

Hounametti, Christmas Day

Dear Folks at Home,

Beth's letter of the 13th arrived this evening having been forwarded from Bangalore. I was surprised that it made no mention of previous letters from me. I must have sent you 8 or 10 from Bangalore before I started on tour. I think this is the 3rd or 4th since I left on the 8th. I've been so rushed and so busy seeing people & writing up notes that I've had little time for letter writing. The tour has been a very interesting and affecting. Even if I discount the expressions of regard showered upon me by 50% there still remains a very moving remainder. I've met many Indian friends some of whom I've had difficulty in remembering and many more whose fathers have told them of me. There is certainly a very marked stirring of the people even in the villages and the work I started seems to have produced fruitful results though very many mistakes have been made.

I came yesterday from Hassan a journey of about 170 miles. As I had to stop at 6 places on the way including a stop for lunch at Government House Mysore, I arrived here late. We drove the last 10 miles in darkness and as we drove through the coffee about 2 miles below here the headlights showed up a young panther in the road ahead of us. The driver stopped the car thinking that the animal would attack us. I told him to drive on & the animal trotted ahead of us for some distance & then bounded up into the coffee on one side of the road.

This is a very beautiful & the Morris have welcomed me warmly. There are two other guests, a Mr. & Mrs. Carter of the Rockefeller Foundation who see nice people. We had a big Christmas dinner with the other relatives in the new booth.

in. I go to Attikai (Eric Morris's) tomorrow  
and to Bedaguli (young John Morris) on  
Sunday. That will show me most of the coffee  
in this area. The country is of course very  
beautiful with high hills all around. The  
bungalow is nearly 6000 ft up and the hills  
must go up to 7000 at least.

I go down on Monday spend a couple  
of days in Mysore where I shall be at Govt  
House, a swifter place even than the  
Residency. The lunch they gave me there  
was very good indeed. From there I proceed  
to Mandya where the sugar factory is situated  
there I spent about 4 days and then  
return to Bangalore where I am due to  
deliver at least two addresses. Love to  
all & Happy New Year  
Leslie

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Sender's name and address:

Dr Leslie B. Lesmana  
40 Bank of Mysore  
Bangalore  
India



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December 25, '53

Dr  
Mrs Betha Chennan  
3126 Perundalur  
P.P. Sivestria P.O.,  
Kannur

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED  
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT  
BY ORDINARY MAIL.



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