Jan 8-1918

Jan 8/18

Washington D.C.
Jan 8-18.

Dear Mother:-

Am safe in Washington after a splendid & very enjoyable trip. Will write & tell you more later. Met quite a number of men at Westfield whom I know, especially a number of Princeton men. Am well, but tired. Spent the last 20 hrs in traveling with only sleep that I could snatch on the way. Will reach Springfield tomorrow morning & then can rest up.

Am going to see Aunt La

little and then take dinner with Cornelia. Aunt Hattie is doing splendidly, and is very highly thought of. She has had two high honors and advancements conferred on her.

Best of love. Will write later.

always.

Dan.

31/8 mo

LUNCH AND DINING ROOM
IN CONNECTION

EUROPEAN
PLAN

The Heaume Hotel

J. S. HEAUME, PROP.

ABSOLUTELY FIREPROOF
80 ROOMS · 80 BATHS

38 North Fountain Avenue
Springfield, Ohio

Jan 9-1918
Wednesday Eve.

Dear Mother:-

Arrived here in Springfield today about noon. Should have gotten in about 7 am, but the train was very late. I came right on to the hotel & found them holding my job for me. So I came to work tonight. That is to say that I spent a couple of hours reading the Saturday Evening Post. Am well, but rushed now for a few days, so will write later. Best of love to all.

Joan.

Mighty

Jan 9-1918

Jan 9/18

Jan 9/18

LUNCH AND DINING ROOM
IN CONNECTION

EUROPEAN
PLAN

P.S. - will answer your letter soon.

The Heaume Hotel

J. S. HEAUME, PROP.

ABSOLUTELY FIREPROOF
80 ROOMS · 80 BATHS

38 North Fountain Avenue
Springfield, Ohio

Jan 22 - 1918
Tuesday Evening.

Dear Mother:-

Can hardly realize that I have not written to you for such a long time, but I have been very busy. Yesterday and last night I was sick, but am better now. I think that I ate something that disagreed with me.

The Dean of the Seminary was up to see me today. He has always taken quite an interest in me, and today I was quite touched by what he did. He brought a book over and gave it to me. I feel very sorry for him. He seems to me to be failing very fast, and he seems to realize that his end is near. The fact that he is beginning to give his books away shows that too. He had quite a little talk with me, and wanted to know how I felt about some things.

I must stop now. I'll write very soon and tell you of my Northfield trip. Best of love to each and every one.

always lovingly,
Ivan.

Mizpah.

Jan 22 - 1918
Dean gives Joan a
book

Friday Eve.
Feb 8-1918

Dear Mother:-

Am terribly busy and have not been feeling quite well, but am better now. Am so rushed today ~~that~~ I cannot write much, but will write so ~~that~~ you get a letter from me on Monday.

Love to all.

Joan.

Mugpoh.

Feb 8 – 1918

Feb 8 /18

Dear Mother:- Feb 13/18

Am terribly rushed with work and have not been able to snatch time to write as I had hoped.

Am sending you $10 for the $10 too much ~~that~~ you deposited, if you deposited $80 instead of $70. for you gave me $30 in cash. Also $3 for interest due Minnie. Then $6 to you. It seems to me ~~that~~ this is only half of what I owe you. Let me know at once, & will send rest. Am sorry to have kept you waiting so long for the money, but have been hard pushed.

Will write soon. Best of love to all.

Always.

Miggah. Ivan

Feb 12 1918

Feb 12/18

Feb 12/18

Friday Eve.
Feb 23/18

Dear Mother -

I have been waiting till I can write a long letter, but so many things come up that I seem never to find the time. However, I promise to write you very soon. Tomorrow I leave for the northern part of the state, near the Michigan line, where I am to preach. Am going to have my eyes tested next week.

Am well & hope all at home are. Best of love to each & every one.

Lovingly,
Ivan.

Mrs Parker.

Feb 23/18

Feb 23/18

Springfield, O.
Mar. 1 - 1918.

Dear Mother:-

I told you in the last letter I wrote that I was going to go up in the northeast part of the State and preach. Well, I had a great trip. I left here Saturday morning at 9 a.m. on the Ohio Electric, a traction line. After a trip on that jolting electric car, a trip of one hundred & twenty miles I landed in a little junk town station called Weston. From Weston I had to go to McClure, and the only way I could go was by a "bus" that left at 6:45. It was then 2 o'clock! Well, I looked at the restaurants there, for I was hungry, but none looked good, so I went to the "hotel" and asked if they could give me anything. They scraped together a cold dinner of wienies, mashed potatoes, sauer kraut - which I did not eat - and some other things. As it was fairly cold outside I stayed at the "hotel" and read. And by the way, I picked up a Literary Digest, and there was something in it that was claimed to be a

