



## Charles W. and Mary Lesley Ames Family Papers

### **Copyright Notice:**

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit [www.mnhs.org/copyright](http://www.mnhs.org/copyright).

# AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED (Inc.)

(RECOGNISED AND APPROVED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT)

(COMITÉ AMÉRICAIN POUR LES BLESSÉS FRANÇAIS)

FONCTIONNANT SOUS LA DIRECTION DU SERVICE DE SANTÉ

## Conseil d'Administration en France :

Madame BENJAMIN GIRAULT LATHROP, *Présidente*

Le Docteur ALEXIS CARREL, *Vice-Président*

Monsieur HERBERT M. NICHOLS, *Secrétaire*

Mademoiselle ANNA MURRAY VAIL, *Trésorière*

Mademoiselle MARIE-LOUISE BRENT

Monsieur WILLIAM GWIN

Madame FRANCIS GEORGE SHAW



ALCAZAR D'ÉTÉ, CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES

PARIS, February 14, 1919

Mrs. Charles W. Ames,  
501 Grand Ave.,  
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Mrs. Ames:-

Thank you for your letter of January 21st. I am not going to apologize for not having answered it before for the real reason is that I was waiting for a copy of the financial statement of the St. Paul Dispensary, for I knew you and Mr. Ames would like to see it. It has taken a long time to get at this statement, not because the books were not ready, but because we were short of copyists.

Mrs. Lathrop has already acknowledged your letter in regard to Miss McGregor and Miss Clark, so I will not go into that matter except to tell you that we are tremendously proud of your work, and proud of you for having kept it up. Miss McGregor's report of the dispensary has just come in and I find that up to January 31st they have treated 1752 patients, which seems a pretty good showing, doesn't it? Add to this the work of friendship and sympathy and you have done wonderful work.

Mrs. Lathrop has communicated with Miss McGregor and they have accepted our proposal to stay on with us and carry out the work of the Fund to the end.

Regarding housing conditions, and in answer to your questions, I will say that the St. Paul Dispensary has a house, rent free, and also light and heat free. "Transport about the country and in the neighborhood of the Dispensary" is provided by an American Fund for French Wounded car, driven by an A.F.F.W. chauffeuse, the expenses of the same being met by the A.F.F.W. Motor Service, and the chauffeuse being a volunteer.

AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED

Regarding the traveling expenses of the two ladies, we have military railroad rates as we are an organization working for the French Government, which reduces the fare considerably.

Regarding salaries, we have heretofore paid our graduate nurses \$60 (320 francs,, or according to the rate of exchange) per month, and 16 francs per day maintenance. Nurses' aides have received only \$30 per month.

Return expenses for our nurses have amounted <sup>amounts</sup> heretofore to about 786 francs, for traveling expenses, salary and maintenance. However, it has been very difficult to make any definite estimate for the last nurses, as they <sup>nurses</sup> have been delayed in getting passport visas, which means additional expense for maintenance and salary while waiting for them in Paris. Also I must add that the cost of living is greatly increased in Paris.

Betty has returned and looks very well, and is now planning to return with Mrs. Lathrop sometime the first of March. We are very busy here and the place is more like an ant hill than ever, and material is going out from the Alcazar at a great rate.

We have invested lately in two large motor trucks and they are doing signal service carrying out supplies to our depots in the war zone. One of them, a 10-ton truck, is to be driven by our clever English chauffeuse, Miss Moore, to Valenciennes on Tuesday, and will carry 10 tons of food, clothing and other supplies for the depot there.

The St. Paul truck is still going strong though it has occasional break-downs, which is not surprising after its rather stormy career, but it has really done wonderful work, thanks to you all, and I only wish we had a half-dozen like it. I am sure that Mr. Ames will think we are extraordinary creatures to have invested in large trucks in this, our home stretch as it were, but Emergency knows no laws, and as far as we are concerned individually and collectively we are willing to break certain laws if it means to get <sup>up</sup> out a big shipment.

Last Saturday evening I heard that we could have the loan of a big truck to send out to Miss Thorp at Fourmies, and consequently before 11:00 o'clock Sunday morning over 5,000 articles were sorted out and packed in that truck, and Miss Thorp had her supplies the following morning.

# AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED (Inc.)

(RECOGNISED AND APPROVED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT)

(COMITÉ AMÉRICAIN POUR LES BLESSÉS FRANÇAIS)

FONCTIONNANT SOUS LA DIRECTION DU SERVICE DE SANTÉ

## Conseil d'Administration en France :

Madame BENJAMIN GIRAULT LATHROP, *Présidente*

Le Docteur ALEXIS CARREL, *Vice-Président*

Monsieur HERBERT M. NICHOLS, *Secrétaire*

Mademoiselle ANNA MURRAY VAIL, *Trésorière*

Mademoiselle MARIE-LOUISE BRENT

Monsieur WILLIAM GWIN

Madame FRANCIS GEORGE SHAW



ALCAZAR D'ÉTÉ, CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES

2

PARIS,

191

So many shipments of this kind have been sent out lately that we are quite proud of our achievements. The people must be helped NOW and until the spring or early summer, when they will be better able to shift for themselves.

The country in the Nord where all the fighting has been done, and where the Germans left a sheer desolation behind them, is indescribable in its destruction. Unless seen it is impossible to visualize the extent of the damage done to cities, villages and hamlets, to the beautiful roads of France and the forests and those fair fields that for years and years can not regain their ancient fruitfulness. Constantly we hear the question, "Why is the Government not taking hold?" and it is quite easy to ask if you have not seen the country. I do not in the least wonder that the Government plans and plans and tries to look far enough ahead to see just what can be done, and how quickly it can be done.

Mrs. Forest is doing extraordinary work at Rethel, and the French delegate attached to the French Red Cross working in that region told me a few days ago that her work was eminently sane, practical and sympathetic, and that she was doing it in a sensible way. Can you ask for higher praise? The people all love her and come to her with their minor troubles as well as the greater ones. Her letters are always an inspiration to us here. The last one came to me, about 15 sheets, 5 by 3 of brown paper, but they held more "meat" than reams of ordinary letters, though I must acknowledge that parts of it were not for publication.

The weather has been intensely cold, but a thaw is setting in today and by tomorrow half of Paris will be in slush and water.

Please consider this letter for Mr. Ames too, and believe me, with cordial thanks to you both.

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer

AMV C

wee



P.S. Today Feb 15<sup>th</sup> as I am signing  
this comes a letter from one of our nurses  
[She belongs to the Ryerson Hospital Fund] and  
she writes that the salaries of the R.C.  
nurses were raised in November for \$600 \$870  
per month — and that naturally they expect  
the same raise!!

He will find out. The salaries &  
maintenance of the A.R.C. workers have been  
lighted naturally enough, our paid workers  
have wanted more.  
A. M. V.

ST . PAUL DISPENSARY

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

April 10 - December 31, 1918

Forward

13308 58

Dec. 31	Stove Pipes		21 75
	Laundry		63 00
	Eye Glasses for Mme Lambert		16 00
	Tip for Work on Motor		20 00
	Caretaker		15 00
"	Mrs. Dawson's Reportt at Neuves Maisons		
	Care-taker	15 00	
	Drugs	263 90	
	Supplies & Furnishings	557 40	
	Laundry	108 20	
	Christmas Tree	123 75	
	Tips	12 95	
	Cards by Mrs. Dawson	120 00	
		<u>1201 20</u>	
			<u>14645 53</u>

*[Faint, mostly illegible text from the reverse side of the page, appearing as bleed-through or ghosting.]*



