

## LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AND WATERLOO COLLEGE

WATERLOO, ONTARIO

Dec. 24, 1922:

Dear Mother:-

"Idem night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright  
 Round you Virgin-mother and Child, Holy Infant  
 So tender and mild." This describes the situation I am  
 in to-night on this holy Christmas - we commemorating the  
 birth of our Saviour, as I sit down to begin my weekly letter  
 to you, the best of mothers. Bonnie and the children have gone  
 down to Church to the Sunday School Christmas concert. Little  
 Ruth is indeed asleep and the house is very still, only the noise  
 of the new kitchen clock that I bought yesterday being audible.  
 Your kind letter with its generous enclosure was received a  
 day or two ago, and helped out greatly in securing for the children  
 the things they desired. Permit me to thank you heartily for your  
 generosity. I gave \$2.00 of it to Bonnie which she is going to spend  
 for the Ladies' Home Journal for herself. Her ex-stepmother did  
 not renew this subscription, but sent her a handkerchief in-  
 stead, and as she has had the Journal for the past 14 years from  
 her father she was loath to give it up. Bonnie had some  
 nice pictures of herself made like the one we sent you of  
 Eileen. I would have been glad if she had sent you one  
 but she sent it to her former step-mother instead. She had  
 only 4 or 5 made and she sent one to Meda, one to Don, one to Max  
 and kept the last one to put on the Christmas tree tonight for me.  
 Don sent her a couple of Turkish towels and me a dozen cigars. Meda  
 sent her a \$10 bill. Pearl's gallop leaves arrived yesterday after  
 long delay. We immediately put them in water and they are  
 now as beautiful and fresh as they ever were. Thanks Pearl  
 our hearty thanks for them. I can't tell you the presents the  
 children are getting to-night, but they are as well remembered,  
 I think as usual. Mrs. Baedermann gave Eileen a fine pair  
 of patent leather shoes and white stockings, a dress and a doll.  
 Mrs. Hoffmann did quite as much for Ruth and added some  
 candy besides. "Santa Claus" in the person of Mr. Hammond  
 came around this afternoon and delivered toys and candies  
 to all the children. This was a great surprise and  
 most of them followed him around wherever he went. Yesterday



Waterloo had its great Community Christmas tree and more than 1500 children received stockings filled with candies, nuts oranges etc. The band was out and played and pretty nearly the whole 6000 people of our town were at the gathering. The weather is mild with just enough snow for good sleighing and everybody appears to be happy and in the Christmas spirit. Bonnie took Ruth down in her little white sleigh and she enjoyed it very much. She greeted everybody we met with "Hello." I had Dr. Hoffmann and his son Paul of Toronto, over this afternoon to sample my golden cider. They enjoyed it very much and pronounced it excellent. We will have our Christmas tree to-night after Bonnie and the children get home from church and our Christmas dinner - Roast goose - To-morrow. We got a 13 $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. goose and got it very cheap, 12¢ a lb., but it was only half pickled and gave both Bonnie and me an enormous amount of trouble to get it ready for the oven. However, as the Germans say Ende gut, alles gut. It is now about half roasted, and looks delicious and issues a very agreeable odor. The children finished their school term Friday and are all on vacation now. Carolus stood second in a class of 67 and was only 30 or 4 points behind the highest. Herman stood 8th and Arthur second and Marion about the middle in their respective rooms. Pastor Prockelmann tells me Carolus is also by far the best in the Confirmation class which numbers over 30. We are not worrying as yet over the coal situation which is more or less serious. I have a half ton of hard coal and nearly a ton of coke on hand yet, though the Mayor told us last night at the public meeting that the fuel controller was instructed to give out no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a ton to any one party at a time, whatever the requirements of the house may be, and he strongly advised the citizens to use substitutes whenever possible. I have so far received Christmas cards from all the Geschwister except Blanche. I haven't heard from her. I am glad to say that Bonnie isn't troubled much, any more from nausea though she and some of the children are still bothered with colds. We were interested in what you had to say of Hermine. Well, wishing you all the joys of this happy occasion, I am with much love,  
Sincerely yours,  
Cora St. Little.