

October 2<sup>nd</sup> 1918

My Dearest Wife:-

It is now quite early in the morning and I am going to write to you preliminary to going downtown with [Eunious] to get the latest news in the French paper. The paper man never has that paper with him I guess because he doesn't think us capable of reading it, so we always have to either go for it or send for it. It has the war news right up to the very minute, whereas the British and American papers are a day old before we receive them. So I don't know yet what we have to be thankful for this morning, in addition to our many

causes for thanksgiving of yesterday, except that Bulgaria has surrendered unconditionally and the Austro Hungarian internal crisis is expected to assume a very grave aspect at any moment. It would seem that that is enough cause for rejoicing – don't you think so dear? It is a time of wonderful happenings and each day brings its own measure of joy, so I am confidently looking forward to additional good news today.

I went to bed very early last night after taking a fine hot shower, and slept

like a top all night long.  
I have finished all my  
work today and have no  
more duties to perform now  
untill tomorrow morning. Our  
French class is held at 4:30  
this afternoon however, so I  
will not leave camp except  
for a few minutes this  
morning. I am beginning to  
despair of learning French  
but will keep at it and  
absorb all I can while I  
am here. I'm afraid however  
that I am not designed by  
nature for a linguist and  
it is hard to struggle against  
natural handicaps. The only  
real reason that I am studying

it is that I may improve my spare time by learning something and I already have a very fair reading knowledge of the language.

I am beginning to reconsider my decision to go on a leave. It will cost me quite a bit more than I feel I can afford in view of conditions at home, so I am going to give it a little more serious consideration. I really don't care about seeing any more of this country than I have already. I have seen lots of country that surpasses it.

I need no new clothes for winter and if things

continue to progress as  
they are now I doubt  
very much if I will need  
another uniform during the  
war. I certainly am not  
going to load up with a  
lot of clothes that will be  
of no value to me in civil  
life. I will have to have  
all my suits made over  
when I get home for I  
am a sylph now compared  
to what I was when I  
left.

I dreamed about you all  
last night dear and that  
I was at home with you.  
It was one of the most vivid-  
ly realistic dreams I have  
ever had and I take it  
as a good omen, that the

time is not far off when it  
will become a reality.

Well Lover dear, I am going  
to close. I will write again  
tomorrow. I love you dearest  
with all my heart and  
soul. I love you. Give my  
love and kisses to Tud and  
the babies, and with loads  
to yourself, the best I have,  
and millions of kisses,  
I am your loving

Daddy.

Lt. A.B. Smith M.C.

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

Amer. E.F. France.