

Friday.
Jan 3-1919

Dear Mother:-

am here safe and
sound after an uneventful
trip. I used my new bath-
robe last night for the first
time when I climbed the attic
stairs to ~~go~~ to bed among the
bats and mice. The certainty is
a difference between this bath-
robe and my other one. The
place was cold, and I was
glad I had something warm.

Mother, I left my shaving
brush at home. I guess it is on
the mantel in the bed room.
Please tell Raymond to send

it here as soon as he can,
or else I'll have to use a
lawn mower; and the one
here is rusty, so I can't use
that one. Also tell him to
send me the knife that I
spoke about. And have him
do this as soon as possible.

Please speak to Raymond
about that money and tell
him to let me know what he
can do, just as soon as
possible. As soon as this is done
I'll give the interest that is coming
to you. So tell him to do what he
can. — If a letter comes to me
from Memorial Church (or Mr. Sturges)
send it at me, as I'd like to
have the money. Best of love
to all. Sincerely, I am

Springfield, Ohio,

Jan. 17, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

I have been unable to write for a few days because I Sprained a muscle in my right shoulder. It is all right now, and was never very serious, nor even painful if I didn't move my shoulder too violently.

There is a matter that I wanted to write to you in regard to money. You know that I haven't paid you any interest yet and I don't like to have this hanging on. However, I am not able justnow to do this and I was wondering if you needed the ready money. If you do, let me know at once, and we'll arrange some way to pay this. If you don't, I wanted to suggest the following: I not only owe you interest, but I also owe you for a couple of times when you put an excess to my credit at the bank, for instance when you had Charley do this once. Altogether, this would make about \$25 that I owe you. You have just put \$20 to my credit and that, together with the \$50 that Raymond will give will make \$100. If you can let it go this way, it would solve matters for me. I could simply owe you another \$100, and pay interest on that. If however, this is for any reason unsatisfactory, let me know, and we'll tend to the matter.

I have received my half fare rates from the U.S.R.R. Commission. Last Sunday I saved \$3.25. It is quite a help.

I must stop now in order to get this letter in the mail. Give my best love to all the folks at home. Tell my baby that her Uncle Di is thinking of her. I am well now, and am working quite hard, but am getting enough exercise and sleep, so don't worry about me. Love and kisses to all.

Ivan

*Jan 17 paid
Raymond \$40
he put to
Ivan's account*

Jan 19-1919

counter to my positive desire,
and could do absolutely no
good, and certainly would cause
me worry. I'll not rest till
I have the assurance from you
that you won't come.

So don't worry. I'll wait in
a few days, and if I don't write
please know that it's not because
I'm sick but because they won't
let me.

Love to all.

61-15 mof

Henriette,

Love.

P.S.- Pay Henriette the interest.
I'm sending a check.

Jan 30 1919
Her letter
from hospital

June 30 - 19.

Dear Mother:-

I have not written
definitely concerning my sickness
in the past because of the fear
of your coming here or Raymond's
coming. I have been quite sick,
and very weak, but by no means
dangerously sick. The doctor
has finally decided to take me
to the hospital, so that I can
rest better. Now please don't

and think that things are
worse than they are, for the
doctor said definitely that he
is not sending me to the
hospital for medical care, but
for rest and proper food, etc.
I have been getting good care,
for the faculty members have
been coming and caring for
me. But the doctor thinks
that the quiet of the hospital
would be better. So don't worry.
And above all, do not come

up here to see me. It would
do no good, and only cause
me more worry. There is no
place where you could stay, and
that would worry me. And there
is no care that you could give
me, for that is looked after. And
above all, you couldn't see me,
for the hospital has that ruling
for all patients. Moreover, there
is no need for you coming. I'm
not that sick, only a little
weak. So if you or Raymond
were to come you would run

Feb-10-1919
left the
hospital
after the
will come
home

Feb 10 1919

Dear Mother:-

Your letter just
reached me this morning, and
I have a surprise for you.
I am out of the hospital now!
I left on Saturday. The very
idea of being there had a
depressing effect on me, and so
the doctor told me that if I
felt strong enough I could
leave. I did wish for a
couple of days - Saturday and
yesterday - that I had stayed
a little longer, but if I am
cured it will be all right.
I am not going to go to classes
any this week, nor do any
studying. I hope to come

home for a few days in a
week or so, and then I can
tell you all about the
trouble. I don't want to write
too much now. So at present,
am well, except for being very
weak. But I am taking good
care, and there is no danger.
The doctor said I improved
wonderfully, and he does not
have to come and see me
any more.

Thank Sis for the cookies.
I haven't eaten but one so
far. But the boys saved them
for me.

Love to Mennie, and Butch,
and Sis, and the babies; and
love and kisses to you.

Always,

Joan.

Wish.

Feb 17-1919 ^{Monday}.

Dear Mother:-

Am getting
along nicely. Do not
know yet about coming
home but will
write a letter soon.

Have nervous weakness
occasionally but otherwise
am getting strong.

Best of love to all.

Ivan



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mrs. B. L. Heft,
333 E. Oak
Louisville, Ky

Feb-28-1919

(Today was the first time in over
five weeks that I was in the
recitation building! I went there for
chapel.) Friday. 28

Feb-28-1919
1919

Dear Mother:-

Have been wanting
to write you a long letter, but
really have not been able. I
had been feeling very weak
and sick all along and could
do nothing. Yesterday I went
to another doctor to have him
examine me and give an
opinion. He bore out all that

Feb 28/1919

my regular doctor said, and told me that absolutely nothing is wrong with my heart or lungs. They are in good condition. The trouble is that my system is still poisoned with the flu, and in time that will gradually be thrown off. Also, I am slightly anemic, but that too will be taken care of in time. So there is nothing to worry about. I am taking things

slowly, and feel that I am beginning to get strong

I must stop now, if you are to get this letter tomorrow. In a few days I'll feel stronger and more like writing a longer letter. Best of love and kisses to you and all at home.

Always,

Love,

W. J. K.

Mch 10/19/19 Monday.

Dear Mother:-

Am well
but have been very
busy. Will write a
letter tonight. Am
getting fat now!
Will think about
coming home
Soon. Love to all,
Joan.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mrs. B. L. Hest
333 E. Oak St
Louisville, Ky

tell it better than write it - 'it
would take too long to write.
Enough to say that, while I
still go to the doctor occasionally,
and continue with his medicine,
I am getting much better. My
appetite is growing, and I look
fuller in the face than I have
for a long time.

I'll stop for this time, and
write soon again. Best of love
to each and all at home

March 12-1919

From
Dora.

P.S. - Am sending this to Mennie
so the folks won't have to wait till
you come, in order to Wednesday -
open the letter.

Dora Mother:- Mch 12-1919

I don't know just
why so long a time has passed
since I last wrote. I'm sure
it wasn't intentional and the
time passed so quickly that
I didn't realize it. I have been
well, and getting stronger,
except for bad headaches that
would come every once in a
while. However, they are

gradually leaving me, and
I can feel my strength
coming back.

I cannot come home this
week any more, and plan to
do so to the end of next week.
Circumstances are such that
I cannot very well come
now. I'll explain it when
I get home.

I have been wanting to
get home and tell you all
about my trouble, for I can

March 19-1919

March 19-1919

Wednesday.

March 19-1919

Dear Mother:-

It seems as if there is one disappointment after another I had planned to come home this week but they are having an important assembly of the seminary student and ministers of the city and neighboring parts, and it has unexpectedly been extended. Of course, I could leave, but I've missed so much that I hate

to miss more. And for me to
miss makes me worry so much
that it doesn't pay. So I'll put
it off till next week and come
home surely then.

I am getting well and
strong. The doctor says there
is nothing wrong now; I need only
to gain strength.

Well, good-bye, as I must
hurry. Love to each and all at
home.

Always, Dan.

April 3 - 1919 + Friday
April 3rd 1919

Dear Mother:-

Have been
very, very busy working
on my Senior Sermon
which I am to preach
before the Faculty next
Wednesday. Am well,
and getting along
nicely. Love to each
and all.

Love,
Liam.



REPLY CARD
THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mrs. B. L. Heft

332 E. Oak St.
Louisville, Ky.

ABOUT ATONEMENT

If you believe that nobody can be guilty for anybody's sin but his own; if you believe in salvation by character, not salvation by purchase or transfer, and that Jesus saves men solely by helping them to become better, not by vicariously atoning for their sins; you will enjoy hearing Rev. Dilworth Lupton preach tomorrow morning on "Did Jesus Die For Us?"

In addition to the reasonable doctrine which you will find here, you will like, also, the principle of carrying religion into daily practice. You will be pleased, too, with the sensible, thoughtful people who make up our congregation.

An organ recital by Alfred Calzin at 10:45 o'clock will occupy the fifteen minutes directly preceding the actual opening of the service. A courteous usher will show you to a comfortable seat; and a smile and a cordial handshake will express our pleasure in your presence, at the close of the service.

UNITARIAN CHURCH,
Fourth Avenue and Library Place.

