

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



"WITH THE COLORS"

April 26

1918

My Dearest Marie:-

I am literally stealing the time to write this letter. I wrote the shortest stingiest note yesterday - in fact I was ashamed to send it, but I knew you would rather have it than none. It was one of the busiest days we have had. I have been made ward surgeon by Major Berg, and just as we had our ward nicely settled and fixed up and everything in good shape, we got an order to move into another building. In addition to that I was Officer of the Day and also on duty with an operating team, so you can see that I had my hands plenty full of work.

I got a box from you last night and it sure was a wonder. It was almost like a Christmas box. It contained a box of sweet cookies

which were delicious; some Hershey's
sweet chocolate and almond bars (which
were wonderful); a box of N-all-No
Mints (marvelous) and some of those
wonderful Gaudorf mints. Also a suit
of B.V.D.'s and a box of D.A.C. ci-
garettes; a copy of the Katcha-box
program and the Detroit Saturday
night; and samples of the sponges
and dressings which are certainly
well made and an excellent model.
So dearest, I feel as if it were
the day after Christmas and
I had been most wonderfully
treated. I can't begin to thank you
as I want to. I can only tell
you how I love you for your
wonderful thoughtfulness and
love, and sweetheart, God knows
I love you and love you for
everything you do. There is no
pleasure in life for me now
except reading your dear letters
or receiving these boxes, and
they both tell me of your love.



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I am sure I won't receive many more now. There is an order against sending them and I am out of luck. But I know how many I would get if you could send them dear, and the will is just as good as the deed.

At last the weather has cleared off and the sun has been shining nearly all day. It seems so strange that it should shine - we are so accustomed to rain. At about 5:30 this morning the Boche planes came over and we had a little excitement watching them being fired at. That is fast becoming tame amusement however, and we pay less and less attention all the time.

I love sleeping in a tent. It.

certainly is healthful and invigorating and I enjoy it ever so much. We have an officer in our ward who is from Junction City Kansas, which is Jack's town. He is well acquainted with Jack and it was a pleasure to talk with him. He is a gassed patient but is nearly ready for discharge now, and like all these men over here he is anxious to get back with his outfit. All these men are most anxious to stay on the job and fight the Dutch.

Tonight I am going to try to get out of camp for a while and go to a show at the Y. M. C. A. I haven't been away from camp for five days and wree welcome a little change. Honey dear, I have been more than usually homesick and lonesome for you the past day or two. It must be because another of our own individual holidays - your birthday



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is near. We always have such a good time on all such occasions and I have my bluest times when they are near. Sweetheart, you know I am thinking of you very much and loving you with all my heart. And I love you so dear, that my heart bursts with love, and I can hardly stand our separation. Oh! what a time we will have when this war is over and we are together again. Won't it be wonderful darling? How are my dear babies? I am so homesick to see the dear kiddies and love them, that I don't know what to do. But don't let them forget me. I know they won't. I bet Brother is the cutest little chap in the world? God bless them and keep them in

good health and strong. Well
lover dear, I must close. I have
to get to work. Goodbye till tomorrow
dear. Love to all. God bless you.
I love you dear.

A.B.

St. Paul B Smith M.R.C.