Mar. 1 - 1918

test of one's vocabulary. A hundred words were chosen from the dictionary, and it was said that the average adult knew the meaning of 65 of these words, while 75 was unusually good. I could have given over 90. In fact there were only 7 words that I absolutely did not know. Well, about 5:30 I left the hotel and took a little walk in town. There I met a man who had found out as only small-town people can, that I was going to McClure, and told me that a man was living over there alone and wanted company and would have taken me if he could have found me. He told me that I'd have been in McClure by that time! Well, if the man was already in McClure, I figured out that I'd better wait for the bus. It finally came and I nearly missed it, because I had left my bag at the station, and the station master had gone home for a little while. He came back just in time. Well, I'll never forget the trip in that bus. The trip was ten miles at least, and the bus was a Ford, and there were nine passengers in it besides the driver. Three of the passengers were rather stout ladies, but fortunately there were small children. I held one of the little girls on my lap most of the way and she finally went to sleep in my arms. Finally after a journey that was one bump after another

we reached McClure. It was then about 8 p.m. I was tired and hungry and had a splitting headache from my trip on the bumpy Ohio Electric, my stay in the stuffy hotel, and finally my Ford trip. I was taken up to Rev. Rasmussen, who by the way is a Dane and was in Frank Pryor's class. He is the pastor there. I got near his place & then inquired at a grocery. They directed me, and when I went to the house it was dark. I returned to the grocery & after waiting there for a while a boy came and took me to a drug store out in town. There I was to wait for the people with whom I was to stay that night. It was almost two hours before they came. In the mean while I examined every thing in the store, read several dozen farm books, memorized a Prima almanac in which I found the meaning of my latest dream, and also grew sicker and sicker as each minute went by. Finally the people came, and we had a drive of several miles into the country. Of course, after we got home we talked a little. And finally we went to bed very late. I was so sick that my whole body throbbed with pain. When I am so sick that I can't sleep, you know it is bad. And several hours passed before I fell asleep. I was in

the point several times of calling for help but did not do so. I was glad that I was in the family where I was located. For Mrs. Miller was a motherly old lady, and two of the boys were hitherto graduates. And I was not afraid to get sick there. I thought for a while that I'd have to stay there a few days. But finally I fell into a troubled sleep. I woke up in the morning feeling very bad, and with a splitting headache. I was on the point of telling them that I could not preach that day, but then decided to sleep some more. Strange to say, I woke up about an hour later feeling refreshed and without a headache, but very weak. I could scarcely eat any breakfast, and we rushed off to Sunday School. They asked to teach the adult class, and, although I hadn't studied the lesson, I had preached a sermon on it during the summer. So I gave them practically that. I told them that I had preached on that last summer, and told of the circumstances that caused me to preach it, these being the discouragement + worry of both the people + myself over the work there. This pleased the class very much. There was one thing that I said that tickled them,

The lesson was on the seed growing secretly, the seed being the word of God. I told them that some people had the idea that when they "got religion" they had to tell about it continually. I then said that as a rule those people were the most religious who made the least noise about it. This amused them very much, for there was a Methodist church near them. These people were good solid Lutherans of the old German Lutheran kind. Then came the service, and to me it was impressive because of the church. It was just a small church, but it had pretty windows and the altar, and all the Lutheran arrangement. The people too were reverent and attentive, and the atmosphere of the church invited to worship. Sick as I was, I preached as I have seldom done. And all the people listened attentively, even small children. After the service was over the people waited where they had been sitting and one of the elders took me around and I met them all. Not one left before seeing me. They were all as kind and nice as could be. There were very few who said anything complimentary — I have found that those German people have too high a regard for the pastor to presume even to compliment him. They do not gush over the way many of our people do, and

say things that they never mean. But I could tell by their faces that they liked my sermon. I met Mrs. Rasmussen too. She was sorry that she hadn't heard me the night before but the baby was fretful & I must have come just then. Rev. Rasmussen had been called away to preach elsewhere. Arthur went out in town to dinner with a family named Helsen. They have a boy who is now an aviator in the army. He is out in California. In the home I met the old mother who is about 85 years old. She received me very cordially, and almost reverently. We had a splendid dinner, but still I was not able to eat very much. I had absolutely no appetite. After dinner I was at once rushed out to preach again. I had a trip in a Ford and we sure did cover the ground. We went almost ten miles in a half hour. This church was at a place called Malinta. The church was more of a meeting-house than a church, very dreary and hard to speak in. I did not enjoy myself nearly as much as I did in the other place. A funny thing happened there. After the service was over they came to me with the offering that had been taken up and said, "Reverend, you are to take charge of this." I thanked them and the young man who had it was going to count it and give me