WANTED TO RENT—Furnished or partly furnished bungalow, four to six rooms, in suburbs, convenient to car line. Must have electricity, gas, bath, etc. Address XX-63, Herald.

WANTED TO RENT—
Bungalow or lower apartment of five rooms in Highlands, Crescent Hill or Clifton. Must have by May 15. Three in family; no children. Address XX-83, Herald.

WANTED—To rent furnished or unfurnished bungalow, 4 to 6 rooms. Must have electricity, gas, bath, etc., convenient to car line. Address NN-34, Herald.

Springfield, Ohio,

April 11, 1919L

Dear Mother:-

I have surely been busy during the past few days with my sermon. ### I preached it on Wednesday, and surely am glad that I am done with it. The faculty commended me a great deal and gave very little criticism. Most of this was by way of suggestion for using my voice. However, training and practice will take care of that. Each one of the faculty spoke nicely and said some things about my sermon and conduct of the service that they said of no one else. I was very nervous about it, and am glad that it's out of my system.

I got the letters from Annt T and Aunt Hattie. I was very glad to hear from them. They are getting along very nicely now. They were awfully worried about me, and I'm afraid that they still are. However, I'll write them this week yet, and have them stop worrying.

I have accepted the charge in North Dakota. I believe that it will be the best thing for me. It will build me up in more ways than one. I am glad to be settled, for not being settled in such a matter as this can't help but make me somewhat nervous.

I must stop now, in order to get this in the mail, so that you will hear from me this week yet. I have lots to say, and yet don't know where to begin. Am still a little nervous from the preaching but will soon get over that.

Best of love to all at home. Aunt Hattie and Aunt T ask to be remembered to all. I hope that all are well.

Always,

Loan

april 11-1919

Dear Mother:- I have been trying
to get a letter to you this week
but things have surely interfered.
So I have only time to drop this
note. May this Easter season be
a blessed one to you and all the

loved ones at home. May our dear
Father grant you all His love, and
keep you, and give you all a new
vision of what it means to be His
children; through Jesus, our True
Savior. Amen. Love to all. Love
high. Love

Dear Sir: - Started this to
brother, but am afraid the news
may be too late so send it to you.
Springfield, O.
Apr 24-19.

Dear Mother:-

Things have come about
in such a way that I want to
come home over Friday & Saturday.
Among other things I want to
arrange for you folks to come
here for commencement. I shall
have to leave Saturday afternoon
in order to preach in the northern
part of this state on Sunday. But
I am anxious to get to Louisville
if even for a short time to arrange

April 24-1919
about commencement

April 24-1919
about commencement

with you about commencement
Expect me Friday after supper.
It may be about 7 p.m., if I get
connections, otherwise, about
9:30. So don't worry about me.

Hurry to get this letter
in the mail. Love to all —

Love —

P.S. — I thought you might
not be home in time to get this
news before I leave so am
sending this to Sis.

I got to my place, Van Wert, Ohio, safely and preached there yesterday. The people liked me very much, I'm glad to say, and said some very nice things to me. The church is a very beautiful stone church, and the people are as nice as can be.

I must stop now, so you can get this letter. Best of love to you and Annie, to Butts and Sis, and to both of my babies. May our Father in Heaven keep you and us all, now in His love, through our Saviour. Amen.

Wigpah.

Ivan.

Monday morning.
April 28-1919

Dear Mother:-

I have something to write to the folks at home, and I hesitate, in a way, to do so, because I know it will be a great shock. It is simply this, that Annie and I have agreed to dissolve our engagement. Now I know at once what you will say and do. You will blame her for it all. So let me say that it was not her fault at all, but mine entirely. And let me say two things, and say them emphatically. The first is that she

did not break the engagement. We talked it over and decided that it was by far the best for both of us to dissolve it. So the action was not taken by her alone. We both agreed to it. The second thing that I want to say is this, that I do not want anyone to say a word against her. She is not to blame. And if I hear of anyone who deliberately says anything against her behind her back, or does anything to wound her to her face, I will resent it with all the power that I have, and hold that person accountable

to me. So let me ask you this, that you say nothing at all about her or this matter to me. I know you will think humbly of her; it is only natural. I do not want anyone to think that way of her, but if you cannot help it, do not say anything to me about it. So, if you love me, don't say anything at all to me about this. And also, if you love me, don't do anything to make her lot harder, for anything that hurts her hurts me, and her life at church will be hard enough as it is. For my part, I shall ever regard her as I have in the past, and continue to love her.

Springfield, Ohio,

May 2, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

Today was our last day of school. It is probably the last day of school that I shall ever have in my life, and we all felt a little serious about it this morning. Our last class was with the Dean, Dr. Bauslin, and as he was giving us some farewell words the tears were in his eyes. He thinks a great deal of our class, and says that it is one of the best the Seminary has ever had. He has enjoyed teaching us, and we have enjoyed being together. But now we shall separate, and the chances are that all of us can never be together again. Some are going to be missionaries, and the rest of us will be scattered over this country. And when we think of these things we can't help feeling a little solemn. In Dr. Keyser's class yesterday, our last class with him, I had a special assignment to report on. It was on a subject in philosophy. Dr. Keyser was well pleased with what I did, and said so to the class. He said that I had simply "wrapped it around my little finger"!

Well, our commencement comes on Sunday. I wish that some of you could come, but of course you know what is best. We are having some fine music, and I am surely having a job at the organ. Today was really the first time, in practices extending over a month, that we got along without any serious difficulty. We'll have to be careful, for we have only two more rehearsals before Sunday night.

I want you to get this letter before Sunday, so I'll stop and mail it now. Have been awfully rushed, but soon will have a lull. Will let you know just when I can come home. Best of love to each and every one, and kisses, From Ivan.

May 2-1919

May 2-1919

Springfield, Ohio,

May 9, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

I have quite a surprize for you. I have lost my job out in North Dakota! It happened this way. There are two Lutheran congregations in the town, a Norwegian and ~~ours~~? The Norwegian congregation is quite strong, and is about to build a lagre new church. They gave our congregation in invitation to merge with them, and combine the work, and it was thought best for the interests of all concerned that this merger take place. So the two congregations merged, of course leaving me without a job. There was something rather amusing connected with the matter in the telegram that was sent me. The Western Union telephoned the message at first, and very carelessly leff out an important word so that the message had just the opposite meaning than the one it should have had. They read it this way: The two Lutheran congregations at Williston have merged. Accept call. Letter coming. On my way to supper I stopped in at the W. Union to send a telegram of acceptance, and got the printed copy. They had left out the word "elsewhere". The message should have read: Accept call elsewhere! It happens that this does not inconvenience me very much. It will be just a week or two until I get another place, and I can put that time to good use. I have made arrangements to attend the summer school here which begins next Monday. This will last ten days, and by that time I'll probably be settled.

I must stop for this time in order to get this letter off. How are all the folks? Give my best love to each and all. And with love and kisses to you, I am always

Loe

May 9-1919

Springfield, Ohio,

May 13, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

Things are surely moving quickly for me in these last few days. I had planned to get a little work done, and on Friday Dr. Keyser asked me to go to Wheeling, West Virginia to preach over Sunday. I consented to go, and had quite a trip. I left here early Saturday morning and got to Wheeling late in the afternoon, about supper-time. I stayed at the parsonage of the church to which I was sent. The pastor, Rev. Dean, was away in Philadelphia, and Mrs. Dean, a very nice lady, treated me finely. The church is a good one, about with our membership, ^(at the 1st church) and I had good congregations both morning and evening. I left there on Monday morning at six, and reached Springfield at four in the afternoon. Today, Tuesday, I have been attending the sessions of the Seminary summer school. It is very interesting. I forgot to say that in the afternoon of Sunday one of the members of the church at Wheeling took me for a long auto ride into the country. I saw much of the beauties of the city, and it is a nice one, and also saw a lot of the country. By the way, it was quite cold and I was glad that I had my heavy overcoat along.

I told you about my losing my church in North Dakota. Well, I got a letter from Dr. Yarger, the Home Mission secretary, and he urged me to take a church in Montana. I spoke to Dr. Tressler about this, and he and Dr. Yarger both think that this church will prove to be much better than the one at Williston would have been. It is in the mountains, and the climate is milder. It is quite near Yellowstone National Park, and the town is the

(over)

railroad stop on the big Northern Pacific R.R. for the park.
It is a larger work than at Williston, and will pay me considerably
more than Williston would. I talked it over with some of the
other professors and they all advised me to take this work.
So I shall do it. Now do not worry about the distance being
farther. For the increase in salary will fix things so that
that consideration will not be a consideration at all. The
place is one of about 5000 and is way up in the Rockies. It
will be the best thing for me in every way.

I must stop for this time, as it is late and I must get to
bed. Best of love to Memie, to Buddie, to Sis, and to Alethea
and Ruth. And with lots of love and kisses to you, I am always

Ivan.

P.S. The place is Livingstone, Hunt
Montana

6/6/1911

Monday.

