



"WITH THE COLORS"



Friday Feb. 22, 1918.

Dear Marie,

We are celebrating Washington's birthday by taking a day off. We are having regular Spring weather after a short cold snap. Every few minutes this morning someone would remark "Wish we had them darn horses back," and believe me "them's my sentiments," too. You should see our radio class in the new stables. We have big tables and a number of buffers and a large blackboard

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nailed on the wall.

We have fifty minute periods, of the same as in High School, do assigned problems in electricity, and have buzzer practice in here.

The Fifth Battalion, S.C. left for the coast a few days ago. There were quite a number of the boys' mothers, wives and "best girls" to see them off. Believe me, those fellows looked pretty "blue". Not very much "where-do-we-go-from-here-boys" spirit in the whole outfit.

We expect to go within the next four weeks. Our mess sergeant has orders to be prepared to provide us with one days rations



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at the port of Embarkation and five days rations in England. I quit helping the Supply Sergeant Monday with the clerical and strong back stuff. We know now just what we lack and the requisition was sent in last week. We will get our guns in U.S. but new French radio equipment on the other side.

We were issued thirty .45 cal. Colt automatic pistols, yesterday, for practice on the range. These will be returned to the Ordnance Dept.

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before we leave. They
sure are some guns.
When you take the
barrel of one out to
clean it, it looks like
a piece of young gas pipe.
In appearance the
.45 Colt is the same as
yours, which is a .25 cal.,
but the working parts
inside are altogether
different. The hammer
is outside and can
be cocked with the
thumb.⁽³⁾ The .45 caliber
bullet only lacks
 $\frac{5}{100}$ of an inch of being
twice the diameter of
the .25 cal., so you can
see how large the cartridge
is. Now don't you
wish I could come home
and go shooting with you?
I can hardly wait
for the target practice.



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Did you get the S. C. Drill book yet? I know the package got there alright.

No, I don't care to learn to dance at any time. To have a share in making the Kaiser dance is the height of my ambition and I don't care two whoops after that.

Glad you are having good luck with your elocution. Did "Bat" perform, he is "right there" when he does.

Stock is getting along great at

(6) Champaign, Ill.
I will send his
letter to Mother as
soon as I answer it.

Say, if you ever get
a chance to see
Elsie Ferguson in "Rose
of the World," don't
miss it.

Well I must drop
a line to Blanche.
Sincerely,
Forrest.



Leavenworth Community House

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

Return to F. W. Bassett.

Address Co. A-6, 7th Inf. C.

Miss Ora Marie Shan
389 Highland Ave.
Beloit, Wis.



1918