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Wednesday, Dec. 29, 1943

Dear Lee:-

It surely was good to hear your voice on the phone at 1 a.m. yesterday morning. Grandmother Minker had stayed over in the hopes that you would call and when we did not hear from you by 10 o'clock she went to bed.

Yesterday about 8:30 daddy, Shirley, Bernice and I left for New York, for we wanted to take Shirley to Radio City Music Hall to see the wonderful Christmas stage show and "Madame Curie". We reached New York about noon and went directly to Radio City, where daddy let us out while he went to park the car. There was a line of people waiting outside in the freezing weather and we were told we would have to go to the end of the line, which we did, after walking at least 4 blocks from the entrance to the theater. There we stood for half an hour and then we gave up in despair, for I did not want daddy to take a chance of catching more cold and we discovered that the theater was full inside and no one being admitted,- in fact the first show went on at 9 in the morning. We were terribly disappointed, of course. We walked around and did some window shopping on 5th Ave. and then found there were a few orchestra seats left for us to see "Stars on Ice" the Sonja Henie show at Center Theater. It was a grand show, and the theater is much more adapted to the giving of such a show than the Arena in Philadelphia, where you went last year. You would have enjoyed it immensely. Then we took Shirley to the "Stockholm",- the Swedish restaurant where we were before. It was about 11 o'clock when we got home, tired but happy. I do hope you are home long enough in March for us to take a similar trip with you along.

We had a quiet Christmas Day, as nice as possible without you home. In the evening Shirley and May went over to Jean Dougherty's- where most of the gang met for a gabfest. May had to go back early Monday morning and that was the only occasion for their getting together. Sunday morning we awoke to find sleet and driving terrible. Daddy managed to get in, for he had to preach again; but May turned around several times and her mother brought the car back to school. Immediately after the service daddy drove to Delaware City, where he had the funeral of Mrs. Abrams' mother. By late afternoon the sleet turned to rain and it grew warmer so the going was not so bad; but it kept folks away from the evening service at church. Judy did not go in for she had a cold; May did not go because she had to get ready to return to Oberlin; so Shirley and Charlotte were the only soloists. "Aunt Ellen" had prepared food for 200, and there were only 20 people outside of the choir. Afterwards we went over to the churchhouse and ate as much as we could hold of doughnuts and gingerale with orange ice.

Grandmother Jones went up to Aunt Grace's yesterday afternoon for a few days. Emily Sanders is coming out today to spend the night with Shirley. It has been

ages since those two have been together.

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I have been asked to speak at the annual district meeting of the negro Woman's Society of Christian Service in Ezion church, I am the only white person on the program and I consider it quite an honor to be asked; but so far I have not had time to do much work on a speech. I shall have to buckle down to it this evening. Then next Thursday I have our annual district meeting in Grace Church, which means a lot of work before hand. I am trying to get out of the job of president of the Wilmington district, but so far the nominating committee has found no one else. I really can't do justice to that with working here in the office.

I hope you are able to get off a few days and go into El Paso if that is what you want to do, and to meet the man whom daddy wired you about. If you paid for that call to us let me know how much it cost you.

Now I must stop and catch up with work which did not get done yesterday. Lots and lots of love from all of us.