHE

Come, hang the greens and plant the Tree,  
And light the Christmas candles;  
Your carols sing of Wise Men Three,—  
Of Shepherds in their sandals.

Go, get you straw and get you wood  
And build again the stable,  
For you will find it very good  
Who dress in silk and sable.

Go, build again the wooden bed,  
The cattle standing round it,  
The straw to pillow His sweet head  
The Shepherds to surround it.

Then kneel beside the manger bed,  
And feel the loving awe  
That takes all simple-hearted folk  
Who kneel upon the straw.

—Alice Gregg.

VIA AIR MAIL



Linden Hill  
Little Falls, Minn.  
Miss Laura Jane Mueser  
~~40 Hotel Alorset~~  
~~30 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street~~  
~~New York City, N. Y.~~

|  |      |
|--|------|
|  | YAW  |
|  | NO 6 |
|  | INGS |
|  |      |
|  |      |
|  |      |

C. B. from  
 1508 West 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Los Angeles, Calif.



Cooper  
and  
Bruck

Los Angeles

701

Nov. 1949

Parents.

To say the least, I did  
and do appreciate your  
lovely books. As soon as Bruce  
can grasp the meanings  
of phrases, etc., I'll start  
reading the Q<sup>2</sup> book to him.

Thank you once again  
for your lovely gifts.

Were you able to use the  
sequin ear-rings I sent you.

We write soon. I hear-  
am hoping to hear from  
you. All our love,  
Father

Jan 2<sup>d</sup>, 1950

Dearest Laura Jane,

Here we are starting  
another year off - how  
glad I am that 1949 has  
gone.

For one thing,  
my father passed  
away last year and  
was buried in Korea.  
That fact alone left  
me quite depressed  
and melancholy the

remainder of the year.  
However, I'm slowly  
coming out, my shell and  
being more of my usual  
self.

How did you enjoy  
your holidays, Laura, dear?

We are going to see  
Shankar's dance recital.  
I am looking forward to  
seeing it with much  
expectations.

You must be back  
into your full swing of  
studying, composing and  
concert going.

Please give my best  
regards to Delma Votjka.

I would appreciate  
your address, Laura, as  
I don't have it. The last  
address I have noted is - the  
Hotel Dorset.

How are you



Miss Laura Jane Mosser  
Buckingham apts  
507 St at Sixth Ave  
New York  
N.Y.



# Christian Endeavor Society.

Bray Tabernacle Church.

Feb 19 - Miss Leslie R. Rounds, speaker.

Feb 26 - Miss Alberto Rembau, speaker.

Mar 5 - Miss Almeida Bussert. speaker.

Special - Party - Feb. 24 - 3rd floor.

Miss Violet Wideman, hostess.

Be sure to come -

Mr. Belatuy. Pres.



Miss Laura Jane Mueser  
Linden Hill  
Little Falls  
Minnesota

708 EAST THIRD STREET,      NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

Rt

708 EAST THIRD STREET,

NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

Dear Laura —

You cannot to have had a delightful time in Europe. Did you find the Scandinavian countries as fascinating as you expected? Harry will be surprised if you didn't!

I immediately took your letter and the Kobart brochure to Henry Woodward who is chairman of the Dept. of Music and does all the arranging for our limited concert course. Unfortunately all the budget for such is allocated for this school year — with a slight possibility of an opening in the spring; but Henry was definitely interested and I suggest you have Miss Kobart send her literature — with prices etc. — to him. The

address is simply: Mr. Henry Woodward,  
Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota.

School is once again in full  
swing and we are going at the  
usual slightly mad pace.

Our love to you and  
your dear mother and father,

Aye.

Reg. Baker

9 October 1950

# WALTHER AGENCY OF LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD

Legal Reserve Life Insurance For Lutherans

608 Second Avenue South - Minneapolis 2, Minnesota

H. E. WALTHER, F.I.C. - GENERAL AGENT

WALTHER AGENCY OFFICE

709 Torrey Building

P. O. Box 445

Duluth 1, Minnesota

- 1/5/50 -

Miss LAURA JANE Musser

Little Falls, Minnesota

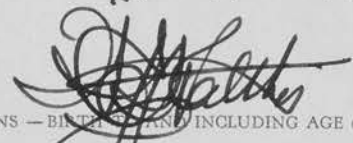
DEAR LAURA JANE -

In the mail of yesterday, we received our beloved Christmas Gift from you, the Delicious Tin of Candied Fruit. As the Package was sent first to our Old Bemidji Address, then was forwarded to our first Address in Duluth, then to the Address where we now live, there naturally was some Delay - However, when one considers the amount of handling involved, it wasn't too long was it?!

