Wednesday
Jan 3 - 1923

Dear Mother:-

Again the time is speeding & I have been pressed. My reason for writing is not that I have nothing to tell! I still have the Xmas Day I spent here to tell about, and other things. But my time is taken up & I don't want to rush, & so I have it written. Sunday I had my services. Monday I had New Year's Services, one at 8 a.m. & one at 10:30 a.m. I was tired, quite tired, & it was raining furiously, so I rested the remainder of the day. Yesterday

I had to go to Freeport, a town 10 miles west of here, in the morning, & in the evening had to go to a S.S. meeting in Merrick. So I rested the remainder of the day. And today I am suddenly called to New York to a ministerial meeting. And so it goes! - I am well, so don't worry. And you can see I am taking care of myself.

How are all at home now? How are you? Is Minnie well? And the girls? And Bettie & Sis? My love and prayers are for all. Will write soon again.

All love

Thursday a.m. - P.S. Love.

In my rush for N.Y. I forgot this yesterday. Am writing more later today.

Jan 3 - 1923

Friday Night.
Jan 5-1923

Dear Mother:-

The end of a perfect day & again I beg off. I worked all am on the financial system for one & my churches & slept all afternoon. Tonight other pressing stuff to do, & a letter to write Mr. & Mrs. Beecher for a box of candy they sent. It is now 10 p.m. & I am going to bed & <u>sleep</u>! Am to be installed as pastor tomorrow night by Dr. Troxler, Pres. of Synod, Dr. Zimmerman, Missionary Supt., & 2 neighboring pastors. – All love!

Hurriedly,

Evan.

Jan 5-1923

Jan 5/1923

Jan. 5
Friday Night.

Dear Mother:-

I am waiting for one of my council men to come & take me over to Merrick. I am to be installed tonight as pastor of the charge here. Dr. Trexler, President of Synod, will install me. Dr. Zimmerman, Supt of Missions, will have general charge of the whole service. Rev. Miller - Pastor Miller! - will give the charge to the pastor, & Rev. Goering, of Baldwin, near here, will give the charge to the congregation. Rev. Goering once was a student supply here. Just think of there being five pastors in that little church at one time! I'm wondering what sort of an attendance

there will be. There is snow on the ground & it hinders traffic here. The trouble is that it never stays long, so the people don't prepare to make any changes. They always wait for the snow to melt! And it usually does so quickly. I do hope there will be a good crowd. It means so much to the congregations, especially when they are as small as these two. - I'll stop now. It is soon time for my private Ford to come! The man who will take me over used to be a chauffeur, and once was one in N.Y. City. He certainly knows how to drive! He can do all sorts of things and you never think of being afraid with him! He is very careful, however. - More later!

Jan 5-1923

P.S.- Did I write you that I sent a check for my insurance? I wanted to so you wouldn't worry.

Jan. 11-
Thursday.

Dear brother:-

Almost a week since my last writing! Let me tell you what I have done. As you read in the first part of this letter, I was installed on Jan. 5 by Dr. Traxler & Dr. Zimmerman. The service was very impressive. Both men told me that in the short time I am here I have saved these two congregations. I didn't know it when I came, but both were split open by factions, and each congregation disliked the other! Without knowing it, by my manner & preaching, all this is past. I have the confidence and love of both churches & of every member in those churches, and all say that the past is past! Do not tell this outside the family!

On Saturday night we had our Epiphany (Dreikönigsfest) service. The President of Synod said, when I announced it, that I was a brave pastor. In his large congregation he had never had that service, and here I announce it in small churches, in poor weather & roads & on Saturday night! More than the average attendance came! And that did not prevent a large number coming for communion the next morning. And that was my first celebration since January of 1920! Sunday night I was very tired, & slept most of Monday. Tuesday I had lots of letters to write, slept some, & made an urgent business call in my far congregation. Yesterday I was called to Freeport, near here, then had some visits, a catechetical class, & finally a council meeting. This, with a lit

} visit, took up my day. And now
} have a breathing space.

One bit of news, but first a request. Send as soon as you can, my big blue horse blanket! Also send my big overshoes, or goloshes, + the sheep-skin shoes. My reason for wanting the blanket is that I'll need it to keep on the Ford car that the two churches will present me on Sunday!!! Think of it! When I was sick the people rose up and took the matter in hand. Some said, "The pastor has had to walk too much, and ride a bicycle, and this has made him sick. If we should lose him, it would always be on our conscience." And far from there being a dissenting voice, the churches found that in each home this had been discussed + hoped for!

So the parish is getting a car, with all attachments! That means, self-starter, & every convenience! In each church there is a man who sells gasoline & oil & they will supply me at cost. In North Bellmore there is an automobile mechanic, and he said that if I ever take that car to a garage for any trouble, I'll have more trouble with him! The churches will pay for insurance, etc., so I have no worry. That is something else that came from my sickness! — My trunk came day before yesterday, & I am now really settled! — Send the blanket, if by express, C.O.D., so that it will come sooner. Prepaid packages are badly delayed. — Cannot come home for a few weeks yet, but will let you know. — Got a nice overcoat at $15 reduction. — More soon. — All love to you & Mamie, & Bertie & Sis, & Alethea & Ruth. How are the girls now? Kisses to all. Always. Don

Aug 5-23

Sept 11-23

Saturday Night
Jan 13-1923

Dear Mother:-

I am very proud of myself! We got the car today - tonight - and I ran it home! It was the first time I ever touched a car! Of course, some one was with me, the man who is an automobile mechanic. He didn't know that I'd never run a car & I didn't tell him. He ran it out of the garage, & on to a side street, & I asked to run it. I knew the principles - the only question was to put them into practice. So he let me take the wheel & the first thing I did was "kill" the engine! We laughed, & then I got started. We went to his home first & then he got out & got his Ford. I was to run the car home alone, & he would follow in case of any trouble. I ran the car, in our place for quite a distance on a main high road, then home, and in the lane to the barn. The other man - who, by the way, is a council man, was waiting there. That shows what he thought of me, for he left me all alone. When he got there Mr. Wood asked where I was & the man said, "He's coming alone." Mr. Wood was a little scared & the man said, "oh, he's all right. He can run it." Just then I came in. I stopped at the barn & let my council man put it in. Tomorrow I ride to church, and I'll be so stuck up I'll not see

anyone! Except cars, & you can bet I'll stay clear of them. The folks here didn't know I had never driven. They asked me if I could and I always said yes, for I was sure I could. I told the Woods tonight at supper that this was the first time, & poor Mrs. Wood looked so scared, that I was sorry. They said I certainly had confidence in myself! — I had to stop here to perform a major operation on my new car. The dealer was supposed to put some alcohol in the radiator & forgot. So he sent word to me to drain the radiator. This I have done, as it is rather cold tonight. — Since then have taken a bath, & now feel as if I want to go to bed. So good-night & more tom. I haven't forgotten what I wanted to tell about my Xmas!

With love & kisses & prayers for each & all, I am always

Lovingly,

Joan

Jan 13-1923

Jan 13-1923

Saturday –
Jan 20 1923

Dear Mother:–

I am sending by mail a package with some Xmas gifts. I wanted to send them sooner but could not get them before Xmas.– The handkerchiefs are for you & the aprons for Memie. The aprons I got at a Church sale here. The dolls are for Alethea & Ruth, and are called Tom & Eliza, from Uncle Tom's Cabin. Am well, but busy! Am writing soon again. Tell Sis I got her letter & am answering! All love to all. Ivan.