bills. However, the Ford that was going to take me away was waiting so I told them to bump it in my grip. They did so, and when I counted the money at Springfield I found that it amounted to $2.32, of which there were 27 pennies, a bum nickel & a Canadian quarter. Two others gave a dollar apiece and I got $10 from the other place, and so, taking out my R.R. fare I cleared almost $9, the most I've ever gotten. As to the Canadian quarter & bum nickel, I did what many worthies before me have done, exchanged them at Shorty Hamm's for value received. So I lost nothing & had an experience ~~which~~ the like of which Wm Green Shuttel had not heard. Well, after this service I had a 16 mile trip in a Ford to a town called Doubler, from there took the Ohio Electric and reached home at 10:30 p.m. I held an experience meeting with Green Shuttel, who had a bum day too. He had been down to Cincinnati to preach, & the people, through a mistake of the one who sent him, didn't know that he was coming. It was a surprise party for all concerned. I was down there about a month ago and they liked me very much. They asked me where my charge was; I said that I was still in the seminary. They were quite surprised, & more so when I told them that it was only my second year. They liked me so much that they practically

offered to hold the charge open for me till I graduated if I would accept. Of course I refused. Frank Pryor is going there now.

Well, I must stop now. I am working at Hamme's tonight & am taking the time to write you. Dr. Keyser, our teacher in Theology, complimented me very highly today. I had to write an essay for him on the teaching of the book of Romans concerning Christ. I did not spend much time on the work & didn't even correct it. But Dr. Keyser was so pleased that he called me aside. I was wondering what blunder I had made that he was going to correct, when he said that he was especially pleased. My work was clear, systematic, thorough & complete, and he said that I brought out some things that he hadn't thought of before. He likes me very much. The old Dean has been getting quite confidential with me too, and I have been over to see him a number of times. He is getting old now, and I am afraid that his time here will soon be ended.

I have been sick, and wanted to write but never got the chance. I'd always wait to wait till I could write long letters, and that time never came. I am much better now, & hope all at home are well. Love to each & every one.

Always
Dean

Muzjsch.

Springfield, Ohio?

Mar. 7, 1918 .

Dear Mother:-

Just a line in a hurry. I am going to an oculist in town here. He is a Dr. Hartley, and a very able man. He has studied in Vienna, and has been recommended to me so highly that I do not hesitate to go to him. I have been needing new glasses all along. I feel quite sure that my eyes were the cause of all the trouble and sickness that I have just been having. I am going to put some drops in my eyes tonight, and tomorrow I am to go down to Dr. Hartley and have an examination.

I spent the afternoon today fixing up my bicycle. It is in really good shape, considering all that it has gone through in the last few years, and expecially this last summer. I took it all apart, and packed the bearings in crude vaseline, and it runs slicker'n a quart of caterpillers. There were two punctures in it that I had to fix. They were due tona little thorn. I doubtless got that the last night that I was out in Illinois.

There is a possibility that I may go out in western Nebraska for the summer, instead of to my place in Illinois. I have not yet fully decided.

Well, I must stop forthis time. I'll write more later. Best of love to each and every one.

With love?

Ivan.

Yours,

Mch 7-1918

811

Friday, Mar. 29.
1918

Dear Mother:-

Today is Good Friday, and our Lutheran churches all joined in a union service at the First church. The service began at twelve and was to last during the hours in which Jesus was on the cross. So it was to last till three. However it was three thirty when we got out, so the service lasted three hours and a half. It was a very beautiful and impressive service, and the big First Church was crowded. There were seven parts to the service. We sang many Lutheran hymns, and had a great deal of reading of the Scripture. There were also prayers appropriate for the day, and short addresses by the Lutheran pastors here, and special music. This music was taken from Haydn's Passion Music and was very pretty. The service was a splendid one and all enjoyed it. The meaning of our faith was made very real to us.

I have had quite a time in deciding what to do for this summer. I had an opportunity to go to the church at McClure, which is near Toledo. This is the one I told you about some time ago. However, I felt that I would not be satisfied until the

work there. I could not have the opportunities for service and doing good that I could there here. I had also decided that I had rather not go back to Tivoli. The people there need a regular pastor, and my going back would put that off still longer for them. So I was trying to get a field out in Nebraska. A class mate of mine lives there and of course his heart is in that work. And too, it is a place where our Church must now grow. So I wanted to go there. While I was thinking of this and waiting for an answer I got a letter from Dr. Seibert, the "pope" of Chicago, under whom I did my work last summer. He wanted me to come out to a little town in Illinois called Maulius. There is a splendid church there that will be vacant for a few months. The pastor, Rev. Oosterling, has become a camp pastor for a few months. I suppose it is at Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill., and the congregation wants a supply in his absence. So Dr. Seibert wrote me and asked me to take the work if I was not going to go back to Tivoli. Just a short time after that I received an offer from the Missionary Superintendent of the Nebraska Synod. They want to start a new church in a little place called Chappell, near North Platte, and I was offered the place. I was perplexed, because I wanted to go out to Nebraska, and yet was not sure about the advisability of taking up this work. So I spoke to Dr. Bauslin and also to

