



Laura Jane Musser and  
family papers.

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

REINHOLD NIEBUHR

SUITE 600

62 WEST 45TH STREET

NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

April 18, 1951

Miss Laura J. Musser  
Buckingham Hotel  
57th St. & 6th Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Musser:

I am inviting a group of interested persons to meet Arthur Koestler and Sidney Hook at dinner on Monday, May 7th, at 7:15 o'clock at the Delmonico Hotel in New York. The purpose of our meeting is to discuss the tragic plight of the writers and other professionals from Eastern Europe who have succeeded in escaping from behind the Iron Curtain.

Associated in this invitation are the Fund for Intellectual Freedom, initiated by Arthur Koestler, the American Committee for Cultural Freedom, headed by Sidney Hook, and the Resettlement Campaign for Exiled Professionals, of which I am chairman. Our three organizations have joined in this endeavor because each of us is concerned with a different aspect of the same central problem -- intellectual freedom and constructive aid to those who have suffered in the cause of this freedom.

These courageous men and women with whose fate we are concerned refused to prostitute their talents in the service of the totalitarian state. Their alternatives were liquidation or escape. Many who attempted to flee were stopped at the border. Some were shot. But a number do succeed in reaching freedom every week. They need our help.

I hope you can be with us on May 7th to hear Arthur Koestler and Sidney Hook tell about our plans to help those who have escaped from behind the Iron Curtain to join us in the world-wide fight for freedom. I also hope you will wish to participate in the discussion and to give your generous moral and financial support.

Sincerely,

*Reinhold Niebuhr*



• Parker House •  
• Boston •





POST

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Miss Langane Musser  
Hotel Buckingham  
W 57 - 6th Ave  
N.Y.C.  
[Thelma  
Votipka]



Wanted to see. Want  
Sunday for Dec. don't  
worrying so far away  
am home with already.  
Everything sold out the  
Best good girl all your own  
the T. V. G.

Mrs. H. May White  
Rust Chelye  
Holly Springs, Miss



Miss Laura Jane Musser  
Linden Hill  
Little Falls, Minn.



1853 Rings St.  
Little Rock, Ark  
Jan. 1, 1950

Dear Latsie;

Best wishes for a  
happy new year.

As usual please  
excuse my delay in writing.  
I thank you so much for  
the lovely pin and ear  
ring set! It is beautiful.  
I am returning it because  
the store sent miss-  
matched earrings.



I hope you had a  
very merry Christmas.  
This is just a note  
to explain about sending  
your present back. Maybe  
since I am writing the  
first day of the year,  
this year I will do better  
with my writing.

Was glad to hear that  
you had such a grand  
trip this summer.

Hurriedly  
Hilda

W. M. Tate  
Rust College  
Holly Springs, Miss.



Miss Laura J. Musser  
Linden Hill  
Little Falls, Minn.

[Hilda McCoy]

you meeting, then I felt  
that possibly that was the  
wrong thing to do. Any how  
if you are out of touch  
with her maybe that is  
best. It turned out she  
is a person lacking  
in character and principle.  
If you'd still like to get  
in touch with her I can  
have a friend send the  
address from Little Rock.  
But, since I feel responsible  
where you are concerned with  
her I'd be relieved if you  
had no more contact  
with her.

Miss Daxey just told  
me she had had a greeting  
from you. She was wondering

Dec. 18, 1951

Dear Latsie

Sometime, before too long  
I hope, I'll find the time  
and be in the mood for  
a long letter writing spree  
and I hope my friends  
will not have all forgotten  
me.

Just came in and found  
your letter to be forwarded  
to Grace Luster. I don't  
have her address, but I  
could easily get it. However  
I think it best to return  
your letter. At one time  
I started to write and warn  
you about her since I was  
responsible for the two of

what your New York address  
is. I told her I thought you'd  
be home for Christmas.

What have you been  
doing this year?

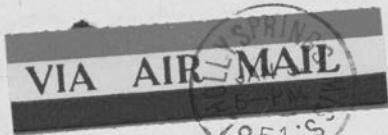
Did I tell you my  
folks were at The Mayo  
Clinic last spring? Daddy  
was very sick but they  
did wonders with him and  
he is fine now. I am  
trying to make myself  
go for a check over, if  
I do I'll get in touch  
with you.