We've been in Duluth, since the 2nd of March, 1949, since which time, I've been working with ALL my power to create & maintain this Agency & its Personnel, under the usual limited Capital Arrangement -

Please let us hear from you -

Loyally, Your Old Friends, "Sarge" & "Hub" Walther



Nov 7-1950  
51 E 42 St. NYC.

MY DEAR MISS MUSSER.

I would have answered your letter sooner, I decided to wait a few days to reward you with the clippings from the N.Y. newspapers. I was at the mat at 6 o'clock looked around back stage & went home, somehow I do not like opening nights. However I have watched the performance via television, and fine performance it was.

I have seen Miss Rotipala about a month ago she is in a good shape ready for the season.

As to your pedalo leave everything alone occasional hot foot baths will be enough until I see you.

I shall save anything about Miss Shelton in the papers for you, Miss Shelton did not sing opening night, nevertheless attended the performance as you see from the picture. I have send you Olin Dawson's story under separate cover -

— remain with best regards  
Yours ever P. Decker



Miss Fama Jane Musser  
"Linden Hill"  
Little Falls,  
Minn.

Mr. Bellety.  
29-62, 168 St  
Flushing, N.Y.

Mr. Bellety.

29-62, 168 St

Flushing, N.Y.

## CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR NEWS.

Published by the president of the Christian Endeavor Society of the  
Broadway Tabernacle Church, Broadway and 56 Sts. New York, N.Y., U.S.A.  
Vol. VI., number 2. June 11, 1950. "Only Once a Stranger." (motto)

### GENS OF THOUGHT

#### FROM RECENT PRAYER MEETINGS.

Though Christians and Communists may agree that ignorance and poverty exist within each group, the stand that Christians should take is-

1. Christians believe in the development of the individual.
2. A good end does not justify evil means.
3. Christians believe in God the Creator and in His sustaining love.....Rev. Joseph H. Huntley.

There are many devout Christians among the Chinese who do not join in Communist activities. They sing Christian Hymns, and carry on with a sincere and zealous spirit.....Miss Ching-Shan Chang.

There is a wisdom in everybody which we may call conscience which will guide and direct us if we will only heed.....Violet Wideman.

We should think of God as a spirit. There is no help for us in excessive ritual, nor in bowing down before forms. The promise of future glory is not necessarily spiritual-mindedness.

If one takes pains to learn something of art and how to study pictures and paintings, he may find many hidden secrets, so that a superficial stroll through an Art Gallery is impossible.....Richard Smith.

The Salvation Army ideal is to carry out the words of the MASTER: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me.".....Ruth Tripp.

We use Shakespeare's words and phrases without realizing that such expressions as "cudgel my brains", and "We are advertised by our loving friends" etc. are not modern slang.....Byrd Mock.

Prayer is that activity of the spirit that can make Christians of us.....Mr. Albert J. Penner.

Meno Simons was a religious Reformer, the founder of an early Protestant sect. The adherents were called Mennonites....Dr. Albert J. Penner.

37,000 Chaplains were sent out in the first second world war with 15 million men to tell the words of Jesus on Battlefields and ships...  
...Hon. Francis F. Adams.

Good King Wenceslaus, a king whose name is familiar from a favorite Christmas Carol, was a Czech king of the tenth century..Bohumil Albrecht.

The Risen Christ idea is the most glorious and beautiful heritage we have.....Florence Adams.

We pray that in every act and deed we may be guided in the Christian spirit.....J. Russell Robertson.

### SOME SPECIAL FEATURES THAT

#### ENRICHED RECENT PRAYER MEETINGS.

Mrs. Albert J. Penner reviewed the new book "The Plymouth Adventure Story." by William Gabler.

Miss Sadie Gregory showed color films of pictures painted by famous Artists, of the life of Jesus and Bible stories.

C. E. News Journal 1950.

Miss Byrd Cook lectured on the theme "Shakespeare in our Daily Life". Her talk was illustrated by the singing of Shakespearean songs sung by Eleanore Scovill.

On Easter Sunday Eleanore Scovill, soprano, Margaret Graves, violinist, and Norman Hennefield, pianist rendered a program of selections from the great Oratorios.

Other musical guest artists include: Vito Di Lisa, composer-pianist; Dorothy Drake, soprano, pianist-composer; Eleanore Scovill, soprano, and recordist; Phyllis Wilson, soprano, Roy Schulz, Rosalie Leacock, soprano, Louise Gleason, soprano, Ada Gleason, soprano, Ruth Klingman, soprano, and Florence Jane Robertson, Margaret Belsky, Mildred Burger, and Laura Jane Musser, pianists.

