

Dear Santa,
I want these things. Record player, Wishnik family, hostess buffet Beauty vanity, slinky, p. 229 blue sailor dress suit in Spanish Catalog, water color set (paints) siamese cat in a basket, crazy clock game, snippy scissors, snow cone machine, p. 228 spigot green jumper and red plaid dress, cotton candy machine, stretch pants, colored red,
blue, black, marie raceway, fascination, Sparkle pants and bubble gum bank. Love, Janice Hutzen, age 7.

Dear Santa,
Please bring me tearieradic, Skipper, mops, candyland game, Jeff wants a truck and tauring car. We try to be good and we love you.
Love, Laurie Ruth

Rome Sidelights Provide Sketches Worth Recording

By RUTH VOGT
Special Writer

What causes clashes of the mind while enjoying a certain worldwide Ecumenical event for over two months in another country doesn't come from the daily job of getting the important items recorded. It comes from not being able to record all the exciting side-lights picked up while talking to people in free moments.

When a secretary from Ohio, working for a year in a Roman office, pulled out of her purse the latest letter she had received from her sister back home and started reading what her four year nephew had said to his mother that day a clean page in the notebook was found immediately.

"REPEAT THAT paragraph again, please, that's precious." I saw we slipped hot catfishena at a side-walk cafe.

"Well, Ricky it seems was making bubbles in the backyard from one of those dime store bottles and as the Mother poked her head out the door to call him in for lunch, a huge rainbow bubble broke.

"Where did it go?" she asked her four-year-old.

Ricky answered, "God took it. He came after it."

"What did God look like?" she asked the bubble maker. The noisy little maker of bubbles said quietly, "I don't know. He closed the door too quickly. I didn't get to see what God looked like."

FINISHING our coffee with the sun streaming out from clouds, two women wondered, silently of course, if at 40 or 80 any of us can actually describe what He looks like any better.

Another afternoon, waiting for the next press conference to begin at three, a side walk table was shared with a tall striking woman whose eyes and smile and skin cried out, in pride, from the Nordic face. She was a picture of strength, cleanliness and jubilation of good health as she spoke.

"In the late twenties I went as

a young girl over to America to be a nurse maid for the Compton's children. For six years I lived with that wonderful, wonderful family. Returning to Germany for a spell they wrote and wanted me to return. I did."

CHECKING TO make sure she meant the Compton brothers who worked on the atom project, she told about the glorious summers being spent at Otsego Lake at their cottage. "Would you happen to know where that is?" she wondered.

Telling her that my sister owned a cottage just two miles from Otsego, on the other side of the road, and how we had spent many a summer there, her praise of Michigan's beauty spilled out over our coffee and Italian cup cakes. (And she who was born and raised within the shadow of the Alps!)

"Do you know only three years ago the Compton's children, who are now parents and even grandparents, insisted I make them a visit? I took a boat. Then I remembered during all the years I was home in Germany."

"You like America?" I asked, a most foolish question I thought the moment it was said.

With her eyes sparkling as brightly as the bluest lake sparkles in the Alps, with her even white teeth showing themselves in a gorgeous smile and with her healthy leathery skin glowing from the philosophy she's lived with for over six decades, she answered almost in reverse:

"AMERICA is so beautiful. The people in America are so kind. They are so kind and good are the American people."

Did the sun make a sudden dip as a sort of silent salute to this tremendous sudden tribute? Was it because my eyes and heart filled up with such gratitude to hear our country and its peoples praised so sincerely from a Nordic woman whose intelligence shone out strongly as she sat there on the sidewalk with me in the late fall afternoon?

She later became an executive in a German hospital and was enjoying an autumn Roman holiday, one of many holidays which had taken her over the East, Far East and points south into Africa.

ONE CAN reach adulthood singing that particular song "America The Beautiful" without really realizing what the words mean. It almost requires a trek far away in order to comprehend the significance of those terms. And when you hear it coming from the hearts of so many travelers who have been to our shores you somehow feel you do know what

"America the Beautiful" means. Yes, it's quite simple to record, from the printed release sheets handed you, the happenings of the day. It's a bit more difficult to catch all the gorgeous side remarks tossed your way as you sit sipping coffee at a sidewalk cafe.

I tried. And my notebook is stuffed full of them. Life? People? Their opinions and reactions? Such a storehouse for the winter months rushing in!

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15708 Birwood, Birmingham

Dear Santa:
I want a Junior cooking stove, Puppeteria, living doll, toy dishes, I. Jim Cordes, write this letter for my sister.
Love, Mori Cordes
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Dear Santa Claus,
Hello, how are you and how are your reindeer. I have been a good girl and I would like a cry baby, magic bottle and a Chatty Baby and a record player. I will leave you peanut butter sandwich, glass of milk with big shot in it.
Love from Katie

Dear Santa Claus,
My name is Billy Potrykus. I live at 31985 Mayfair Lane, Birmingham, Michigan. I want to see you last night, but I forgot to ask for a movie projector, also a house coat and shoes. Please bring some toys for my baby Greg. He is just a baby but don't forget him.

I want a Pat-a-Burp and a Betsy Wetsy.

Love, Krissy Detwiler
P.S. I love you.

Santa—I want a choo choo train.
Ruth

Dear Santa,
I love you? Do you love me? I want a Betsy Wetsy doll?
Krissy

Dear Santa:
Skipper, pat-a-bur, stove, dishes, Lisa Shoenfeld
1009 Sutherland, Birmingham

Dear Santa,
Wendy wants Kenner's, bake over, a train like Beckys and paper crayons.
Wendy Krispin
6461 Burton Drive, Birmingham

Dear Santa,
My name is David J. Larson. I want a Barney's auto factory, Tiger Joe and Vroom Truck Skittle football suit, baseball mit. Thank you.

Dear Santa,
My name is Mark R. Larson. I want a army suit, a football outfit too and a pool table a tetherball too baseball net. Thank you.

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