Jan 20 - 1923

The Evangelical Lutheran Parish
of Merrick and North Bellmore
Long Island, N. Y.
REV. IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
NORTH BELLMORE L. I., N. Y.

April 21-1923
Saturday 3 pm.

No worry over Special Delivery
Just want you to get word Sunday.

Dear folks:-

I am writing a letter to mail from Harrisburg Pa., so you can get it soon. If I wait for New York you would not get it till Monday.

I slept well & stayed in my berth till late. I was in Rd about 12 hours. So I am rested fairly well.

The lunch certainly was good. I didnt take any breakfast for I was not hungry after the meal I took along with me last night. But about eleven o'clock I felt hungry so ate one of the lunches. Um yum! I wonder what travling would be like without dining service like that!

This train is late - we waited at Pittsburgh over an hour. The train that comes in from Chicago was the late one. That & ours from there go on. That means I'll get home at 10:15 instead of 9:30, so there isn't much lost. I may not have time to call Aunt Hattie in N.Y. however

Am writing my sermon for tomorrow, so will stop.

Am well. Still think of all at home & always will. Love & kisses to all.

Ivan.

P.S.- Are going one 60 miles an hour, at one time over 70. I timed it!

April 21 - 1923
Special Delivery

Special Del
April 21 - 1923

April 21 - 1923
A.M.

The Evangelical Lutheran Parish
of Merrick and North Bellmore
Long Island, N. Y.
REV. IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
NORTH BELLMORE L. I., N. Y.

April 21 1923
On train
Saturday 7.00 pm.

Dear folks:-

We are about a half hour out from New York, & I shall not miss my train at Pittsburgh we were on time & 20 minutes late. We have made up a good deal, as you can see. So I get home at 9.30 after all.

Have just finished the second lunch. I was so busy eating it that I didn't think to look for Princeton till we were past. Then I just did get a glimpse of the towers. I didn't eat quite all that Sis gave me - I left the paper & string & a couple of pieces of cake & two oranges. In North Bellmore tonight I shall eat the remainder - except the paper & string!

Write & let me know how all are, especially Mamie. All love to Mother & Mamie, Butch & Sis & Alotta & Ruthie.

Always
Uncle Di

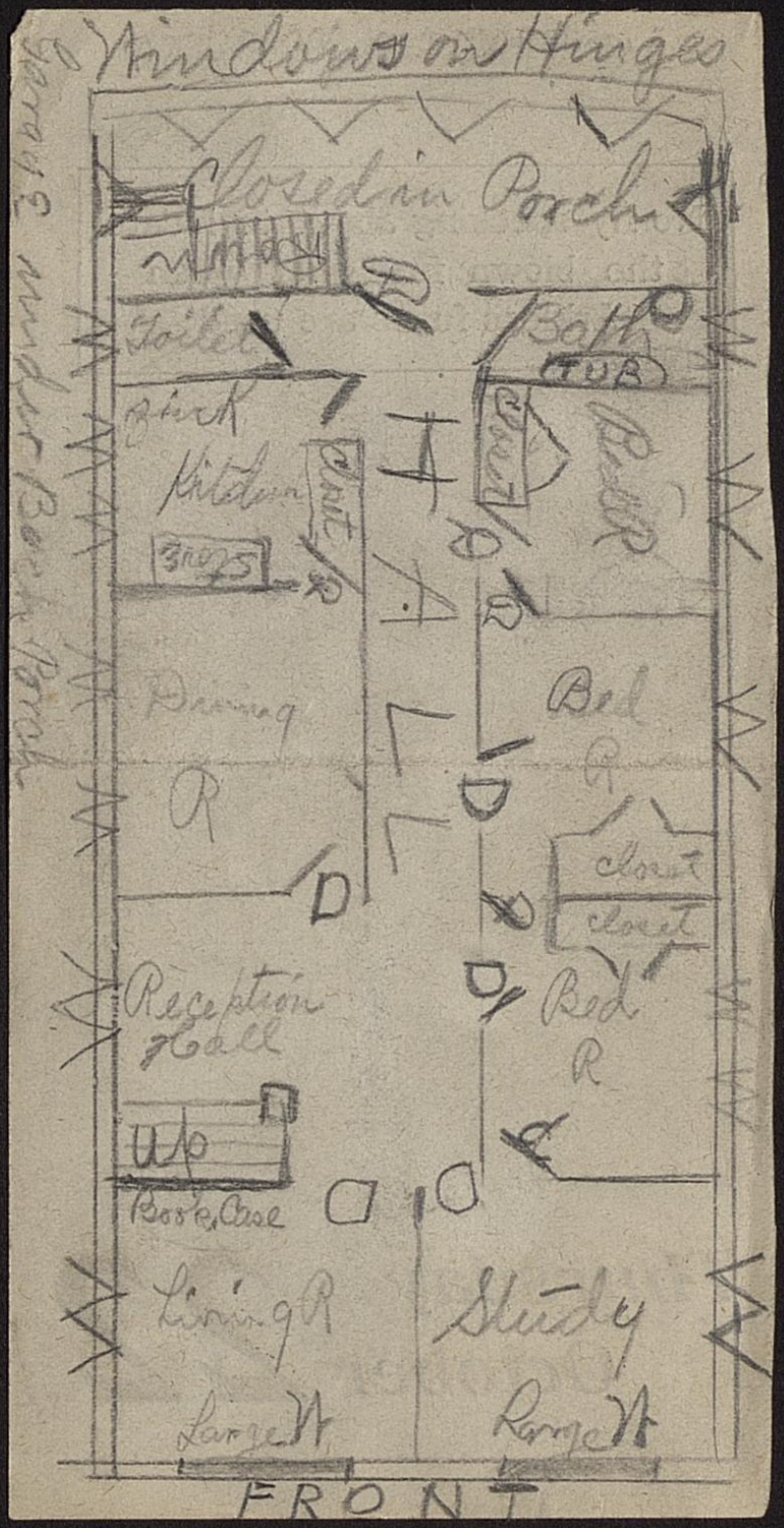
Am safe & well.

L. Moschenross

This

April 21-1923
A.M.

A.M.
April 21 -1923


Windows on Hinges
Closed in Porch
Table
Toilet
Bath
TUB
Back Kitchen
Closet
Sink
Closet
Bed R
Dining R
Bed R
Closet
Closet
Reception Hall
Bed R
Up
Book Case
Living R
Large W
Study
Large W
FRONT
Square under Bookcase

14/56

No fly-specking about to locate the blown fuse—not when Arkless fuses are used

1914

Thursday
October **22**

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MERRICK, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
NORTH BELLMORE, LONG ISLAND

The Evangelical Lutheran Parish

of Merrick and North Bellmore

Long Island, N. Y.

REV. IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
NORTH BELLMORE L. I., N. Y.

April 26, 1923.