Dr. Tuesler, and they both advised me to take up the work at Manlius. So, in spite of the ~~protests~~ protests of my Nebraska class-mates I wrote to Dr. Seibert and accepted the work. Now Dr. ~~Tuesler~~ wants to talk with me about some work in Kansas. And it is barely possible that he will try to send me there. However, if I go to Manlius, which I am practically certain to do, I shall enjoy the work, for I know of the work from being out in Illinois last Summer, and I also know of Rev. Oberling. In any case I am well provided for. The Nebraska charge offered me my R.R. fare out to Nebraska and $65 a month. The Manlius job offered me $70 a month. So in either case they would take good care of me.

I must stop now. Best of love to you, and to Minnie, and Buttie and Sis, and my big niece. I am anxious to see her. May all the joy and peace of this blessed Easter time be yours through our Savior Jesus, Amen.

Lovingly, Ivan.

Luizpah.

Mch 29-1918

surprize the folks. Just tell the folks the substance of this letter, because they probably will wonder why I send two letters at the same time. But that will be enough to tell them.

With much love,

Ivan.

will be home soon - ~~On~~ Apr. 30th -

April 19-1918.

Apr. 19-1918.

Dear Mother:-

I am writing a hurried note to ask a favor of you. I am afraid ~~that~~ I'll need ~~some~~ money at once. I have just written to Minnie - I have not written for so long that I thought she would be pleased and I knew you would understand - and told her ~~that~~ I am not going to Illinois after all, but out to a large church in Kansas. It is at Peabody, and is the 4th largest church in the Kansas Synod. Since it is such a large church I ought to have a Prince Albert coat to preach in on Sundays and I'll have to get one. But I don't have the money, because

I gave up work at the Hotel for the last three weeks and have to give some money out for Dr. bills. And too, I'll have to forward ~~or~~ give out $40 for R.R. fare to Kansas. They'll return the money to me when I get there, but you see I need it now. If you can let me have another $100 it would help me. I hate to ask you continually for money, but cannot help it.

Another piece of news that I can give - I don't think that I told memie, is that I am going to have a preacher's license next summer, so I can perform marriages, etc. Don't say anything about this, & I'll

Apr. 26 —
1918

Dear Mother:—

I am not sure that I can be home on Tuesday. It may be Wednesday instead. I am going up to Toledo Sunday to preach, and that will perhaps put me back a day. However, it will bring about $5 and that is something.

I have an awful lot of work and am working hard. Am anxious to get home. Will let you know later when I am coming. Best of love to all.

Always,

Ivan.

Nizzpah.

P.S.- Got your last letter. Many thanks.

April 26-1918

Springfield, O.
Wednesday Noon
May 1 1918

Dear Mother:-

My work has come out in such a way that I cannot possibly leave here today. I hope this special delivery will reach you in time today. I'll be home tomorrow sure. It may be late, but I'll be there. Love to all.

Dan.

May 1 - 1918

St. Paul's Lutheran Church.
Peabody, Kan.

May 21, 1918.

Dear Friends:-

Sunday, May 26, will be Communion Sunday at St. Paul's, and the preparatory service will be on Friday night, May 24. All are earnestly urged to attend these two services. When we come to the Table of the Lord to partake of this Holy Sacrament, we do so in obedience to the command of our Savior. And therefore the pastor is anxious to have all members present.

Our treasurer says ~~that~~ two funds need attention. The one is the expense fund, which is overdrawn $100, although liberally contributed to. The second is our fund for Synod. Out of $600 we have yet to raise $360. As Communion Sunday offerings are the main payments on this fund, let us give freely, so that we do not have to struggle when our contribution is due in October.

Yours in our Master's service,
Ivan Hefty,
Supply Pastor.

Peabody, Kan.
May 28-1918

Dear Mother:-

It is a shame that I have not written home since I have been here, but I have been rushed to death. I spent most of last week at Lawrence Kansas, & was on the jumps all the time. This week I have been working steadily & usually till 1 am. We are going to have communion on Sunday & I am sending out 150 letters. Quite a job. Then I have two unusual sermons to prepare, one for Friday night, and one for Sunday morning. I'll be home next week, and write a long letter. Love to each & every one.

Ivan.

