

Dear Jim:

I have been expecting to hear from you, though I should have known better. I thought that you would surely be out of the army by this time, and perhaps considering a trip to Calif, to avoid the cold. We had a touch of frost last night, but it has been the most beautiful fall I remember. I have been to the mountains only once; climbed a peak with friends last Sunday and it was really a thrill to be in the mts. once again.

I have been working like a trooper ever since arriving home; there has been quite a bit of sickness among our help, but everyone is well now and we have plenty of help for Xmas. I hope to take a few days off early in January and enjoy a few days of leisure and work in the garden. Our roses have been blooming prolifically this fall and everything in the garden has done extremely well, but I would like to do some work improving it.

L. Shadell was in a couple weeks ago; he is taking a desk job with one of the airlines. He seemed to think that most of the 8th ADG men had been discharged. I have heard from none except Kennard and he was hoping to be in civies soon. That was nearly a month past.

Am sending a few books, I think you will enjoy more than anything I have read this fall.

---

and Best Wishes for

---





Back Again - - - with Cargoes of Holiday Cheer

Dear James Shiel

Was I pleased to have a card from you  
The outward visible sign that you had had a  
thought of me? I have had several of you &  
go so far towards expressing them outwardly  
as to get you address from Mrs. Jones then you  
went overseas the address I had did not seem  
adequate. Now with the present most unexpressive  
me I feel my epistolary effort will not be washed  
I take it you are in Italy with much time

"QUAILS"—Adapted from a Ming dynasty painting in the style of the Sung artist, Ai Hsüan.  
Original in the Metropolitan Museum of Art  
UNITED CHINA RELIEF, 1790 Broadway, New York.

[1944] (c) [1944] (c) [1944] (c)

had a real piece of paper  
I should like to see the  
I do not ever remember seeing any paper like the one  
in the P.C. Byzantine influenced primitive  
I showed me, & I could not make out where it came  
from. Anyway most interesting about the  
all it was the bearing of tidings that you were alive  
and in an unbroken land.  
I spend most of the year here in Tokyo with my  
relatives who, alas, heed me none & life is not  
so bad, even if it is a bit on the (for me) tame side  
The world is furnishing enough excitement for us all anyway & a

# Greetings

特  
安

Italy.

Dec. 4, 1944

Dear Jim.

I received your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> of November to-day sure was glad to have from you. This is the same day that I have been in the hospital, but I expected to be discharged in about a week.

There are prospects of going back to the states, but they are very thin. I don't think that I will see any more front line duty for I am in limbo duty. you know the army is they change their orders so many different

Times.

Lost July I run a cross  
a Briton boy up over the  
front line, he's the only person  
I've seen here that I know  
prior coming into the Army.

You may know him, he  
lives down close to Beans  
Mill in Lee County.

You I remember Big Rainey  
from Lonett. I've known him  
for several years.

---

You I weight 182 pounds  
before I left the States. I  
lost a good bit when I was  
first wounded. I can tell  
that I am gaining those pounds  
back now.

Will have a new address  
in a week or two.

Will tell you know at  
once when I change address

There isn't anything that I  
need for I have received  
two Xmas boxes from the  
states this week, one from  
Helen Swann & her family  
and one from my wife.

I don't have any suspicions  
of my self at the present  
time the first time I have  
a chance to have my make  
I will send you one.

Allin will with me at the  
present time

your brother  
Tom

# BOOKS

New York Herald Tribune

230 West 41st Street, New York

December 8, 1944

*Sergeant*  
Dear ~~Mr.~~ Still:

It was delightful to hear from you again and I promptly printed bits of your letter with its very imposing "Gold Coast" address. I haven't yet heard from "Old Rachel" which has not yet been reported by readers, although I put a little of it into the Guide and asked for contributions.

I am using your envelope to let you know that I did do so and will forward anything that comes along in the remote chance that anything does.

Yours sincerely,

*May Lambertson Becker*

May Lambertson Becker  
READER'S GUIDE

Mr. James Still  
Miami  
Florida

Lakeview, Oregon  
Box 1291-

Dec. - 10 - 1944

My dear James Still,

I expect you will be more than surprised to hear from me. When I stopped at Hindman last summer Mrs. Glenn told me you were in Africa & I asked for your address. As it happened I left without it and just recently I received a letter from her with your Florida address. In this letter she told me your



brother had received injuries  
am sorry to hear that but  
am glad you are back  
and safe.

as you see by the  
heading I am in the fore  
front. I am teaching social  
science in the High School  
here. Last year I was  
teaching on Tuleys Island  
in the middle of Lake Erie.  
This past summer I taught  
the first summer session  
at Coney Creek - Ky. and  
continued my studies for  
the master's degree I am

working for at Western Reserve  
 Before the course was finished  
 I was on my way to  
 Oregon.