Dear Mother:-

May 19-79
11 1/2

Will answer your
letter tonight. Was down
in Cincinnati yesterday
to preach at Frank Papp's
church. He is doing splendidly.
Have accepted call to
Livingston, Montana. Best
thing for me in every
way. Will tell you about
it in my letter. Love to all.
East
Puzzah. Ivan.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



51 Mrs. B. L. Heft,
333 E. Oak St.-
Louisville, Ky.

May 20-1919

Springfield, Ohio,

May 20, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

You have probably gotten my card telling you that I accepted the call to Livingston, Montana. I believe that this will be better for me in every way. For one thing, the church is established and has its own church building. So I shall not have the problem that I would have had at Williston, North Dakota. And the church is a beautiful one, too. I have a picture of it that I'll bring home with me and show you. I'll challenge anyone to show a church of its size that is any nicer. Then too, I'll not have any trouble in the financial lines of the church, for the church has the reputation for taking care of those things. For instance, last year they oversubscribed their apportionment 25%. The congregation is rather small, but at that is quite larger than the one in North Dakota would have been. That too is an advantage to me, for I'll have a congregation of such a size that I'll not become easily discouraged, and yet it won't be so large that it will be such a burden for me. Another consideration, and by no means a thing to be disregarded, is the salary. My salary will be \$1500 plus expenses out there. That is \$300 more than I would have gotten at Williston. I told the Home Mission board that I would accept what they would give, of course knowing that they would be reasonable. And this was the answer of the board and the church council. Do not tell this out of the family, for it is not necessary that others should know it. By far, from the standpoint of health, is this a better place than the one in North Dakota. For one thing, it does not get as cold as it does in North Dakota. And too it is up in the

mountains, where the air is pure and dry. The lowest average temperature is not ten below zero, and in that climate that is easier to stand than ten above in this part of the country. The scenery is wonderful, they say. And it must be, for this place is just a little north of Yellowstone National Park, and is the northern railroad entrance of the park. And there will be the mountains to climb, and lots of fishing, and all sorts of recreation. I could not want a better place. So you can see me in the future. I'll have regular hours for study, and not too long at that! I'll have regular hours for sleep - and I'll make them long enough. And this steady work, and regular sleep, together with good food, and plenty of outdoor recreation and work, will make a new man out of me.

I have not had my operation yet, and do not know just when I can do this. I'll let you know in time. And be sure that I'll go ~~##~~ to the hospital, and not take any risks at all. I am attending the sessions of the summer school here, and enjoying all immensely. Today we had an address by a Jewish Lutheran Missionary in Philadelphia. He is pastor of the Messiah Jewish Lutheran Church. There are some churches of other denominations in Philadelphia that are trying to do Jewish work, but they are going about it in a disguised sort of way. Our church is the only one which says plainly, by church architecture as well as by a big sign-board, what it is. Recently in the Jewish papers in Philadelphia, the Jews expressed indignation against those who were trying to work among the Jews in a deceptive way. And The editors said that there was one work that did mission work among the Jews, that everyone had to respect, even though they could not agree with it; for it came out in a straightforward way. That was our mission.

I must stop now, to mail this letter. Best of love to all *Joan*

Monday.
June 2-1919
Dear Mother: -

A number of
things have delayed
me so that I can't
come home Tuesday.
Will be home some
time Wednesday, but
can't say definitely.

Love to all.

Had a fine time
Sunday at
Alliance, Ohio. Love.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mrs. B. L. Heft
332 E. Oak St
Louisville, Ky

**PAGE(S)
MISSING**

and when he stood up every one quieted down. He reviewed the history of our Church. He told of the fightings that we had had, Lutherans against Lutherans. He said that all these things could now be put in the past, and we could once more join hands in love. He said that he did not plead for himself, for his days on earth were now numbered, but he plead for his son in the ministry, and for his boys in the seminary, that their work might not be hindered by these divisions in the Church. There were tears in his eyes as he spoke. And there were tears running down the cheeks of Dr. Keyser, my teacher in Theology. And I know that he has been through the fight with one other Lutheran body, and

yet now he is willing to let the dead
past bury its dead. After our Dean
sat down the convention cried out
for the vote, but the man that I spoke
of before began to object again. They
listened to him and when he sat down
again cried out for the vote, and the
vote was taken. It was passed unanimously,
even the trouble-maker of whom I have
spoken voting for it. Then we had some
addresses from delegates that had been
sent to us from the other two bodies.
Just think! A few years ago they
would not have thought of sending them
or we of receiving them! There was one
old man from the General Council. He
said that this was the second General
Synod that he attended in his life.
The first was in 1862! All of us knew
what that meant. For in that year the
trouble was brewing that caused the
separation. After we passed the
resolutions all of us stood and sang

"Now thank we all our God" and "all hail the power of Jesus' name". I would it have missed that for anything.

I must go up to the church this morning and do some work. At my suggestion and pushing, we have put a communion railing around the platform. It makes it look so much more like a church. All are well pleased with it. I am going to sand-paper it down and give it the third coat of varnish. We have light green curtains hanging from the rail down to the floor. It is very pretty. I am also going to make a hymn-board for the church, and put a board out in front of the church with the name of the church on it. Must

people around here know the church
only as the "church past the Ridge",
but our church is a Lutheran
church, and I, for one, am proud
of it, and am going to make it known.
As each day goes by I become prouder
and prouder of my church. I am having
our choir learn Hymn 286 in our Book
of worship, and they are singing it
with a ring. And the more I study
the Bible and compare the teachings of
our Church with what it says, the more
do I feel that I could not be satisfied
with any other theology.

Well, I must stop. Love to mother,
and Buttie, and Sis, and the Baby.

Best of love to you. Always

Dein lieb liebster,

Ivan.

In the afternoon, a
Seminary chum and I went
to the ball game. The
Chicago team (the "cubs")
lost two games to Cincinnati.

I then hurried to my
train and got it in
comfortable time, and am
now dropping a line to
you while in the train. I
guess I'll mail this at
Midwaukee.

Best of love to you and
all at home.

Always,
Lan.

THE PIONEER LIMITED

June 30

Dear Mother:-

You will have to
pardon my handwriting; it is
bad enough usually, and now
I have the motion of the
train to help it!

I had a fine time in
Chicago. First let me tell of
Mrs. Bunnell. I met her
early this morning, took
breakfast with her, and then
helped her in her arrangements.

June 30 - 1919

to go to Minneapolis. I had
quite a talk with her too.
She is indeed a nice lady.

This morning I was at
a meeting of the Lutheran
Ministers' Association of
Chicago. Dr. Siebert, under
whose charge I was when
at Livoli summer before
last, introduced me to the
body and they gave me a
nice greeting. Dr. Waltz
was out of the city, and
I was very sorry.

Billings Montana
July 3-1919

Safe in Billings!

Am too hurried to
write much. Best

I love to all. Letter
Soon.

Loan

July 3-1919

I made a guess of two or three miles. He told me that they are eighteen miles away! The air is so clear and dry that they look very close.

I had a mighty nice trip on the way out. I told you I didn't get to see Dr. Walz at Chicago, for which I am very sorry. From Chicago I went to St. Paul. There I had a splendid visit with a Dr. Embury, one of our pastors there. He

Livingston,
July 5-

Dear Mother:-

Well, I am here, and getting acquainted. I pulled in yesterday, July 4th, and was met at the train by one of the members of the council, a Mr. Busche. He is a big, fat, jolly man, and as big inside as out. As it was late in the afternoon, he took me to the hotel where I am to stay till things get settled for me - it will

for a couple of days or so - and then
took me to his home. I met his wife,
who is a splendid lady, and his
children, two boys and a girl. Then he
took me to the church, and showed me
through. It surely is a beauty and I am
more than happy in it. It is exactly like
the pictures you saw. I also met a Mr.
Schreiber, another member of the council.
They are all glad that I am here.

This morning I took a walk
around the town. It is not so very large,
but is very progressive. We have some
very fine buildings here, and some big
business interests. I was especially
interested in looking at the scenery
beyond Livingston. We are in a pretty
little pocket at the mouth of a large
valley. Mr. Busche pointed to some
mountains - he took me riding last
night - and asked how far they were.

Well, I must stop for this time. I forgot to tell you that my bird is much worse and very painful. I am going to a doctor to be safe. But don't worry about it, as there is no danger.

I have loads more to write but must stop for this time. Will write again tomorrow. Best of love to you and all.

Cornish,
Miss Graham. - a prof. Love.

July 5-1919

preached the sermon at my ordination. We talked for nearly two hours, and I hated to leave him. He is quite a writer and gave me several of his recent works.

From St. Paul I went to Billings. I stayed there a longer time than I intended, chiefly because Rev. Jundel was out of town and I wanted to see him, and also because the altitude was affecting

me and I wanted to get
used to it before going higher.
I am not troubled at all now,
although at first I felt a
bad pressure in my nose
and head. At Billings I met
Dr. Selbiede (that is the
way he spells his name) and
had a very nice visit with
him. He asked to be kindly
remembered to Mr. Beecher
and all his other folks in
Louisville. Would you tell Mrs.
Beecher that I write this?

July 14/1919

The Church of the Redeemer
ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS., LIVINGSTON, MONT.