Couldn't write last night & want to get you word before Sunday. Love

Dear Mother:-

I have just had a wedding. A few weeks ago a young man came to me - I think I told you about it - and said that he wanted to get married, that his girl was Lutheran, and he happened to pass the Lutheran Church and so asked for me. Well, they were married today. The girl is Swiss by birth, and is named Kopf. I was very much surprised to find that her native tongue was French. They met me over at the church - I had a class in catechism ti,l 4:30 - and we came home to the Woods. Mrs. Wood's niece Mildred who lives next door came over, sothere were three witnesses. That couple was the calmest I have ever seem. The girl was very sweet and pretty, and the young man is a fine, clean-cut machinist. I kn,ow they will be happy. Aftet the ceremony Mrs. Wood served some cake and grape wine that was very nice. And the couple went off in their Ford.

I went in to New York yesterday to see abomt the bungalow chapel plan. I went with all sorts of arguments to presuade the officials. I didn't have to! They asked me a few questikns, and then said that the plan was the best they had ever heard. It was entirely new to them. I was very much pleased with the reception. They want to do it in both places! Today I had a meeting of the Ladirs in North Beolmore, and I took a black-board and explained the plan to them. At first they did not grt it. I explained tikl they did, and they were very much pleased with it. I gave reasons for and against various propositions, a large new church, a small new church, a basement church, remodeling the present chapel, and the bungalow plan. They all said that it was best. Dr. Trexler told me yesterday to work the things out in detail, and get all the informatiin I could, and then COME TO THE SYNODICAL BOARD MEETING on Monday a week and explain the matter to the Board! I feel like a hero! I must hurry. At the meeting ov the ladies this afternoon, some very old-timers were back who had neft the church on account of the family that had caused so mush trouble. Some said that they w,uld never come back again. Many said that they admired me for the sounk I showed!

I hope and pray that Memie is better. Give her my love and tell her to kiss the girls for me! With love to each and all, IVAN.

April 26-1923

April 26-1923

April 26-1923

Apr 30-
1923

Dear Mother:-

Just a line before the p.m. mail. I went to Freeport last night, to church, + had a good talk with one minister there. This morning I went to Lynbrook 5 R.R. stations west of here + visited the pastor there, + ate + I went on to Valley Stream, the next station + visited the pastor there. Slept some this afternoon + now just have time to drop this letter in. Am well.

Love to all. Jean

May 7 - 1933

Dear Mother:- In the last few days a number of things have come up with a rush & I haven't time to breathe! It is 7:40 a.m. now & I must rush off to N.Y. to a Home Mission Board meeting to plan for the parsonage churches. Will write more Humidly, but with all love.

Ivan

May 7-1923

Dear Mother:-

May 17-1923

I am in such a rush the last couple of days that I don't remember when I have written you last and wyat I have written. It is now Thursday morning, and I want to rush a letter to the P.O. so that I can get it in in time for the noon mail. Then I think that you w kl get it by Saturday. I am well. I felt a but grippy the ast couple of days, for the weather was very damo, with lots of fog. But things have cleared up wonderfully now and I feel fine as a fiddle, and am getting quite a bit of work done. If I did not te l you abomt the new desk I got, I'll do it in my next letter. Also s me other news.

Must rush now. Best of love to yiu, and Memie and to Buttie and Sis and Alethea and Ruth.

Always,

Ivan

May 17 - 1923

May 17/1923

REV. IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
NORTH BELLMORE L. I., N. Y.

May 28, 1923.

Dear Mother:-

How the time has flown I do not know. All I know is that I have been sending very little mail home in the last couple of weeks. In the week before Whitsunday I had every minute of time taken up with my two classes in catechism, and in the past week I was in Philadelphia and New York. AndNow that that rush us past I am in another one, for I am to leave for New York tomorrow and attend a four day sess on of Synod. So geht's!

I must tell you about my confirmations. I was a bit tired out and even a little discouraged when Whitsunday came. But it turned out to be a wonderful day. In the Merrick church, in the morning, I had baptism, confirmation, and communion. I'll give you an outline of the Service. First there was the confessional service, then thr Service beginning with the Introit and through the Creed. Then the baptism, a baby. Then a short sermon for Whitsunday, and then the confirmation. In this part I had the children first recite the books of the Bible and the Catechism, that is, the Short Catrchism, then they sang their Confirmation Hymn, My God Accept my Heart This Day. Then I confirmed them. Then followed the Lord's Supper, and the class in Confirmation came as the first table. Itwas very impressive. And the attendance! There were over a hundred in that little chapel, and altogether 40 took communion - ten more than our hightst. In the afternoon there was a greater surprise. I naturally thought that the attendance in Grace Church would be smaller, and the church has a smaller seating capacity. There were 150 at least! We used pews, chairs, benches, tables, and even then people had to stand. I had the same order of service there, except fot the infant baptism. The Servi e in both places took about an hour and a quarter. At Grace Church there was a Communion of about 30, at least ten more than our highest number. All the people seemed so pleased and spoke so nicely of the church. I am sure all our trouble there is past.

There is more I want to tell you, but cannot now. I slept very late this morning, from 10 p.m. to 10 a.m.! And I want this letter to get in the noon mail. I hope and pray that Memie is better, and that you all are well. I send love and kissee and prayers to all. Always, Ivan.

P.S. Last night I confirmed two men. Will tell you of that later.

May 28 - 1923

May 28/19

The Evangelical Lutheran Parish

of Merrick and North Bellmore

Long Island, N. Y.

REV. IVAN HEFT, PASTOR

NORTH BELLMORE L. I., N. Y.

May 24, 1923.

Dear Mother:-

I am just realizing that I must send a special delivery if you are to get a letter even on Saturday. On Sunday I had baptism, confirmation AND communion in both churches. Then immediately after Service in the afternoon I left for Lynbrook, where I stayed all night. The next morning the Lynbrook pastor and family and I left for Philadelphia by auto. I was in Philadelphia till Wednesday the 23rd, and of that, more later! Then I had a rush trip to New York to see the president of Synod, and then back on Long Island. I was just in timr to go to a meeting of the Long Island Brotherhoods in Freeport last night, and got hime from that about midnight. I slept till noon this morning, and now am dashing this off so that I can attend a necessary meetung of the Ladies Aid of the north Bellmore church this aftern,on. I am sending this by special delivery so you are sure to hewr from me this week, and am writing more after the meeting this afternoon. I am stikl a bit tired, but otherwise all right. Must rush, so send lots of love and the promise to write. Hurriedly, but eith a l love and kisses to a l, Ivan.

May 24-1923
Special Delivery

May 24-1923

May 24-1923

Dear Mother:-

This week was one of rush in Brooklyn. I was taken into Synod here, and the men said many nice things about me.

I got back late last night, & slept late this morning. I had to take a trip to Baldwin, a village a few miles east of here, this morning. Then had dinner. Then was still so tired I slept. Now just have time to get to the P.O. for the afternoon mail. Will send it special delivery, so you get it Sunday.

Have recovered from the strain of travel & convention.

Met the man who succeeded me in Montana. Will tell you the things he said, & what the people there said about me! How is Mamie? All love & kisses to you & to her, to Butch & Sis, & to Althea & Ruth.

Uncle Di!

