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January 5, 1944

Dearest Lee:-

Today for the first time in over four years I am a "Free woman" as far as responsibilities of the Wilmington District W.S.C.S. are concerned, for yesterday at our annual meeting Mrs. L. Mulford Taylor, former president of Grace society was elected to the district presidency. I was presented with a life membership in the WSCS. This is a membership costing \$25, the money going toward educational work of the WSCS. But my freedom is not likely to last very long; but next week there is the annual meeting of the Conference WSCS in Dover and they have prevailed upon me to take over that job.

Shirley got off on Tuesday, Mr. Hamm driving her as far as Lancaster, as he was on his way to take Susanne back to school at Hanover. We haven't heard from her since she left.

When I went home Tuesday evening I found a big box of lovely spring flowers from our sailor boy, Mason Robertson. We are having freezing weather outside this week- it has been down as low as 10- and the flowers certainly help to brighten things up inside.

I think Bernice is planning to go skating with a group of young people tonight if it doesn't storm. She came home yesterday quite elated because she had been made the only sub on the varsity basketball team. Did she tell you she has the lead in The Pirates of Penzance which is being put on at Tower Hill in March?

The Legislative committee made us a visit yesterday. The enclosed newspaper clipping tells something about it. It is always a rather nerve-racking experience for daddy. People coming in cold from the outside without any knowledge of what we are trying to do, do not always understand some things. Of course we have been trying to get money for an adequate detention house for some time.

Grandmother Minker came home from the meeting with me yesterday and stayed all night. She was about to make an apple pie when I left at noon-time. Were those eggs we sent you fit to eat when they arrived? They were an experiment. We were told if they were hard boiled and then dipped in paraffine [sic] they would keep indefinitely, but we are curious to know just how they were.

A letter just came from you, the first in weeks. It was mailed December 9 and you state the last letter received from us was one written early in November. We are not worrying about receiving letters or rather not receiving them, but naturally we wish they could get thru more quickly, especially the ones we send to you. Maybe now that Christmas is over things will be a little better. I received the check for \$130, the receipt for which you enclosed.

On the same mail was a card from Shirley written Wednesday night. There

were severe snowstorms in northern Pa. and she says that some of the girls had not gotten back yet, and that Miss Dewey, dean of girls was in Canada

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with the flu.

We are anxious to hear how you celebrated Christmas, whether the packages arrived, etc.

With lots of love.

Mother