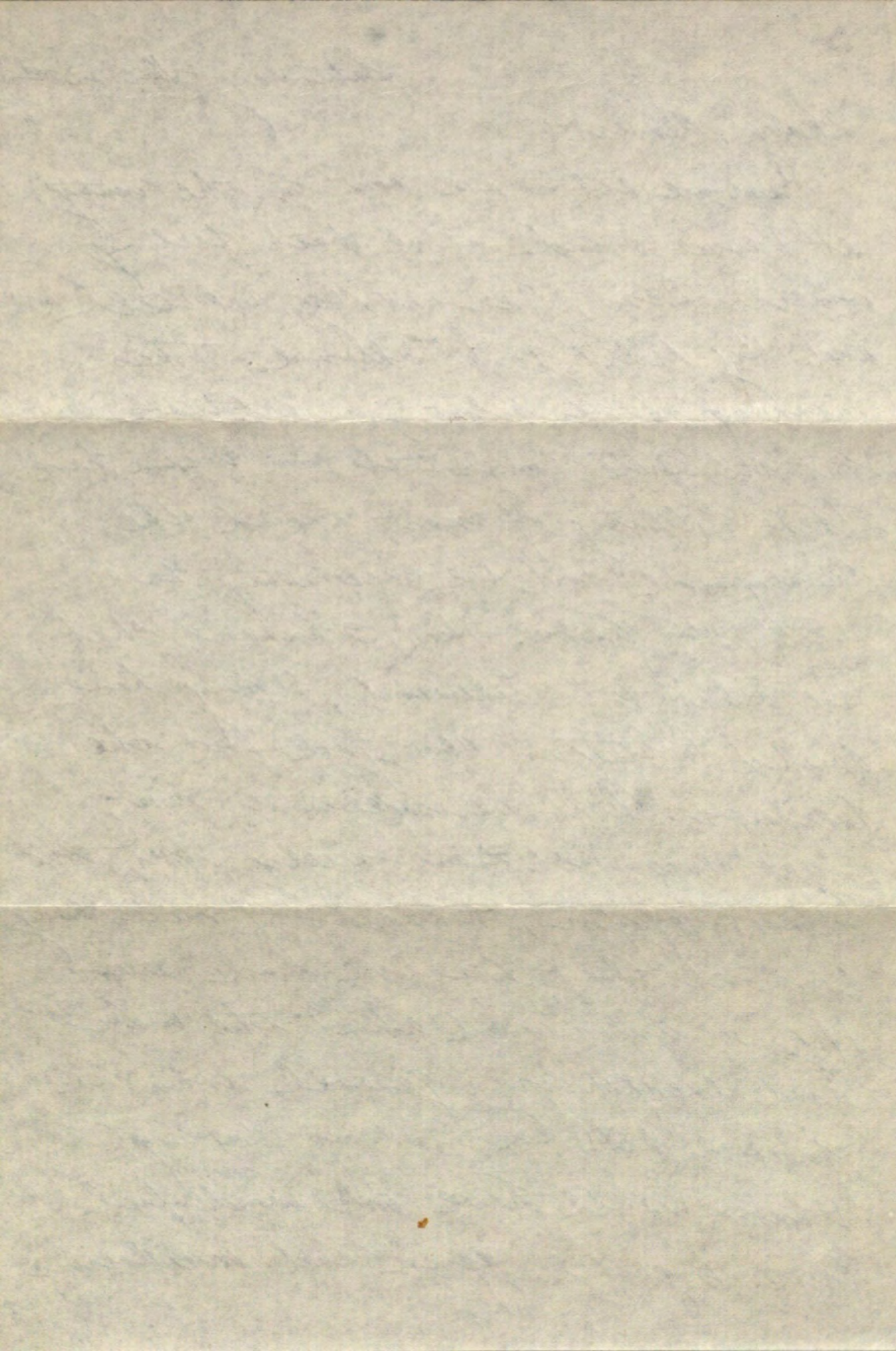


Saturday Dec. 23rd

George, dearest,

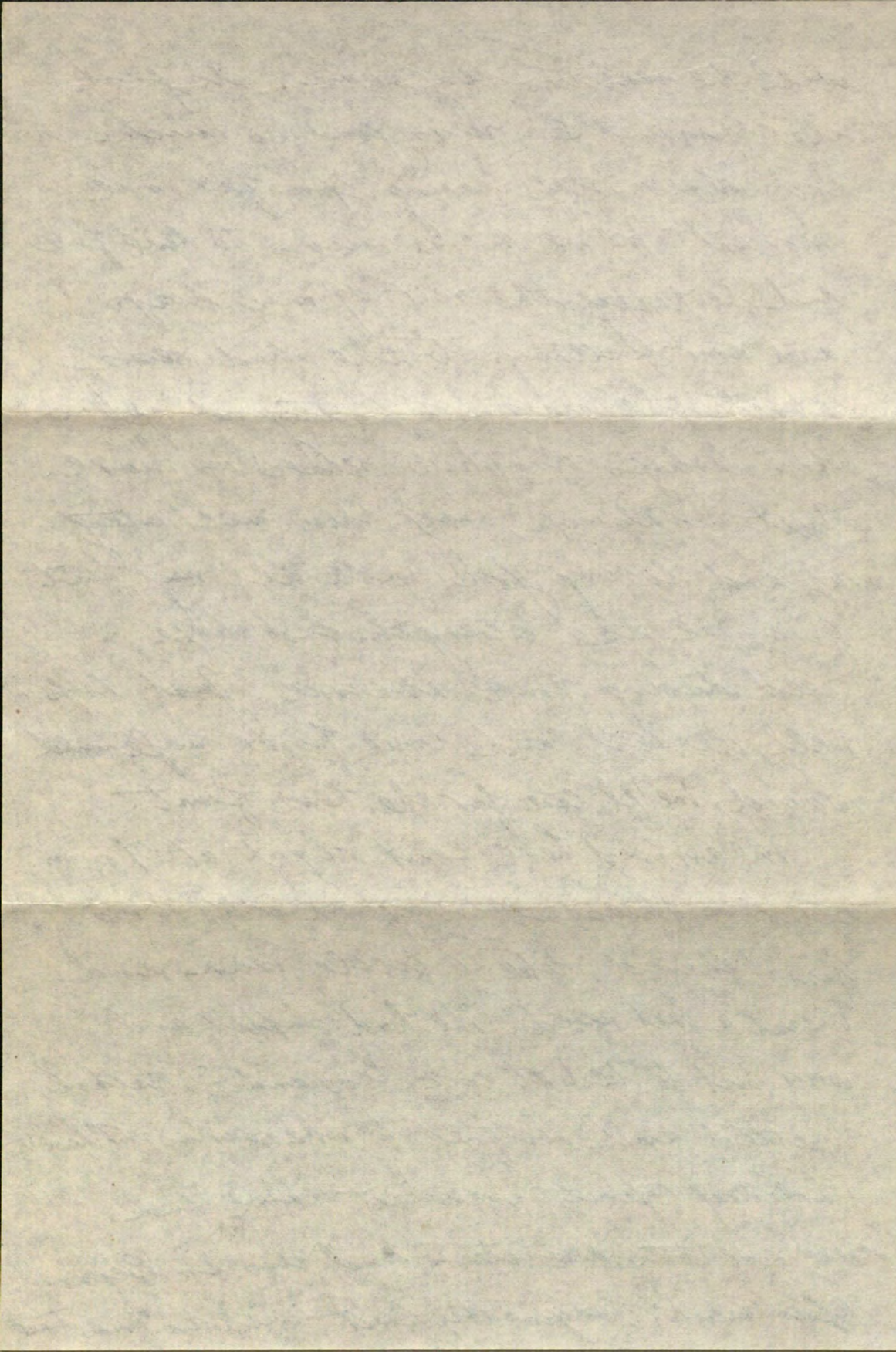
Gimmie and I are now in the country,
at Bessie's, and we're both feeling
swell. Bess, Gus and Kay are well
and Kay didn't go to Lakeland. This
morning it was below zero outside
but it's quite comfortable and warm here.
There's plenty of snow around the
countryside and we may stay here
until New Year's. Had I known that
Kay didn't go to Lakeland, I may have
decided to stay in New York for the
holidays. Don't misunderstand now,
I get along with them nicely but the
thought of you, thousands of miles away
from all that joy love and seeing
Kay so unconcerned about the war
and everything in general irks me
just a bit. Am I wrong, darling?
I know we'll have our wonderful
days together again and our dreams



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will be realities very soon. It's just
that Jim and I miss you so much
and never stop loving you for one
moment. We've got so much to live for
and be happy the rest of our days
and now listening to the bad news
about the war is putting it off
for perhaps another year or more.
But as always, my chin will stay
up and loving you with all my heart
gives me the strength and hope I
need during your absence. Just keep
well, dearest and come home safe and
sound. We'll ease for the home front.

We arrived here last night at 7 p.m.
after a pleasant trip on the bus.
Jim behaved like a little man and
wasn't a bit tired. He had supper and
was put to bed at once. Bea and I talked,
knitted and listened to the radio. There's
a holiday spirit prevalent here and
there are trees downstairs and also in Bea's
apartment. Imagine my Best with an Xmas tree.

