

NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL



ARMY AND NAVY
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS



"WITH THE COLORS"

Sunday Dec. 16, 1917

Dear Marie,

I got the pictures
O.K. and liked them all of
you, Mother and Blanche
but thought the one of
Mother and I was the
only one good of me. Don't
think I'll have any more
of myself for a while yet.

And on the lookout for
the judge now. Sure am
glad that your throat
is getting better now. I
am taking a turn at being
a little out of luck. Thursday
I was cleaning the frog
of No. 30's rear hoof. I had
his hind leg over my
knee and was working with
the hoof pick when he
slipped on the smooth brick

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paving. I let him go quick
so as to save a fall and
the point of his shoe fell
square on the top of my
foot. It stung for awhile
but my foot was so cold
that I didn't feel it after
a minute or two. This was
about 8:30. We didn't ride
because it was too bitter cold,
but worked around the
barracks. During the
first period in the after-
noon we had heliograph
practice. The instrument
was set up to catch the
sun coming in the window
so we could read it inside
the barracks. Well my
feet started to thaw out
and my left one felt pretty


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stiff and ached. At the
 end of the period - 2:00 P.M. -
 I took off my shoe. The
 toe of the sock was red
 and a little skin came with
 it ~~and~~ I took it off. My foot
 was a little swollen and
 sure felt sore. I went up to
 the hospital, with another
 fellow with frozen ears, in
 a cyclecar and got fixed up.
 Saturday morning it was
 swollen so I couldn't get
 my shoe on at all so had
 to cut a couple slits in
 my tennis slipper. I worked
 in the kitchen until 4:30 P.M.
 helping the N.P. and at night
 I managed to get my shoe on
 so caught a car to town.
 This morning the swelling


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had nearly gone but was
 worse where the skin slipped.
 This is the first good
 day we've had for a
 long time but I had
 to stick around the barrack.
 Tomorrow the company is
 going to have mounted
 I tried with the radio field
 sets loaded on the pack-
 mules. We have been
 issued a lot more stuff —
 grain bags to carry on horse
 for his feed in the field
 and saddle blankets. We
 also have the aparejos,
 the mule's "saddle", on which
 the wireless apparatus is
 packed.

The Co's D and E of the 410th
 Bn (telegraph) are all packed


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up to go to Texas. I wish we were going for it sure is cold around this woods.

George Stock is here for a few weeks longer. He is going to take his four days home Christmas. I wish I could be with you again, then. You sure was the sweetest and most lovable little sweetheart Thanksgiving and I will never forget it. Marie, every bit of my love is for you — but you must not forget what I told you when we were on the couch. If I — without the intention of marrying you — am going too far in showing


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you how much I care —
 for I really do — just as
 much as a young man can,
 I want you to tell me.

Marie, you are the most perfect
 girl I have ever seen and I
 respect you above all others.

I could never forgive
 myself if I ever have wronged
 you, or ever do wrong
 you in any way. But
 ever allow anyone to think,
 or speak, of you and I
 as being more than good
 friends.

If you ever get any
 more letters from me
 that are mutilated in any
 way, or show any fire or
 water marks, please return
 to me, envelope and all, after



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you read it.

I don't think I'll serve thirty years in the Army, and I was only kidding Mother when I mentioned it. I'll never regret enlisting when I did, though.

Will you forget the promise I made not to write to Marion? She helped me have a good time when I was with Win that two weeks and I would like to hear from her if she will write.

Well I must write a line to Mother and thank her for a much needed pair of socks.

With love - every bit
to you, Marie

Forrest.



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