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REV. E. HOLM, TREASURER
CONESTOGO, ONT.

Jan. 8, 1933.

Dear Mother:

Your nice, long and interesting letter was received a few days ago, and was read with much pleasure. I will endeavor to give you a few lines by way of reply today. I preached down at Pondyport this morning and intended after service to hold the annual congregational meeting. But the attendance was small, there being only 22 present; and of these, there were only three voting members, only males 21 years of age and over being eligible to vote. So the meeting had to be postponed. The depression has hit the congregation rather hard, and financial contributions have fallen off to such an extent that the probabilities are that the services will soon have to be cut in half and that I will soon be preaching there only twice a month instead of every Sunday. We were glad to hear that you liked our group so well. I had it made largely on your account. We think the pictures are about as good as could be expected considering the material the photographer

had to work upon. We had a letter from
Blanche, in which she went into ecstasies
over it; also a formal note of thanks from
Florence, in which she condescended to say
that the picture was "nice." Aside from these
we have had no comment except from our
ex-step-mother, Mrs. D. D. Long, who spoke of it
as a picture of "the royal family," whatever that
means. We were glad to hear that you had
passed a pleasant Christmas and had entered
upon the new year in a fair state of health. "May
you live long and prosper," is our wish for you.
I was sorry to hear of the passing of cousin
Esie Jones. It was nice though in her boys to
treat her so decently and give her so fine a
burial. I should imagine Uncle Cephas would
be pretty poorly by this time. He will probably
not last much longer, and poor Aunt Doris
days are also probably pretty nearly numbered.
She hadn't much to live for and it will doubtless
prove a blessed release to her when she passes.

In addition to Helen's letter enclosed, I am
sending you one from Frederick. He talks every
day of his grandmother and seems to think a
great deal of you. She said I should send you
his letter and see what you would say. He is
so original about everything. The other day he
got angry at Robert, and he said, "I don't like
you: I wish you weren't a member of this family."

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I be told his mother as they were coming down the steps yesterday, "I love you, mother: I love you every day." We closed school Tuesday and are now well in the harness again. We will just teach this week and beginning with next week we will have two weeks of examinations for the first semester. The financial situation is getting worse instead of better. I, however, got my cheque for December last week. But I was the only one that got it. The U. S. C. A. informs us that they will have to cut down their appropriation to all educational institutions. So we will get less than; and I don't know how we will be able to get through the year. When I first presented my cheque at the bank, they refused to cash it, but did so the next day. The situation is precarious, and I do not know how soon it will be before we will have to apply to go on the "relief"; but we are hoping for the best. I preached in our chapel on Friday - an Epiphany sermonette, which went over quite nicely. I don't think I have any more news, so I will close.

With love and all good wishes, I am

As ever

Most sincerely yours,

Conrad