ST. PAUL DISPENSARY

DEBITS

<u>1918</u>			
Apr.	10	Dispensary Service	121 05
		Outfit for household	1262 80
	20	Instruments	791 10
	27	Office Supplies	20 35
May	17	Instruments	124 25
	21	Drugs	13 75
	24	"	26 30
	"	"	176 45
	2	"	13 80
July	31	"	1413 45
	"	Dentist	211 75
Aug.	31	Dr. Blair's Expenses, July & Aug.	
		Food	1487 28
		Furnishings	672 60
		Cleaning & Laundry	61 80
		Sundries	2 50
		Instruments	21 50
		Supplies	205 75
		Drugs	2094 40
		Sundry Supplies	421 40
			<u>4967 23</u>
Sept.	10	Dispensary Supplies	4967 23
		Dentist	201 10
			203 75
	30	Dr. Blair's Expenses	
		Drugs	25 35
		Laundry	73 75
		Office Supplies	17 40
		House Supplies	111 00
		"	157 10
		Drugs	727 65
		Food	161 30
			<u>1273 55</u>
			1273 55
Oct.	25	Mrs. Dawson's Expenses	
		Drugs	1637 15
		Laundry	82 95
		Chauffeur	91 05
		Sundry Supplies	42 70
			<u>1853 85</u>
			1853 85
Nov.	16	Corona Ribbon	4 30
	30	Mrs. Dawson's Expenses	
		Belts for Dispensary	20 00
		Drugs	333 50
		Laundry	47 00
		Stove	67 90
		Office Supplies	3 85
		Care-taker, 2 months	37 50
		4 Signs	120 00
			<u>629 75</u>
			13308 58

ST. PAUL DISPENSARY

CREDITS

1918

May 22 St. Paul Committee 16980 00

Oct. 25 Dr. Blair, Credit Board & Material returned 757 00

17737 00



Forward

17737 00

Dec. 31 St. Paul Committee

2439 00

20176 00

1971

1972

1973

1974

*Anna Murray Vail*

# AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED (Inc.)

(RECOGNISED AND APPROVED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT)

(COMITÉ AMÉRICAIN POUR LES BLESSÉS FRANÇAIS)

FONCTIONNANT SOUS LA DIRECTION DU SERVICE DE SANTÉ

## Conseil d'Administration en France :

Madame BENJAMIN GIRAULT LATHROP, *Présidente*  
Le Docteur ALEXIS CARREL, *Vice-Président*  
Monsieur HERBERT M. NICHOLS, *Secrétaire*  
Mademoiselle ANNA MURRAY VAIL, *Trésorière*  
Mademoiselle MARIE-LOUISE BRENT  
Monsieur WILLIAM GWIN  
Madame FRANCIS GEORGE SHAW



JARDIN DE PARIS

~~ALCAZAR D'ÉTÉ~~, CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES

PARIS, April 22nd 191

Mrs. Charles W. Ames,  
501 Grand Avenue,  
St. Paul,

My dear Mrs. Ames:

I have been exceedingly busy, as usual, since Miss MacGregor's and Miss Clark's departure or I should have written you at the time.

Miss MacGregor showed me your letter of the 16th of February in regard to the payment of their return passages. As we had a sufficient balance in the St. Paul Dispensary to cover the expenses of their return trips, we paid their passages, amounting to Frs. 1.350 each, as both ladies elected to return to America via Marseilles and the Italian lines.

We hope eventually to send you a final statement of expenses of the St. Paul Dispensary but we have been very short of workers lately. Miss Howe has left us and now Mrs. Sloan has also gone so I have only one helper in the office but everything will be done before we close.

The Rheims Temporary Hospital is getting into shape and the work already accomplished in the way of repairs, of installing equipment etc, etc, has been little short of amazing. Mr. Gwin has just returned from there and is preparing maps and statistics to send to America which you will doubtless see when they arrive.

Believe me, with cordial greetings to you all,

Sincerely yours,

*Anna Murray Vail*  
Trésorière.

AMV CE



PARIS DEPOT

*From Miss Vail*

## AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED

(COMITÉ AMÉRICAIN POUR LES BLESSÉS FRANÇAIS)

TÉLÉPHONE : GUTENBERG 32-47.

### Conseil d'Administration :

Madame BENJAMIN GIRAULT LATHROP, *Présidente*  
Mademoiselle ANNA MURRAY VAIL, *Tresorière*  
Monsieur CHARLES BUTLER, *Vice-Président*  
Mademoiselle ELIZABETH PERKINS, *Secrétaire*  
Monsieur H. O. BEATTY  
Le Docteur ALEXIS CARREL  
Mademoiselle ANNE MORGAN

ALCAZAR D'ÉTÉ, Champs-Élysées

PARIS December 13th 1916.