This is my first trip  
 to the far west and it all  
 seems very novel. It is a  
 rugged almost terrifying  
 beauty - is different than  
 the gentle majestic beauty  
 of the East.

a year ago last summer  
 I wrote a unit on Kentucky  
 and read many of your  
 books and poems congratula-  
 tion on your success.

Trusting you are well  
and that the year  
ahead will be gladdened  
by the realization of all  
your dreams.

With best wishes for  
a joyous Xmas, and a  
New Year of peace to all  
mankind.

Most sincerely  
Grace de Cecca

MITCHELL COLLEGE  
STATESVILLE  
NORTH CAROLINA

December 10, 1944

Dear Jim:

By sending this airmail, I hope it doesn't get to you too long after Christmas, though the mails are unaccountable these days near Christmas always. I want you to know anyway that a lot of us will be thinking--and speaking--of you, and wishing you well with all our hearts. I've just thought it before and never gotten it said the other Christmases you've been across; but I'm going to do both the thinking and the telling this time. It seemed good to see your handwriting again when your letter came, and I realized how much I'd been missing it.

You'd have enjoyed the Christmas carol service we have just been to tonight at the First Presbyterian Church, the "mother" church for the college since its founding. It was a community gathering, and not even standing room left, five minutes before the program began. Our Mitchell choir gave the cantata, "The Christ Child" by Hawley this afternoon, too, so it has been a day full of Christmas music--and beautiful.

A week from tonight I shall be back in Hindman for two or three days, packing the rest of my things I left there--to be shipped later in the winter, probably. Under present conditions, I haven't room here at Mitchell for another thing, but I'll get the things ready to be sent somewhere and at some time! Hester's enjoying Berea and her reference librarian work there, but she is not going home until in March. I'll visit

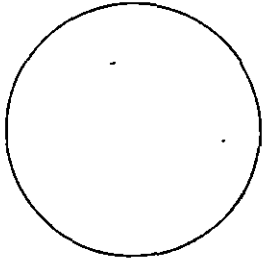
her for a few days, too, and then spend about ten days of our three weeks at home in Florida. This is the longest vacation I can remember having at Christmas anywhere.

I wonder how firm your roots are on Carr. I get surprised at the strength of mine in Hindman--it will be a long, long time before I'm weaned away completely, and I'm not sure I want that time to come. Mitchell is a good place to be in, under the circumstances, for it is very all-absorbing--too much so, in many ways. I've done more new things in these three months than I've done in many a long day before. I'm teaching fourteen hours a week (typing, business English and filing) plus a full-time office job besides. And a great deal of stenciling and mimeographing goes through my office which takes time at least. We have an awfully small student body, however, and it makes things complicated sometimes. There are 62 students in all, 31 boarders and 31 living in the town and surrounding country. Thirty-three of the group are in our one-year commercial department, so that one other teacher and I get the brunt of the teaching load, while the college classes as such are all very small. There are 13 teachers in all, including dietitian, librarian, music teacher, etc., and 9 of us live in the college building. Classes, dining room, offices, dormitory are all in one huge building, so that it's not as easy to get away from "the crowd" as it used to be in our little three-room house in Hindman. A minute particle of your situation!

Marie Marvel has been here for the past five days--left yesterday for a school in Alabama. It is her first trip here so the girls were new to the idea of folk games. But they took to it like ducks to water, and she began something worth while for us. It was the best visit I've had with her since she left Hindman four years ago. Her room in Berea is in the same house where Hester lives, and I'll see her again next week. Our Christmas thoughts will be with you, for sure!

Frances -

Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Faint or small writing is not suitable for photographing.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

TO T. Sgt. JAMES STILL  
35133320  
Hq. & Hq. Sq. 8<sup>th</sup> ATIG AAF  
APO 606, c/o P.M. MIAMI, FLA.

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

FROM

KATE S. LOOMIS  
ATHENS-ON-HUDSON  
NEW YORK, U.S.A.

