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MRS. RALPH L. MINKER
BRINDLEY ROAD
WILMINGTON, 99, DEL.

January 17, 1944

Dearest Lee:

You know the saying "While the cat's away the mice will play". Well, while daddy is in town substituting for someone on the morning devotions hour of the radio I'll take time out from my work to write you.

Saturday night we had a storm, which began with sleet then turned to snow, so that when we awoke yesterday morning everything was white. Not much melted during the day except on the roads where the snowplows had been, and the kids had a grand time sledding. This morning is quite cold, so it looks as if the snow will stay a while. Bernice and Walter went sledding down over the hill, and coming back he went through a ditch and had to change shoes and stockings when they got back to the house. Bernice reported that the pool was frozen hard enough for her to go across, so there ought to be skating, also.

Dr. Johns preached for the first time yesterday since the last Sunday in November. The storm and cold kept a good many home. At 2 p.m. ^{daddy} ~~he~~ spoke at the dedication of a plaque for service men gone from Union Park Gardens. Between that time and 3 p.m. (when he was supposed to take the governor to a meeting of the A.W.V.S. at Wilmington High) a air raid test was called, so he dashed to the control center. Bernice was in charge of the Jr. A.W.V.S. girls at the meeting. After a brief appearance there both the governor and daddy left for the Bombers game. Then we were invited to the Wagners for a Sunday night supper, - the Millers, Herings and us, where we

celebrated Dr. Wagner's birthday. He and Dr. Edgar certainly are going an awful pace, - many mornings not getting home from making calls until 3 and 4 o'clock; but with the shortage of doctors there doesn't seem to be much they can do about it.

Major Yost, that relative of Mr. Hering's who has been in the Pacific area for so long, is now home and the Herings went to Princeton to see him last Sunday.

I had a note from Julia this morning, thanking me for doing your Christmas shopping for her.

Will you find out and let us know as soon as possible whether you get ten days in addition to your traveling time or only ten days from the time you leave Pecos until you report to your new camp? It makes a lot of difference in our plans all around.

Shirley went to the graduation dance of some of the cadets Friday night, - with a boy who was a chemistry engineer at the U. Virginia. She wants to go to Bucknell this coming weekend to visit the sister of one of her chums and I guess I'll let her go. Ben would like her to go to Andover to his prom in February, but both the John's and we think that is out of the question, - the distance is too great for her to travel and it would cost about \$50. I suppose she told you about getting her foot hurt in gym.

Lots of love from everybody.

Mother