

Dear Waeyella:

There isn't much in the way of startling news to bring to you except that I have been flitting back and forth from Wash. to N.Y. until I finally decided to stay here and again struggle to paint. I did work for the grid doing some illustrations, but I felt that it was more important for me to be painting, so I am again going thru the same struggle that I met with when I first arrived here: find a job (I have one now) and a suitable place to live in. As is undoubtedly true in the west, the housing situation in N.Y.C. is also very ~~bad~~ bad. I spent a solid week looking about a section of Manhattan in which I wanted to find an apartment, in Greenwich Village, and failed - there just aren't any places to be found - so, I even looked into furnished rooms - and found nothing clean enough to live in. So for a while I am staying with a friend in the Village, and I will probably find a room outside, higher up on Manhattan Island to stay <sup>in</sup> till I again have enough money to rent an apt - if I can find one..... Till then I won't be able to do much actual painting besides making drawings and black & white things. But I am happy in one sense if not in another and that is that I find that I am freed by everything tempting in this city when I compare to it the line that painting has for me now.

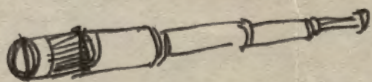
W.C.

3. / Today, Tuesday, I had a very grueling day.  
at my job - already

I sent Tom a check for 5<sup>00</sup> for  
Christmas and he sent it back because  
they didn't know him (I suppose) in his  
new address.

So Mrs Dindle have many headaches and frequently will  
feel miserable with the struggle. I'll eventually have  
an apt - and space, privacy, + quiet to paint in. To  
spend 8 hours Jones' short day in the sun in utterly  
uninteresting work is very grueling on my morale -  
sometimes I wonder how I can live much longer -  
but the hope that I shall someday paint all I want  
when I want spurs me on - keeps me alive.

as for the binoculars, and the telescope, if May can



find them, you are welcome to use them.

I'll write from time to time - but for now this will be  
all - please say hello to Pa, Jack + George and May + Wagon  
+ Ma + to Jimmie if and when you write to him.

Best of the new year to you,

Tom

P.S. They wouldn't cash the check - better write in  
with the next mail - but I am ~~rather~~ very pleased  
that you sent it to me.

Tom