

Beijou - France.
September 9th 1918.

My Darling wife:-

It is now just eight o'clock P.M. I have just finished an excellent dinner of which the piece de resistance was lamb instead of chicken but as it was the first lamb I have eaten for a year I enjoyed it to the utmost. I was going out for a short walk before going to bed but changed my mind when I found that it was raining. I must tell you something funny. You know dear, last night was the first night since I have been in France that I have slept in a real bed, and I looked forward to a wonderful night's sleep. Well sir, I didn't sleep at all well. It was a wonderful soft bed, but I just pitched, tossed and rolled all night long and longed for my little cot and blankets. Isn't that funny? I hope I have better success tonight for I am really quite tired.

I got up at six thirty this morning and had a fine bath and shave, and went down to breakfast. It was a good breakfast too. After breakfast I went out and bought some papers, and did some shopping (which was absolutely fruitless) and looked up Drumpsey's brother. He is a mighty fine fellow too. Then I went out to the Laboratories and reported for duty but was very much surprised to learn that owing to some misunderstanding between the Laboratories and G. H. L. there is to be no class this week, and

my trip has been in vain. However I had a very interesting and instructive talk with Major Cannon who gives the course and feel convinced that I learned as much from him in the course of an hour, as I could have learned in the class in a whole week. So I am going back to the outfit tomorrow. I am going out to Base ¹⁷ to look up Jeanette's brother and also to send a telegram to Major Morrow. I also want to get some candy there to take home to Mita and Rosy.

My stay in Dijon has been short but very interesting and a wonderful rest and change for me. I am surely glad that I came even if I didn't stay long. You should have heard me talking French today. I can jabber it pretty well. I was looking for an enamel watch for you and had to branch out with my vocabulary quite a bit but did so with out much trouble. I couldn't find a decent watch, but cheer up dear, I will some time. It seems to be very hard to get any thing over here, except in Paris and I guess you can get anything you want there. I will try, at least, the first time I am there.

The papers today were as usual full of good news. The French and British have the

German's clear back on the Hindenburg line now
and it looks as if they were still going back. It
is at the least, a wonderful consolation to know
that they have now lost what it took them all
summer to gain, and innumerable prisoners and
enormous quantities of material as well. And
you wait dear. That isn't all! I can't tell you,
but the papers will. Lots of things are going
to happen before Christmas and I won't be
away from you another Christmas, or I
miss my guess. How does that sound dear?
Not so bad is it? It's a good little old war
after all, because when it's all over we will
never have to worry about another one nor
about another separation. Oh! my darling,
how wonderful it will be to be with you
again and to know that nothing but death
is ever ever going to take us apart from
each other! I want to spend every minute
of my life, after I return, with you and
my dear children, God bless them. Won't
it be wonderful dear, won't it be wonderful?
Words fail to express the joy, pleasure and
happiness we will have in life when this
war is over and we are together again for
ever and ever. Our honeymoon — what do

I care where we go. I just want to be with you so that I can love you and you can love me and nothing can interfere with the happiness of our reunion. I don't care if we go to Mill Creek, but I am going to leave all the arrangements of our trip entirely to you. I know it will be a good one.

Well dear I will close. I am going to try this confounded bed again but tonight I have my mind all made up - if I can't sleep I am going to roll out on the floor with the quilts and blankets and get some real sleep. Kiss the kiddies and Tud for me and give them my love. I love you my sweetheart, with all my heart and soul. I love you. I think of you every minute of my life and am with you every minute. Be brave dearest, as you have in the past and things will soon end and we will be happy again. I am happy now and thankful that God has given me such a wonderful, brave, dear, sweet, beautiful little woman for my wife. I love you dear. Goodnight and sweet dreams.

Daddy.

1st St. Angel B. Smith U.C.