KARL W. BECKER, PASTOR
RESIDENCE, 101 N. FIFTH ST.

July 14/1919

Monday.

Dear Brother: -

I am truly sorry that I am
this long in writing the letter I promised.
But I have been quite busy. There were
certain matters that had to be worked through,
and they needed ~~all~~ the time I could give.
And too, the secretary of our council just
left for a trip east, and there were a
number of things that he and I had to get
done. I did intend to drop a card each
day, but always thought I would write
that evening or the next morning, and
the time never came.

There is really nothing that I can
add to my last letter. I can say this
in addition, that the expenses in living
as I do now are fearful. A good room

would cost me about \$20 to \$25 a month. My room now costs \$4 a week and is a small, window-gable room on the 2nd floor, and I simply can't stay in this kind of a room long. I can't get a boarding place - there are none.

Restaurant food is all I can get, and it is not good for me, in addition to being very high. Just today I had no breakfast, and at that spent \$1.45 for food, and wasn't satisfied there. It is impossible for me to get along with less than \$1.25 a day unless I want to starve, and the food is not appetizing. I simply eat to keep from being hungry.

You can see what this would mean for a month. With a room at \$20 and board at \$35, that would be \$55 a month or \$660 a year. This brings other expenses too; for instance, I have no place to press clothes, and had to have my good suit pressed. That was \$1.25.

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RESIDENCE, 101 N. FIFTH ST.

3) I have gotten so in just these few days that I don't know what a dollar means. And too, being in a room as I am, I cannot have my books; they are too many. And I want to have them and use them. So I have had to store my boxes. For all these reasons and many others, I wish that Mennie could come here. We could have the parsonage and be comfortably fixed. It may be that the church would give this in addition to my salary; or if not that, the rent would be only \$20 a month. And by Mennie doing our cooking we could live on less than I pay for board now. I know this is so.

brother, I wish Mennie could come. The reason that I wanted her along and didn't ask you too is simply this, that things may be uncertain here.

The dry air has a strange effect
on my throat, and I don't know
whether this will be permanent or not.
If this continues, I can't stay long.
But I want to give it a fair trial,
and since the church has paid my
travelling expenses (they just did
this) I feel an obligation to stay
at least some while. And I wouldn't
want you to give up your work and
go to the expense of moving out here,
only to break up in a short time - as
may possibly be the case. With Maudie,
it is different, and I wish she could
come. She does not need to help
Alethea & Raymond any more, and
I know she would like it here.
If she came, I could make
arrangements about her travelling
and she would have no trouble.

5 I must stop now. Don't say a word
about the things in this letter that
are not mentioned in the one I
noted the folks. I'll write soon
again and explain more.

Must stop now, as I am
hurried.

always lovingly,

Ivan.

Wingspread.

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

July 21, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

I have just gotten some stationery, and you are the first one to get any of it. Don't you think that it is nice?

I got your letter yesterday (I have a box at the post-office and so can get mail on Sundays), and want to answer it at once. I think that for a few weeks we had better let things as they are, in regard to Memie's coming out here. Things are so uncertain, that even if she felt that she could come, I don't know whether it would be best or not. It is hard to get houses and even rooms. You say that the rush is just for the summer, and will let up in the fall. But you don't know Livingston? Do you know that some school-teachers pay rent for their rooms through the summer in order to have them in the fall? And school-teachers don't have too much money either! So I cannot tell what arrangements I'll make, and until I know, we had better let things just as they are.

I am going to take a trip today, and be gone for two or three days. I am going to Helena, which is about 125 miles west of here. There is a convention of ministers to discuss Home Mission work in Montana, and I want to be there. I'll sure go through some mountains to get there too!

I must stop for this time, as my train leaves soon, and there are some things that I must do before I go. I am well, have not felt better for years. We had a poor congregation at church yesterday; only 16. But the weather is nice and Yellowstone Park is near, so what can you do? But things are coming nicely, and I am getting acquainted. The people like me, but as far as that is concerned, they have been without a pastor so long and were so anxious to get one, that they'd like anybody! Must stop for this time. Best of love to all

Wm. H. Hef.

Ivan.

July 21-1919

July 21-1919

July 30-1919

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN

LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR

P. O. BOX 227

July 30/ 1919

Dear Mother:-

It seems as if one thing after another has prevented me from writing to you. The latest has been a funeral, from which I have just come. It was a rather sad case. The couple had come from Minnesota, and the husband is a fireman on the Northern Pacific R.R. The wife died just a few days ago. She was sick since the middle of January with the flu, and this is the result. And they were married just a couple of weeks before that. Neither of the couple belonged to our church. However, the wife was raised a Lutheran; had been baptized, and confirmed in the Swedish Lutheran Church. So they came to me as the only Lutheran pastor in town. I felt so sorry for the folks who are left. It happens that the husband belongs to the Baptist Church, although not to the one in this city. I urged him to have his letter taken from his home church and placed in this one. I think that he will do it. I went around to the Baptist minister last night and told him of the young man, so that he can look him up, and have him join his church. The Baptist minister is a very nice man, named Le Masters. He lived in Louisville for four years while he was a student at the Baptist Seminary, and he couldn't say enough in praise of Louisville, and Louisville people. And I told him that on that subject, as far as I was concerned, he never could say too much! He is intimately acquainted with Mr. James A. White. You remember him. He is now in Chicago, a travelling secretary for the Young People's League of the Bap. Church

He is at oresent in Denver, and on his way back to Chicago, may come through Yellowstone Park, and so through Livingston. If that is the case, I'll get to see him. He surely would be surprised to see me in this part of the country! And I'd surely be glad to see him, too.

I'll not attempt to answer your last letter now. I'll have to hurry and take this down to the station in order for it to get off on the train. The mail is now closed at the post-office, but if I take it th the mail-boz at the station, it wi l be gathered up.

Well, I'll stop. You can tell that I am in a hurry by the leeters I am mïssing, and also by several that I am not mïssing! Best of love to you, and Memie, and Buttie, and Sis, and to all two of my big nieces. How are the babies? I surely hope that they are well. I pray for all of you each day, and know that the Father will be good to us.

I am going to be installed as pastor here tomorrow night. Everything is coming in a rush here. This is rather sudden. But Dr. Yarger, District Superintendent of Home Missions for the West and Northwest, is coming through Livingston from the caast, and he will stop off and install me. There are several others who are supposed to be present, and from whom I should have heard several days ago; but up to thïis time, I have had no word from them. Well, so geht's!

With best of love to everyone, I am always,

Am having some forms printed for weekly bulletins for the church. Will send one tomorrow.

Lovingly,

Dean.

July 30 - 1919

Aug 8 - 1919

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

Tools
Nelson
Remedy
Renn

August 8, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

I'll try to dash off a little news to you today. It is a shame the way I am treating the folks at home, but in my present situation it is hard for me to keep things going the way I want to. However, I'll soon be settled properly, and then I'll write regularly. The congregation is giving me the parsonage. As they have been getting rent for this and need the revenue for a while yet, they will take a little bit from my salary. However, what they will take is but a small fraction of what I would have to pay for such accommodations elsewhere. Indeed, I could not get a decent room for the sum that I shall be giving for the house. The house is a cottage, with four rooms on the first floor. The rooms are comparatively small, so I'll have no trouble in heating the house with one stove. I'll have the study and sitting-room together, and then have a bedroom, and in the kitchen I intend to put up a work bench. Would you tell Raymond to go ahead and order some cabinet tools for me? I spoke to him about that before I left, and he will understand what to get. Tell him to order them, and ship them to me either by freight or express as he thinks best, and let me have the bill at once. I would want a good plane, some chisels - a set, a brace and set of bits, and a Yankee screw-driver such as he has, with what bits he thinks I would need. Tell him to tend to this as soon as he can, so that I can have the material early in September.

I had two funerals this week, both on the same day. The one was an old man - a Danish Lutheran. The other was a young boy from
(over)

our congregation. He died of summer complaint, and was sick but a few days. I did not know of his sickness, till word came to me of his death. I felt so sorry for the family. We had a beautiful service in our church, using our new Burial Service.

I got my foot in it yesterday in a meeting of some of the ministers. A meeting had been called for us to approve the recent action of the railroad men in the present strike! I told the brethren that no matter what my personal views on the subject were, I had no right to foist them on my congregation and give them out as the views of the Church. This matter is purely an economic one - at present there is no question of fundamental right or wrong - and it is the Church's business to preach the gospel and not get entangled in the things and affairs of the world. I was the only one who took that out-and-out stand. The Episcopalian man declined to act because his authority was limited by the Church. One Salvation Army man refused to consent because he said that labor was not able to undertake this yet! Another Salvation Army man said that he was afraid that they would lose their financial backing if they did this! The Congregational man was apprehensive because all his congregation - practically - lives "west of Main Street", that is, are in the wealthier class. I answered that as many of my people lived east of Main St. as west, and that my Church was not afraid to make an appeal to any class of people if it was its duty to do so. But this is a matter where the Church has no business in interfering. Finally the question was raised as to what then we should do. I answered that we couldn't do anything if we wanted to, and moreover, it wasn't our business to butt in! And the meeting closed!

