Evacuation Hospital "2 USA
Postillon, France. April 6th 1919.

My Dearest Wife:-

I did not write to you yesterday as it was a very busy day and I was also a little homesick due to certain things that occurred during the day. The casual officers from this organization left yesterday, and the only ones left now are Rosy, Moody and myself. They left night before last and sailed for home yesterday morning, and will be in the States in a week more. They are certainly lucky, but I am sure that the organization will follow them very closely, and will leave here in a week at the longest. Still it seemed hard to see Nuts and Dempsey leave, as they have been bunkies of ours ever since we have been in France, and we now feel a little lonesome.

Nuts has very kindly declared that he is coming home by way of Grand Rapids, in order to give you some first hand information regarding me, and I feel sure that you will be glad to see him and talk with him, for you will know that I will be along home within a couple of three weeks after he is there, and that is not a very long time when the length of time that I have been in the service is taken into consideration.

The reports that we will be leaving here this week seem to have a certain amount of real fact behind them, and still it is impossible to believe anything in the army until it actually occurs. So the best policy is to practice patience, and the short time that remains will pass quickly after all. It cannot be much longer because the next move that we make is sure to be to a ship, and that is some consolation isn't it Dear?

The weather is very pleasant thank the Lord-- it seems almost as if it might be Spring at last, but it may begin to rain in ten minutes. I am becoming quite a pessimist don't you think so? The river is still very high, and the billets that are down near the river are still all under water, so that the men are unable to bathe, as the bathhouse is in one of them. I would like to have some of the Congressmen and Senators at home see the way these men are living, and they would be able to judge whether the U S Army is taking the best possible care of its men. I hope that some of it becomes known some time.

The men were payed yesterday, and that was another reason why I had no time to write to you as I had to go to town and get the money, and when I returned had to pay the men. That always takes quite a little time, but it is a good thing to have done. I am happy to say that the men gave no trouble at all after they were payed last night, but
were all very well behaved. It was somewhat different than the last pay night, when we had the merry little scrap that I wrote to you about before. I think that we will have no more trouble with the men now, as they are all so anxious to get home, and the penalties are so severe for misbehavior. I courtmartialed all the ones that gave trouble last month, and they are in the prison stockade down in Nantes so that they can have no influence upon the remainder of the men. They all got three months and two thirds of their pay, and that is rather a stiff sentence, so the others are behaving well in order to avoid the same. They also may have to remain in the AEF for an indefinite length of time, and the thought of that has a salutary effect on those who might otherwise be a troublesome factor.

Well Dearest I must close now. It is time for a hike, and I am going out with the company. I will write again tomorrow Dearest. I love you with all my heart. Give my love to the babies, and Glad. With all the love in the world and a million kisses to you.

Dear, I am as ever your loving husband,

Ansel B. Smith, Captain MC USA

Evacuation Hospital "2 USA
Amer E F France.