AMV/ML

Charles W. Ames, Esq.  
501, Grand Avenue,  
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Mr Ames:-

Your letter of November 18th. came yesterday and we all thank you very cordially for the draft of \$200, to replenish what you call "the modest Ames Fund". Please accept our most cordial thanks, for your gift.

I am sending you, enclosed, a copy of the a/c of the "Ames Fund" as it stands up to the 1st. of December. There is to be taken from this a matter of 28 or 29 francs for the game that Margaret asked me to have purchased and charged against this fund, she having purloined one of those that belonged to us, for a pet hospital.

In regard to the car money, Margaret will have told you about that account, but for your renewed reference, I will send you, enclosed, a copy of the a/c as it stands to-day. This leaves, you see, no balance, as far as the car is concerned. Alice advanced the \$200 for November and December and Margaret gave me, as you see, the frs. 265 for the repair bill incurred early in the career of the car. You will remember perhaps that, when you left, you asked me what those bills were and I gave you the sums, as they stood against the car-money at that time, but it seems this bill - which was a quite legitimate one, according to Margaret - had not then been sent in. I hope this is quite satisfactory to you.

You left a number of little blue rubber tobacco pouches here, of which, I think, Margaret used some in her Christmas bags. There is a rather special gift of Xmas bags that Mrs. Lathrop has proposed sending down to Mme de Castelnau's hospital, near Toulouse and it has occurred to me that it would be very nice to fill them with tobacco and send them along, so I will count them out and if, as it is proposed, I deliver them myself, I will try and send back to you a remembrance from there.

*and fill them*

I know that you are quite right in making means that you do not get much information out of this place, but if you knew the amount of work that is accumulating for our hands

Charles W. Ames.

-- 2.--

December 13th. 1916.

to finish, you would be a little more lenient. You do know what it was when you were here, but it has more than trebled since. We have about fifty volunteers working here now and that is already a task, for they have to be fitted into the special pigeon holes where they can do the most good and the sorting and re-arranging has kept Mrs. Lathrop very very busy.

Mr Kinen has been rather through the mill lately; he was quite knocked out during the end of the Summer and then came the order from the Government for all Réformés N° 2 to pass in review. Before the day he, with great difficulty, has re-enlisted in the 22nd. section, which is placed here in Paris, mostly men who, owing to their state of health, are doing auxiliary service. We pulled all our wires and have succeeded in having him placed here with us, so that now he is more or less of a fixture in uniform.

Mrs. Lathrop is stopping in London now, for the holidays and I hope, getting a very much needed rest.

With best Xmas greetings,

Sincerely yours,

*Anna Murray* *tail*

.....  
Trésorière.

1 receipt

*If these accounts are not as they should  
be please say so.  
We are having a beastly time getting coal.  
Last month the coal bills amounted to  
£681 and since Dec 1st we have  
spent £789. Cheerful prospect!*

Expenditures.

S a i n t - P a u l C a r

December 13th. 1916.

			<u>Frs.</u>
August	19th	Accident Insurance .....	495, 30
September	6	Fire Insurance .....	Frs. 79, 15
	8	Morlet's bill repair and assemblage .....	" 90, 00
	"	R.M. Casparis allowance September .....	" 500, 00
			<hr/> 669, 15
October	2	R.M. Casparis allowance October .....	" 500, 00
	9	Emile Locher, assemblage .....	" 260, 30
		<i>inches Aug 11<sup>th</sup></i>	<hr/> 760, 30
November	14	R.M. Casparis, allowance November .....	500, 00
December	1	R.M. Casparis, allowance December .....	500, 00
		B a l a n c e December 13th...	154, 70

---

3.079, 45

---

*a correct copy of  
the account has been  
sent to the books  
with a memo of*





Receipts.

S a i n t - P a u l C a r

December 13th. 1916.

Frs.

September	Ch. W. Ames, Esq .....	1.664, 45
October 7th	Miss Margaret Ames, for repair bill	265, 00
November 14th	Miss Alice Ames .....	1.150, 00

---

3.079, 45

---

---

# A m e s F u n d

December 13th. 1916.