(Sender's complete address above)

Dear Jimmie -  
In sending you the season's greetings it is with mixed feelings for I do not know what word you have had from your brother Tom since I heard through Uncle Guy of his having been seriously wounded. I hope the word has been reassuring.

In October I spent a few days, in Brooklyn, with Miss Mount and we dined several times with Uncle Guy. He told me that you had run across one of your Hindman ex-pupils out there. On another V-mail sheet I'm sending a poem from the Sat. Eve. Post. Perhaps you know of the writer. At any rate you'll know how close she comes to the truth.

With all good wishes for you and yours  
Sincerely,  
Kate S. Loomis

Letter 1.

December 10, 1944

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE  
ADDRESS AT TOP?

REPLY BY  
V...-MAIL

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE  
ADDRESS AT TOP?

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERMIT NO. 1

AUGUST DERLETH

---



SAUK CITY, WISCONSIN

11 December 1944

Dear Jim Still,

Your Christmas card certainly brought winter in with it -- snow better than six inches deep and a howling blizzard outside. Another day and night of this, and those of us who live in the country will be snowed in; it took paratrooper boots to get me into the village this morning. Thankfully, it is not too cold out, despite the blustering wind. .... Had a note from Jesse the other day. He sent in a longish review of ~~my long-delayed-SELECTED POEMS~~, done from the galleys; the book is finally coming out around the 20th of the month, and I'll be glad to get it out of the way at last. It was originally slated for 1942. Not a publisher can be too sure of a book these days, though; the gov't comes in to the printers at all times and puts down work to be done on absolute rush priority, which means that the presses must be stopped and everything delayed until the gov't work is done. .... I take it you are still in Africa, since that interesting card would so indicate. Jesse, as perhaps you know, has been stationed for the time being in Washington, where is not as far from home as he was at Great Lakes, when he was only 165 miles from here, and managed to come up for a weekend.

All the best always,



Fairfax Va  
Dec 11, 1944

Mr Jamies still: —

Hello Jim I hope you want think I  
am to forward.But I feel as if I already know you  
I have heard your name often  
by your people.I have wrote to all walt's people but  
you. And I am now taken the  
privilege of writing you. I got  
a card from Conner he said  
he was working hard & happy.So I am glad he and many could  
agree on things. I have just  
recived a letter from walt saying  
the doctor said he would no longer  
be a front liner he is doing  
fine. I dont know wether walt  
& I will see each other or  
not. But I have hopes of it  
I am making and by bonds my  
months out of my salary and  
my clothing. I hope to have a  
rough to try is a home when  
walt comes home.Well Jim I dont know what  
you have heard about me  
or not



but I will try to describe my  
self. I am five feet high 140  
lbs have dark brown hair blue  
eyes am 39 years old much older  
than Matt. But I gave Matt  
4 years to find some one else  
younger but he wasnt satisfied  
with any one but me and  
I love my brother very  
much. my desire is to make  
us attractive home and a happy  
one and I am sure we will  
make or go off it. I have  
3 children by a former marriage  
the oldest a boy 17 1/2 years old  
Harold he is Third class petty  
officer in the navy of course  
I did to get him in for the  
school and said he wasnt going  
any more and begged to join  
the navy at the age of 16 1/2 years  
old I am very proud of  
him he loves the navy and I make  
a nice looking sailor I think  
Matt is tops. The next child a  
girl Helen age 14. The next  
age 12.

3: well Xmas is just around the corner.  
and I am planning to have dinner in  
my home Xmas eve for your dad  
& Fannie's nice doris & her family  
Luz & her family after dinner  
we will have a Xmas tree in  
the living room with a few  
friends of mine who is going  
to visit me from Fla. I think  
Xmas day I shall have a dinner  
for my mother my one sister  
& two brothers and family.  
I trust and hope my one will  
enjoy it for I really try to make  
my one enjoy my home  
and want to come back.

