



[Ruth Cutler and family papers.](#)

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The Proshynian Hospital
New York City.
Feb 7, 1919

My dear Miss Cutler:-

Thank you

So much for the letter &
its enclosures. The pass-
port pictures of Rufus
certainly are not Rufus
as we know her, but as
you say one is glad to
have them. I have the
only picture of her that
Pond sent me long ago -

Rufus in her middy &
Swatan sailing the Chatham
sea, evidently perfectly
content. You doubtless have
the picture. If you haven't
you ought to ask Prudy
for one. It is so
thoroughly characteristic of
dear Rufus. I couldn't bear
to part with mine, else I
should send you mine.

We are so busy at
the hospital all day long -
& if not all day long, all

night long - that we scarce know what
is going on about us, so I find I almost
impossible to write letters. I actually
have nothing to say. And yet we live
too soon very full. Don't it strange?

If Rufus were leading this hospital
life - a life she really quite longed
to lead, I think, don't you? - I know she
would have so much to tell you she

could make her down so
very kind to me! Wasnt she
a wonderful letter writer?

I cant bear to think of
there being no more letters. I cant
believe it yet. It must be
impossible for you to believe.

It was a great pleasure
to hear from you. Rufus
will always be one of
my choicest possessions I
hope you dont mind my
having that feeling of
possession along with you -
With much thanks & love,
Helen Jackson

Dear Amelia -

I felt your thoughts
were with us today when we
stood beside the casket which
held the precious dress which
dear Ruth wore in this
world. There were some
*plumes & beautiful red
leaves on the oak casket
and inside, a sheaf of
large white roses - and
the red, white, & blue ribbon
which I am sending you
with the two name plates.
The quilted satin, soft as a

*There were all four in - in France
I all dressed in a day.

feather quilt - fitted over the face
and the beautiful features & hair
with its radiance of color. The uni-
form - with the set of shoulders - trim
for the battle fought, and worn
then in France - seemed so fitting
and a comfort for you to know,
that so she was dressed. The
care & details were as you
would have liked it.

The peace of those features
will be with me always - &
the sense of a wish fully
accomplished - was the ex-
pression of it. It was a
great privilege to witness
it, and I long to see her
in the fullness of her woman-
hood in the other world.

From her early childhood I loved her, in that visit
I made to you all in St. Paul 1893 - and
always since in our little visits at Vassar,
here in my studio, and at Chatham, & St. Paul
it was a pleasure to keep that affectionate
interest in all she did and tried to do so
nobly. I hope I am writing what you &
Lillian Emma want to hear and I will
answer any questions gladly. I write
as I should be grateful to you to do
if it were my sister.

With & Lillian join me in a heart
full of love for all at this time.
Affectionately your cousin
Harriet Kent Forbes.

Dec. 19. 1919.

Copy of Cousin Lizzie's
letter about dear Ruth.

Copy of Cousin Lizzie's
letter about dear Ruth -

"I think you will be deeply interested to hear of the arrival of dear Patti's body. Joseph & Harriet were notified, by your father, of its probable coming, & asking J. to act as legal representative of the family - & H. went to identify the body.

The undertaker was notified by the one in France, to receive it, & Friday A.M. they all went to the steamer to claim it, driving at once to the Crematory in Weehauken(?). On arrival there the attendants, previously notified put the box in the reception room - Removing the wooden box, the casket of lead was opened revealing a beautiful oakene Casket with silver plate Patti Culter

at Newbury sur
France

December 23/18
aged 28 yrs.

On it was a long sheaf of large beautiful white roses very perfect.

Within that was an oblong box of oak, with the top to the waistline of glass and within that lay the form of the dear girl, so natural, there could be no doubt it once was her own, the hair thrown back as she wore it, and her hands folded with

Three lovely roses, and in her uniform! So happy and comfortable, Hattie said was her expression that she seemed to say, 'my work is done, I am happy to go' - Is it not wonderful, that after a whole year, so much of her could return and give you all such comfort in giving them the last resting place. I hope I am not distressing you, by giving you such minute details. It was so consoling to me I wanted to know every particular and H. could appreciate more of that than a man could. I thought how kindly and carefully everything was done, even to wrapping around the dear body, at the sides, soft white satin. On the top of leaden casket, lay the crossed palms and ribbon of red, white & blue, & between the palms was R.C. engraved. All lettering was engraved.

The attendants asked Hattie, if she would like to see the inner box, and she said 'Of course, how can I identify it without' and when they came to the inner box with the glass top, she exclaimed 'It is Ruth' and no one else.