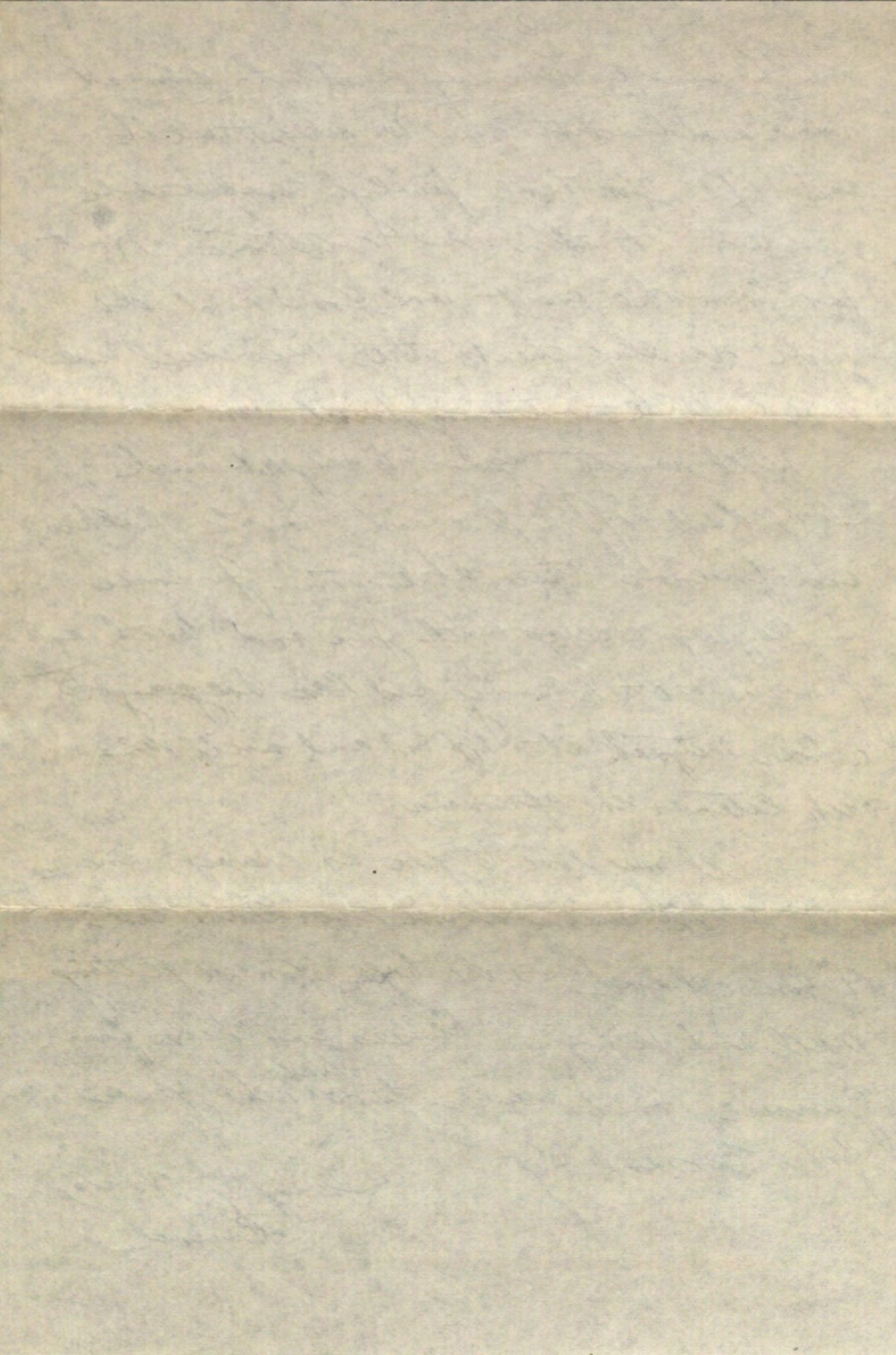


The sun is shining and it's almost noon and lunchtime. We slept well and hope you have fairly comfortable quarters at this new station. How far from the front are you and do you really think this war will ever end? It's at a turning point now.

We'll write again to night and I'll dash off a few cards to the folks and friends this afternoon. Jimmie is playing nicely with Jon and both are growing so tall. Ky and Bess are going to a Bar mitzvah at 1 p.m. and will be back later in the afternoon.

All my love to you as always and please don't worry about us. Take care of yourself and I do hope you're getting mail and packages. Kisses and hugs from Jimmie. Best wishes for a ^{Happy} New Year from Bess and Ky.

Sincerely yours,
Harold



Mrs. Elaine Staff
3021 Avenue I
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