

Dec. 18, 1960

Dear Laura:

The White, Chavez and Williams color prints have come in; Peter Krebs has attended to the first and also to the Hoyt job. He had some trouble with this one which is explained in the enclosed letter.

Meisel returned the two McNown negatives as not printable with the nasty note, "These negatives are so nearly unprintable as to cause an intolerable waste of time and materials on our part. We will not be able to accept similar negatives in the future." I don't want to tell such a story to the customer. Shall I just not do anything, until you have a chance to write them? I can just say the prints have not come back--which they haven't. . . . Anyhow, you can complain about the Hoyt pictures coming back curled at the edges. I'm sorry about this because it is upsetting.

For your information there were 15 5 x 7 prints in one package--I assume they are the Williams'. Three each of 2 family groups, 4 of children sitting on fence, 3 of girl with hollyhocks, 2 of girl on wall with little bush behind. I've called and Mrs. will get them Tuesday.

Do you want us to send your Christmas cards? Betsy thought not, but I wonder if you'd like a little touch of Christmas. If you want them, I'll be glad to send. There doesn't seem to be much except bills and uncheerful things among the enclosures this time. Maybe next time will be better.

Things on the domestic scene are all right. I seem to sleep through light or dark impartially, and the same applies to both dogs, except that they occasionally have a barking spell at things no one else can hear. So far as I know, Betsy seems to sleep well. She has only one bad spell since you've been gone, but it lasted only a couple of days. Today Marie and Frances came and helped her make cookies. She wanted to do this. Sometimes she suggests things she would like to eat and I try to oblige. We had a delicious cheese soufflé one evening, she has enjoyed a cranberry-apple relish made from her sister's recipe. We also had some prune whip, and have had coffee with whipped cream a la Vienna a couple of times.

I've just now completed my Christmas letter and will take it to be mimeographed tomorrow. There has been no word from Mr. Friedman about what he expects me to do but I expect he will let me know in due course. I don't want to begin much until after Jan. 1. I have heard, though, that the 10 year plan has been approved by the board (including the puppet exhibit) so I guess I'll be working on it.

Shush eats every scrap of her large supper, and Sombra makes no attempt to steal.

They are both very sweet. Shush still sleeps on Sombra's bed but it is all right.

This afternoon I heard the Messiah at St. Francis Aud. sung by the Santa Fe Choral Society. The little orchestra came through quite well--they have improved so much--but the chorus was not large enough to handle the partial choral sections. Especially the tenor section seemed weak. The solos seemed dull in places, perhaps because of a rather slow tempo, but mostly because the voices were not really exciting. "He Shall Feed His Flock" went on interminably.

We plan to have a dinner on Christmas Eve with Sallie and Dick as guests. Then we can have another on Christmas Day or go to the dances or whatever we want.

I guess this is about all for now. We were glad to have your cards written en route, the last from Durango, and hope that by now all is in full swing and going to your satisfaction.

Love,

Marjorie