

December 13, 1945

Dear Father White:

Your letter of the first of the month reached me this morning, and I hasten to write these few lines so that they may reach you before Christmas.

Most heartily do I reciprocate your kind Christmas greetings. Strange to say that Christmas cards around here are about as scarce as they are in Japan. In fact Christmas gifts of any kind are at a premium. In view of the many strikes, shortage of labor, etc., not much is done in the line of manufacturing new articles.

It is wonderful to learn of the fine work our priests and the boys are doing for the foreign missions. What a Godsend for them, and what an inspiration to the men!

All is well around here. No doubt you have heard all about our successful campaign for Loras College. Thank God, we reached the million mark. Enclosed you will find a picture of the new Chapel which we intend to build as soon as conditions will permit. We are also planning a Library-Administration building, and perhaps an addition to the Infirmary. We are thinking of turning this building into the residence building for our ecclesiastical students. At the present time we have, besides our own boys, students from the Winona, LaCrosse, Rockford, Des Moines and Pueblo dioceses, and also thirty-five candidates for the Maryknoll Society and eleven for the Dominican Order.

I hear quite often from our thirty-nine priests who are still in the service. Like yourself, they are all anxious to get back home, and we at home are just as anxious to welcome them back. I think Father Al Hoffmann and Fathers Ryan, Sullivan and McAvoy will be back within the near future.