As usual Christmas <sup>preparations</sup>  
rushing me. I'm making Evelyn,  
my niece, a navy blue jumper  
dress and a jacket, writing cards,  
wrapping pkg. and teaching all at  
once - (smile) Hurry! - Vida



### O Little Town of Bethlehem

O lit-tle town of Beth-le-hem, How  
For Christ is born of Ma-ry. And  
still we - see thee lie, A-bove thy deep and  
gath-ered - all a-bove, While mor-tals sleep, the  
dream-less sleep The si-lent stars go by; yet  
an - gels Keep Their watch of - won-d'ring love. O  
in thy dark streets, shin - eth The ev-er-last-ing  
morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro-claim the ho-ly  
light, The hopes and fears of all the years, Are met in thee to-night.  
birth, And prais-es sing To God the King, And peace to men on earth.



Miss Laura J. Musser  
Linden Hill  
Little Falls, Minn.

Rust College, Box 218  
Holly Springs, Miss

4.  
Understanding is possibly  
cleared up already.

If you have not received  
Hilda's letter you will not  
know. One of the ear rings  
does not match the pair  
and she knew it was a  
mistake made at the store  
and thought it could be  
corrected. I wish she had  
written air mail as I  
sent the gift as soon as  
she left the house. Please  
don't feel hurt any longer. I  
feel awful bad over this.  
I could have written a note  
and did ask Hilda should  
I, but she said it was  
not necessary as she was

Rust College  
Jan. 2, 1951.

Dear "Latsie",

Your greeting for Christ-  
mas brought us great joy;  
we thank you very much.  
We were proud to be re-  
membered by one we ad-  
mire so much. It seems  
that we have known you  
always.

I was surprised to re-  
ceive your letter today and  
I hope you are not still  
perplexed. Hilda left in  
haste for Little Rock and  
asked me to send the  
lovely Christmas present  
back and that she would

Possibly you have her letter explaining about returning the gift. It is indeed, beautiful and no one would wish more. She has been sick in bed all day. In fact she came in yesterday with a bad headache. She says she will write to you soon. Work begins tomorrow and she is anxious to be able to begin. I believe she should not go out unless she is much improved.

You have been a wonderful friend to Hilda and have not done anything to hurt her, and she wouldn't hurt you purposely. This misun-

Write from Little Rock as soon as she arrived there. She went away a day <sup>(10 p.m. 26)</sup> sooner than she expected because she was motoring alone and over the radio we heard prediction of colder weather with sleet and snow. She knew if she did not go the trip would be dangerous next day. The same thing happened while she was in Little Rock. She planned returning today but because of weather prediction she came yesterday evening and it is well that she did.

grateful to you. Hilda was overjoyed when she opened the lovely gift. She thought that to correct the mistake would not be too much trouble.

School is progressing nicely. Considering poor crops in this section and loss of students because of the draft.

Please forget the hurt that you have received; it was not intended.

Lovingly,  
Edna McEay

Writing at once. Please do not feel hurt or perplexed any longer. It was one of those unforeseen things that occur at times and make sadness. You were kind to send a gift and Hilda would have appreciated anything - just a card. She and I both are of the opinion that you have her letter by now and that explains every thing.

Have you had a joyous Christmas? I have felt thankful to be spared to see it but have been saddened by the thoughts of our four dear ones who were

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have been kind to help them with clothing, food, etc.

I have thought of you often and I'm wondering if your parents are well. Please give them my good wishes. I hope 1951 will bring them and you the best of everything, health, happiness and prosperity.

Please be happy. We (all) love you in the same old way and are

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living last year this time and are now in the great "Beyond". All passed between March 13 and July 16.

On Dec. 21 a neighbor's house burned and all the possessions they owned. Hilda and I began at once to sew for the children. We made over several garments for them and that took some time. The family of 5 lived with us a few days until they could arrange otherwise. The friends