Hattie took away the ribbon and

plates and sent to your father, at once.
I hope knowing all this, you will
feel comforted and happier — it is a
satisfaction to know where and how
the dust even of our loved ones, have
found a permanent resting place".

MEMORIAL SERVICE

IN HONOR OF THE

VASSAR ALUMNAE

*who gave their lives
in service during the
World War*

With the assistance of

MISS LAURA HERRING—Soprano

MR. ROBERT MAITLAND—Basso-Cantante

MR. COKE-JEPHCOTT—Organist

MR. DAVID SCHMIDT—Violinist

MR. JOSEPH HEINDL—Violoncellist

MR. JOHN LOTITO—Harpist

VASSAR COLLEGE, JUNE 8, 1919

PRELUDE

Melodie Religieuse

Coke-Jephcott

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

To be sung by the congregation

Oh, say, can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming;
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does the star-spangled banner still wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen thro' the mist of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream;
'Tis the star-spangled banner, oh, long may it wave,
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

LORD'S PRAYER

To be said by the congregation, standing

INVOCATION

DR. MacCRACKEN

SOLO

Litanei

MR. MAITLAND

Schubert

SCRIPTURE READING

INTERLUDE

Adagio

Beethoven

ADDRESS

DR. HENRY STIMSON

SOLO

The Requiem

MISS HERRING

Homer

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE FUNERAL MARCH

Chopin

HYMN

To be sung by the congregation

For all the saints who from their labor rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed
Thy Name, O Jesus, be forever blest,
Alleluia.

Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light,
Alleluia.

Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine;
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine,
Alleluia.

TAPS

The congregation is invited to leave the Chapel by the rear doors, and to view the Memorial Tablet in the Tower Room.

Inscription on the Memorial Tablet

IN MEMORY OF
THE VASSAR ALUMNAE WHO GAVE
THEIR LIVES IN SERVICE OVERSEAS
DURING THE WORLD WAR

DOROTHEA GAY

CLASS OF 1911

Canteen Worker, Vassar Y. M. C. A. Unit
Born, Chicago, Ill., September 24, 1888
Died, November 9, 1918, in Bordeaux, France

RUTH CUTLER

CLASS OF 1912

Social Worker, Vassar Red Cross Unit
Born, St. Paul, Minn., August 12, 1890
Died, December 23, 1918, Paris, France

AMABEL SCHARFF ROBERTS

CLASS OF 1913

Trained Nurse, U. S. Base Hospital No. 2
Attached to General Hospital No. 1, B. E. F.
Born, Madison, N. J., September 16, 1891
Died, January 17, 1918, Etretat, France

*"Bartering dull age for immortality,
Their memories hold in death's unyielding fee
The youth that thrilled them to the finger-tips."*

JOHN HAY.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a day message. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT 332 ROBERT STREET, ST. PAUL, MINN.

1918 DEC 28 AM 10 12

ATTACH 57 COLL 2 EXTRA

WA WASHINGTON DC 1023A 28

E H CUTLER

361 SUMMIT AVE STPAUL MINN

DEEPLY REGRET TO INFORM YOU CABLE FROM PARIS JUST RECEIVED FROM
OLDS STATES RUTH DIED MIDNIGHT DECEMBER 23RD DOUBLE PNEUMONIA
PROBABLY CONTRACTED COMING THROUGH ENGLAND EVERY POSSIBLE CARE
EXTRA NURSES AMERICAN SPECIALISTS AND BEST PROFESSIONAL SKILL
EMPLOYED PRUDEN WITH HER CONSTANTLY ARRANGING FUNERAL THURSDAY
AFTERNOON DEEPEST SYMPATHY SIGNED OLDS UNQUOTE LETTER FOLLOWS
CASTLE RED CROSS.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
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GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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RECEIVED AT 332 ROBERT STREET, ST. PAUL, MINN.

