

October 1<sup>st</sup> 1918.

My Dearest Girl:-

Another month is gone and the time is slipping on. It will soon be a year since we parted dear, but a year to look back on and not forward to. What a great difference it makes. It is not going to be another year, or I miss my guess. The condition of things at present is so satisfactory that many of the very sanguine over here are predicting peace by winter. I hardly believe that is possible but I do believe that it will come by Spring.

It looks now as if Bulgaria will be out of it very soon. That will without a bit of doubt, put Turkey out in a very short time as her chief communic-

ation with Germany will be cut by Bulgaria's default. With Bulgaria and Turkey eliminated all the Allied armies of Palestine and Macedonia – practically all in the East, will be freed to attack Austria on the East, with the help of a reinvolved Rumania, for it will be inevitable that Rumania will reenter the war in event of the above happenings Austria is in no condition to maintain an Italian as well as Eastern frontier, and with England, France, U.S.A. all closing in on Germany in the West, you have the whole thing in a nutshell. C'est finit!

It is only a question as to how

much devastation the Germans  
will permit of their own land  
and how yellow they really  
are at heart.

It is all settled you see,  
dear, by my strategy. Sounds  
good doesn't it? Let's hope  
that it works out as well  
as it sounds for if it does  
I should be with you all  
next summer. So Sweetheart,  
pray harder than you have  
ever prayed for anything, for  
the success of the Allied Armies  
and the defeat of their Enemies.  
For if I ever wanted anything  
in all my life dear it is to  
see you. I never want to  
leave my mother again. God  
bless you dearest, how I love

you and my dear babies!

I have spent my time in the past twenty four hours working some, studying and practicing French some, and working on the map. I went down town with Captain Des Jordins this morning to get the latest news, and after getting it, we bought some cigarettes (real ones too!) and then went to the club, where I succeeded in winning two out of three games of billiards from him. When I returned to camp I found one very sweet letter from you and a nice letter from Cora. I am glad that things seem to be going all right in spite of the W.S.L. failure to pay a dividend last

month. I am sure that things will work out all right and am worrying less since receiving your last letter.

I think it is wonderful that Oliver can swim now. It will be wonderful exercise for him. Nothing is more beneficial to the slowly rejuvenating muscles of a case of anterior polio – myelitis than swimming and I hope his parents will encourage him in it a great deal – even sending him to the Y.M.C.A. in winter time. It will be of inestimable value to him.

Well dear, after having been urged by you I have decided to take a short leave – about a week. Rosy and I may go to

Paris, Nice, Monte Carlo, and Versailles. Those four places are the only ones I care to visit and one visit will be enough. It will do me good for I have had no relief from this monotonous grind for a year. I will let you know when we leave.

I will close now dearest. Give my love and kisses to Tud and my babies. With all my dearest love to you sweet heart. I am your homesick

Husband

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

Evac. Hosp. #2. U.S.A.

Amer. E.F. France.