

LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AND WATERLOO COLLEGE

WATERLOO, ONTARIO

Dec. 18, 1921.

Dear Mother:-

As I am rather unexpectedly home to night I will utilize the opportunity to drop you a few lines once more. I was to preach in Steeples again to night but owing to the severe snow-storm we had to day the street cars were not running and after waiting for a car to come along until it was too late I had to phone the people at Steeples that I could not come. I was sorry to disappoint them and also sorry to miss the remuneration of seven dollars which would have come in very good to me at present, but it could not be helped. I tried to get a taxi to take me down to the car station at St. John's but even they were not doing business on account of the storm, which was the wildest we have had this winter so far. Otherwise it is much more comfortable to be at home in a good warm house where one can sit with his coat peeled off. We had a rather cold week last week - good steady weather - until Friday afternoon when it began snowing and soon turned to rain. It rained hard all Friday night, all day Saturday and till midnight Saturday night when there was a sudden change of temperature and high wind and snow. This kept up all day to-day though it has calmed down somewhat to night and is no longer snowing. The heavy wind so drifted the snow that the cars have been running only intermittently all day. But with the snow everywhere and the windows all frosted up it certainly begins to look Christmasy. Coralis and Herman went down to Church to night and have just now returned. Bonnie didn't go to night on account of the storm. There were down this morning and read the Liturgy. There were about 200 present I judge, the smallest congregation I have ever seen in St. John's at a morning service.

Yesterday Bonnie and I went down to Kitchener through the rain to purchase her Christmas presents for her people. In spite of the inclemency of the elements we got through with the job all right and at not too great an expense. To-day Bonnie has been pretty busy doing up her presents and getting them ready for mailing to-morrow. Father De-Long sent his usual contribution to our Christmas budget. He always sends the children \$3 apiece and some for snaffles for me. Nearly every year he has to send a little more. Last year it was \$20. This year he sent \$25. - This is encouraging infant industries. However, if we had one more he could still send \$25 and be within the \$3 limit, and it would mean that I would get only \$1 for snaffles. So there is not much encouragement for a new addition unless we were certain of adding two at a time. He always sends Bonnie the Ladies' Home Journal as her present. I think I will be able to keep the children's presents within the limit of the amount received this year, which is quite necessary on account of present financial stringency. If I could have preached at Steeples to-night I would have had a little more to go on, but I think we have enough for happiness all around. I paid the last installment on my piano last week. I would have paid it before but was waiting on the Circasian walnut seat to match the piano which had been promised by the Kitchener branch when I purchased the piano. For this reason I held \$20 back and wrote the company that I wouldn't pay it till I got the seat. They were not slow after I wrote them in sending it, though I had been after the agent in Kitchener in vain for the last two years for it. If I had paid up in full before receiving it I don't imagine I would ever have gotten it.

Our school holds on to-morrow yet. Then we will have our Christmas holidays till Jan'y 5, 1922. I have one more examination to hold to-morrow yet. The examinations on the whole have been quite satisfactory this year. The children are engaged in practicing for the Christmas concert in St. John's which will be held on Sunday

LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AND WATERLOO COLLEGE

WATERLOO, ONTARIO

night. They say they will each get a pound of candy a piece
 this year - a very generous portion, I think. The little ones
 are practicing for our Christmas tree at home. They are
 all going to say pieces and Father and Ellen have se-
 los to sing. I bought a nice Christmas tree the other
 day for 50¢ and the children are looking forward to
 see it decorated. Marion was singing a piece the other
 morning and was somewhat out of tune, which displeased
 Father, and he said "Sw, Marion, you sing so much
 onus." He likes to use big words and show off his knowledge.
 He gets along fine in everything except arithmetic which is
 his bugaboo. He is a great mimic and can take off any-
 body to perfection. He attends German chapel in the Seminary
 so, he says, he will know German when he gets into the
 Seminary. Prof. Stunkel has a peculiar way of reading
 and it would waste you immensely to hear him take off
 the way Prof. Stunkel reads the German. He already knows a
 good deal of the service by heart. He began reading the
 Bible through the other day and has read the first thirty
 chapters in Genesis within the last week. I think he must
 have read a half dozen or more chapters to-day. Herman
 made a good record on his examinations. He stood 5th in
 a class of 42. Corvus didn't do so well but passed on
 everything. She stands 20th I think, which is about the
 middle. I didn't hear how Marion and Father averaged
 up, but I think Marion stood around 11th or 12th. Little
 Ruth is growing quite rapidly lately and is very tall for her
 age. She takes great interest in everything, claps her hands
 when the children sing and laughs heartily over things
 which appear to her funny. She is the best little child you
 ever saw and is very pretty. I took Ellen down to the
 bookshop the other day and had her hair bobbed Dutch-
 fashion. She is so full-faced and fat that she looks like
 a good-natured picture. She rivals Father in singing.
 Dr. Hoffmann is going to Philadelphia this week to
 spend Christmas at his daughter's. The Board will

meet on Tuesday of this week, at which time we will probably have Pastor Bernson with us. I think he intends to get arranged between Christmas and New Year to his Port Colborne girl. I haven't heard anything lately of his leaving Port Colborne and hope he has made up his mind to stay there for awhile yet. Dr. Hoffmann told me this morning that the wind last night blew one of the small windows in his study open and the snow came in and destroyed his report to the Board and a number of examination papers he had made out for to-morrow and almost flooded the room. Well, my letter is getting beyond its proper length, but I wish to add my greetings for the holy Christmas season and to wish you one and all at home a very happy and blessed Christmas with all the pure joys this holy season brings. With love to you all from us all, I am

Most Sincerely yours
Carroll K. Little.