1918 DEC 29 AM 10 13

A 79NA 20 BLUE

REDBANK NJ 1045A 29

MISS AMELIA CUTLER

1149

360 SUMMIT AVE ST PAUL MINN

DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND LOVE WINTHROP HAS JUST SENT ME NEWS OF RUTHS
SACRIFICE MY HEART GOES OUT TO YOU ALL

CORA.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM



CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

RECEIVED AT

1918 DEC 29 PM 10 16

258NA 65 NL

A

WALLINGFORD CONN 29

MISS AMELIA CUTLER

1373

360 SUMMIT AVE ST PAUL MINN

DEAR AMELIA THIS BRINGS A HEARTFUL OF LOVE TO YOU AND YOUR FARTHER I
THANK YOU FOR SENDING ME COPY OF CABLEGRAM IF THERE IS ANYTHING I CAN
DO FOR YOU HERE I BEG OF YOU TO TELL ME HAVE NOTIFIED QUARTERLY IF YOU
WOULD CARE TO HAVE ME I WOULD LOVE TO GO TO ELEANOR FOR A DAY OUR CONSTANT
LOVE FOR YOU ALL

MARGARET TABER.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM



NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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RECEIVED AT 332 ROBERT STREET, ST. PAUL, MINN.

A41CH 18

BROOKLINE MASS 925A 30

1918 DEC 30 AM 9 02

MISS AMELIA D CUTLER

282

360 SUMMIT AVE ST PAUL MINN

ELEANORS ONLY ADDRESS IS AMERICAN RED CROSS NUMBER TWO RUE DE

RIVOLI OUR HEARTS ARE FULLY OF SYMPATHY

MARGARET D PRUDDEN.

C. 901

TELEPHONE NO

TELEPHONE NO

TIME

BY

TO B

Blue
Nite
N L

these three symbols
the check (number of
day message. Other-
acter is indicated by the
appearing after the check.



TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols
appears after the check (number of
words) this is a day message. Other-
wise its character is indicated by the
symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT

1918 DEC 29 PM 6 29

A176CH SHEET 2/

MORNING BROKE' DOWN AT FIRST BUT LEFT HER CALM SHE' IS SOLICITOUS
ABOUT EFFECT ON FATHER AND AMELIS

UNCLE' JIM.

SYMBOL	
Blue	
Nite	
N L	

these three symbols
no check (number of
this is a day message. Other-
wise its character is indicated by the
symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols
appears after the check (number of
words) this is a day message. Other-
wise its character is indicated by the
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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

RECEIVED AT

1918 DEC 29 PM 6 29

A176CH 88

FY NEWTON MASS 620P 29

WILLIAM W CUTLER

1314

CROCUS PLACE ST PAUL MINN

RICE TELEPHONED ME LAST NIGHT SAYING HEARD SAD NEWS THROUGH PRUDDENS
I THINK AND ASKING IF BEST TELL ELINOR I REPLYED NO AND TOLD HIM OF
YOUR TELEGRAPHIC REQUEST NOT TO HE HAS SENT IT SO I A QUITE SURE
ELINOR HAS GONE WITHOUT KNOWING TRYED TEN TIMES UNSECCESFULLY THIS
AFTERNOON TO GET RICE ON TELEPHONE TO VERIFY IF SUCCESSFUL LATER WILL
TELEGRAPH YOU NOTIFIED RELATIVES TODAY SAW LICIA THIS

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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RECEIVED AT

1918 DEC 29 PM 6 11

A169CH 19

FY NEWTON MASS 620P 29

EDWARD CUTLER AND EMELIA CUTLER 1302

360 SUMMITT AVE STPAUL MINN

I PRAY GOD THAT HE WILL GIVE US STRENGTH TO BEAR THIS SORROW WE WILL HAVE HAPPINESS IN HEAVEN

LL

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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RECEIVED AT

A 225NA 29 NL

1918 DEC 29 PM 7 31

SPRINGFIELD MASS 29

EDWARD H CUTLER

1323

360 SUMMIT AVE ST PAUL MINN

ELINOR AMERLIA AND ELLIOTT LEFT TODAY ON WOLVERINE WILL ARRIVE ST PAUL

PIONEER LIMITED TUESDAY MORNING YOU ALL HAVE MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY

ELINOR DOES NOT KNOW SAD NEWS MUCH LOVE

RICE.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM



NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
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RECEIVED AT 332 ROBERT STREET, ST. PAUL, MINN.

A20 CH 50 NL

LOSANGELES CALIF DEC 29 1918

1918 DEC 30 AM 4 00

EDWARD H CUTLER

1428

368 SUMMIT AVE STPAUL MINN

NOT WITHSTANDING OUR BELIEF IN DIVINE PROVIDENCE WE CANNOT RECONCILE
THE PASSING ON OF DEAR RUTH WHO WE ALWAYS LOVED AND ADMIRER YOUR AUNT
AND I ARE OVERCOME WITH GRIEF WITH CONSTANT ENQUIRY WHY SHOULD SHE
BE TAKEN HAVE PERSONALLY INFORMED MRS HALE GOD BLESS YOU MY VERY DEAR
NEPHEW
CHARLES HENRY CUTLER.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
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Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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RECEIVED AT 332 ROBERT STREET, ST. PAUL, MINN.