June 1 - 1923

June 1

June 1

May 8-1923

Dear Mother:-

Just a line! we had a meeting of the Ladies at Merrick today, and I explained to them the parsonage church idea. They liked it very much. Last night we had a meeting of the comncil and I took up the matter there. They unanimously decided to recommend it to the congregation as the best we could do. So you see things are going well. Yesterday i overhauled my Ford and polished it and it looks and runs like new - rather, runs

better than new! I also put the top down, and that
that thing certainly does skim over the ground.
Am going out tonight, so will stop this and
get it into the P.O. Am well, and hope all are
too. Live and kisses to all,

Ivan.

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MERRICK, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
NORTH BELLMORE, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

The Evangelical Lutheran Parish

of Merrick and North Bellmore

Long Island, N. Y.

REV. IVAN HEFT, PASTOR

NORTH BELLMORE L. I., N. Y.

Just as letter head.
cut all off of letters
typewrite less space.
June 4, 1923

Dear Mother:-

June 5-1923

It is Tuesday evening again! And as usual I seem to have time for only a line! Be sure that I'll send that leeter I want to send and that that you want. I have not been feeling up to par the last few days. There has been the trip to Ohiladelphia and the rush in New York during Synod, and now I am feeling the effects of it all. Sunday I felt very tired, and yesterday and today I have stikl felt exhausted. However, that is nothing to worry about, rather do I feel that there is no cause for worry, since I have had sense enough to take time out and rest. Sunday I went to Freeport for an anniversary service in our church there, in which Herbert Weiskotten, an old chum of mine at Princeton in The Graduate College preached. It was late when I got hime and to bed, but I slept till nin yesterday. I did nothing much - fixed my Ford a little, and slept much last night, and this afternoon I slept from one to five. I am all right now. There is a continuation of the anniversary service in Freeport, and I am invited. And as one of oyr best ministers from New York is coning, I hate to miss it. So I am off again in a cloud of dust!

I hope all is well at home. Give my especial love to Memie.

I shaol tell you some of the things that I heard about the two churches here, and the judgment passed on my work by the Boards of Synod!

Hurriedly, but lovingly, Ivan.

June 5-1923

June 5-

June 5-1923

Dear Mother:-

June 7-1923

Another eonderful time in store for me in the shape of another chufch quarrel! I never saw the like of it. I told you of the congregational meeting Sunday, and some of the things said there. Well, it deveolped to the point where the family that caused vll the disturbance at the meeting has caused more trouble. They openly accused the treasurer of the church of irregularity in a matter of $150 and he has resigned his office. The worst of it is that there is absolutely no cause for the assertions. I had a big day yesterday straightening thungs out, and had a word or two to say to thise who caused the trouble, and am going to the home some dxy next week and talk matters over - and talk straight from the shoulder. In the meanwhile I have found out this: The way I stood out against that man on Sunday is both the talk and admiration of the church! And I am busy at present basking in the sunlight of my own heroism! I heard one member say, "MY! but the pastor has sand!" The whoo e matter has simoly come to a show-down - it has been brewing for years - and I am going to settle it for all time. Now please don't be distressed about my condition. I was peeved and wkrjed up over it yesterday, but I am all right now, and am worrying about it just as much as you are worrying about the shortage of rain in the Sahara Desert. The trouble is that it has hindered my writing again, for I was busy all afternoon and last night tikl past twelve on the matter, and this morning I had to go to New York. I have just gotten back - it us now nearly nine - and I am dashing this off xnd sending it Special Delivery so you hesr from me this

week. I would write more, but in coming from the train I got a but wet in the rain - it was not raining when I left for the city - and I want to hurry and change my clothes and get to bed. So good-bye for the present! How is Memie? Give her my love especially. And also to Buttie and Sis, and my big girls, and to yourself! Always, Ivan.

June 7-1923

June 7-1923

Dear Mother:- June 13-1922

I had written you about the trouble that is coming up in the Merrick Church. It seems that this parish means nothing but trouble, and indeed, that is its history. In each congregation there is one family that has broken the back of each pastor that has been here, and I am reaping the fruit of it all. One of the members of the Board recently said to me that these congregations have really never had a chance, and now, under me, thay are getting it. And I have only this to say: The one family in North Bellmore met its Waterloo, and if the family in Merrick keeps on, it too is riding to a fall. Last night I went to see the one in question, the head of the family. I listened at great length to a l that he said, and then told him several times that there can be no more dissension in the congregation. And I told him that the Bible says we shaould mark those that cause dissension among us and have no fellowship with them. There was one flash on his part, and that was when he referred to the North Bellmore family, and said that I would never dare to tell him what I told them, and that was that they could never come into church again! The amusing part of the matter is that I never said that, and I told him so. To me this is plain, that since he brings out a statement like that in a moment of anger, he has really been thinking over the matter, and is not as ignorant of it as he innocently pretends to be! As for my part, to day I am a bit exhausted as a result of the interview - it was hard. But my part is done, for I am writing the President of Synod and am outting the whole matter in his hands. I am confident that the matter is really just started, but I have washed my hands of it, for when it comes up again, it will be with the officials of Synod. So please do not worry. I really am not worrying. I did not let the matter bother me before going to see that man, and while I am naturally a bit nervous as a result of the talk last night, when that wears off, I shll not know the difference.

I'll hurry this to the mail along with some other letters that I had to get off this morning. There was a whole flock of letters as a result of all this trouble, and that oiled up this morning. Agann, please do not worry - I am all right. My backbone is 100% in place, and the entire congregation is with me, as well as the whole community in general and each civic society in particular. The only result is that your son is a local hero, and the more this goes on the more he continues to become! Love and kisses and prayers to each and all, and especially to Memie. Ivan

June 13 - 1923

Dear Mother:-

Jan 15-1923

Yesterday was another day in New York. I went there to see Dr. Trexler in regard to the trouble of which I spoke, the trouble in the Merrick Church. I was very much surprised to find that Dr. Trexler knew about those matters in detail, and knew much of the past doings of that family. He promised to take the matter up and relieve me of all farther responsibility. He is going to see the man himself, and tell him in a more official way what I told him, and if necessary, go a bit farther. I think I wrote you that I told him that the Scripture says that we should mark those that cause dissension among us and have no fellowship with them. Believe me, Mother, it takes nerve to face a man of that type. I'd have said six months ago that I never could have done that, and yet in that time I have been comlelled to do it more than once. Dr. Trexler said that the trouble was of old standing, and he marvelled at the results I was already getting out of the field. He said that without any question, my two churches were the two hardest fields in this Synod! I told him that if I had had any idea of the work there and the conditions in either church I never would have had the courage to take the charge. He answered by sayung that he considered it providential that I came as I did. And I feel that there is this to be said for myself, that in the seven and eight years of the history if these two congregations, there have been six different men that I know of who served as pastor to these two churches, and each left a disillusioned man, and most of them with bitterneds in their hearts. I told the Doctor, as I told you, that I have my back up now, and I'm going to win out. I won in the first case, and I am going to do it in the second. I may say that the congregation is now with me unanimously. There were only two families that I was afraid of, as having symoathy with the trouble makers. And I heard day before yesterday that both of these are now sore!!! And the neighborhood as a whole is in sympathy with me, and very violently so! Hence you may look upon your son as a bit of a local hero! For that I honestly don't care, but I do want to see this church grow, and it will! Want to hurry and get this mail, the 4:50 p.m. All love, especially to Memie. Was called uot by an accident near the church. Not seriousm however. Must rush fir the train. All love, Ivan.

