

My Grace

18 December 1946

Mr. John Macrae, Jr., Chairman  
E. R. Dutton Company, Incorporated  
286-302 Fourth Avenue  
New York 10, New York

Dear Johnny:

Although our paths have not actually crossed for many a long year, you may remember our talking with each other over the telephone in New York nearly two years ago. Next time I get up to the big city, or you come to the Deep South on vacation, I trust that we can find time to get together and lift an elbow or two.

The immediate purpose of this letter is to ask if you might be interested in publishing a volume which at the moment is being called LET US GIVE THANKS?

For several years past, our students have been gathering a collection of table graces from clergymen and laymen of all faiths and from many countries. Bishop Tucker, until recently Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, has written a foreword for the book.

So far as I know, there is no such collection of table blessings, and everyone who has heard about the proposed volume seems to think it a good idea. Our girls hope to make a little money from the sale of the book, perhaps enough to help them build a chapel here on our campus. The State has earmarked \$10,000 toward such a project.

Several weeks ago, the Atlanta Journal carried a story about LET US GIVE THANKS, and a day or two ago I had a letter from a woman in Florida asking for four copies; so a large sale is definitely in the offing!

I suspect that there should not be more than a hundred or a hundred and fifty graces in a first edition. If the book attracts any attention, enough people may send in their own favorite graces to persuade us to get out a second and larger edition.

(Over)