

Sisters All!

Dear Martha,

It started snowing early this afternoon, and by supper-time it was really settling down to be a good storm. It is such a warm, comfortable feeling to have all my family cozily indoors on a freezing, windy night, with the snow blustering against the windows, plenty of food and fuel within, a crackling fire, a few games, some good books and records—what more could one want?

I was much amused by your account of attempts to clear up after the girl's valentine party. How many times I've tried surreptitiously to dispose of an array of dilapidated valentines, only to have them rescued by their anguished owner. Grace used to hang them on strings around her room, and Mark pinned his much-prized collection to the curtains. They were dust-catchers, but I hadn't the heart to remove them.

There was a time when I felt pretty impatient with Valentine's Day and Mother's Day and all those occasions when people are encouraged to give sentimental greetings to their loved ones. Now I'm not so sure. I don't like to see it overdone, but I rather suspect that, in letting folk know we care about them, we are inclined rather to be close-mouthed than too talkative.

The other day I was looking up a quotation for John, when my eye was caught by a line from Shakespeare, "They do not love that do not show their love." Somehow it stuck in my mind all day and really made me think. Don't I show my love for my family in getting the meals and keeping the house neat? Yet, I admit, I wouldn't be satisfied if John's total expression of love to his family were the monthly check that he brings so regularly.

The routine demands of life, I decided, have to be met, whether or not love is present. But love itself can only be expressed in the "extras" — the small, unexpected gift, the blankets tucked just the way someone likes them, the special dessert when company isn't coming.

Even in speaking, it is the extra word that communicates our true feeling. Our reticence about "getting emotional" allows us to fall back on perfunctory clichés. It's easy to say, "Good night, Son. You've been a good boy." But the glow comes in his eyes when you add, "Mother was pleased with the way you played so well with little brother, even when he was cross."

We think these things, but so often we neglect to say them, assuming others know we love and appreciate them. How should they know? Our silence communicates only one thing: indifference.

When our Mark switched from a music teacher who merely "heard" his lesson and assigned another to a teacher who liked and encouraged him, his progress improved remarkably. It all makes me wonder how much we are responsible for others' mediocrity or even failure. Perhaps all they need is for us to let them know that we care, we understand, we appreciate.

I think maybe I'd better close now and write another letter or so. There are several deserving folk who are about to get a long overdue pat on the back from me!

Your loving sister, Mary.

PEACE

Peace does not dwell in outward things, but within the soul. We may preserve it in the midst of the bitterest pain, if our will remains firm and submissive. Peace in this life springs from acquiescence even in disagreeable things, not in an exemption from bearing them.—Fenelon.

RECEIPTS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS JANUARY, 1962

Fredericton	200.00
Amherst	10.00
Yarmouth	32.50
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dunn	25.00
Saint John	61.00
Lower Hainesville	12.00
Blacks Harbour	59.00
A Friend	37.00
Head of Millstream	10.00
Woods Harbour	20.00
Mr. T. W. Corey	25.00
Seal Cove Sunday School	100.00
Mrs. Dow's S. S. Class (Barkers Pt.)	12.50
Mrs. LeBaron Smith	30.00
Maple Ridge	58.00
Calais	10.00
General Y. P. Association	100.00
Millyville	271.00
Sussex	10.00
Truro	250.00
Grand Harbour	20.00
Crystal	25.00
Woodwards Cove	10.00
Presque Isle	40.00
Rev. George Sanders	20.00
Beals	235.00
Jonesport	38.00
A Reformed Baptist Minister's Daughter	1000.00
Tobique Primitive Baptist Churches	63.00
Fort Fairfield	27.65
Moncton	200.00
Saint John	153.00
Barkers Point	25.00
Sandford	25.00
Hartland	90.00
Mrs. Rachael K. Mullen	25.00
Brazil Lake (per M. V. Cann)	25.00
Sandford	50.00
Blacks Harbour	30.00
North Head	19.00
Sandy Point	15.00
A Friend	100.00
Ladies Aux., Westchester	25.00
Gordonsville	30.00
TOTAL	\$3,615.65

With gratitude,

S. E. Cameron, Treas.

BETHANY FINANCIAL REPORT

Percent Received

Salem	100%*
Doaktown	100*
Amherst	100*
Killams Mills	100*
Head Millstream	100*
Houlton	100*
Glassville	100*
Gordonsville	100*
Millville	100*
Meductic	100*
Perth	100*
Barkers Point	100
Fredericton	100
Havelock	100
Old Town	100
Seal Cove	100
Victoria Corner	100
Woodwards Cove	100
Sussex	100
Sandy Point	100
Presque Isle	96
Saint John	95
Blacks Harbour	92
Maple Ridge	92
Lower Brighton	87
Marysville	80
Crystal	77
Moncton	75
Beals	74
Sanford	67
Jonesport	66
Grand Harbour	62
Blissville	57
Brazil Lake	54
Yarmouth	50
Woodstock	50
Port Maitland	50
Greys Mills	50
Bloomfield	41
East Ferry	40
Staceyville	40
Calais	40
Truro	35
Hartland	34
Wood Harbour	30
Norton	28
Halifax	25
North Head	25

This report is for all receipts to February 24th, 1962. We would appreciate hearing of any errors or omissions you may note in this report.

* Indicates churches that have met the request for 20% above budget.

Thank you,

Jack Stevens

The King's Highway