I must stop for this time. Will write more soon. As to my boil, had to see the doctor here about it the second day I was here. He cleaned it out, and it is gone now, but left a bad scar in my neck. Am well, and hope that all at home are too. Best of love to you, and Memie, and Buttie, and Sis and the babies.

always

John

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN

LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

Sunday night.

Aug 17-1919

Dear Mother:-

It hardly seems as if three days have passed since I wrote you the card saying that I was going to see a "round-up". We took the trip, but didn't get to see the show. For we took a long, round-about road or "trail" through the mountains, had engine trouble with the auto, and got there too late. I was awfully disappointed, for I wanted to see the cow-boy stunts, and they sure had them. However, we had a wonderful auto trip of over a hundred miles, and that was something, to say the least. Today I had another auto trip. Mr. Busche took me home to a big chicken dinner, and then, about four o'clock, we started out, taking supper with us. He has a big Cadillac, and we sure had a fine trip, again over a hundred miles. Oh, the mountains, and peaks, and canyons, and gorges, and forests that we saw! I'll tell you all about it later. I must stop now, for it is near ten, and I want this letter to get off to you. - The latest news: the church is going to give me the use of a stove they no longer need (since we have steam heat) that cost \$72 five years ago! All it needs is a little polishing! They sure are treating me nicely. Well, goodbye, for this time. Love soon! Best of love to each & all. Always,
John.

Aug 17-1919

Aug 14-1919

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

August 21, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

It seems a shame that I don't write more than I do, and yet I cannot see where the time goes. The trouble is that everything is so uncertain, and I can't arrange things as I want to. I have a lot to tell the folks at home, and yet I must keep putting it off from time to time. The latest is that I have to take another trip. I am going to Butte this time. The Missionary Superintendent of the North West Synod is coming to Livingston today - he will be here in less than an hour - and he and I will size up Livingston, and then tonight we'll take sleepers to Butte and be there tomorrow morning. He and I will then look that place over. There is some important work to be done there, and the mission is without a pastor for some time, and it may fall to my lot to take a trip there every other week or so, and keep things humming. Don't think that this will be added work for me. For if I were here in Livingston I'd be working harder, and this work, and the trips would really rest me. I was visiting late last night, but as a result will have a man and his wife to join church in September, and have their four children baptized. The work here is not hard, the only trouble at present being my unsettled condition, and the hindrances that that brings. I am well indeed and feeling splendid. I weighed the other day, and tipped the scales at 151 pounds! What do you think of that? And yet, my waist is just the same measurement as ever.

I am sorry to stop for this time, but have several things to do before Dr. Bieber, the Missionary, comes. Will write soon again, if only a line for the time. Best of love to each and every one.

Mary

Ivan

aug 21-1919

aug 21-1919

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

Sept. 19, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

I wonder if I'll ever get settled! However, I'm getting at least a little order out of confusion. I have made my book-cases, and have the books stacked up in them? I don't have the books sorted out yet, and arranged as they ought be, but at any rate, they are off of the floor, and that is a great advance! I certainly did work yesterday. I had gotten some lumber - 250 feet - and yesterday I made the book-cases. The lumber is fir, and it is very hard to work. It splinters easily, and is hard as can be. I believe that the "splinter" houses that Helen used to talk about were made of fir, because it runs to splinters so quickly! However, it is strong, and it is just as cheap as pine, and is a nicer wood in the end. It will take a nice stain, and has a pretty grain, and neither of these things can be said about the cheap pine. I thought I'd have a lot of room in my book-cases, for I made three of them, each with six shelves, the one being 27 inches long, and the other a little over a yard, and the third two yards long. And yet in spite of all this space my books fill all but about four feet, and when I get some more soon I guess I'll have to make some more shelves. I am going to make my tables next, three of them, and made for special study tables. Then I am going to sand-paper all the stuff and give it a nice oak stain, and varnish, too. I'll have some bits of wood left, and from this I'll make some picture frames, and a little table-lamp. There'll sure be some class to this place when I get done - yes, when I get done! One of the members of the council lent me all the tools I need, so I don't have to worry on that score.

The church is going to put a range in the house and leave it here permanently. I was around to different places today pricing them. They

sure do soak you for them. You can't get anything really decent and lasting for less than \$80, and they are none of the best.

Well, Mother, I have a lot to say, but am so busy I can't think straight. I've been wanting to answer the letter that Sis sent some time ago, but simply haven't had time. Is Dr. Penn sure to accept the call our Church gave him? When I was talking to Mr. Kemnitz, he said it was not definitely settled yet. I surely hope he will come. And too, I think it would be a good plan for St. Paul's and our Church to combine. There is no need, to my mind, of St. Paul's being where it is, for there is not much field for it there. One Church could do the work.

I must stop for this time. Will write soon again. Best of love to each and every one. Always lovingly,

Ivan.

6161-61288

P.S.- Have not moved, although I have most of my things in the house. I am waiting for the range, for the water cannot be turned on here till the hot water connections are made. Hope to be in here to stay by next week.

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

Sept. 23. 1919

Dear Mother:-

I have just finished clearing away the dishes of the first meal - full meal - I have ever cooked for my self! Now, aren't you surprised? Let me tell you what I had: Fried potatoes, fried eggs, baked beans, toast and syrup, and Post-toasties with sugar and cream and banana! How is that? Not bad for a start! The same meal would have cost me at least \$.85 at the restaurant. From now on I am going to get two meals a day, breakfast and supper. Dinner I'll take at the restaurant, so that I can get meat. The trouble about the restaurant meals is that they are almost entirely meat. And I don't like that disproportion. So from now on I'll have my diet balanced. The dinner will give me enough meat, and at supper I'll have the vegetables that I don't get at dinner, beans and corn and peas and potatoes. And then too, I can have more milk than I'd get at the restaurant, and I'll buy my own cake and fruit, and they won't be so high then. I sure did lay in a supply of stuff today: It soaked ^{me} my \$10.10 but that includes a good many things, as 10 lbs. of sugar, a dozen Eagle brand cans of milk, baked beans, potatoes, eggs, cereals, Karo, etc. So I'm stocked up for a little while. You ought to see the things I bought to fix up the house, and cooking utensils too, and dishes. Mr. Sielaff, of our Church Council, keeps a 10¢ and Variety store, and I got everything from him. He gave me good reductions too. The things are very nice, and I have good dishes and knives and forks and spoons. They are not expensive, but they are by no means cheap stuff. They will look nice, and will wear. Mr. Sielaff is going to go with me tomorrow to buy some curtain stuff, and the ladies have promised to sew the curtains for me. They meet Thursday, so I'll have them then. You remember the curtains I got at Princeton; I have them up, but they are beginning to look ragged now. So I'll use the new curtains

for the front rooms, and the others for the bed-room and kitchen, and bathroom.

Yesterday a range was put in here. The Church bought it, and had it put in. The men also got the stove from the basement ^{of the Church}, and set that up. So Yesterday I had fires in the stoves, and had hot water for at night. I was as dirty as could be, and that bath felt good. Also the heat came in handy, for it was quite cold. We have had a heavy frost, and the mountains are covered with snow.

My bed is a dandy one. I slept like a log last night, and overslept this morning. I went to bed at ten, and got up at nine! But I can stand such snoozes. I can just feel the strength and life coming back into me.

I have finished my book-cases, all but staining them. I am working now on my tables. They will take a little more time. The worst of it all is the amount of sawing I have to do. However, that is good exercise, and I really don't mind it.

I must tell you about my shaking hands with our President! When I saw that his train was going to stop here, I made up my mind that I'd see him if I could. So what I did was to take one of my cards and write on it "Princeton, 1915." As soon as I could get to the train I handed it to one of the secret-service men, and told him to give it to the President. He said he would, and put the thing in his pocket! I guess he gave it to Wilson after the train left, but that was not what I wanted. So I wrote another card, and gave it to a secret-service man standing on the platform. He said he would give it to the President after the train started. So I thought that that was the end of it, and I stepped back a little. A newspaper reporter whom I know asked me what I gave the man, and I was just telling him, when Wilson came to the side of the car and said to the man, "Where is he?" The man pointed me out, and I judged that I was wanted, so I stepped up. Wilson reached out his hand to me, and greeted me. I told him that I shook hands with him when he was first elected president. He said, "Well, well, I'm glad to shake hands

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

again!" There was a write-up in the paper about this. It came under the account of Wilson's visit here. I'll give it to you:

MEETS PRINCETONIAN (Sounds nice, doesn't it!)

The Rev. Ivan Heft, graduate of Princeton, class of 1915, handed his card to Mr. Tumulty, who passed it on to the President.

Mr. Wilson then walked to the side of the car and shook hands with Mr. Heft, who is pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, English Lutheran, in Livingston. The minister told the president he has shaken hands with him at Princeton, the night he was elected president of the university.

"Well, well," exclaimed Mr. Wilson, "I am glad to meet you again. You have a beautiful state here."

