

December 31, 1918

My Dearest:-

I am certainly in a better frame of mind now than I have been for some time, and the reason for it is not hard to give. The mail is coming through! I got no letters from you yesterday but did receive a lot of papers and magazines so I know that they know where we are and that there is a good chance of getting mail with some degree of regularity. And I may as well admit that that is what makes me cheerful, for it is hard not to get mail.

Also, the weather is fine.

It is now the last day of the year. Tonight is New Year's Eve and just one year ago

this afternoon our train pulled
out of Fort Harrison. And
the weather is like summer.

The winters here may be severe,
but this one has to hurry
or it never will catch up with
its schedule.

Several things I noticed in
the papers, of unusual interest
to me. I am sorry to hear of
Stan Dickson's death and Geo.
Hollister's. They were both
fine boys and the type
that will be missed, but such
are the fortunes of War, and
such things only serve to im-
press me all the more that no

such misfortune has befallen
our family. We never will
know how much we have
to be thankful for after all.

I am still working at top
speed. I guess the work will
never let up here, so I am
all set for it. Each day a
lot of additional work crops
up and “our” nose is on the
grindstone all the blessed
time. However I don’t mind
the work. I enjoy it, for it
keeps me from homesickness
and dissatisfaction. If I
ever have been cursed by a
tendency to idleness I have
lost it now, and must again

admit indebtedness to the army.

I will say that I think the

Army has made a lot of

men all over in more ways

than one . It is not the

Army so much as it is the

spirit of things over here.

“Sick the [Hun]”, and “Hell,

Heaven or Hoboken by Christmas”

have been the two slogans

of the A.E.F. and with such

slogans there has been very

little opportunity to loaf. We

want to get through, but it

seems like an endless task.

It is now 11:15 and the

work of the day is very

nicely underway. I have en-

tirely finished my rounds and

inspections and next have to go
 over a big building we have
 taken over to see what it
 needs in way of repair. Our
 capacity is to be greatly in-
 creased so we have to take over
 more buildings.

Patients are coming in in
 a steady stream each day. It
 is a busy place. You asked
 me in my mail, to tell you
 what I am making now.

So here goes.

Captains salary	200.00
Extra pay for foreign service	20.00
[illegible] quarters.	<u>48.00</u>
	268.00
Allottment to you.	110.
" to insurance	<u>8.</u>
Balance	150.00
mess	30.00
miscellaneous{clothing, cleaning etc.	<u>20.00</u>
embroidery, other incidentals}	
Balance	100.00

intend to send to you each month

beginning with this month. It

will leave me about 15.00 per

month for tobacco, cigarettes,

etc. which is a great plenty.

So you must not, under any

circumstances, send me money.

I have no need for it dearest,

and will resent your sending

it, while loving you all the

more for your thoughtful-

ness.

I must close now. Give my love

and a kiss to Glad and the

babies. With dearest love to you.

I'll write tomorrow. Your

loving

Husband.

Ansel B Smith Capt. M.C.

Evac Hosp. 2. U.S.A

Amer. E.F.