May 28/1918

nation. In regard to our enemies, I prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And many of our people came to me and said that the service meant so much to them, and I prayed just what was in their hearts. And I challenge any one to find a prayer that was more patriotic. We had a good congregation this morning. Our church had at least 100. We have been looked down upon by some of our Methodist and Presbyterian brethren as being unpatriotic. Today the Presbyterian pastor had to admit to me that we had as many at our church as there were at his church and the Methodist and Baptist churches put together! On Sunday I gave Communion. I preached

Just address me: Rev. Ivan Hepp,
Peabody, Kansas

Peabody, Kan.,
May 30-18

Dear Mother:-

It seems a shame that I haven't written you more than I have, and yet, I am back so far in my work that I don't see how I can catch up for weeks. I was so glad to hear of my new niece. How is she now, and how is Sis getting along? I am praying for them both. And also for my little Alethea dear! How I love her! If you miss her from home some time just know that I have "swiped" her. Homie wrote and told me that her brother announced to her on Sunday that she had a new niece. That was

the first I heard of it. I am crazy to see my new baby. Whom does she resemble? Or can't you tell yet?

Today we had a Memorial Day Service in the church. You know, Pres. Wilson set this day apart for a day of humiliation and prayer. I therefore put the black trimmings on the altar and pulpit. And they looked so solemn and pretty. We had the morning service, using the Introit for the Day of Humiliation and Prayer. I read 1 Tim. 2:1-8 and Matt. 22:15-22 for our lessons. After the Creed I told the people that we not only had the right to pray for our country as Christians, but also the duty. Then I read the Litany Collects with the congregation (p. 131 in the Hymn Book) and we sang Hymn 235. Then I prayed for our country. It was not like some stuff that the Methodist preacher gave on Red Cross Sunday night. I was heart-sick at what he did. But it was a prayer from my heart and even old Ben Timmons, a Civil War veteran, who seldom compliments anyone and who used to be a Methodist, warmly commended me at supper tonight - for I eat at Mrs. Timmons' place. He said he wished there were more like me! This afternoon at the "Opera House" I gave the invocation, and old Ben commended me for that too. The Methodist preacher of whom I spoke preached hatred of the Kaiser and German

a sermon on the Lord's Supper, and that is something that Dr. Lawrence never did; and the people told me they liked it. They liked the way I conducted the service and could scarcely believe that it was my first time.

Dr. Lawrence was in a lot of trouble before he left here. He is awfully bull-headed, and, for instance, bucked the Red Cross and did other unpatriotic things. The town was on the lookout for me — and I didn't know it. (Do not tell these things about Dr. Lawrence outside of the family.) But now the editor of the town paper is now with me, and says I am a live wire! One family here in the church, the Worthingtons, objected to what Dr. L. did.

Mr. Worthington is rather plain-spoken, and on the first Sunday, after he had heard me preach, he said that judging from the color of the new preacher's cheeks a change would do him good, and he was sure that the congregation could stand the change. – I am happy that all the people like me. There were two factions regarding Dr. L. but both of them like me. It gives me new hope and strength. On Sunday afternoon I went out and gave communion to some sick and aged ladies. One was an aunt of Dr. Ivessler. – Must stop now. Love to Minnie, and Bertie, and Sis, and little Alethea, and my other nieces. Lots of love and kisses to you.

Always, Ivan.

Dais pob.

March 30 1918

Peabody Hall

June 13-18.

Dear Mother:-

I am sending you $12 as interest for you & $3 for Hermie. Please have Raymond deposit this check at the Fidelity & Columbia as soon as he can, as there are some checks ~~that~~ I have written on the bank ~~that~~ may not be honored. Have him send to this at once if he can. I still owe you $10, and then the bill at Bacon's. I'll pay those in about two weeks. Am rushed for money now as some is slow in coming in. Will write soon. Awfully busy. Love to each & every one. Am well, and hope all are too.

Lovingly,

Joan.

June 13 – 1918

Aug 1, 1918
Peabody Kans

Dear Mother:- I am well, but rushed with work. I am dropping you just a line because it is an age since I have written. All my mornings afternoons, & evenings are taken, it seems. I will try to write real soon. I wanted you to get a letter from Sunday, so that I why I scribble this. Best of love to Father and every one -

Always lovingly,
Dan.

Aug 1 - 1918

Peabody, Kan.
Aug. 7, 1918.

Dear Hettie:-

It is so long since I have written home ~~but~~ I am ashamed. And yet I have been very, very busy. Many of the people here wonder at the things that I get done, and at what I have already accomplished. And yet as I look back over the time I've spent, it always seems as if I could do a great deal more. But it has been very hot here and I don't want to try to do too much. Do you know that in some of the days past the temperature has been 105 in the shade and 115 in the sun? But the air is very dry, so one doesn't mind it greatly. We have terrific winds out here too, and some of them are scorching hot.