This is the news-paper account. You can see that it differs a little from what I told you, but I guess the reporter didn't hear some things right, stretched others, and invented some more! But at any rate your son had his name in the papers!

I just got the minutes of the Northwest Synod today. I am sending you a copy. I'll mark the places I want you to read.

I must tell you something about Mr. Busche here. He was born in Germany, and came to this country when he was fourteen. He has been here about thirty years. He has a brother and sisters living in Germany, and had not heard from them since the beginning of the war, or since just before the war. He sent a number of telegrams to them, and finally one got to them and they answered it with a letter. I happened to go in to see him in his store Saturday evening, and he looked sick. He is a big strong, fat man, and you could see that something was wrong. The weather had changed severely and I thought that had made him sick, and asked him if that was the

trouble when I told him he wasn't looking well. To my surprise the poor man sat down and started to cry. He pointed to two letters on the desk, and I could see they came from Germany. And then the sobs shook his body. He then told me that none of his folks were dead, but they were sick and broken as a result of the war, and were almost starving. They were on short rations, and worst of all, had poor clothing and practically no ~~fuel~~ fuel for the winter. ^{Mr. Busche's brother} He asked Mr. Busche to send some food if we have any to spare over here - saying that of course he would pay for it. He then said (Mr. Busche gave me the letters to read) "Das sieht wie ~~#####~~ Bettelei aus, lieber Willi," but what pride they had left after the war was broken by the Bolsheviks. He said that the revolution was quite bad, and he, in spite of "Beinleiden" which kept him out of service, had to take a gun and help against these men. The second letter was from Mr. Busche's brother-in-law. It was written in the German hand-writing - the first was type-written - and I could not read this writing. I'll ask Mr. Busche to read it to me. I felt so sorry for the poor man. He did not come to Church at all on Sunday and he is the most faithful member we have. I went to see him yesterday and he was feeling better. He is fixing up a box to send his folks.

We had a Union Meeting Sunday night with the Norwegian Lutherans. I was glad of the chance to become acquainted with them, and with their pastor. He does not live here, and comes here only once in three weeks, and this was the first chance I had to meet him. He is a fine man. He wants me to attend their Conference meeting, October 17-19. I shall make arrangements to go, for I want to meet some of their men, and also show them that the pastors of the United Lutheran Church are human beings. The Norwegian man saw that I had a Service in honor of our Church's soldiers, and he asked me to come to his Church some time and assist him in such a Service for his men. I'll gladly do so. I don't see why they want to keep up as they do. They have an English Service only once in six weeks! Nearly all of the people understand English, and many cannot understand Norwegian. Those

*away the sword
in Norwegian*

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

people belong in our Church, where they could have two services a Sunday instead of one service every sixth Sunday. In introducing and welcoming Rev. Onerheim (that is his name), I said that he was pastor of the Norwegian Lutheran Church. He, in answering, said that he wanted to correct something that I said, and went on to say that they were not Norwegians! He said that they were Americans who could speak Norwegian as well as American! He then went on to say that he was hoping for the time when all the preaching would be in English. Well, I could have said in answer that if they were Americans they had no business calling themselves the Norwegian Lutheran Church! And too, if they could speak English as well as Norwegian, why in the name of Sam/Hill didn't they have services in the language of this country! But I didn't say that. You can imagine how tactful that would have been! I said that I stood corrected for what I had said, and wished to say more. I told them that it was one of the principles of the Lutheran Church that the Gospel should be preached in the language of the people; and therefore if there were in this land of ours those who could not speak our language, the Word should be preached to them in their own tongue, and God speed their pastors! And then I went on to say that I hoped for the time when God would grant the consummation of the wish Rev. Onerheim expressed, that all the preaching would be in the language of this country. For then we could be one in language and organization, as well as in spirit. The occasion of the Union Service was an address by a Mr. Arnold of Minneapolis, on the prevention of vice. When he first came to me and asked for the Service, I was a little reluctant. For as a rule, these people simply tell so many suggestive things - that is the nature of the subject - that they do more harm than good by rousing those who hear them. But after I became convinced that this man was different, I gave him the Service. And

it was a fine one - the best I've heard on that line. Not one thing the least bit suggestive was said. He took up the time in telling of preventions, such as fighting certain advertisements. One was "Sell twenty-four stickpins and get one free". Can you see how such an innocent thing as that could be the means of ruining hundreds of young girls? Yet Mr. Arnold showed how. He has been in the work for so long that he is on to all the tricks of the trade. And he has sent a lot of men to the "pen". But above all, - and that was the reason I gave him the service, for this few of things - he said that the Church was the only agency, in the last analysis, that could save us from this situation. And that is true. We need laws, but we cannot legislate men into righteousness. It is the Gospel of Christ alone that can save.

I must stop for this time. I'll send you some copies of our last Weekly Bulletin. I'll send a number, and I wish you would distribute them to some of the folks at our Church. I'd like them to know of some of the things we are doing here in Montana. I'll send them with the minutes I spoke of.

How are all the folks? Best of love to all, to you and Memie, and Buttie and Sis, and my two Honeys. I am well and getting fat and sassy.

Always lovingly,

Ivan.

Am sending back the clipping you want. I think that the men are in the wrong to this extent that they have no business to demand a closed shop. If they want to belong to the Union, all right. They have no right to dictate to others what to do, or to cause discrimination against those who don't believe as they do. That is Kaiserism, if only they knew it. And from some of the things they are doing now, I am beginning to lose sympathy with them. I don't believe in Capitalism, but those men are citizens just the same and have rights that must be respected. I wish that Louisville had a man like Mayor Ole Hanson of Seattle! Then some of those fellows would be jailed for their lawlessness. -- I was very much impressed with what good Bro. Powell had to say. Of course, the fact that Mr. "Canary" is a member of his Church does not influence him. Even if Mr. Minary went elsewhere he'd say the same thing - for the reason that there are many others who are just as pleased as the Old Man is. The simplest description that I have for the Dr. is that he is a cringing hypocrite and consummate liar. but he does have a good head - that is, it is an excellent sounding-box for his empty utterances. Give him my best wishes !

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

Sept. 30, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

Have not yet been able to send the things I promised/ I have simply been rushed to death, and too, gave so many things swarming in on me now. Next week I am to go to our Western Conference of the Northwest Synod, which meets at Killdeer, North Dakota. Just a couple of days ago I found out that I am to have a paper to read, on the Sunday School, and its work. That is some added work. Then too, the week after that I am to go to the conference of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of this state, which is to be held in the northwestern part of the state. So I have my hands full. Next Sunday we have our Communion Service, and I am trying to get together some people who have promised to join the Church. The Sunday after that we have our Harvest Home Service, and then comes Reformation Sunday. Things are coming nicely. The Sunday School is growing, and the evening services are picking up nicely. I meant to say that the Sunday after the Communion Service we shall have a baptismal service, at which we shall have about fifteen infant baptisms. Then will follow the Harvest Home Service.

Have just got some new calling cards, and am sending you one. Must stop for this time, to catch the mail. Am still a little unsettled. The ladies made some nice curtains for me, and want to come sometime and give me a house-cleaning!! They said they wanted to surprise me. I told them that when they saw the house ~~###~~ they would be more surprised than I! -- Best of love to all. How are all the folks. Will try to write you a decent letter soon!

With love to all,

Ivan.

Sept 30-1919

MONTANA

(AREA 147,182 SQ. MILES)

MONTANA

- I am that one!*
- 1 Field Missionary.
 - 1 English Lutheran Missionary.
 - 1 Eng. Lutheran Missionary to 377,000 souls.
 - 1 Eng. Luth. Pastor to 377,000 souls.
 - 6 First-class cities with no Eng. Luth. churches.
 - 73,591 sq. miles to one Eng. Luth. Pastor.
 - No Synod within bounds.
 - No Institutions within bounds.

ENGLISH HOME MISSIONS

OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA

FIELD MISSIONERY FOR MONTANA
REV. W. A. ZUNDEL, M. A.



Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Maryland,
Delaware and New Jersey, etc.

- 7 Field Missionaries.
- 150 Eng. Luth. Miss. (89 G.C.) (61 G.S. est.)
- 1 Eng. Luth. Miss. to 151,000 souls.
- 1 Eng. Luth. Pastor to 23,000 souls.
- No First-class cities without Eng. Luth. Church.
- 147 sq. miles to one Eng. Luth. Pastor.
- 14 entire Synods within bounds.
- 6 Theo. Seminaries, 7 Colleges, 8 Hospitals, 75
various other institutions. Total 96.

*The General Synod, one old body; The General Council
and United Synod South now are the United
Lutheran Church.*

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

Oct. 21, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

I surely am sorry that I have not written sooner. I have been wanting to write each day, and yet have not been able to do it. I guess it is the same old story! One reason why I have not been able to write is that I have been under the weather a little. Now don't get alarmed. I went to the doctor at once, and he said it was a little touch of the grippe. He said to me, "Son, you take these pills and keep quiet for a few days and you'll be all right." And he sure did prophesy! For I am feeling all right now. Don't be alarmed. I think that it was just a trace of the aftereffects of the flu. For the days were damp last week, and I suppose that that is what made me feel that way. But don't worry, please. For it is very seldom that the weather is that way, and too, I am very careful. This is shown by the fact that I went to the doctor at once. Also, I didn't go to the Norwegian Conference in the western part of the state as I had planned. It was an awful disappointment for me, for I wanted to go; but I decided to be on the safe side and not go when I was feeling as uncertain as I was.