## E x p e n d i t u r e s.

				<u>F r s.</u>
September	12	3 Gramophones .....	Frs. 240,00	
	16	Printemps.- Games .....	" 35,10	
	19	" Chaises-longues .....	" 177,10	
	20	Gramophones .....	" 159,10	
				611, 30
October	4	3 Gramophones .....	" 240,00	
	9	Rougier.- Surgical supplies .....	" 316,00	
				556, 00
November	11	Disques machines Odion .....	" 243,00	
		Michel Bruneau & Co .....	" 24,30	
				267 ,30
December	1	1 Tonneau (game) .....		29, 10
		B a l a n c e .....		2.044, 30

3.508, 00

*a correct copy  
this account has  
+ taken in the books  
Alma Hume*



A m e s      F u n d  
-----

December 13th. 1916

R e c e i p t s.

F r s.

September 7th.	Received from Ch. W. Ames .....	2.000.---
November 14th	"      "      Miss Almy for two gramophones charged on Ames bills (G. Cabot) ..... Frs. 266, 00 C. Leslie Ames for one gramophone ..... "      80, 00	346, 00
December 12th	Charles W. Ames, Esq. ....	1.162, 00

---

3.508, 00

---



PARIS DEPOT

# AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED

(COMITÉ AMÉRICAIN POUR LES BLESSÉS FRANÇAIS)

Téléphone : Gutenberg 32-47

**Conseil d'Administration :**

Madame BENJAMIN GIRAULT LATHROP, *Présidente*

Monsieur CHARLES BUTLER, *Vice-Président*

Mademoiselle ELIZABETH PERKINS, *Secrétaire*

Mademoiselle ANNA MURRAY VAIL, *Trésorière*

Monsieur H. O. BEATTY \*

Le Docteur ALEXIS CARREL O. \*

Mademoiselle ANNE MORGAN

ALCAZAR D'ÉTÉ, Champs-Élysées

PARIS, March 28th. 1917.

AMV/IBR.

Charles W. Ames, Esq.,  
501, Grand Avenue,  
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Mr. Ames:-

A letter of March 10th. reached us a few days ago in the midst of a good deal of turmoil. Thank you indeed most cordially for the check.

Answering your third paragraph, I regret that we have misunderstood your intention in regard to the St. Paul motor. We did understand that you expected to maintain it and if we made a mistake do please put it down, not to inattention, but perhaps to the fact that we may have confused what we thought was your intention with gifts received for other cars about the same time and do not for a moment think that we are not more and more deeply grateful for the generous gifts you have sent to the Fund.

I send you enclosed a receipt for the money and we will follow your advice and instructions and use it as you think best. In this case, "the think best" is the maintenance of the St. Paul car that is doing yeoman service daily. Please don't be annoyed with us any more.

We are thrilled with interest with all you tell us of your pretty girls' new venture. It must be a very exciting thing to have three members of one's family indulge in a wedding ceremony in such a short period. Please give all concerned our ardent good wishes and blessings and if I do not write to Margaret and Alice personally, it is only putting off the pleasure to another day - when we are not as crowded up as we are now.

The reason of extra busy days just now is the fact that the German retreat has meant the evacuation into this

March 28, 1917.

part of France of thousands and thousands of refugees, recalling the exodus of the beginning of the war.

Madame Carrel came to us on the 21st. March with a tale to tell that put us on our metal to help all we could. The Zeppelin that was brought down near Compiègne hovered over her hospital for a while and when at length it was brought down, its final destruction was accomplished not far away and Monday morning the 19th. she started for the evacuated town of Noyon reaching there at noon. The first woman to venture into the new lines. She was able to see with her own eyes the destruction wrought and the misery ensuing. We were able to raise funds among friends here for the immediate purchase of clothing and garments that were sent out on requisitioned military motors within two days: a small drop of relief in a very great bucket of sorrow, illness and starvation.

There is severe fighting all along the front that has not yet witnessed the German retreat and we are sending out additional supplies that we hope will help carry the American message of sympathy and help.

Mrs. Iathrop is now in the Aisne visiting some destroyed villages and would join in my cordial greetings were she here.

