

1-14-83

Dear Ida Rose and Tracy,

We read that delightful letter and I meant to write to you weeks ago, but we were in Calif. for Christmas for 2 weeks, then when we returned I worked at registration which I usually do a few times a year, had a lot to catch up with. Anyway, I hope this letter will get to you eventually.

We loved your letters--I think we've read 2 of them and really do appreciate hearing about all your wonderful experiences. It makes me all the more anxious about Smith's retirement in 2 years when we plan to go on a mission or whatever. I just hope our health will be good by then==always a consideration.

Bob and Shirley Thomas will be Miss. Pres. in a few months. She will need to be released from R.S. General Board and she's been excellent in that capacity. A very fine, capable woman.

Three of our children live in the Bay area so that's where we spent the Holidays. I had reservations about going in wintertime and other reasons but it turned out really well. Our little Danny will soon be a father--she's 10 days late now! We'll soon have 35 grandchildren! Rather than be a full-time grandmother I'm taking some classes at the Y finally--auditing right now to get me into the swing of things having been a student such a long time ago--1942! I still help Karen with their 9 kids quite often but the oldest is 13 and a bit more willing to help so it's easier on Karen as well as me.

Mainly, I wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed the letters and to wish you well and am looking forward to hearing about your experiences when you return. The satisfactions you must have outweigh the frustrations, I'm sure. I loved being a miss. on my own when we were in Germany a few years, had more investigators than the regular miss. did--hated to leave to come home in a way.

Have a wonderful year! We love you.

Love,

Katie

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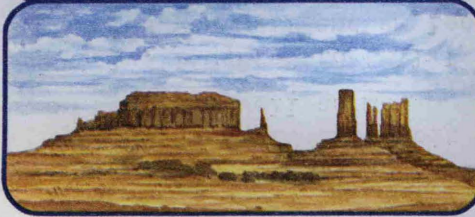
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