



"WITH THE COLORS"



April 7, 1918.

Dear Marie,

Well, I haven't written for quite awhile but still I can't think of much to write about. I am glad you can have a bed of your own and hope you will stick to that rule of going to bed at 9:00 P.M. Then, if you get too much sleep—why get up earlier. Perfectly simple, isn't it? That is one reason why all of us here gain in weight and health—we get little rests after breakfast,



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(2.)

dinner and supper.
Our bunks were right
handy in our "parlor"
and a half an hour's
"bunk fatigue" is fine
after each meal. (The
army name for work
is "fatigue". Overalls
are called "fatigue suits".)
Stick to the advice of Hector
Fox. However, I wish you
would read every article
by Alfred McCanin,
that you see. There is
a good one in April
"Physical Culture." Did
you try to read any of
"Starving America"?!

Well I am waiting
for your Easter snapshots

HELP YOUR COUNTRY BY SAVING. WRITE ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS PAPER



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(3)

now.

I hope you join the "Campfire Girls," it sounds pretty good to me. Be sure to tell me all about your doings, if you do.

Has Cashus got a key and buzzer like I had? Why don't you get him to teach you? I sure do wish we could be "fixed" so we could telegraph to each other. I passed the 20-word per minute test which, in Civil life would qualify me for a Govt license as a commercial operator. I may set up



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(4)

a long distance receiving set if I ever see Bebit again. Our trip to France has apparently been called off for awhile. We were supposed to get part of our service radio equipment at the Port of Embarkation. It has been shipped to us and it is all for use in the trenches, while our training radio apparatus was all for open field service. The new sets are run by storage batteries and a part is carried on each man's back. The transmitting sets are



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(5.)

not very powerful but
the receiving sets are
extremely sensitive.

Well this isn't
a very "nice" letter, is
it? Guess I'll have to
wait until you write some
more nice letters, send
a box of stuffed dates,
and your pictures.

That ought to be enough
to make most any one
write a "nice" letter, wouldn't
it? Even if it wasn't to "P.M.A."

Don't forget all packages
^{are} ~~over~~ opened by the Captain
or the Lieutenant, so don't
enclose any notes.

Damn still working
in the office doing duty



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(6)

on the typewriter. Friday
I wrote a regular book;
five copies at a time, using
four carbon sheets of course.

Now, about Blanche.
I know positively that
Blanche loves you very
very much, and that
my few days home
hasn't changed her a
bit. Don't let a few
little sharp words hurt
your feelings. That is
just her way, and I
know she doesn't realize
that they hurt. I
understand how you feel,
alright, and know Blanche
well enough to see just
where the trouble is.



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(7.)

Also Blanche hasn't
been in the best of
spirits after the trouble
she has been having —
and you know that
makes a little difference.
Marie, ~~she~~ just act as
if you thought Blanche
loves you just the same
as she always has, and
you will soon find out
that she really does.

With love,
Forrest.

(Give the enclosed typed
letter with note to
your Father.)

5 Please!
Tell Lou I received her
candy O.K. and will
write later.
J.W.B.



LEAVENWORTH,

APR 8 -18

7-30 AM

KANS.



Miss Ava Marie Shaw

389 Highland Avenue

Beloit, Wisconsin

From

F. W. Bassett
Co. A 6th F.B.R.C.
Ft. Leavenworth,
Kansas

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