

Evangelical Lutheran Synod
of Canada

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REV. E. HOLM, TREASURER
CONESTOGO, ONT.

May 10, 1936.

Dear Mother:

I really do not have much to write to-day, but will go through the motion anyway. It is a nice fine day to-day - not quite so hot as yesterday and the day before when the thermometers almost touched the nine-ties. It is remarkable how rapidly the leaves put forth. You could almost see them growing; and while early in the week there wasn't a leaf visible on any bush or tree, it would now be hard to find one without some leaves on it. On Thursday Arthur and I started to work in the garden, and we got about everything planted except cabbage and tomatoes; and even for the former I planted the seeds. It looks now as though the summer, so long delayed, has come to stay. Well, "dead week" is now over and this week we start our final examinations, which will require a great deal of "sitting" and of reading and examining and grading of papers - a sort of climax to the year's work. But in a couple of weeks all will be over, and we will be looking forward to the coming of synod again with all the work that this involves in the writing and

publication of the minutes. Even last week
I was not altogether idle, as I had the periodi-
cal "Bulletin" to prepare and considerable proof
reading to do, and am not done with it yet
as the material is not all in. Money matters
with me are now a little - just a wee little
better. Last week, I received a cheque for the
prize in Homilies, a prize of \$5, from Bro
Groth. He made the cheque out for \$5.35 - in
order to cover stamp and exchange, and said
that, if anything was left over, I should buy
me a cigar. Well, there was 16¢ left over. I didn't
invest in a cigar, but paid off the paper boy
for delivering The Globe and had five cents
left over, which I gave to Ellen this morning
for Sunday School collection. I went down
to Church this morning, as per usual, without
a cent in my pocket; but had hardly taken
my seat when the Church treasurer came
around and handed me a cheque for \$5⁰⁰ for
my assistance in the Evens services. I had not
expected anything for this and was quite surprised.
As I was in arrears \$5⁰⁰ or so in my Church
account, I simply endorsed the cheque and
put it on the collection plate to cover my in-
debtedness. So I think that that debt is now
about wiped out. To make sure that I would
get this letter off to you to-day, I stamped an
envelope and printed your address on it early
last week, taking time by the forelock, as it
were. But I guess I would have got it off

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anyway, as my colleague, the German secretary sent me a half-dozen stamps or so out of his synodical account. Do you see, "The Lord helps those who can't help themselves," or words to that effect. But the governing authorities are supremely indifferent to our deplorable situation; and there is no sign of any salary payment in sight. The Board will hold a meeting this week, but will probably be wholly occupied with the fight between the President and the Dean, which will probably result in the expulsion of one or the other from the institution, as the President is determined to accept no compromise. Secretary Wickley, I understand, is to be on hand to expedite matters. It is not difficult to prophesy which way he will turn as he has heard only one side of the quarrel, but has no doubt heard an "ear full". The whole thing is unfortunate for the good of the institution. Fortunately none of the professors in the College or in the Seminary is involved, with the exception of one College professor who has taken a definite stand. But it will be interesting to see just how the affair will turn out. The whole dispute could and should have been avoided. At the situation stands, everything is in a turmoil, and the institution is apt to hear the lament, "Bonnie

Spent all of last week in "house-cleaning" - the
semi-annual institution, which nearly breaks
the backs of the women and the hearts of the men.
She will be at it all this week yet - "more's the
pity", as old Shakespeare used to say. It may be
interesting to Pearl to know that I have gone
on a "diet." I was getting too fat, and Dr. Zwick
advised me to eliminate potatoes, butter, and
everything fried. I have been on it now for
two weeks or more. The first week I lost
five pounds. Since then I have been holding
my own and maintaining my normal weight
of 172 lbs. I think I am now more supple than
I was and can take a stretch in bed without
fear of cramps in my legs, which used to be
the invariable result of a vigorous stretch. But
I am still somewhat low in spirits on account
of the financial depression. Before I get off
on that line again I will close. With love
and all good wishes, I am

Most faithfully yours,

Arnold