James I dont remember my having  
off you or ever sitting you out  
off with people until I married  
Matt I know I am sorry  
slightly but I am sure I would  
enjoy having you visit in our  
home on this side in the  
valley. I can't help saying your  
illness respect me anyway and  
we all got along it wasn't their  
fault their brother and I could not  
make a go of it for he was a drunk  
man and I got tired of it after we  
were separated 9 years I married  
Matt. and I trust I can have  
the love and trust as me me

4) husband & mother & sister  
I have had your sisters & their  
families in my home for dinner  
~~at~~ often and enjoyed their  
visit and I accept in your  
family or not. I trust so  
would be glad to hear from you  
once in a while. your dad is  
doing fine and all the rest of your  
relatives are well and doing fine  
heads wishing you a merry Xmas

~~Yours~~  
truly  
Yours

[Mrs. Thomas W. Still]

Dear James: This will reach you when  
Christmas will be only a memory, if it is  
ever anything else - but ~~still~~, it is  
Christmas here for a few days, and it  
gives me more than holiday joy to hear  
from you, after all this time. I wrote  
you a letter after receiving your notice  
that you were gone, and hope it reached  
you. Tell me some day a letter about  
the Gold Coast, but mostly in relation  
to myself! I hope with all my heart  
you are well and haven't much.

"QUAILS"—Adapted from a Ming dynasty painting in the style of the Sung artist, Ai Hsüan.  
Original in the Metropolitan Museum of Art  
UNITED CHINA RELIEF, 1790 Broadway, New York.

## Greetings

longer to stay where you are;  
it will be a great triumph to  
see you back here!

With all remembrance and  
deepest good wishes to you.

Katherine Arner

19 December 1944

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安

December 20, 1944

Dear Jimmie;

Today your Christmas card came to delight me, for I thought you had gone from my life long ago. I am glad indeed that it is not so. A very curious thing happened in connection with your card. On my table in the library where I have my typewriter, have a map of Africa covered with clear cellophane. As I came to my table I noticed your letter. It was lying with the corner pointing to Asmara. When I opened and saw the card I noticed the name Asmara on the card. Of course it is a commercial card and may not mean a thing. However I always look up everything and I thought it more likely that you were there than in Italy.

While I was standing at my table and looking at the card trying to think what it meant a man came in to work on our oil furnace. He looked at my table and said "Good old Africa, Thank God I am not there now. I asked him if he had ever been there and he told me he had just returned. He has been in service and said his outfit had built all the roads in and around Asmara. I almost jumped out of my skin. I thought he was too old to have been doing all the things he mentioned, but he said he was 38. He looked very tough. I showed him your APO number but it didn't click with him. We had a good day talking about Africa and I tried to learn all about Asmara and all the other places mentioned on the card.

It has been so long since I had any word from you. The year Mary Ann was down we spent all our time sending you letters, books, candy, fruit cake, and all the many other things; but I never heard once from you. Perhaps she did after she went back to her home. She had an operation before she went to Charlotte. For years she had been very nervous and flighty. Finally she became impossible and was really fit for a straight jacket. I hope the operation was a success and that she is now better. It was one of those internal goiters. Did I tell you that about every other person in State College Penn. had at least one of those operations. It is a goiter belt.

This is now an anniversary of Frank's death. After this time I can relax when I see a Western Union boy coming. Toward the last there were so many calls night and day calling for money. He would take every cent he could rake up and get on a train and go, just any place. To Nebraska, West Virginia or any other place he just happened to think of. Then he would wait for money to get back. It was terrible. I never knew a moment's peace. Poor fellow was in torment for so long and tortured by all kinds of misgivings. Since he had no future it is best that he is gone I suppose. I am just beginning to get out from under the enormous debts that were left. I still have some things to clear up and perhaps in another year I may have something for myself.

Things go along pleasantly enough if it were not for the economic pressure. My salary has not raised with prices or cost of living and I wonder if I can get along. Each summer I work some place. Last year I managed a Book Shop in Charleston, S.C. I enjoyed the work and got along fine but I lived in almost squalor at a cost of \$75.00 a month for a room and no private bath. They have a population of 275,000 and facilities for 50,000. The pay was good enough if I could have lived. Perhaps after the war I can have a book shop of my own.

One of the men on the faculty at State College is here in Miami now taking sub-chaser training. He is a Lieutenant in the Navy and has been in Casablanca and around the hump to Tripoli for two years. He expects a new commission after he completes his training. As it is very stiff he has to study long hours and dig dig. He is just your age but looks and seems much older. We eat out and go to night clubs several nights a week and try not to think about the war. He hopes to get a transport ship or L T S. He says the sea is very much like forestry.

Miami is as zany as ever. The amplifiers blare away on the Christmas carols and Jingle Bells and White Christmas all up and down the main street and people go about in shirt sleeves and hatless. It seems silly, but it is probably good.