But the people here are very good to me and take me out in their cars occasionally. You would be surprised but very few people in Kansas do not own cars. And there are more cars than Fords too! And my folks have been very nice to me. And one lady, whom I visited for supper last night, said that when they got me back next spring they'd have to get a car for me! Mother, do you know that if I'd say the word I could have this change right now? And I believe that if I wanted to I could have them hold it open for me till next May. But that would not be fair to them.

I must tell you of something that I didn't want to talk about until it was settled. I have been trying to get into the army as a

chaplain, and have been turned down twice. The last time was final, at least for a year or so. The chief objections are that I am too young and haven't finished my studies. I was awfully disappointed. I was recommended by Dr. Watts, each teacher at the Seminary personally, and by Dr. Jenkins of the 2nd Presbyterian Church in Princeton, and by Miss Snook. I applied first to our National Lutheran Commission and was turned down. Then I appealed to the Federal Council of Churches. My appeal went back to our own Church board, and I was again rejected, but got a very nice, sympathetic, and complimentary letter. They promised me that as soon as they have to call on their younger men, they'll call on me. Well, it is a disappointment, because I did have my heart set on going into that. But while it's hard to be refused, it's best for the time.

I don't know whether I told you that I am going to have a baptism. It will be either this Sunday or the next one. It is a little girl. By the way, tell Alethea I am happy that she wanted me to baptize the little baby, but really I expect it is just as well that Dr. Waltz did. I would certainly have wanted him present, when I did it, as his suit he should be. And I am glad that, when the little thing was so sick, Dr. Waltz did come to baptize her. All of us would have felt dreadful if the poor little baby had died without our administering to her the means of grace that our Savior commands. Has little Alethea been baptized? I have never heard. I am anxious to see baby Ruth, and also my dear little Alethea. I do love that baby. I have shown her picture to some of the

ladies here and they are all in love with her.

By the way, there was a great deal of excitement about the letter in which those pictures came. Mrs. Lawrence here has very little control over her children, and doesn't seem to want any. Our boy, David, is especially bad, and many of the people of our church won't allow him in their homes! Well he has been doing a number of things that the people are furious about and Mrs. L. calmly ignores. He has been stealing too. Well, to come to the point, he took that letter that Hennie wrote me, and opened it and then hid it! Two weeks later Mrs. L. found it. She was terribly hurt and sincerely sorry, and did what she could. She made David bring the letter to me and confess all to me. I was deeply sorry for the

poor fellow, for he would be a splendid boy with the proper training. He cried bitterly. He promised never to do it again, and I don't believe ~~that~~ he ever will. It was a bitter but good lesson to both him and his mother.

Well, it is getting near supper. I must stop for this time. How are the babies now? and how are Sis, and Minnie, and Buster? I hope all are well. Is your rheumatism bothering you? I hope you are better than you have been.

With love to all, I am always

Lovingly,

Ivan.

aug 7-1918

I am afraid I can't do it before then! — I had my first baptism on Sunday. The girl baby was named Ruth Elizabeth! Isn't that a coincidence? I told the people about it. — I hope you are getting better. For my part I have been sick off and on for a short time past. I'll be glad to have a good rest of a week or so at home for I am about worked to a frazzle. And I'll get little rest in the few days left to me here! The people are planning a farewell social for me to be given on Monday evening. I'll leave from there & take the midnight train for home. Well, will see you all soon. Love to each & all, from Ivan.

Aug 20-1918

Peabody, Kan.,
Aug. 20, 1918.

Dear brother:-

I have some news that I feel sure will probably (!) interest you. I am going to leave here on Aug. 26th, Monday and get home on Wednesday, 28th! Aren't you surprised? A number of things made me want a week or so before school starts and the people here were as lovely as could be about my leaving. Everyone expresses real sorrow at my going, and for my part I am sorry to leave for the people are lovely here,

I have been simply rushed to death since I decided to come home early. I have so much to do. Yesterday I was going from early morning till 2 a.m., and today from 7:30, steadily, and it is now just midnight. Let me tell you what I did today. A Mrs. Worthington of our church took me out in the country in his auto. In four hours and a little more we had travelled about thirty miles and made ten pastoral visits! And it's so hard to give only a short visit in the country. I love to stay and stay, and the people like it, but I could just give short visits. Well, that was some work! Then I had dinner; got there just in time too. Then I wrote out the pastoral letter that I am going to send out to the people, had a long conference with the church treasurer, went around to the printer, and there went visiting some more. I visited up till 6 p.m. then took a bath and went out to supper, having been invited by one of the families of our church. I just got back from there after a wonderful time. That is what my time is full of now! The people say they don't see how I'm going to do all I plan but I'll show 'em! — I got Meneir's letter yesterday, and yours today. Many thanks. Tell Meneir I'll answer her letter next Wednesday!

the morning before that I was really going to return. I must confess that I'd rather be in the army than back here studying, and I haven't yet become reconciled to my great disappointment. Well, I suppose it will all come out for the best, and after I take a little rest will plunge into my studies and try to lose sight of disappointments. Give my love to all at home. Love and lots of kisses to you. Always, Dean.

