

PCU/1/7/35 -23

January 4<sup>th</sup>  
510 Park Ave  
New York, NY

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Paton,

I was surprised and delighted to receive your lovely Christmas card upon my return from a snowy, icy Christmas in Colorado. It is always gratifying and heart-warming to be remembered. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

It was such a pleasure meeting you, Mrs. Paton, and I shall always treasure our Durban meeting in your attractive home. Naturally I was sorry to miss you, Mr. Paton, but I more than appreciated your kind efforts to get in touch with me, particularly at an extremely troubled time for you.

1965's theatre season has been dire, as I'm sure you've read in the press, and we can only hope 1966 will be better. Certainly it could not be any worse! Playwrights with anything to say are scarcer than the proverbial hens' teeth, or else plays are put on half-finished - an evil pit everyone seems to fall into.

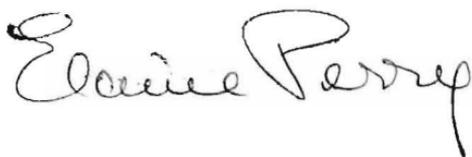
Through a nice gentleman you might know, George Laurence, who runs JUTA's in Cape Town, I had the great pleasure of reading HOFMEYR this year. I was warned it might be cut for States consumption, so he sent me the South African copy. I haven't enjoyed a biography so much

in years. Superb!

Though I'm well aware you have many friends here, if I can ever be of any assistance, it would give me great pleasure. Furthermore I'm always a producer-director looking for plays!

I hope '66 will be a year of hope and peace for all of us, and trust it will bring you happiness as well.

Again a world of thanks for your good wishes,  
yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elaine Perry". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

PS. Mary Frank has bought a ranch in Colorado with eleven springs - to raise trout!