I am badly rushed just now, due to my loafing for the past few days, and so will not take the time to tell you of the trip to Dakota. I'll do that in the next letter. So I'll close for this time. I hope that all are well. Rest of love to each and every one. Am well now, so don't worry.

News: Had ten infant baptisms Sunday before last, and will soon have at least eight more. Will soon take into the Church six members that I am sure of, or rather seven. Am going to Billings Thursday to stay till Friday. Best of love to all. Hurriedly, Ivan.

In the last issue of The Lutheran there is this on P. 502:

Montana, whose population is also largely Lutheran, has at this writing but one active, growing English Congregation - the Church of the Redeemer in Livingston. If, however, the pastor, the people, the church building, and the city are a criterion of what is coming, then we can begin to sing the doxology.

Pastor Ivan Heft, a Princeton graduate and an M.A. Princeton post-graduate, a product of the Springfield Seminary, a cultured, talented, consecrated, energetic young man; a congregation composed of the foremost people in Livingston; a beautiful, churchly temple of God; Livingston, the gateway to the North and also to the Yellowstone Park towards the South, beautiful for situation and one of the most fertile irrigated parts of Montana - all these "yields" in one English Lutheran "mine" in the rich mineral state of Montana indicate the "paying veins" that are ours if we "work" them.

Oct 21

Oct 21-1919

Oct 27-1919-16-27-

1919

Dear Mother:-

Am on the train
to Billings. Will be

there a couple of days.

Am well. Thank Sis
for her letter, which
I got this morning.

Have had a spell of
grippe but am over
it. Cut my finger too,

but it is healing. Best
of love to all. Love,



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mrs. B. L. Haft,
333 E. Oak St.
Louisville, Ky.

Oct 28 / 1919

Dear Mother:-

Let me tell you of an incident that will give you an idea of my improvement in health. Last night Mr. Zundel and I went to visit a family named Hoagland. (They come from Holland) Mr. Hoagland was the first person outside of the Zundels that I met in Montana. When we got to his home, I asked him if he remembered me. He looked and looked, and finally said, "are you the pastor from Livingston?" I told him I was. He later said that I had changed so, that he could hardly recognize me. He asked me if I didn't gain about 15 pounds! It is just a little more than that, I told him. And then he said this, that after he first met me, he said to both Mr. & Mrs. Zundel, when he heard of the work I was to do at Livingston, "Dot young man can never make it!" Just think of that! Well, I have made it, and am well and fat and sassy. Will close for this time. Love to all, to you and Mennie, and Buttie and Sis, and my Honeys. Always, Loan.

Oct 28 - 1919

Oct 28 / 1919

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

Nov. 1, 1919:

Dear Mother:-

I just received your letter, and I write at once so that you will not worry about me. I no longer have the grippe, and am getting along nicely. I did have a bad accident when I cut my finger with a hatchet about a week ago. I was cutting wood, and the hatchet struck a knot and turned aside, and took a neat slice out of my left forefinger. The thing had healed nicely but yesterday while working over at the church I tore it open again. However, it is healed enough today so that I can use the typewriter. I am surely sorry that Buttie got hurt as he did. I hope that he is better by now. And then to get hit by a car too! That is adding insult to injury! And then, with it all, it makes it so nice to have a lot of folks to tell your trouble to - when you can just open your mouth a half-inch!

We had a Hallow-e'en social at the church last night. We had a good time, but there was such a storm that very few came out. One of the stunts was ducking for apples. They dared me to do it, and I did, and got one the first time, without getting even a single hair wet. It was funny to see some of the kids; they'd go till they had their noses under the water, and that would be all!

Must stop for this time. Will have to go to Butte next week. My reason for going there is practically to save the congregation there. Love to each and all. Send me little Alethea's letter. Have a class in catechism this afternoon, and must stop. Best of love.

Always,

Ivan.

*to - rev
p31 - rev 6/16/19 - 1 - rev*

Nov. 4, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

I wrote this letter on Saturday, and then forgot it and just found it on my desk! That is a sample of what your son's state of mind is. Well, I'll soon be out of this rush, and have things going smoothly.

X I am going to Butte on Sunday. I shall have to omit the services here. I dislike very much to do this, but it is absolutely necessary that someone go to Butte to save the congregation there, and yours truly is the only one in the state who can do it so yours truly has to go. The people here are very nice about it, so that makes me feel better about going. Things are picking up nicely. On Sunday, at our Sunday School, we had an attendance that was equal to the total enrolment when I came here - 52! And the work is spreading out in every way. It is truly encouraging.

When I was at Billings to see Rev. Zundel off, Dr. Bieber was also there. He is the Missionary Superintendent of the Northwest Synod, a fine man, and the greatest Home Missionary in this country. With Zundel leaving, Montana is now without a Field Missionary. Dr. Bieber said to me, "If things were not going so nicely at Livingston I would take you away from there and make you Field Missionary for the whole state." I was surely pleased to have a man like Dr. Bieber say that to me. X X

Mother, you are worrying about me, wondering if I am taking care of myself. Let me tell you this to show it: I was invited to take a long hike into the mountains, for a couple of days, and I am simply crazy to go. But rather than run the risk of getting another instalment of the grippe, I declined. So if I turn down a trip like that, you can see that I am careful. - I already have an invitation for Thanksgiving. A Mrs. Scheuber asked me this evening. Sunday one of the ladies gave me a nice fruit-cake. It sure is good. -- I must stop for this time. Best of love to all. Tell me how Buttie is. I hope that he is getting along nicely.

Always,
Ivan.

Nov 10-1919. Monday -
Dear Mother:- Nov 10/1919

Am now in Butte.

Preached & gave communion
yesterday. Had a baptismal
service in the afternoon.

Am going to Missoula
tomorrow. The State
University is located there.
Am well and hope all
at home are too. Best
of love to all.

Love,
Dan.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mrs. B. L. Heft,
333 E. Oak St.-
Louisville, Ky.

Nov 11 - 1919.

Nov. 11 - 1919

Dear Mother:-

Today a year ago
the armistice was signed.
I had been preaching in
Wapakoneta, Ohio, and was
just getting back to Springfield.
(How different things are today!

Well, we had a congregational
meeting last night that made
history for our Missions in
Montana. We saved a
congregation where things
seemed very dark for a
while. Go to Missions
today. Love to all. Love.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mrs. B. L. Heft,
333 E. Oak St.
Louisville, Ky.

P.S. - Decided to address this letter to St. Paul

The Church of the Redeemer
ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.
IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

could be opened
at once.
Sunday. Dec 7-1919

Dear Mother:-

I got the telegram late last night, and I surely was surprised to get it. I have not been able to write as much as I wanted to in the past few weeks, but I have sent at least a letter a week, beside some cards. That you have not received them, I cannot understand. I wanted to write at least occasionally, so that you would not worry, and, as I say, cannot understand what has happened. This I know, that some mail has been coming to me as much as a week late, and the mail system seems to be badly disorganized. And I fear that it will continue to be worse, for the Northern Pacific has taken off its finest Limited train, effective today. But while this explains what has happened, it does not do away with the worry that you had. I am truly sorry for this. Also, I shall try to write oftener than once a week. I am feeling better now - now that I have been sick, but just feeling "pepless". But today I feel better, and think that it will be permanent. But in any event, do not worry, for there is absolutely no danger. I have been uncomfortable on account of the little touch of blood-poisoning that I mentioned in the last letter, but that is almost entirely gone now. Also I have had a boil in my nose, which has been a nuisance, but that is getting better too. I received your last letter, and thank you for all the news.

I must stop now. I want this letter to get the next mail train and I shall have to hurry. The Busches had me for dinner today. They surely are kind and nice. Best of love to all. I hope all are well.

Always, Ivan.

Ivan

Dec 7-1919

Am sending a check to Raymond for \$7⁰⁰.
This is for two things. One, the freight he paid
when I first came out. It was around \$5.90, so I am
making it 6⁰⁰. The other is for the telegram. It was
late Saturday night when I sent it, and had to
telephone it, and the only way was to send collected,
as they would not charge it. It should be a dollar;
that is what I paid before. If it was more, let me
know.

