

101 S. 8th Street
Murray, Kentucky
Jan 13, 1945

Dear Rague,

Thanks so much for the Christmas cards and for the copies of "Stars and Stripes" and "L'Aurore". I particularly enjoyed the latter and it was disconcerting to find out how much French I had forgotten.

We did not send any Christmas greetings overseas because of the lack of correct addresses. Hope you received your box though and ^{that} the food was not ruined. Mailing it the middle of October, I wondered if it could arrive in good condition.

We hear from you often through the Lourys and we especially enjoyed your newsy letters in the Ledger & Times. We think it is wonderful that you are having such interesting experiences and are meeting so many distinguished persons. I know you must have enjoyed your

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stay in Paris. Am sorry you are
back in the field again, but
hope your stay there will not
be too exciting.

The Children had a happy
Christmas, but for all adults
in America it was a sombre
thoughtful, expectant Christmas.
The events that happened in the
middle of December spoiled every
adults Christmas here — and our
hearts went out to the boys over
there. The husbands of three close
friends were in the 1st Army and
everyone in Murray was upset.
However, when the mail finally
came through in January — they
were all safe.

Pogue, do you remember
Junior Roberts — Eddie Roberts,
the barber's, son — Well, he is
missing in action. Everyone feels so
sorry for Eddie as his wife left him
when Jr. was 2 yrs. old and he has
had all the responsibility growing
the boy.

Has anyone written you that
Rex Lathrop is back in the states?
He came home after completing all

his missions and arrived in Nov. At present he is at Miami rest camp and is expecting an assignment here. He looked good, only tired and in the need of a little sun.

Dr. Hal Houston is with 1st Army, but the formerly received mail 'lost week' that he is safe.

Dr. Faunt Russell flew home from Italy in Nov. on a 21 day leave. He got to come home only because he accompanied to the states an ill officer. He has of course, already returned to Italy. We had such a nice visit with him and he showed on our projector some of the movies he had made over there. He is the same old Faunt - none the worse for his experiences.

I imagine the Lowrys kept you up to date on school news. I do not know too much about it myself. The enrollment is excellent for now time and we still have the Navy. After nearly all the married faculty resigned last spring, the others stayed on and things are very much as usual. The students seem serious minded and eager to do a good job. Campus Dim-
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Out was better than last yr. in my opinion.

The children are fine. Clegg is in Jr. High School and is getting his first taste of studying. We are having a time keeping him settled to a regular bed-time. For the first time, he drives us crazy wanting to go places at night.

Fridalia is in 2nd grade and is growing up too. She joined the Brownie Scouts this fall and has started pions. Clegg is an ardent scout.

Murray is much the same. But we miss so many familiar faces. We have learned not to say too much about it, but we will all be deeply grateful when all this is over and you boys can return home. We think of you often Pague, and hope for you a safe and quick return to the States.

M.S.T.C. needs you. we hope sincerely you will feel in your heart that you can come back to us even though better jobs will no doubt be waiting for you.

The family joins me in sending you our love,
Lucille A. [Mrs. A.B. Austin]