People are paying \$50.00 for seats to the Orange Bowl game with Tulsa and Georgia Tech playing. The town is filled with the usual assortment of tourists, race track devotees, all kinds of Service men and women. All very gay.

I sold bonds and held a drive for Red Cross and I spend much time for the USO and the time passes some way. The Christmas music makes me sad, but I can recall some nice Holiday seasons and so we shall all look forward to other years when we may do happy things once more.

If you ever have a furlough and can get back let me know. I might scare up a fatted calf somewhere. If this reaches you please let me know and quick.

Again I wish you the best of the season

As ever,

*Dris*

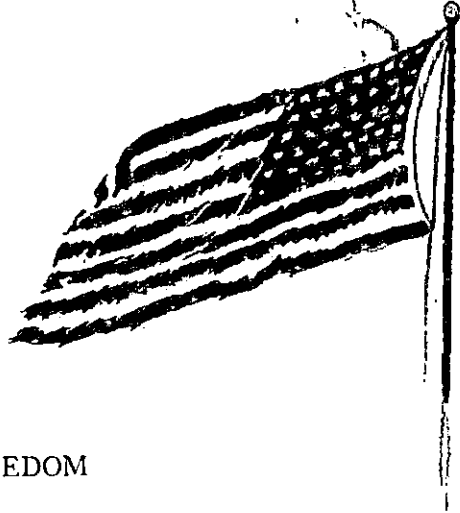
My dear Tim: —

Dec. 20-1944

Here is a belated X-mas card to let you know that the U.S. is still here and will give you a warm welcome when your job is over over there. We speak of you often and hope that all is well with you, and that your experiences are yielding a harvest of ideas for your future literary work.

Life here at W.P. is as hectic as ever. The College has nearly 400 students but 90% of them are girls. Frances comes tomorrow for 10 days, but Hester cannot get away till March. Both girls are enjoying their new work. Hester is reference librarian at Berea College. As you may know we rented our house on O'Connell Ave. and bought a bungalow not far from the Orlando entrance to the Mead Garden - but still in W.P. Ours is one of five houses in a new 40 acre subdivision. We love this part of country and have private views of every sunrise and sunset. The Garden grows splendidly and we now have four greenhouses filled with orchids and other rare plants. The Graubergs are all well - the oldest boy in the Navy - and Edwin "on the side" is writing the script for a comic strip whose artist lives in Orlando. He gets over \$5000. for a few hours each week. We are glad for him, for he has had a hard row financially with much illness in the family. His new is announced for this winter by Reynolds & Hitchcock. Aren't you ever going to have a furlough? We'd love to have a visit from you if you come to the U.S. for it. Eulalie and Nan are both busily happy, and join in best wishes and a merry Christmas to you.

Your friend  
Edwin O. Groves



## SYMBOL OF OUR FREEDOM

From his lonely aerie, high on a windy crag, the eagle soars in great circles far above the earth. He's monarch of the air—the king of all birds! Small wonder this majestic figure was chosen in 1782 by Act of Congress as the symbol of freedom, for the great seal of the United States.

Emblem of bold strength and courage, the American eagle typifies the valor, the far-reaching vision, striking power and tenacity, that have carried our nation through the great crises of its history. He flew on the American flag at Yorktown, was chosen to decorate our first copper penny and is the central figure in the national coat of arms. His image flutters on the President's flag and is part of the President's seal in the bronze plate fixed in the floor of the White House vestibule.

To ancient Greeks the eagle was a messenger from the heavens. Today, he carries a message to oppressed millions throughout the world—the message that Freedom and Justice shall prevail.



(From: New York, NY)  
To: HZ + Hy 88 St  
ADG AAE  
Apr 27 6:06  
4:00 PM  
Miami, FL

Many special thoughts and wishes  
go to you this Christmastide

Dear Jim - It was wonderful  
your Christmas greeting. I've  
ed where you were and was  
call up the Viking office - You  
is such an unusual one - You  
explain it all to me some d  
This is a strange Christmas  
us over here - Almost every h  
a vacant chair and many ha  
hearts - This is the job you  
has to face and it gives us a  
of pride to see how magnificent.

being done -

We had the Allied Meeting of  
the Mac Howell Colony before Christ-  
mas this year since Mrs. Mac  
Howell had to leave for California  
a month earlier than usual. She  
is 87 - and an amazement to us  
all - Carl Carmer is still president  
and presided beautifully - It was  
a sad meeting since Mr. Lewis M.  
Isaacs and Parker Fillmore, died  
both suddenly - They have always  
been so important in that or-  
ganization and we missed them so!