#### SOCIAL NOTES.

Recent Social Tea Hosts and Hostesses include: Mr Anthony Belsky, Rudolph P. Smith, and J. Russell Robertson, Arnelida Bussert, Margaret Belsky, Florence Robertson, Violet Wideman, and Julia Kembo.

The Annual Christian Endeavor Outing of the Metropolitan Union, was held on May 27, up the Hudson River to Bear Mountain and West Point on the steamer Americana. Perfect weather added to the enjoyment of the occasion.

Members of the Tabernacle Society attended the Alumni Association of C.E. at Rutgers Presbyterian Church.

A double Birthday celebration was observed for Alexander Bretwell, and Anthony Belsky. The cakes were Julia Kembo, and Margaret Belsky. Their friends sang "Happy Birthday to You" and helped to eat the cakes.

Three of the Society's members who have been in the Hospital, are now greatly improved, - Alexander Bretwell, Millien Gustafson, and Belle F. Borrowdale.

Laura Jane Musser is spending two months at her home, Little Falls, N.Y.

#### POETRY RECITAL.

Lafayette James Robertson, called the "Yankee Poet and Playwright of New England," presented an hour of poetry on April 23rd, reading popular selections from his latest published book "Poems for Today." His poems are popular with many people who sense a human touch in his writings. The following poem is illustrative of his philosophy.

#### "Repose."

The eventide of life need not be dark.  
How brilliant are the colors of the Western sky  
That celebrate the close of day.  
Through years of sorrow, joy, familiar cares;  
Life at its best - a rounded cup we drink;  
Then sleep, to find that peace  
Which is the heart's embrace.  
And spirit fettered in a mortal frame.  
Throws off restraint at last.  
To seek a haven in the March of Life  
Which ageless destiny proclaims.

# WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

## IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCIL

Honorary President: DR. JOHN R. MOTT  
General Secretary: REV. DR. W. A. VISSER 'T HOOFT

### Presidents:

REV. DR. MARC BOEGNER  
THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY  
REV. DR. TSU-CHEN CHAO  
ARCHBISHOP ERLING EIDEM  
ARCHBISHOP GERMANOS  
BISHOP G. BROMLEY OXNAM

### Central Committee

Chairman: THE BISHOP OF CHICHESTER  
Vice Chairman: REV. DR. FRANKLIN CLARK FRY

### Financial Officers in U.S.A.

ELEANOR KENT BROWNE  
W. RODMAN PARVIN



### Associate

#### General Secretaries:

REV. DR. HENRY SMITH LEIPER  
REV. ROBERT C. MACKIE  
RT. REV. STEPHEN C. NEILL  
REV. DR. O. FREDERICK NOLDE  
REV. OLIVER S. TOMKINS

#### Secretaries in North America

REV. ROBERT S. BILHEIMER, Program  
WALLACE HAMILTON, Publicity  
REV. WILLIAM KEYS, Youth  
REV. DR. FLOYD W. TOMKINS, Faith & Order

New York Office · 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. · GRamercy 5-3483 · Cable Address: WORCIL

July 7, 1950

Miss Laura Jane Musser  
Linden Hill  
Little Falls, Minnesota

Dear Miss Musser:

Thank you for your letter of June 18th. The World Council of Churches is not organized against anybody. It is organized to get the greatest possible cooperation among Christians and it has been noted for its attempts to get a response from the Roman Church and from religious bodies outside of Christendom.

Of course, the actual organic relationship or organized relationship to the Council of Churches cannot be attractive to those who are not in churches but on the other hand, the officers of the World Council, and I in particular, have been very closely related to the National Conference of Christians and Jews which seeks on the widest level to promote cooperation between Catholics, Protestants and Jews. Like many other leaders of the World Council I have also shared in the World Conference of Religions on Peace and other efforts to collaborate with the kind of people who believe in brotherhood and good will wherever they are found.

If you have studied the history of religious relationships, I am sure you would find that you cannot get ahead as you wish to by trying to do too much all at once. If we succeed in getting a real working relationship among the 156 churches which are already in the World Council, we shall have done something without precedent in the history of religion since this fellowship reaches into almost every nation of significance and into all races and peoples. To try at this stage technically and officially to make it a sort of overall union of all religions would be to abandon any hope of practical achievement whatsoever.

Yours sincerely,

Henry Smith Leiper  
Associate General Secretary

HSL:LS