Sept 13-1918

Springfield,
Sept 13-18.

Dear Mother:-

This is the second day I am spending in Springfield. I have been so rushed that I simply had to quit today and relax. I got here rather late on Wednesday. I had hoped to get here early in the afternoon, but there was a wreck on the L. & N. near Campbellsburg and that kept us back several hours

so I missed the connections at Cincinnati that I had wanted. However I got in here about 5:30, but I got supper down town & tended to a number of things, so it was quite late when I got here to the Seminary. Things are in a terrible mix-up here on account of the war. The college has been turned into a military school and the dormitory is now a barracks. Some of the men are coming over from the college dormitory to live in our seminary dormitory, and this will make things rather crowded.

The teachers here were all glad to see me back. You know I had written to them about my going into the army as a chaplain, and they had all sent me the strongest possible recommendations. Several of them did not know till first

OHIO

Sept 28 - 1918

Dear Mother:-

I just wanted to drop a line to you so that you hear from me this week. My reason for not writing sooner is that I have been sick. I missed a few days of classes. I am better now, but can't want myself too much. The trouble seems to be nervousness, and a good rest will fix me up. I'm going to take a week off. week after next, and come home, and then go out to the country for a week. the Hackers sisters at the old church at Cedar Grove. Must stop now. Love to each and every one.

Always.

Joan.

Sept 28-1918

Sept 28-1918

Monday.

Nov 4 - 1918

Dear Mother:-

I arrived in Springfield all right. The L & N from Louisville made good time to Cincinnati, and I managed to get a Big Four out to Springfield just a little after noon. Am dropping you this line to let you know that I am well and have arrived here safely. Am somewhat hurried now so I must stop and attend to some other things. Best of love to all.

Hurriedly,

Joan.

Mrs Zgrah.

Nov 4-1918

Nov 4-18

Springfield, Ohio,

Nov. 17,1918.

Dear Mother:-

I can hardly realize that such a long time has passed since I have written Home. But the days that I have been here have been busy ones. And then too, I am proud to say that I am getting more sleep than I used to, and that means that I don't have as many hours of work as I used to. So I am kept pretty busy getting done all that I want to. However, the change is doing me good - if only I can stand the strain of getting regular sleep!

Last Sunday I was out preaching. I was at a little town about eighty miles to the northwest of here called Wapakoneta. The people are splendid, and I surely did enjoy my stay among them. When I heard that I was to go to this place the first thing that I thought of was that an old friend of mine at Princeton came from there. So

when I got there I asked the people with whom I was staying whether this family still lived there. Their name is Taeusch. Certainly is "verdeutsched", isn't it? The people still lived there and I went to see them. I introduced myself and they were very glad to see me. They received me very cordially and I spent a very pleasant evening there. I liked the people with whom I was staying. They did all that they could to make me feel at home. I was with them Saturday evening, all of Sunday, and left early Monday morning. The people at the Church there liked my preaching very much and spoke very nicely to me. I had to teack a Sunday-school class, and preach three times, morning, afternoon in the country, and evening. I was pretty tired when it was all over. When I got back from Church Mrs. Davis, the lady at whose home I was, took me next door to her sister's and they played the Victrola for me. I had played the piano for them in the aftern on, and they

liked it very much. I then went to bed and sure did sleep. I woke up at four in the morning to hear a lot of racket. I thought th it was a fire so I went to sleep again. I found out later that the news of peace had come there and the people were celebrating. I suppose that Louisville had big times overthat. We had a big time here on the Thursday previous. I guess that the people did all over the vountry. So when thennews came on Monday the people didn't have the spirit that they had shown before. However, we had a big parade in the afternoon, and among other things the Kaiser was carried by in a coffin with a beer bottle at the head. Several mourners followed, and a ministerial-looking gentleman went before; but they didn't seem to grieve as much as they should have done. Well, as regards the whole matter, we know that the war is ended now, and we surely have cause to be very grateful. I preached this morning (in

a little town called Urbana, fourteem miles north of here) and that was one of the things that I told the people. We cannot realize just what this means to us, and we certainly do not know what it means for those in Europe. Another thing that I told the people about this morning was the Merger that has just taken place in New York. We must remember that now we no longer belong to the General Synod of the Lutheran Church, but to the United Lutheran Church in America. That is just another thing that we Lutherans can be thankful for. -- Well, I am going out with some of the boys this evening, so I'll stop for a while and take this letter up later.