Emil and Mary are no longer  
at Colony Hall - you may have heard  
Emil died in the spring and they  
didn't get to start the chicken  
farm in the country after all - The  
place would never seem the same to  
me without them -

Jim, our choral piece is waiting  
for the war to be over. It needs  
men's voices and I'm looking for-  
ward to a good performance some  
day with you in a box, receiving  
applause - My prayers and affection  
go with this card - Do write when  
you can.

Dear Jim.

Xmas - Day - (1944)

Your package came several days before Christmas, from Jackson + Perkins Co. It had me wondering. Forgive me, for I did shake it a little. But to my surprise, when I opened it this morning a beautiful pink Rose. Thank a lot. ---

Every one has been so sweet to me. Such nice presents. Something that I can admire for a long, long time.

And Christmas Cards, a hundred or more we recieved. We mailed out an equal number. Every one seems so much closer but yet the feeling, that can't be explained so many, so far away from home, and food, by some miracle, could be divided with each of you.

Back in October, Mel + I mailed you a package for Xmas. Hope it reached you in due time. It wasn't much. (What I wanted to put in I couldn't find) It seemed at that time every one wanted the same thing.

Which made it impossible to choose what you wanted. Had to take what you could get and be satisfied. We mailed Tom + Bill

Similar ones.

For some time now I've been expecting  
a word saying you were back in the States.  
It seems passed your turn. Well I surely  
hope when you do get back, it will be for  
good.

We are expecting Hervey up to tomorrow for a  
day or two visit. Then he goes to Palm Beach  
to an eye specialist to have cataracts  
removed from his eye. He is going to have  
one removed now and as soon as it gets  
well he'll have the other one operated on.  
He is the noted Dr. that took out Barbara  
Hutton's tonsils a year or two ago.

I've just written Tom. I haven't heard  
from either of you in some time now.

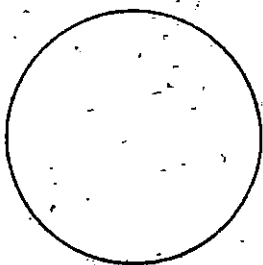
But I don't expect an answer for each  
letter so I just keep writing every week.

Hazel is home for the holiday. She goes  
back to Tallahassee the 3rd of January.  
Tom cut one of his little toes off some time ago  
but it's grown back good as new. Patsy has a bad  
arm, the Dr. opened it to let the pus out. It seems  
to be healing fast now. We was afraid it was infecti-  
of the bone. Write when you can.

Love,

Edna

Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Faint or small writing is not suitable for photographing.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

TO: 7/5gt. James Still 3513320  
Hq + Hq Sq 8th ADG, AAF  
APO Box 606, 70 Postmaster  
Miami, Florida

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

FROM

Marie Marvel  
Box 158, Berea College  
Berea, KY.

(Sender's complete address above)

Dear Jim - Word finally came through from <sup>Christmas night</sup> Hindman that you are well again & weigh more than ever before! That's good Christmas news. Well, I'm not so sure about the extra weight being good news but if that's part of the being well I'm all for it.

I'm if I believed in the Lord visiting thing, you folks I'd sure think he was after me. Who do you suppose was in the taxi that I took in Knoxville? None other than F. Groves. Had to ride all the way to Berea on an all night journey. She was snored in here at her sisters' & couldn't make her Hindman trip. Somehow think we're on a better footing - at least I can keep her at sufficient distance now not to ride me & yet can converse with ease when necessary. Is that progress in place? Ha! Ha!

We're all steamed up over our annual Christmas School - over sixty registered. Somehow I can't believe they'll all get here but it's something to have that many wanting to come. I'll be deep in it Dec 26-30. Lynn Polubrough & Dick Chase will both be here to help us teach & Dick is great on folk tales too you know. Good hope you can really be with us at one of these Christmas Schools some time.

I've been singing & piping much this Christmas, sing with greater ease than for almost three years - maybe have that emotional laryngitis I'd kicked. Ever, Marie

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

REPLY BY  
**V...-MAIL**

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

NO OTHER ENVELOPE SHOULD BE USED