June 15-1923

15-1923

15-1923

Dear Mother:-

June 21-1923

Such a swarm of engagements has come upon me this week that I have scarcely had time to breathe. Monday I was to have gone to New York, but at the last minute had some trouble with my Ford Engine, and so took time out and fixed that. I was a Ford mechanic for about eight hours, but I got the thing going nicely now, and you would almost think that a real engineer fixed it! Tuesday I went to New York, and scent the day conferring with architects. I stopped in Rockville Center, a little town on the way back from N.Y., about ten miles wedt of here, and had supper at our church there. The Women's Lutheran Leagye of Long Island was giving a supper there. Then I had a council meeting in Merrick, and believe me it was a warm one! The whole present matter came uo again, and the member of the offending family who is on the council started things. The affair got so bitter that I told the men very sharoly to keep still. The offending member said he thought it best to have it out! One of the other men said, "We do what the pastor says"/ - Tonight I am going on a strange errand. The Ku Klux Klan has invited me and a number of ministers to attrnd an initiation of theirs, and the situation is such that I cannot gracefully refuse. Anyway, I am anxious for s,me excitement. I am under no obligation, so thete is no w rry about that. I go and meet some men, and they take me to the destination? I Must stop now, for I am due in Freeport in ten minutes, and there is just about that time. I am well -- it is fearfully hot here, nearly a hundred. Yesterday and today it was 96! How are all the folks, and Memie? Give her my esoecial love, and so to all. I love and pray for all of yiu. MUST stop and rysh on! Lovingly, Ivan.

Jun 21-1923

June 21-

June 21-

June 29-1923

Dear Mother:-

Again the time has flown in such a way that I cannot realize it. I have been to New York twice this week in regard to the building of the parsonage at St. John's Church in Merrick. I finally found an architect eho said that the church did not need an architect - it needed a friend! And he offered to do the work for us without profit. I may say that I was the first pastor to interview the architects that were given to the President of Synod, and on the basis of what I told the President, he gave some other important work to this same man. The plan is to provide for a church building, parish house, and parsonage. The parsonage is to be built first, the church secind, and the parish house last. I am anxious to see the plans. They will first be approved by us, then by the Committee on Architecture, and then wikl go back to the architect for completion. Then the building will start. - I was in New York on Monday also. I had my first visit to Coney Island. There was a pastoral meeting in our Lutheran Church there, and after that a dinner at a large restaurant there. Then the whole bunch of us were taken to Luna Park, one of the biggest of the many amusement parks there, if not the biggest. The minister of the church in Coney Island knows the manager of the park, so the whole party was taken in free, and had a good time shown beside. The dest of the week I have been going every minute f the time to make up for being in New York. I sometimes wonder how I get time to breathe. However, I am going to let up a bit in a few days. For I am not going to go too hard during the hot weather. I has been scorching hot here - nearly a hundred dor a couple of days at a time. I have stood it quite well however. My typewriter is not working well, and I must stoo and fix it, for I am afraid to keep on. Some of the letters do not hit, and some are delayed. -- How afe all at home? Memie, and Buttie, and Sis, and Alethea and Ruth? And ourself? How are all standing the weather? Is it very hot at home? I hope and pray that all are geeting along well. I'll write soon again. It seems that I cannot find time even to write my sermons! With a heart full of love to all,

IVAN.

June 29-1923

June 29-1923

June 29-1950

Dear brother:- July 5-1923

Yesterday I put in a hard day's work if ever I did! I was auditing the books of Grace church, & of all the hopeless messes! I'm convinced that never a cent went wrong, but how to account for all the money, taken in & given out, is beyond me. I worked from 7 a.m. till near midnight. I was so exasperated that I vowed to take today off. I slept late, and this afternoon am going swimming at Long Beach, on the southern shore of the Island. Rev. Miller of Freeport is going along.

Yesterday I was thinking of past fourths. A year ago in Princeton, on a "vacation". Two & three years ago in Denver; the latter year, I was in Red. Four years ago, I arrived in Livingston, Montana. Five years ago I was in Kansas & six years ago in Illinois. Seven years ago I was working in the shops & took the day off! — I missed the morning mail thru sleep. I hope this will get the afternoon mail, & send it Special Delivery to make sure. With love & prayers, to all. Doug

P.S.- all say I look so much better than when I first came.

July 5-1923

July 3-1923

July 5-1923

July 18-1923

Dear Mother:-

I am now on Staten Island, at our Wagner Lutheran College, attending a summer conference. I had to work to finish my work so that I could get here & got here a day late, but it is worth it. The outstanding man is the one who preached my ordination sermon four years ago in Milwaukee. He remembered me. - I must tell you of something I have done. I was requested by the statistician of our Church - the general church body - to make a report of the 1st day & send it in to the Associated Press. I did so, & telephoned the report in, rather lengthy. When it was over, I was aware for the first time that the man who asked me to give the report, Rev. Kirsser, was near, fixing a radio set, & heard all I said. He said, "You'd make a good newspaper man," and then went on to boost my report to the skies. The result is that I'm in bad: I must send in a report every day! - I am well, & having a fine time. I'm due at a lecture in a moment, so must run on. All love, to you & Memie, & Bettie & Sis, & Alethea & Ruth. Evan

July 18 - 1923

July 18th 1923

July 18 - 1923

Dear Mother:- Aug 16 - 1923

Yesterday I was over at Freeport to see our pastor there, and I found out something that he had done. About a month ago we exchanged pulpits, and he attended the S.S. Yfors church. He was asked to speak, and he did! He sailed into the congregation for raising the rough-house they've been raising. He told them first of all that they should be considerate of their pastor's physical condition, and said some sound-things in that regard. Then he also told them that they should appreciate the training their pastor has had, for there are few Lutheran Pastors that have had Princeton training, or from any university like it. Then later, he took the chief trouble-maker aside and let him have an earful! In the last few days I had begun to wonder at the bull on the battle-field, and now I know! - This man Miller is really a remarkable man. In Freeport the Elks' Lodge has had a stranglehold on affairs for years and the ruling element is rotten to the core. The things done in that lodge won't bear repeating. Well, the Lodge had planned a carnival, with the usual gambling devices. Miller preached a sermon that stirred up the police against it, and

16 - 1923

16 - 1923

the first night of the doings, the chief of police went there to stop the gambling. The Elks had taken them to it by getting an injunction that kept any officer of the law off the grounds! And they went ahead with the fun! Miller stirred up public opinion, & carried the matter to a higher court, the injunction was taken away, and the place raided. There were editorials in the New York papers & articles about Miller, and he was very generally, practically unanimously supported. The question that most papers raised was this: If the Elks are innocent of any wrong, as they continually protest, why do they make provision to keep any police or other officials off their grounds? Miller surely deserves credit for the single handed stand he took.

We have our S. S. picnic today, from the Merrick church. We go over to a little grove & beach on the north shore of the Island. — I've been rushed to death with sick calls and sick calls this week. Every moment seems taken up with them.

I hope all are well, especially Mamie & Bertie. How are you, and Sis and the girls? I pray for you all.

Lovingly, Sam.

r telling people how to
Ivan
g 16-1923

Miller tells people how to
g 16-1923 treat Ivan
Pastor Miller tells people
how to treat Ivan

Aug 16-1923

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MERRICK, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
NORTH BELLMORE, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

The Evangelical Lutheran Parish
of Merrick and North Bellmore
Long Island, N. Y.