Dec 7-19

Mother, there is a personal matter I want to write about, concerning my finances. I wonder if it would be possible for you to make me another loan. The reason I ask is this: I still owe some money on my furniture, and also the \$100.00 that is due to Princeton for my remission of tuition. I wanted to pay everything up as soon as possible, but have been unable to do this. The reason is that I did not want to stint myself with food, etc., lest I should grow sicker than I was, and also, I have had very heavy expense for fuel. The result has been that I have barely been able to get along from month to month, and I do not like to have these outside debts hanging on to me. I would rather pay you the interest than have this worry, and wonder whether it would be convenient for you to let me have \$200.00 to cover these extra debts, and leave me free. You see, in January my life insurance falls due, which is about \$30.00. *Also, I need more fuel, for the rest of the year.* And also, I want to pay you some of the interest that is due you. I have not figured out exactly how much you have lent me - that is, I shall have to compare all my accounts, and this I shall do before New Year. But I want to let you have \$30.00, that is, one half of \$60.00, as your semi-annual interest. I tell you this, so that you can arrange your matters accordingly. Now if this is not convenient, of course I do not want you to trouble. I'll let that rest with you. I think that the people here will give me an increase soon. That will help. In these days of high prices it is hard to get along. And I do not want to deprive myself of the things that I have to have. Well, I'll close now. Whatever you can do will be all right with me.

With love, Ivan.

Personal.

Dec 13-1919

Dec 13-1919

Personal

Dec 13 - 1919

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN

LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

Dec. 13 - 1919

Dear Mother:-

I have but a moment before supper, and must
to get a line. The weather has been very cold here. We have
had as low as 37° below. Yesterday the warmest was 11° below!
Today it is a good deal warmer, due to a strong west wind.
The east wind here is almost always cold, and the west
warm. I was without water in the house from Sunday till
late Thursday, due to the cold. And now I am letting it
run full till all the time to keep from freezing again.
The fuel situation is bad here. I was completely out of coal
today, and just got 500 pounds. It cost \$2.65. Think of
it! I had been burning wood, and that is even more
expensive. I sure am glad you folks didn't come out here
this year. It is the worst winter in many years. However, it
is strange that I feel better in this weather than when it
is warmer! When it snows and gets warm, it is damp and
sloppy - if only for a day. But now I feel great.

Tomorrow I am going to have a confirmation. It is a
Mrs. Kinne. She was raised and confirmed in the
Episcopalian Church, but wants to come into our church,
so I shall confirm her tomorrow. She has a baby to be

baptized, and that service will be held immediately
after the confirmation service. This matter reminds me
of another way in which our Church has been a little lax,
that is, our home church, the First Church. The Lutheran
Church teaches that every church member ought to be a
confirmed member. If a person is brought into the Church
by adult baptism, that is the same as confirmation. But
every member, strictly speaking, ought to be a confirmed
member. And so the only way in which our Church ought
to receive a person by letter, is when that person comes from
another Lutheran congregation. Now it is true that our Church
is not as rigid as the Episcopalian or Roman Churches. We
hold that the essential thing is faith in Christ. But we
also say that confirmation is the usual way the Church
of all time has had in expressing that faith by the
person who is joining the Church. So I shall confirm
the lady who is joining tomorrow. The Episcopalians may
be sore when they learn that I am confirming one who has
received Episcopal confirmation; but they reconfirm our
members, so I'll return the courtesy, and too, they never
give letters of dismission to another Church. God shall go ahead.

Tell my little honey that I thank her for the letter
that she wanted to send me. Even if her little sister did
tear it up, she can write another one to her Uncle Di some time!
How are all the folks? Give my best love to Mamma, & Bubbie &
Dads, and to both my honies. And with lots of kisses, I am
Always lovingly, I am -
Just got a letter from Aunt Hattie. They are well!

Livingston, Montana,

December 14, 1919.

Dear Mother:-

Well, it is December 14, and you know what that means! I celebrated my birthday by receiving into the Church my first member. I told you about it in my last letter. Well, this morning the snow was drifted very badly, and I was afraid that many would stay away from the Service - and they did. I wasn't disappointed in that respect! Early this morning I gave up the idea of attempting to heat the Church, and decided to have the Services in the Parsonage. I figured that the house could accommodate all who would come out - and it did! At the time of starting there was no one there, and finally two members came, Mrs. Busche, and Mrs. Urbom. Later Mrs. Kinne came, the lady whom I was to confirm, and those, with little Gladys Kinne, made up the congregation. Well, we had the Service, reading it instead of singing it. We read the hymns too. I condensed my sermon and gave them a short one on the Gospel for the Day, and then we had the confirmation Service. So I have taken a member into the Church. Mrs. Kinne had intended to bring the baby to the Morning Service for baptism, but the weather was so bad that she could not think of that. So I told her that I would come in the afternoon and baptize the baby. After the Service we had our Sunday School. There were 16 who came out, and I was the only teacher there. We sang some Christmas hymns, and read some Christmas lessons from the Bible, and had the usual Sunday School Service. Then I called the roll, and after that told them the Christmas story. The ages were so mixed that that was all I could do. Then I had the whole School repeat after me till each one learned it: For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And also: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. The afternoon I spent in visitation. First I called at Mrs. Kinne's to baptize the baby.

It is a little boy. And by the way, it is an adopted baby. The Kinnes have no children of their own, and have adopted three children. The first one, however, died, so they have only the two. One other baby that I baptized here in Montana is an adopted baby. It is the baby of the Geareys in Butte. Mrs. Gearey used to live in ^{port} Fort Wayne, Indiana. To return to this afternoon: After visiting the Kinnes I made some other calls. The next was to a family of Hansens, Norwegians Lutherans. I baptized their baby in October, and took them the baptismal certificate. They are surely a nice family. Three of the children, Alma, Alice and Billy, are in our S.S. They came this morning too, through all that snow, about a mile. Next I went to a family named Leathers. They were delightful people. They used to live in Maine. And by the way, one of Mrs. Leathers' high-school chums was a teacher of mine at Princeton! - a Dr. Carey. Well, I took some baptismal certificates to the Leathers family. There were five, Louise, Elizabeth, Geraldine, William Raymond, and Lewis. Altogether, I have baptized fifteen children since I am in Montana. Well, after visiting the Leathers', I went to see a family named Leistiko. They were born in Germany - the father and mother. They have just had a baby born, a little girl. They want me to baptize her in a week or so, and that will make another one. The family is a rather poor one, and are in cramped quarters. One of their boys has gone rather bad, and is now in a reform school in the state. I seem to have a grip on the children, and one of them, Otto, is said to be a rather tough customer in the neighborhood. But if I can help them in any way, I shall be only too glad. Well, I have given you a sample of a Montana Missionary's life! Taking the weather and everything into consideration, it's a great life - IF YOU DON'T WEAKEN - but I haven't begun to weaken yet, and never will! I'm feeling hard as nails now! -- Well, I must go to the P.O. and deposit this letter. Then to bed for me, even if it is before 9 P.M. I had no Vesper Service this evening. -- Best of love. Give my little honies some kisses for me. I'll whisper to you that Santa Claus told me something about them! They'll find out lots of love to you and Memie and Buttie and Sis. I hope all are well. Ivan.

6161-71 204

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

Dec. 20.

Dear Mother:-

I want to drop a line today. I am ~~disobeying~~ disobeying you and sending some things home for Christmas. I want to do it, and I know that you can use them. There will be two boxes, one small one for you, and the other which was addressed to Althea. There is nothing in these boxes for Buttie, but there is something that I want to send him, and I will send that later.

I cannot write any more this time, as I am in a rush. I am well, and am pretty well fixed after the cold spell. It is much warmer now, and I have enough coal so that there is no chance of getting cold.

I hope all are well. Best of love to you and Memie, and Buttie and Sis and my honies! I'll write again so that you hear from me before Xmas.

Love to all.

Ivan.

Dec 20-1919

Dec 20-1919

The Church of the Redeemer

ENGLISH LUTHERAN
LEWIS AND FIFTH STS. LIVINGSTON, MONT.

IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
P. O. BOX 227

Dec. 30.

Dear Mother:-

I have but a moment in which to write a line to you. I want to tell you about my Christmas, so that you will know that I really enjoyed myself. I was invited out to dinner Xmas Day by the Scheubers, and had a fine time there. They also had me for Thanksgiving. There were several others who wanted me to come too, but the Scheubers were first in their invitation. Also, on Xmas Day there came a box from the people in Butte whose baby I baptized while there. It was mighty nice. Of course I had the box that Santa had gotten from Louisville in some way or other! I wonder who helped him with it! So you see, I was by no means forgotten. Aunt Hattie and Aunt T sent me some money, and one of the Scandinavian families in the congregation gave me a present of \$5, and with this money I got some Victrola records that I long wanted. So you mustn't worry about the Xmas I had. And that was not all. On Friday I was out making some calls and happened to go to a home where the father is a railroad man. He was away on Xmas day, and they were having their Xmas dinner on Friday, and I had to stay there! There are five children in the family. I baptized them all recently. It is a delightful home, and I surely enjoyed myself. The services on Xmas Day were nice. There was the early morning Service, and the Children's Service in the evening. I'll tell you more about them later. The church was packed in the evening.

How are all the folks? I hope all are well. I am well, except that I am a little worn out from the strain at Xmas. But I shall soon get over that. Best of love to you, and Memie, and Buttie and Sis, and my two Honies. Thank little Alethea for the card you wrote for her. Tell her

that uncle Di wishes too that he could have been home.

With love to all, I am always

Ivan.

Dec 30-1919