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From: Dick (Cupp?)

Dick unknown

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Dear John, (Where have I heard that before?)

I've been meaning to write before this, but couldn't even remember the name of your church---is it Pilgrim Holiness or Pentecostal?

Anyway, Dean Fitzwater supplied me with your address. He was here a couple of days ago to complete a new policy I've taken out to take the place of S.S.

As you can see, I've graduated from stealing newspaper stationery to stealing church stationery—or at least, envelopes. I believe Dean told you I finally gave up the worldly comforts of the Dayton Daily News and came to Muncie Belmont on a full-time basis June 1. I haven't regretted it yet.

That is, I'm supposed to be on a full-time basis. The brethren allowed me to take 8 quarter hours of graduate work at Ball State this fall, and it's taking more time than I had imagined. I'm also writing an occasional feature for the Muncie Star, so I'm keeping my hands full.

If I can get into a good schedule I'd like to get a master's degree in guidance & counseling while I'm here. Had considered taking 8 hours every other quarter, which would give me the M.A. in 3 years. By then I should know what I want to be when I grow up—probably will continue preaching, but may want to try teaching in a Christian college—or maybe edit a 4-H magazine. What are your plans?

Last Sunday a.m. Warricks and Rich's visited here—stayed for dinner, of course, & we all ate at Aunt Maude Ritchie's house. Dale said you have quite a little girl! From the way he talks, she must be almost as cute as Debbie. Congratulations, Dad!

You may be interested in knowing something about the church here. We have a membership of about 60—morning worship attendance last 3 Sundays have been 120, 106 & 121. We have 122 theater-type seats, but are seeking bids now for an addition that will raise the auditorium capacity to about 185. We've also bought 3 lots nearby for a new building whenever feasible.

The church here has a lot of potentiality—only reason it hasn't moved much the past few years is because we don't have the facilities. Ours is the closest bldg. to the college—we have 2 college students, congregations across town has about 15. Reason: no classroom space here. I feel sure we'll grow when we expand (addition will also give us 4 new classrooms)

There are 6 congregations here in Muncie (Pop. 70,000), including one that disfellowships all the rest, one that believes it is sinful to go to college, and one colored congregation. Biggest one is Fairlawn, about the size of Northridge.

Now—now about sitting down and writing us a letter. And be sure to let us know whenever you're planning to visit Yankee-lam. If you can't come to Muncie, maybe we can meet you in Dayton or thereabouts. Say howdy to the girls for us.

Your "fellow-laborer"