REV. IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
NORTH BELLMORE L. I., N. Y.

Augusv 23, 1923.

Dear Mother:-

It seems so long since I hare used my typewriter that I scarcely know how to use it! And too, the inactivity seems to hare been bad on the machine, for it is a little more balky than usual. -- The early part of the week I was away on a visit. On Sunday night the pastor from Lynbrook, a village ten miles west of here, preached for me in the North Bellmore Church. He preached a splendid sermon. After the service I rode home with him in his machine - NOT a Ford! - and spent Monday with him. He leaves pretty soon for Rochester, New York, to take charge of our new mission there. He and I have come to be unusually good friends in the few months we know each other and I hate to see him leave. However, it is for his own good, and certainly the Rochester congregation is getting a splendid man. There was at Lynbrook at the same time another pastor whom I had met in Philadelphia, and the three of us had a big time. On Monday afternoon we went down to Long Beach, and it will be a relief to you to know that we had a big time but did NOT go in the water. I do not remember having told you that the doctor advised me not to do any more swimming, so I heroically refrained from going in! - I referred to Lynbrook as a village, and that is its official designation. But I cantt help comparing that town with those in Montana. Lynbrook is larger than Livingston, Montana, and yet the latter is a CITY! Freeport, just west of Merrick, is as large as the second largest CITY in Montana, and it is incorporated as a Village! Our ideas get bigger as we go west! -- I have been going rather hard this week again. There are a number of sick calls, and then I had to see about some baptisms. Tonight, after supper, I made a trip to a town a few miles east of here, Seaford. I baptized a baby there a month ago, and went to deliver the certificate. There is one good thing about it all, and that is that I am out in the air a good deal. And exercise? Well, horseback riding is tame compared to going over these roads in that Ford! I am out in that car most of the time, and am going all over the country. I needn't complain about not getting out! -- Mother, this machine is so bad that I cannot continue, and too, it is late. I have just had a choir practice, 18 young folks were out! And you should have heard them sing! -- How is Buttie now, and how is Memie? I think of you all, and love and pray for you. I am well again, that is, my foot gives me no more trouble. The people in both churches were very nice. You know how things get exaggerated, and the report reached Bellmore of my sickness than I was at home! The people were so happy to see me back and had me with them to pray for me! They are truly good. Love, Ivan.

Aug 23-1923

Aug 23-1923

Aug 23-1923.

Aug 23-1923

Dear Mother:- aug 29 - 1923 1923

For the first time in a long time I feel worn to a frazzle! I had a funeral on Sunday in addition to my other services, and since then have been going night & day under pressure. Monday I had to take time out & overhaul my Ford - and got praised for my work by a fairly good Ford fudge! Yesterday I was going hard on pastoral visits, a meeting, & then work till 2.00 a.m. I was up about 6 again & am going steadily till midnight now! and tomorrow I must go to New York & put in a full day there. I had to make some pastoral visits this morning & started out so early that I caught two families at breakfast! - It is not often that I let myself be worked like this, but at present there is urgent need. - I am to go to N.Y. to inspect the plans of the parsonage, & the arrangement of the various buildings on the ground. Then we can get to work soon.

In N.Y. I am going to see an old Princeton chum and take supper with him. That means I'll get home late. But be sure I'm going to take Friday off!

I got a nice letter from the new pastor of the church in Livingston, Montana. I am anxious to visit there & see how things are, as well as get a wee vacation. I'm wondering if I can't do it in a couple of months. That will give me a good rest before winter work. I'll let you know.

Last Sunday I preached on the World Message of the Lutheran Church. The Sunday before I preached on the Lutheran Church in this country, and so many talked of it. The non-Lutherans especially liked the sermons, & one said that the preaching was eloquent! I hammered home the fact that we are the Church of the Gospel. and I could see the grip I had on the people. In the afternoon I preached a funeral sermon before a Methodist congregation. And there too, I heard many nice things said. All this is very fine, but exhausting.

I am going to stop now & go to bed, it's much past midnight. I hope Mamie is getting along nicely, and my love & prayers are for Buttie. I hope he won't suffer too much. Give my love also to Sis & Alethea and Ruth, and lots of love to you.

Heartily, Dan.

Aug 29-1923

Aug 29-1923

FORWARD BOW

Aug 29-1923

Dear Mother:-

Sept 6-1923

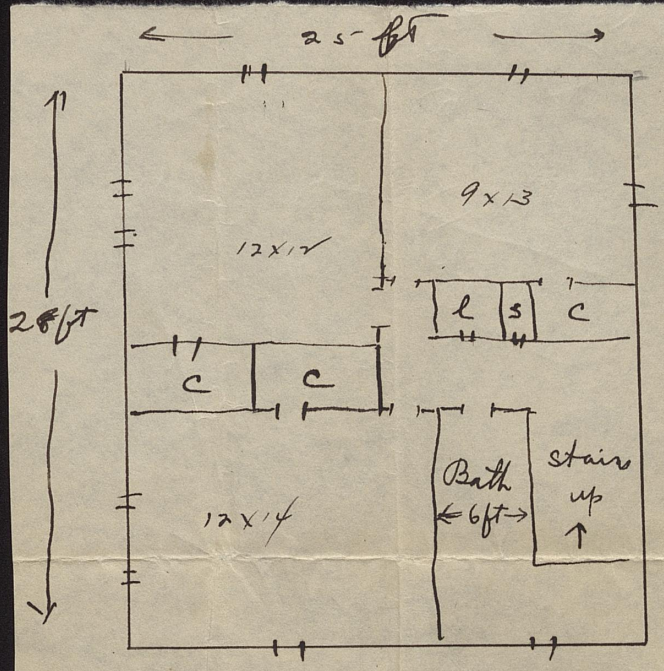
The week is by without my knowing it. Sunday was a big day. There was the service in the morning, and then I had a service in the afternoon. We changed the service in the North Bellmore Church to the afternoon instead of the evening, because the gas lights have been taken away from this part of the country. (I am writing off in a dark corner, and I just noticed that the ribbon did not work here.) The contracts for the gas lights throughout the county have just expired, and as we hope to have electricity through here in a short time, the contracts were not renewed, and until the electricity comes through, we are in darkness. The folks do not like to come out in the dark, for the roads and very bad in some cases, and so we changed the service to the afternkon. I had a surprise in the morning, for Carl Nielsen walked in at the srrvice. He spent the day with me, and in the evening we went to church in Freeport. Carl stayed overnight, and as Monday was Labor Day, he had a day off and spent that with me too. It was late Monday night when he went back to New York. Tuesday and Wednesday I was busy with calls and other pressing work and meetings, morning, noon and night. And today I had to go into New York. I took the plans for the parsonage back to the architect, and we discussed several things that the members of the congregation talked about. ~~The architect~~. I am enclosing a plan of the building. It is in the Dutch Colonial style, and is very pleasing and pretty. I am giving you a plan of the two floors on a separate sheet. I had lunch in the City eith Lloyd Magai, who was my room-mate at Princeton, and we had a good time for a few moments. Then I went to see the lawyer who has had charge of the transactions in North Bellmore. I think I wrote and told you that we want to buy back the lots on which tha church is located. A couple of years ago we gave those lots and some money extra for two lots in a much better location in North Bellmore. Of course, we were either to build a new church or move the present one to the new location. We have no money to build a new church, and as to moving the present one, I have found that it would take about five to six hundred dollars. So I wanted to buy back the lots if possible. The lawyer said that he talked with the real-estate man, and this man was very nice. He said that the

lots are tied up in such a way that he would have to have us take the two adjacent ones also. And when he named the price I was breathless. I had been told that $500.00 would be a fair price for the two lots that the church now occupies; the price wanted for the <u>four</u> is <u>$500.00</u>! And that is less than it would cost to move the church. So I am hoping and praying that that can be done. It would mean an investment of money instead of an expenditure, and save the trouble of moving the church.

