

I loved your card....Thanks!

1136 Everett Avenue
Louisville, 4, Kentucky
December 29, 1949

Dearest Laura:

What a beautiful surprise and pleasure to receive your book! It is a work of art, and artistry in all its aspects, and a treasure for the lucky owner...I love it.

I don't think, however, that you should have sent it to me, it's too d- expensive. But it was a gracious and generous thing to do. Bless your heart! A very lavish heart, dear Laura, and a golden one.

I hope your Holidays are being restful and know they probably are n't. You are probably doing things for others, and maybe holing in for another book. I hope Betsy is well. Give her my best.

Jim and I went up to Urbana, Illinois, to spend the Christmas week-end with Betty and Dillon. They are very well, and like the University immensely. It was all*their apartment and the huge machine Dillon nurses in the Physics Dept.- so modern and gadgetized, that 1136 Everett seems medieval (and very dirty.) But, with the tendency of all persons of post-meridian mental habits, I feel more at home in my own pre-historic setting. We thoroughly enjoyed being there- the first Christmas I've spent away from home for thirty years.

We saw Dillon's western color photographs, again, and I am ~~most~~ keen for him to have your book. It should teach him a great deal. I enclose a check for it, and for postage, as nearly as I can calculate. If you will "autograph and send to them as early as convenient, it will be a big satisfaction to Ma. And, I know, a joy to them. I got some Christmas "do-re-mi" which makes it ~~exactly~~ easy to do.

Jim has not been too well, owing to the stress and strain of the conditions attending his job, created by the radical union which dominates International Harvester...strikes, fights, and general mess. He has acquired that most blighting of American Business men's ailments- a stomach ulcer. His natural good health, and fidelity to the prescribed regime has kept him from losing any time at work, but it has not been easy for him. Much better now.

Certain signs in the news indicate that the Commies have gone as far in their sinister work within the ranks of Labor, as they can go and keep alive. So, I hope peace will soon reign at Harvester, and, Oh! If it could only spread over this tragic world!

Johnnyboy was in London for Christmas, and is now, in Paris, I think.

Please autograph to both - send to: apt. 319
Rev. Mrs. Dillon E. Mapoch 1113 W. Gresham St.
Urbana, Ill.

Strictly entre nous, he blew the lid off the Nazi-coddling regime when the NEW YORK TIMES carried one of his reports. He had got to the desperate point, and wrote me that resignation was the only course. However, I fired back a reminder that Mapothers don't quit- They fight.

I don't think he needed any such shot-in-the-arm, really, but anyway, he got his second wind. The Courier-Journal, here, took up the protest on a series of editorials, ~~xxxxx~~ and whether that had anything to do with the TIMES' reaction I don't know.

A message just received from John says McCloy takes a very dim view of ~~xxx~~ the affair, but John is n't fired yet. He may be.

Now, he does n't care, and feel lots better about the whole situation. Being in INTELLIGENCE is cramping. He had been writing bitter revelations but they never went further than his "secret clientele"- 250 of the "high brass" and an occasional stray copy got through to so-called experts over here. The Higher-ups praised him and ignored ~~xxx~~ his suggestions- did nothing.

On second thought, he probably will be fired, as McCloy is the big boss. But John will get his chance to finish up his muck-raking, I expect.

Well, dear Laurie, I did n't expect to stymie you with all this talk.

If you knew how I feel about the magnificent accomplishment you've pulled off in writing your epic you would be stuck-up....maybe. Three rousing cheers! AND A HAPPY, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

And my devotion.

Edie

Brendie is deep in her Gov. job, I imagine, from what Floss said. But a note from ABC indicates that they are both flourishing.

This is clearer- Dr. and Mrs. Dillon E. Mapother
Apt. 319 1113 West Green Street
Urbana, Illinois