With kindest regards and renewed thanks on behalf of the Depot,

Very sincerely yours.

*Anna Murray Baird*

.....  
Trésorière.

*I enclose the notes I made after Madame Carrel's visit. You may care to read them, though by the time you receive this, the papers will have published all the details about the requisitioned districts.*

No. 1011

# AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED

(COMITÉ AMÉRICAIN POUR LES BLESSÉS FRANÇAIS)

ALCAZAR D'ÉTÉ, Champs-Élysées, PARIS

Téléphone : GUTENBERG 32-47

PARIS, May 22<sup>d</sup> 1918

Received of *Saint Paul Committee*  
for *St Paul Dispensary* —  
the sum of *\$3.000 at 5.66*

American Fund for French Wounded

Frs. 16.980



*Alma Murray*  
Treasurer.



# AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED

(COMITÉ AMÉRICAIN POUR LES BLESSÉS FRANÇAIS)

CO-OPERATING WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS



TELEPHONE :  
GUTENBERG 32-47

ALCAZAR D'ÉTÉ, CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES

PARIS, May 25th, 1918.

Mrs Charles W. Ames,  
501 Grand Avenue,  
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Mrs Ames,

Betty came to me on the 22nd with a letter from you in which you wrote that the \$3000 of the St Paul Committee had been sent to Mrs Lathrop by registered mail, care of Morgan, Harjes & Co, and I gave Betty an order to the bank to bring the letter back, which she did. I am so sorry that we did not know about this before for, though the Fund banks at Morgan, Harjes, Mrs Lathrop does not, nor has she ever had any letter sent in their care. Many of the drafts that come to her for the Fund come through Morgan Harjes, but it appears as if the Post Office Department were entirely separate. I am therefore sending you enclosed the receipt for the \$3000 which at 5.66 netted us Fr. 16980, for which we send you our grateful and appreciative thanks.

Your letter was forwarded to Mrs Lathrop in London the same day that it was received and you will probably have a cable from her long before this letter reaches you, and further details of the work will be sent you as it progresses.

We are terribly busy here and I am sure that pretty child of yours keeps you well informed. I don't know what we would do without her for she has revolutionized the Information Bureau which certainly was at most ragged ends when she undertook it. I only hope that we are not working her too hard. This is, of course, a very easy thing to do when the workers have enthusiasm and an unbounded amount of good-will, and they are the workers we need the most of all and count on most of all.

Believe me with most cordial greetings from us  
all,

Most sincerely yours,

Treasurer

AMV:ED

*Ans d  
Dec. 26 '18*

# AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED

(Comité Américain pour les Blessés Français)

CO-OPERATING WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS



TELEPHONE :

GUTENBERG 32-47

ALCAZAR D'ÉTÉ, Champs-Élysées

Aug. 29th. 1918  
PARIS, ..... 191

My dear Mrs Ames:-

We are sending you enclosed our receipt  
for \$150

Frs:855.65

its French equivalent, money that the St.  
Paul Branch has contributed for the sup-  
port of the Paris Depot for the months of  
August, September and October, and for which  
we all send you most hearty thanks.

I wish that we could say that we apolo-  
gize for being such inordinate beggars, but  
we do not, and you would be just as bad if  
you were here.

Every day there is more and more to do  
and now that the great strain of the early  
summer is over and we feel that Paris is  
quite safe again, we are getting to work  
with redoubled vigor.

One of the girls has just come dancing  
into my office to say that Peronne has been  
retaken along with 36.000 German prisoners  
and we are walking on air literally. It is  
hard now to realize and look back on those  
nightmare weeks, and their raids and Berthas

Your two girls are a joy and are busy as bees all day long and we could not do without their cheerful faces and voices. And indeed they have been very bright spots in my life ever since they have been with us.

Please give my love to your two girls and tell Margaret that I have thought of her often in her sorrow and would have written her, but time and strength ;or rather lack of them keep me from doing many things that I wish to.

With cordial greetings to Mr. Ames and yourself, believe me

Sincerely yours :

*Anna Murray*

Treasurer



# AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED

(RECOGNISED AND APPROVED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT) (Inc.)