Tonight after getting back from the City I had to stop in Freeport for a moment and see the partor there, Carl Miller. Then I came here to Merrick, and had Choir practice. And now it is late. I had to write a letter to Carl, for he was thinking of coming out to Freeport to live, and then commute to the City from there. I tried to find a place for him that would be in reason in price, and had to write about that. And now it is late. So I'll draw a sketch of the plans and stop.

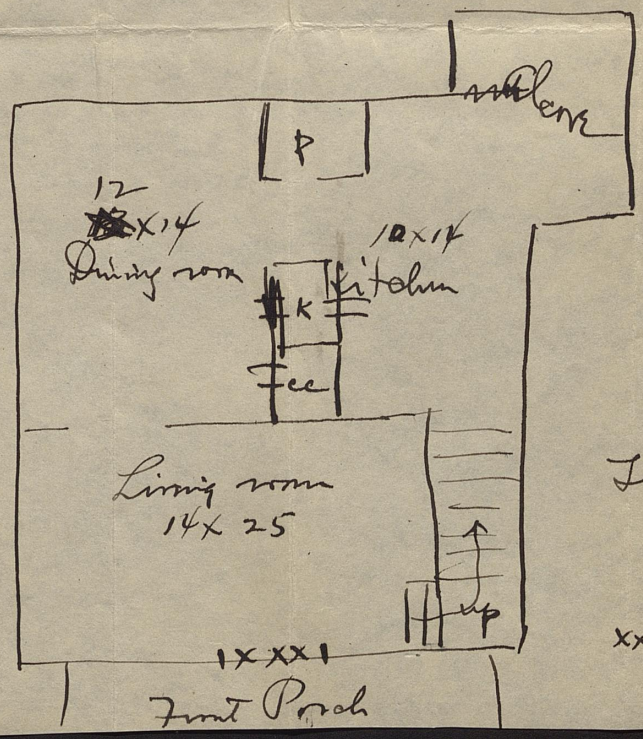
I hope Buttie & Mennie are getting along well. Be sure to let me know how they are. Love & prayers to all.

Dan.



Three rooms & bath
c = closets
l = linen closet
s = clothes shute

I don't remember the exact lay-out. This is about it. I'll send a tracing of the plans later.



p = pantry
k = kitchen cabinet
cc = china closet.

This will give you some ideas. Details later.

xxx = Fireplace.

pt 6-1923

Parsonage Plans.

Plans

t 6-1923

Sept 6-1923

Sept 9-1923

Dear Mother:-

Today is another big day! I had S.S. this morning in Grace Church & then Service in St John's. I preached on Justification by Faith, and I could feel that the people liked it. Last Sunday I preached on the Bible as our only infallible rule of faith. These are the first two of a series of four sermons on the Reformation & its fundamental principles. My other texts are: 1 Peter 2:9 and Galatians 5:1. - after church this morning a young man stopped me & said he had a donation for the church. It was from his folks in Hempstead, who used to live in Merrick & was $10.00. It helps nicely! - Plans for the parsonage are under way. We still have no word about the extra ground we want to buy, & on which the building will stand. Till then the matter is delayed. I may have a funeral this afternoon. Our pastor at Farmingdale, a village 6 miles east, is suddenly ill & in the county hospital at Mineola. Mineola, by the way, is the place from which the aeroplanes started out, that made the coast-to-coast records. Aeroplane mail from the west lands there. - Well, that pastor was to have a funeral & I may have

to take it. Then I have my 4.00 o'clock service at Grace church, & then in the morning I want to go to Minerola to see the pastor who is sick. Don't think of me as having a hard day. Think of me as riding around in the air & sunshine. That is one advantage of my job; I can get out a great deal. — Lead Nielsen is out again. When I rode to Merrick this morning I saw him sitting by the road-side! He is going to Freeport to see about a coming-place. He doesn't like the city and I don't blame him. — Time out for dinner, and I — again time out! Just as I started to write again I got a telephone call to come to Farmingdale for the funeral. I went & rushed back afterward & then had a baptism in Grace church & then a service. Now I've had supper, & I've decided not to go to Minerola, for I'm a bit tired — not too tired, but I don't want to be. So I'm going to lie down a bit. You see, I'm getting sense. — How is Buttie now? I hope he is not so very sick. I surely feel for him. And Mennie? I'm glad she is getting around a bit. Give my love to Les & Alethea & Ruth, & loads to you. I pray for you all.

Ivan.

Sept 9-1923

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t 9-1923

t 9-1923

Dear Mother:- Sept 1923

(1) Your Special came last night. I'd been wanting to write all along and didn't realize how the time was going. I'm truly sorry & won't let it happen again. It all goes back to something that happened on Wednesday the 12th. I had a council meeting in Merrick and there was quite a session. You know of the family that caused so much disturbance there. Well, the boy in that family, 23 years old, is on the council, and I've about come to the conclusion that he is the worst in the bunch. To make a long story short, he called me down! And he didn't hesitate to express what he meant. The trouble was that the pastor had been taking sides in congregational quarrels. (The family had accused the church treasurer of mismanagement of funds and I constantly stood up for him.) My answer was that when it was a matter of right and wrong, I would take sides. He said it had never been done before. I answered that if it had been done, the church would now be better off. He still continued to argue, and I cut him off, gave him a needed rebuke, and adjourned the meeting. I was so furious that I was shot to pieces. When I got home I went out walking for an hour and then didn't calm down. I read till nearly 1 a.m.,

until exhausted and then went to sleep, but it was
broken sleep. In the morning I looked like a wreck, and the
(2)
women wondered what was wrong. I told them, and they
too were furious. That night we had choir practice at the
church & I intended to take the boy aside and tell him,
with the authority of the president of synod, to resign at once.
He wasn't there - very unusual, for he is almost always on
hand. I took this as providential, and decided to let the
matter run till our congregational meeting, Oct. 3rd. The boy's
term expires then, and I am going to tell him not to come
up for reelection. If he is balky, I'll see to it that he is not
reelected, and by open, constitutional methods. It is a shame
that the boy has that hellish disposition. He has unusual talents,
but if his Christian usefulness is to amount to anything, he
needs a heart-breaking lesson, and I am going to tell him
just that. - Well, I let matters go, and last Sunday he was
loose again. We had a congregational meeting to pass final
judgment on the parsonage plans, and he tried to undo
all that the congregation has decided on. Every sort of objection
was advanced. When he was done I told the congregation
that the time had again come for them to decide whether

they wanted to continue their life or stop business; whether
(3)
they wanted to go on with the plans they had made, trusting
in the Lord and doing their part, or abandon all. The answer
was spontaneous, so things were put through. As a result of
all this nervous strain I was shot to pieces again. There was
a great pressure of work, and that I tried to keep up, but I
had been fighting a cold for some days, and I finally
decided to go to bed & be sensible. The Dr. came to see
me but said that I knew what to do to take care of myself,
and was doing it, so he went on. Today I preached in
both places. I was quite weak, but am all right now.
I am anxious for that congregational meeting of Oct.
3rd to be over. Then all will be settled. — I'm sorry to
tell all this, and I do hope you won't worry. All is coming
out well, and I have again had the praise of the high
synodical officials for the way in which I've cleared up
things. Matters in North Bellmore are wonderfully smooth.
I'll do the same in Merrick, by the grace and power of
God. — I'm glad Ruth is no worse, and sorry that he must
suffer what he does. I hope Hemie is doing better too. How are Lis
and Alethea & Ruth? And how are you? I love and pray
for you all. — It is now quite late & I must spend a
day in New York tomorrow. So good night. Love & kisses. Dear