Monday:- Have spent a morning at work fixing up my books. I have figures out that I have almost 600 volumes, and I am working out a library system for them. It is a bigger job than I thought it would be.

Last night some of us boys went to a spiritualistic church here in town. We

certainly did have a big time. The man who lectured was so absurd that, although I was mad at him for a while, I couldn't help being amused. After he had given us a long talk, he said that he would give us some character reading. So a good many of the ladies and men there went up to him and gave him a ring or watch or something else, and he, by touching the ring could tell whose it was and the character of the person! Needless to say, there were some times when he got just a trifle mixed as to whose the object was; but a few mistakes may be pardoned in a man as great as he is. Everything that he said in regard to the characters of the people to whom he talked applied to everyone there , to me and all the rest. One funny thing happened. There was an old fellow in the congregation, and the lecturer had doubtless seen him riding around in an automobile. So he said to the man that he would soon make a change in regard to his

automobile; if he wouldn't exchange it, he would at least condider doing it (A safe guess!). Well, the old fellow spoke up in a squeaky falsetto and said that the auto was not his; he was just taking care of it for a friend. Our Sem bunch there nearly busted when this break happened. Another funny thing happened just at the close. The man announced that we would sing the doxology, and the organist played Old Hundred through. When the people started to sing,one of our boys - thinking that it was our doxology instead of the fool thing that they sing - bellowed out "Praise -" and then stopped short. Everyone there looked at him, and we nearly died. Each one of us put a penny in the collection, and it was worth it.

Well, I must stop now. How are all the folks? It has been raining here for the last coulpe of days and is quite cold now. I am well, even if I am getting back into work, and as to that, I sure am going slowly . Well, good-bye. Love to each and every one, and lots of kisses. Always. Ivan . Miss

Aug 17-1918

Dec 10 1918

Tuesday —

Dear Mother:-

I received your letter this morning and one from Sis too, and also one from home. I was sure glad for the news from home. I have been sitting up since 10 a.m., looking and reading. I had a nice dinner brought by one of the boys who works at the Y. W. C. A. cafeteria; potatoes and gravy, peas, bread, and a

Dec 10 - 1918

baked apple. It was just right for me. I hope to go out in a few days and get some real air. I use to hate being inside, but of course I have to be careful.

Well, mother, I don't need to come home this week, but will do so next week. Will let you know just when. And it won't be necessary for Raymond to meet me. I surely thank all of you for your thoughtfulness, but I am not sick enough for that, and I am taking good care of myself.

As to money, Raymond sent me a check for $50. Thank him for me and tell him that I hardly think I'll have to draw on it. It may chance that I have to, but that isn't likely.

Must stop now. Am lots better. But of love to all. Will see you soon.

Mizpah. Dean.

Dec 12 1918

Dear Mother:-

Am down town now for the first time since being sick. Had a good dinner, and feel fine. It was not near as much as I'd ordinarily eat, but enough this time! Felt a little weak but am getting strong quickly. Best of love to all.

Hugs & kisses. Dean

SPRINGFIELD, OHIO
DEC 12
1 30 PM
1918

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THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

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

Springfield, Ohio,

Dec. 13, 1918.

Dear Mother:-

Today I went to classes for the first time since being sick. I did not do any study in preparation for them, and do not think that I shall do any serious study while here for these last few days. However, I am able to go to the classes and so shall do that, as I do not want to miss any more than is absolutely necessary.

Dr. Larimer asked me over to dinner today and I surely did enjoy myself. Mrs. Larimer did not go to any extra pains, and everything was comfortable and homelike. When I left they sent a meal by me to the boy who is sick. He apreciated it too.

Must stop now. Am far better. Best of Love.

Hurriedly. Ivan.

Dec 13-1918

Columbus, O.
Sunday - 3 PM
Dec 15 - 1918

Dear Mother:-

Am sitting in the Ohio Electric station waiting to go back to Springfield. I went to preach at the First Lutheran Church here and had a splendid time. It is a wonderful church; I must say, even more beautiful than ours at home. It is not

Must stop now to get my car. Am getting stronger all along and feel better each day. Will be home some time this week, I think Friday. Will let you know definitely.

Best of love to all. With many kisses. Devan

Lovingly yours

Dec 15-1918

quite as wide as mine, but almost again as long. I had a congregation of from 250 to 300 or more. They liked me very well and said many nice things. I work the cobs and we used the new Hymnal. They were very well pleased and paid me nicely. A family took me home to dinner & I had a social time.