(COMITÉ AMÉRICAIN POUR LES BLESSÉS FRANÇAIS)

FONCTIONNANT SOUS LA DIRECTION DU SERVICE DE SANTÉ



ALCAZAR D'ÉTÉ, Champs-Élysées

PARIS, October 24th, 1918

Charles W. Ames, Esq.,  
501 Grand Avenue,  
St Paul, Minnesota.

Dear Mr Ames,

Enclosed are two photographs one of the Garage and the other of the girls who compose the Paris Motor Staff today. They are a very small tribute of gratitude for all that you have done for this Service.

To say that we are proud of it is putting it very mildly, for the girls have worked very hard and have become known from one end of France to the other.

We are now an Automobile Section of the French military service functioning under their authority and under the direction of Mrs Lathrop, the President of the A.F.F.W. Paris Depot.

Believe me with kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Treasurer.

*Anna Murray Vail*

# AMERICAN FUND FOR FRENCH WOUNDED (Inc.)

(RECOGNISED AND APPROVED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT)

(COMITÉ AMÉRICAIN POUR LES BLESSÉS FRANÇAIS)

FONCTIONNANT SOUS LA DIRECTION DU SERVICE DE SANTÉ

## Conseil d'Administration en France :

Madame BENJAMIN GIRAULT LATHROP, *Présidente*

Le Docteur ALEXIS CARREL, *Vice-Président*

Monsieur HERBERT M. NICHOLS, *Secrétaire*

Mademoiselle ANNA MURRAY VAIL, *Trésorière*

Mademoiselle MARIE-LOUISE BRENT

Monsieur WILLIAM GWIN

Madame FRANCIS GEORGE SHAW



ALCAZAR D'ÉTÉ, CHAMPS-ÉLYSÉES

PARIS, Oct. 30th, 1918/91

Charles W. Ames, Esq.,  
501 Grand Avenue,  
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Mr. Ames:

We are sending you enclosed some photographs, and I must at the same time apologize for the formal note that goes with them, for I have had some forty to send out and it was a little too much for my imagination to tackle that many as separate letters.

Betty has gone to her new job and we will miss her very much.

I do not suppose there is very much that I can tell you just now that will be anything of a novelty, for I imagine that the American papers are teeming with more details of everything and anything than our papers here are allowed to print. Just at present Paris is very excitedly interested in the picture exhibit that the Minister of Finance, Monsieur Klotz, has organized all over the city for the war loan. It is an extremely interesting exhibit of great diversity of talent, and is all the more remarkable for the fact that it is reminiscent of nothing heretofore posted on the walls of Paris. Of course the poster that attracts the most attention is the famous one of the German Emperor retreating before the avalanche of Allied flags. It is undoubtedly somewhat melodramatic, but expresses present events in a perfectly understood symbolism.

But the crowning joy of the Parisians is the museum of German loot that

has been the great inspiration of Monsieur Clemenceau. On the Place de la Concorde guns of every caliber have been mounted, and on the terrace of the Tuileries a long line of captured German airplanes has been placed, and in between them every sort of war engine is on exhibition - tanks, balloons, saucisses and small arms; even hundreds of Boche helmets have been strung over the sand bag protected houses that cover the statuary at the entrance of the Tuileries and ~~on~~ the Marly Horses at the entrance of the Champs-Elysees. The sitting statues of France's great fortresses are draped in tri-color battle flags, and that of Lille is smothered in wreaths and flowers, to say nothing of ~~the~~ flags.

And all of Paris has visited the square and has seen for herself that captured guns are not merely an administrative figure of speech. Every small boy in Paris has climbed over these guns and manoeuvred the smaller ones, when possible, and every night a police service straightens out what has been deranged in the day. Some of the guns, of course, are tremendous and most impressive to see where they are placed. One especially faces towards the Madeleine and were it to be fired off, it would shatter half of Paris.

However, notwithstanding all this talk of armistice and a possible peace, the hospitals are full to overflowing, and never before have so many beds been occupied by the sick and wounded. The grippe plays a large part in this, but we hope it is already on the decline.

Believe me, with kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

*Annalaura Vail*

AMV-REB

Treasurer