

are a thorn in the Government's side. Most of the munitions factories work, however, is high class.

Today is also my son Chandler's birthday. He is 28 years old today and on the day of his birth I first met personally the Emperor of Japan, the father of the present Mikado. Some folks wanted us to have at least part of his name Japanese, and I am certainly glad we did not take that advice. We have heard nothing from him but I have hopes that we might receive a letter within the next month or two. We have all been able to write to him and I do hope some of the letters at least have gone through. What a way to spend a war!

These are the autumn days in Australia, chrysanthemums in flower and the Iceland poppies are coming up and will be in bloom all through the winter. We have only light frost here, no real freezes or snow. I find my short great coat very convenient, for the rooms are cold. From what I hear, the past winter was very severe in most parts of the States. My brother in Ohio refers to it as the worst since 1918.

My chief social event this month was a reception for generals, admirals and their ladies. There were 137 present altogether representing five countries. There were about 35 of the general or corresponding rank. It seems like we see everybody eventually here in this city. All the Australians come here because this is headquarters for the various military and naval departments. That in fact is the real reason why my office is here.

A week or ten days ago we saw that Wendall Wilkie was probably coming out. I expect to pick up the paper in a day or two and find he has arrived. We were certainly glad when the Flynn nomination was withdrawn and our present Minister and family are as happy as can be and so are all of us who are closely associated with him.

I still have hopes that before October I may have my good wife out here. I am not counting too much on it but if circumstances permit I want her to come.

I wish to express my sincerest sympathy with you in the loss of your sister, which must have been very sudden and tragic. I hope too that your oldest sister is fully recovered from her attack. Do keep well both of you and enjoy the best of health.

I was interested very much in the mimeograph copy of Dolph's letter to your members now in service, that is a very fine idea and much appreciated by the men, I am sure. I was glad to hear of the award which came to Lieut Mills. Harold Barr sends me a weekly mimeograph and usually with his personal comments at the end. His notes are pretty well concerned