

May 17- 1918.

My Darling Wife:-

It is now eleven o'clock in the morning and I have all my ward work done. At one o'clock our operating team goes on duty until eight and that is all I have to do today, except that I also go on duty tonight as Officer of the Day. That is liable to keep me up all night because the O.D. has to attend to the admission of all cases after seven in the evening, and until seven the next morning.

Yesterday afternoon I received two more packages from you. One of them contained a jar of wonderful apricot and pineapple jam.

The other contained:-

D.A.C. cigarettes – 2 boxes    peanut crisp – 1 box.

sox –                            1 pair    chocolate bars – 8

Fruit candies            – 1 box.    Chocolate buds – 1 box

1 book photos of Hospital from Hugh Rouse.

I also got a lot of papers at the same time so the postman was pretty liberal with me yesterday. The sox were wonderfully well made and are lighter in weight than others I have, which is most agreeable on account of warm weather coming on. All the candy was in excellent condition and I am most thoroughly

enjoying it. I am going to write to Hugh Rouse today thanking him for the book of pictures.

They are beautifully done – all hand colored – and it is a splendid collection of pictures. I am certainly grateful to him for sending it and more than appreciate his kindness in preparing it and remembering me so nicely. All the men here think it is a beautiful hospital, and they should for it is as fine as any I have ever seen.

The pictures made me a little homesick for they reminded me of many daily duties I used to perform there – and will again sometime.

I guess that the backbone of [illegible] is broken. I am finally beginning to think that the sun does shine once in awhile after all. It was pleasant all day yesterday – a beautiful day. I went downtown last night with Captain Howard and Chancy and lost three games of billiards, but we got home by 9:30 so I couldn't really call it dissipation. Today is another beautiful day. There isn't a cloud in the sky and it is warm as June or July usually is. However we are not

permitting ourselves to believe that this nice weather is going to last, for we fully expect rain – lots of it – at any time.

I am not going to be able to leave camp for three days again, because of the times my tour of duty falls. But I don't mind at all. It is just as amusing around camp as it is in town – however I am glad that I went down last night, as we had a very pleasant evening. I am wondering now how many more packages are over here, that I haven't received. I haven't received the one containing the pictures of the babies, and I am very anxious to secure that one. I am only going to send requests for very few things because I don't think it is right in view of conditions as they are now, to have things sent over here that we can secure here. I will send several lists in a few days which will cover everything I

need, and I may cheat a little bit at that.

Well my Darling, I must close now. It is unfortunate, but I have some more work to do before mess – a physical inspection of the men which I just got an order to attend to. It will take about an hour so I must get at it.

Give my love and kisses to Tud and my babies. Tell them I think of them all the time and am mighty lonesome for them. With all my dearest love to you, my darling girl, and a million kisses, I am your lonesome and Loving

Daddy

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Ansel B. Smith M.R.C.