

Brockton, Massachusetts
November 16, 1954

Dear Co-Laborer in the Gospel,

The other day I was over to Plymouth and stood by the famous Plymouth Rock and the graves of those first Pilgrim Fathers to come to American shores. Here each year they re-enact that first Thanksgiving Day, which we too will observe next week. I could not help but raise my voice aloud in a prayer of thanksgiving to God for those early pioneers and all that we have in America.

My heart and mind goes back to Thanksgiving day 2 years ago when I sat down with high ranking American and Korean officers to a fine Thanksgiving dinner and was asked to express thanks over that table, bountifully supplied from America. But all about us was destruction, poverty, nakedness, cold, hunger and death, caused by that awful war!

I came home a different man. Thanksgiving and "thanksgiving" must go together! Going up and down the land, people's hearts have been toughed too, and you have responded to the needs. God bless you real good.

People have been writing asking if they could send a Christmas gift to our orphans and evangelists. So I wrote to Missionary Robert Rice, director of the Christian Revival Fellowship in Korea, who handles all my affairs over there, about it. He replied a few days ago, that mailing to remote places was almost impossible and partiality to some orphans and evangelists would not be good. But if people could send the money, he would order warm underwear, socks, mittens, etc, from Montgomery Ward's Missionary Dept. and see that they were presented to everyone of them for Christmas. There was no time to wait, so I advanced \$300 and sent it off airmail, acting by faith that each supporter would want to express the true Spirit of Christmas by giving to those who really needed it, in Jesus name. I wish I could increase that amount, because it will not buy much, even at the discount prices for missionary work. It must be spread among so many. (at least 150 orphans and 24 evangelists and families)

You will find enclosed a special envelope for a Christmas offering to God for these dear and needy ones across the sea. I am not asking you to give, but just giving you this opportunity because I know you want to. I hope many will be able to give \$5 or \$10 at least, so we can do better than planned. I do ask that you send it back just as soon as you can. Thank you and God richly bless you at this Thanksgiving season.

Happy in Jesus, making others happy,

Everett F. Swanson

P.S. I must make a decision in the next month about accepting an invitation to return to Korea the first of May for revival and evangelistic services. The opportunity is tremendous! I am told I will have up to 50,000 people in our daily services!! Please make this a matter of real earnest prayer. I must know and do His blessed will.

One more thing: supporters of evangelists who would like to hear from them are asked to write to your "substitute Missionary" first. Send the letter airmail (6¢) % Rev. Robert Rice, Prespyterian Mission, APO 234 % Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif. We cannot handle letters to orphans.