

[Transcription begins]

#79 Sunday night 1-28-45 with the radio
competing!

Dear Douglas - Generally I write to you on a Monday night but as Dad and I are going to a dinner then to meet the new prospective pastor, Mr. August Hintz, I think I'd better get my billet-doux written tonight. Last night (Saturday) we went to Donles' with about twenty others to meet Mr. and Mrs. Hintz and were more than favorably impressed--we both think they are a "find." First, their appearance--he is very much the keen, clear-eyed business type about 32 years of age--nothing of the effeminate nor aesthetic which so often clings to the ministerial--he is from New York State & decidedly Anglo-Saxon despite the name. Mrs. Hintz is extremely pretty, charmingly dressed & a friendly and interesting conversationalist. They have two very small children. This morning he gave an excellent sermon, with much to mull over in one's mind afterwards, and a clear pleasing delivery--a sense of humour and a taste for the fine in poetry & literature. Again, we were much impressed. His record is all to be desired, at present his congregation in Sioux Falls is larger than ours and I felt that not only were we looking the Hintzs over, but Calvary was on the spot, for they are very happily situated there. We have the feeling that Calvary can have a decided new birth under him, a chance to regain the place it has held so long as one of the outstanding Baptist Churches of the country and with the marvelous group of young people now so busy in the war back home again, things will hum! As I sat in church this morning, I tried to visualize it as Mr. & Mrs. Hintz must have seen it and I can tell you, I was proud of Calvary. The choir was in full force and sang beautifully. You know there are many of the older people such as Mr. Paulson & Mrs. Harold Brown, singing in it to fill the vacancies left by our service men & they will be only too glad to relinquish their seats when the war is over! Of course we had a full congregation and as I looked over the familiar faces, I felt what a fine group of people they are, taking them all in all. Claude Tanner was there, looking very fine in his uniform and only a few of us who knew, would ever suspect that he has lost one leg. Herb Tucker was home on leave, somewhat thinner, I did not get a chance to speak to him.

Last night before we went over to the Donles' we had a traditional baked bean supper at our house for fourteen--Mr. & Mrs. Jones & Leland, Mr. & Mrs. Goodchild and Charlotte, Mr. & Mrs. Hard and Sue (Roger's wife), Mr. Dick and Anne (Mrs. Dick is away), Dad, Marilyn & I. The young people sat at a card table in the living room & Leland was quite in his glory even tho three of the charming young ladies were married! He is working very hard & I feel sure will make a very fine physician. We really had a very jolly time. Daryl say up long enough to see everybody & then went to bed without a tear. This morning she hurried out of her crib to see "all the mans" and was so surprised that they were "all gone!"

Everyone pitched in and helped with the dishes & then went on over to Donles'.

Tomorrow we have a tea for Mrs. Hintz so that we women of the church may meet her & at night as I have mentioned, the big dinner, for deacons, trustees, representatives of all

organizations, etc. Everyone is to have an opportunity before the invitation is given Mr. Hintz as we feel that so much is at stake.

Possibly you have been reading of the severe cold & fuel shortage. We are very comfortable, have not had to shut off any rooms & Marilyn is still sleeping upstairs. We can only have a ton of coal at a time & ours had just been delivered and since then, the only way to get any is a bag at a time from the municipal coal yard & lug it yourself! I remember when Grandpa Raybold had to do that in the last war. It still is very cold but I can't tell you just the degree for our "outdoor, indoor" thermometer has been on a strike for several weeks. But the weather should warm up in a week or two & that will ease the situation.

The food situation seems about the same--we are getting along beautifully--today we had a tender pot roast of beef & that will last us all week in one form or another. Tonight I am sending for a bushel of oranges, using an address that Jesse gave us. We have always remembered the enjoyment we had from the ones you sent us from Florida.

Dad had some money left over from returning the jacket Mrs. Buffum bought for you, after buying a pipe with part of it and Saturday he bought a beautiful fern to put in the dining room window. He does enjoy his few plants.

I hope your work is easing a little and that your health & the weather conditions are good. Yes, I too feel that all the time you are away is making the time for the homecoming so much nearer. The Allies are moving forward in all theatres & we hope it continues that way.

Cranston High has just had its graduation & class banquet & Shirley Whipple was voted
Ideal Cranstonite
Most Versatile
Most likely to succeed. Some cousin!

If I don't cover all the things you want to hear about, just tell me. The councilman is happy & enjoys his new contacts. Marilyn keeps busy with Daryl.

All my love
Mother [Transcription ends]