Sept 1923
Boy at Merrick
Church

Sept
1923

Sept
1923

Oct 4 1923

Dear Mother:-

Three days of excitement & rush are past. I wrote you of the trouble brewing in the Merrick Church. I brought it to a head & settled it this week. Monday I had a council meeting & wow! but it was a hot time! That boy was rebellious & impudent beyond words. I forestalled a settlement till Wednesday night, & early Tuesday morning went to N.Y. to see the president of Synod. We spent the morning talking things over. Had a full day in N.Y. & got home late, & slept but little. Wednesday morning Dr. Trexler came & after a long talk with the boy, in which Dr. T. said that he had full confidence in my judgment, he said that he was going to accept my viewpoint & ask the boy to withdraw from all activity. The boy was pretty spunky at first, but later calmed down, & really showed a good spirit. Then we had the annual congregational meeting in the evening, the fact was announced & oh! the change in atmosphere. Already I've gotten 5 new members for Sunday & that's only a start.

Today I slept late and I slept too. Then a rush to Hampstead to see about some furnaces for the churches. Then a meeting of the Ladies Aid in N. Belmont. Then some visits about infant baptisms. In a couple of weeks I'll have 15! After supper I rushed around & got the council's consent (in N with Belmont) to a number of preparations for remodeling the church — a small basement, walled in & cemented, a chimney, a furnace, & roof & sides of building tar papered & shingled. Total cost, about $700 & we have $500 on hand! Also, we're going ahead on the same in Merrick. So no more work on that — it's all arranged for & I'm free from those responsibilities & above all, from that awful mess in Merrick. My! how the people thanked me! — Now past midnight and I'm tired. How are Mennie & Buttie? And Sis & the girls & you? I pray all are well. Love & kisses.

Dan

Oct 4/1923
about boy at Merricks
church quitting

Oct 4 - 1923

October 11, 1923.

Dear Mother:-

I must send this special delivery, because I wanted to get up this morning and write this letter in time for the morning mail, and I overslept! For the last few days I haven't been able to get enough sleep, it seems. And I HAVE been sleeping. All the bother of the things I told you about is past, and I am relaxing, And other things that kept me busy, such as the prospective repairs on the churches, these things are under way, and that responsibility is lifted too. So I am having a glorious time. For the past three or four nights I have averaged ten and more hours of sleep! I have worked along during the day to make up for it, of course, but still I am getting more rest than I had been getting. And yesterday I did what I have done for the first time since I am here - I took a good book and read it straight thgough, from cover to cover. I have not had the chance to do this before, but from now on I am going to make the chance, for as soon as a minister stops reading and studying, he is worse than a back number. So you see how things are changed in the last few days. -- And now I want to tell you in detail about the settlement of the trouble in Merrick. On Monday night of last week I had a council meeting, and at that time asked the boy who had been giving so much trouble not to come up for reelection. And I certainly got mine! Such impudence I don't want to hear again. I had started this before any of the other councilmen came, and when the next ones came, the boy was yelling so, and making such a racket that one of the men came running into the building and stood between us. I suppose he thought I was getting murdered. I stopped the business and said we would wait till the other men came, When all were there I told them of the request I had made the boy. Then the boy began to sputter again but the men all stood by me. Each one, in a firm way told the boy that I was right, and that thay would back me up. The boy still remained stubborn, and said what he had said to me, that if he was nominated he would run, and if he was elected he would serve! I then said that we would suspend action till Wednesday night (the 3rd) and at that time call a council meeting just before the congregational meeting. So that ended the matter. After the meeting I sent a telegram to Dr. Trexler, President of Synod, and asked to

MERRICK, LONG ISLAND, N. Y. NORTH BELLMORE, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

The Evangelical Lutheran Parish
of Merrick and North Bellmore
Long Island, N. Y.
REV. IVAN HEFT, PASTOR
NORTH BELLMORE L. I., N. Y.

see him the following morning. I went in to the City, and spent the morning talking the matter over with Dr. T. I told him that we could choose whether or not to keep that church going. He at once agreed, and the only question with him was the method of procedure. He finally said that he would ask the boy to resign from the congregation. On Wednesday morning he came, and I met him, and took him right to the place where the boy works. The coming was a surprise, as Dr. T. had intended. He told the boy that he wanted to see him a moment, and the boy said he wanted a long talk! So the three of us went to the church. There the boy made a number of criticisms of me and of my work. Dr. T. listened, and when the recital was done, he enumerated the criticisms, and then said that those were the things he did when HE was pastor of a small congregation like this! Then he finally said that the officials of Synod were agreed that I had done with that field what no other pastor had succeeded in doing, that they accepted my judgment entirely in the matter, and he as president would make the same request thaf I had made. Then came the surprise to both of us. The boy accepted this in really fine spirit, and promised to withdraw from all activity in the church, And the matter was settled. I then had a long auto trip, for I took Dr. Trexler into Jamaica, where he could get a good train to New York - this is about a 20 mile trip. I came home and for the first time in weeks ate with a relish. I went around to see the councilmen and tell them that the matter was settled, and then waited for the congregational meeting in the evening. When the time came we had the council meeting that had been decided on, and there I told the men that the President of Synod and the boy and I had conferred, and had reached a conclusion that was satisfactory to all. And then we went into the congregational meeting. At the proper time I made the same announcement there. I did not want to say too much, for there was no need of rubbing it in. After the docile spirit the boy showed in the morning, I was a bit surprised to see him get up and tell the congregation just what happened, and what his attitude had been. I was glad he did it, however, for then the congregation knew just what I had done, and that I was the one who took the initiative. Well, to end the matter: On Sunday we had Communion. I preached on 1st Corinthians 11:26-29, and showed how anyone who came to Communion with hatred in his heart was eating to his own damnation. Many of the people

cried. -- And this is yet to be added: Four new members were taken in, and more are to come! So you can see why I am relieved.

I'll stop my recital, and rush in to Bellmore and mail this. How are Memie and Buttie now? I pray for them and for you all. What sort of a birthday did Alethea have? I wish I could have been there. And how are Sis, and Ruth? And yourself? The Father in Heaven will hold you all in His keeping, because we love the Saviour. Amen.

Evan

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more about boy at Merrick Church

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