June 10, 1918

My Dearest Wife:

Received three wonderful letters from you yesterday and was more glad to get them for it had been some time since the last came. There is no doubt, an unavoidable delay in the mails now for darn sue there are a lot of letters on the way to me that I should have received but never have. I also got a letter from Joe Ware yesterday and it was full of news of the sort he generally dispenses. He is in Washington and working hard, and claims he is not physically fit for service over here. I hope it is so, because I have no use for any man who
isn't here or at least on his way here, if he is physically fit. I am not going to be in any big hurry to reply to Joe's letter.

Yesterday was about the hottest day we have had and "mit" and I chose it to move our tent back into the pine woods above where we work. We found a beautiful little place—levelled it off and laid in a floor of draw tile we had here. Then we put the tent up very carefully and now have the most comfortable tent I have ever seen. I enjoy it so much, this living in the open— and it is wonderfully good for us. All the officers who have been living inside are now thinking of moving out into tents because they see that we
enjoy it so much and are so much healthier for it. It really is the nicest way to live in good weather.

This rain came today for the first time in weeks, but we needed it so much to cool our complaints. It is funny, though, how cold it gets at once when it starts raining. You will remember I said yesterday it was a very hot day. Last Wednesday Capt. Clancy and I walked down to the Officers Club to play some billiards and I beat him two games. I am improving in my game and am glad because billiards is one game I have always wanted to play but have never known
now.

I am all caught up with my correspondence now, except for a letter to Joe Yale, and I am not going to let that bother me at all. I even write another letter to Ruth, which in all makes three I have written to her thanking her for my son. I sincerely hope she gets this one as I don't like to have her think that I haven't had the decency to write thanking her for it.

The news over here is continually better. The Allies are holding all along the line and in many places are driving back. Of course the summer is young yet and a lot can happen before fall, but there is a great feeling of confidence that the Germans will get no further. If they don't it
will not be the strangest thing in the world if we see peace this year. Oh! How I hope so. It is impossible for people at home to conceive of how terrible war is. But they must be whipped first, and it may take longer than we think to do that. It is going to be done, though, just as sure as fate. It is only a matter of time, and waiting for the dominating effect of the great numbers of American soldiers who will soon be in the fight. They are certainly being fed now, see along the front, and it must be wonderful news to the people at home to read how wonderfully our
boys are covering themselves with glory everywhere they are fighting. I know that now the people at home are beginning to feel more themselves at war, since the German subs have gone to work on our coast. It is a good thing in a way to wake them up, and to show just what would have taken place only in a greater degree, if God Almighty had not first put France, Belgium and England between Germany and our Country. It shows all the more markedly what the German has to be punished and whipped into complete submission and there isn’t a real American on earth that wants to see the war end in any other way.

So dearest, you and I
must smooth our personal desires and do all we can to see that this is accomplished. To me, it is wonderful, that you and Glad are doing all you are. You are doing the work to help this along, and that is our reason why. I should so hate to see that come over here. She is really very much more useful at home engaged in the work she has been doing. If she was a trained nurse it would be different entirely, but as much as she is not I am looking forward to receiving a letter saying she has given up the idea and is going to
Be content to stay in God's own country and do the biggest bit right there.

You asked me dear if I have been receiving the press. Yes, I get it right along, and it is a very acceptable contribution. I have read all the advertisements in it, in order to read every thing familiar about the old town. I wonder if people who live in Grand Rapids feel as I do, that there is no town on earth like it, or is it only because I am away from it? I have never appreciated its beauties and other good qualities as I do now, and right now I most assuredly feel that there is no place on earth quite like it. God grant I may see it again soon.

Most thoroughly approved.
of your plans for our honeymoon. It would be wonderful and we will enjoy it to the utmost. I can hardly wait—it seems to me too distant that I can't stand the separation longer, but then we will enjoy the reunion just as much more when it comes. I don't care where you plan to go. Anywhere so long as it's with you. And we will stay just as long as we want to, about we decide. I am not in the least worried about getting my business back again. I know I will get it—deed more than I ever had, but now I want to help you, that as long as
This business is never going to interfere with our pleasure. We are going to enjoy life from now on, to the complete exclusion of everything else. I want you to be selfish with me dearest. I tell you there are lots of things I have wanted to do in the past, that I won't ever care to do again, and we will spend more of our time together than we ever have before.

I have written quite a long letter, haven't I darling? It is now very nearly eleven o'clock so I guess I will close. I hope Tuesday get mail this morn but can hardly expect to see you of what I received yesterday. However, I won't give up hope unless after the wedding day says no.
Give my love to the darling babies and to Ted. Kiss them for me and tell them how much I love them and long to see them. I love you my darling, with all my heart and soul, and pray each day that we may soon be together again. I love you and love you dearest.

Goodbye till tomorrow.

Daddy.

St. Agnes, W.R.C.
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