July 19th, 1918.

My dearest wife:

Such glorious news as we have just received has not come to us very often. The German "Offensive" bids fair to result in a defeat. I do not doubt you have read with joy equal to mine, the news of the past day. Thousands of Germans captured and many thousands more so precariously situated that their capture is imminent and inescapably expected. It is all the more wonderful on account of the great part the American armies have played.
in it. It is the greatest actual military setback the Germans have had in the West since the Battle of the Marne. There is great rejoicing here over the wonderful news, and well there may be, for it is such things that will shorten the war and hasten the victory over German militarism. We all were so excited last night that we could not sleep, but lay awake for hours talking it all over. I am on duty today until eight o'clock tonight—a unusually long tour of duty.
as I went on at eight this morning, it rained during the night and has cooled the air off remarkably so that now it is pleasant and not unbearable from heat. I have just had a cigar cut and finished reading the papers and have just enough time to finish this before noon was. Roy and I have some aviation coming as guests for mess this noon. There is a squadron near here and all are mighty fine fellows. I met them at the club.

This is the first sheet of the last package of this paper that Hazel and Parke gave me and soon you will be getting letters on very common paper. I have saved all of this to write to you dear. I save out of envelopes some time ago as you have no doubt noticed.

This is glorious day—perfectly glorious. It is exactly like some of the days we had at Graude Pointe—so cool and such wonderful fresh air.
But—give me old Grande Point. Haven't we had some wonderful times there dear? Even after the place has gone we never will forget it will we dear? It will sure hard to part with it but it is surely the best and wisest thing to do. Sometime we will have a summer home nearer to Grand Rapids.

Last night a Y.W.C.A man whose name I don't recollect was here to see Rosy. He is from Rochester N.Y. When he heard that I am from Grand Rapids...
He asked me if I knew Don Carvithra who is his cousin. When you see Don or Mrs. Carvithra tell them about it.
Has Jimmy Brotherhood left home yet? I hope if he comes soon here he will be assigned either to a region near Jack or me. It would be fine wouldn't it Darling?
Has Ted made any more plans about entering the service or is she still undecided? Tell her to write to me again and tell me all.
about it dear.

Well my darling I must close. It is now twelve and a half and I always like to get to bed on time for the boys have a family meeting the food get cold. So I will close this now and write again tomorrow. Give my dear kiddies and Ted my dear love and a lot of kisses and tell them not a minute of my life passes without thoughts of them and longing for them. And for you my darling. Oh! how I love you dear brave girl and long to be with you. God bless you and give us both the strength we need to keep this up. I love you so much my darling.

Daddy.

P.S. All Bethel work.