

Blair, Nebraska
March 25, 1937

Rev. Axel M. Andersen
1519 West Avenue
Selma, California

Dear Rev. Andersen:

Rev. M. Jorgensen, acting president of the Atlantic District, has requested me to write you about the call which the district has tendered you to become pastor of St. John and other points in the Maritime Provinces. There were some things relative to the salary with which Rev. Jorgensen was not entirely conversant. I beg to advise as follows: the Synod will contribute \$1,020, D.L.S.U. \$150, the congregations \$150, making a total of \$1320 plus free house. That is ten percent more than \$1,200 which has been the regular salary of home mission pastors the last few years. We are contemplating giving an increase of ten per cent this year.

Ravnkilde Moller figured that he receives about \$150 gifts "in natura" per annum.

The \$150 by the congregation, I understand, are not definitely pledged by them but if they are not raised the district and synod will have to take care of that. If they should contribute as much as \$100 more than \$150 that will be yours.

As to moving expenses, the synod will allow \$300. Dear Rev. Andersen, if you have any desire to get closer to Denmark, this will bring you half way.

In regard to the future, I could say that ours is the only Lutheran church in St. John while the Danish population as yet is not large. There should be an opportunity to build up an all Lutheran church, that is taking in all nationalities. Here is a challenge to you. You did a good work in building up the congregation in Graettinger. I should like to see you meet the challenge in St. John. On Nova Scotia

Sussex and Apohoque are just small colonies on the way to Nova Scotia. There is probably no future in either of them, but they will serve as feeders, especially to St. John. In Nova Scotia there are two Danish colonies close together, namely: Wallace and Pugwash. There ought to be an opportunity to build up a charge there where a pastor could be stationed in the course of time. The meeting places are only about nine miles apart.

You will realize, Rev. Andersen, that there are not many of our men who are really qualified for the field in Canada. You are one of them. We believe that we need strong men on this Canadian field who really can build up the church. I might mention, for instance, such a man as Rev. V. W. Bondo. It was at a sacrifice that he left Racine to go to Canada, but he has been doing a very fine work and I believe that he is happy for making the sacrifice.

Praying that God may guide you in finding His will and with cordial greetings, I am

Fraternally yours,

NCC/EC