



"WITH THE COLORS"



Monday, March 11, 1918.
Dear Marie,

Your letter of the 9th came this noon. I have told you that I shall not marry and that is the very good reason why I can't call you "my little girl," and why you should "look ahead a few years."

The thought of marrying a French girl is furtherest out of my mind, so forget that clipping.

Marie, I always want to be the very best true friend to you that I possibly can be. I

(2)

want to help you in every way I can. If there is a single thing I can do to make you happier, I want to do it.

If there is anything I have written that you don't understand, tell me. I have never known and never hope to know any girl so perfect in every way as you are, so you may be sure that you are in ~~no~~ way responsible for what I said in the first of my letter.

I will surely send you a lock of my hair in a few days.

We are not drilling very much now as there is so much other work to do in preparing to leave. Last Saturday



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(3) Major Panger gave us a formal inspection with full packs and shelter - tent pitching drill. Lieutenant Hillberry told us when we returned from the parade ground that we had done "excellently." It will be impossible for you to see me as we may get orders to go any day now. There is nothing I would like better than to see you but we might just as well shut the thought from our minds. Did you get the

(4)

picture (vest pocket size)
of me shooting the pistol?
Later I may send
one of me with full pack
as we go in the field.

Within the next few
days I will probably
send several packages
home; will you please
tell Mother to drop a
card acknowledging receipt?

Here is what Lt. Brown's
girl wrote to him:

"If my kisses to you
had weight,
I would have to
send them by freight."
"How is it by you"?
Won't you please tell me
that?

With love,

Forrest

P.S.

[I got the picture.
Don't forget to tell me if you



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P.S.

When I say that
I believe you are
by far the most perfect
girl — I mean it
in every way.

No other girl can ever
approach the place you
have in my thoughts,
Forrest.



1918

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

From F. W. Bassett.
Co. A-6 7th Inf. S.C.
Ft. Leavenworth,
Kansas.

**NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL
OF THE
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
OF THE UNITED STATES
"WITH THE COLORS"**