1918 DEC 30 AM 11 31

A157CH 7

BOSTON MASS 1155A1 30

EDWARD H CUTLER

405

360 SUMMIT AVE ST PAUL MINN

LOVE AND DEEPEST SYMPATHY FOR YOU ALL

COUSIN BLANCHE.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
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Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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RECEIVED AT 332 ROBERT STREET, ST. PAUL, MINN.

AM 51CH 11

1918 DEC 30 AM 11 28

BOSTON MASS 1155A 30

EDWARD H CURTLER

400

560 SUMMIT AVE ST PAUL MINN

KATHERIAN AND I SEND LOVE AND DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU ALL

W D WOOLDREDGE

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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RECEIVED AT 332 ROBERT STREET, ST. PAUL, MINN.

A129NA 6

FY NEW YORK NY 206P 29

MISS AMELIA CUTLER

1211

SUMMIT AVE ST PAUL MINN

DEEPEST SYMPATHY ON YOUR GREAT LOSS

HELEN GILMAN BROWN.

1918 DEC 29 PM 1 53

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Day Message	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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RECEIVED AT 332 ROBERT STREET, ST. PAUL, MINN.

A317NA 13

BROOKLINE MASS 1240P 31

MISS AMELIA D CUTLER

539

360 SUMMIT AVE ST PAUL MINN

ELINOR CABLEGRAM READ RUFUS DIED YESTERDAY PNEUMONIA NOTIFY TIBBS

MARY JACK LOVE WELL

ELINOR.

18 DEC 31 PM 1 33

2

" done so much for me and given me more than I can tell. I want you to know what a big comfort I take in the memory of having had her at Dux - that perfect visit with her and Mary - nothing can ever take that away and it was perfect. and how she loved our house! And I love to remember that you enjoyed her and I love to remember that the girls have said they liked her - it means you all know something of what it means to be trying to realize all this

There isn't much to say - I haven't written you for several days because she has been ill. I only cabled to let you know I am alright and so that you won't hear from anyone else. I have known since Sunday morning that she was very ill. She had had a cold for sometime but nothing to worry about and it wasn't till ^{a week ago yesterday} Monday [^] that she went to bed. From the very beginning she was in the hospital just down 2 flights from us - and had everything possible done for her. I arranged for her to have the best room and she had special nurses. Best of all when Ruth asked for a Homeopathic and I wanted consulting specialist there was Dr Farraud, head of the Rockefeller Tuberculosis Commission whom I had just called on with my letter from W. M. I went straight to him tho it was nearly 10 o'clock Saturday night and he was perfectly lovely to me and Sunday he came out to the hospital himself the medical head of the commission

a specialist. He was not a Homeopath but 3
Rufus ever knew it and was satisfied and I am
sure it will mean a lot to her family that he
assured me that the Red Cross doctors were
doing everything possible. They were very good
and the nurses were fine and they were all so
good to me too. The matrons arranged for me
to have my meals at the nurses home across the
street so that I was able to be with Rufus most of
the time the last two days. And last night she
tried to tell me it was a comfort. She was conscious
a good deal of the time and oh Mother dear - it was
the very hardest thing I have ever had to do - but
I did manage never to let her know how anxious
I was. I think she knew how sick she was but I'm
sure it helped to have me there ready to smile
and to soothe her by talking of what we were
going to do and to hold her hand. I know she
would have done everything for me - but it was
all I could do for her. and it's my greatest comfort
now. She died just a little before midnight.

This morning I went to Headquarters and arranged
the simple service we are to have Thursday at the
American(?) Chapel - it is to be very simple - but she
will have full military honors I will tell you about
it afterwards.

This afternoon we moved we just couldn't
stay at the hospital - and we are at a wonderful
place - a

Red Cross women's Club - near the Bois. Louise Alden and I are together in a big room - and I must say she is a wonder - she has just stood by me these last few days wonderfully - run all over town for me when I wanted - taken me to walk - and kept people out of the way - and it means a lot to have her here. The place is well heated and we have good meals which we don't have to go out for, and we have our trunks and I have gotten out the few photos I brought and feel fairly settled.

Something has happened to my mail. I haven't yet had a line from Boston - all I have had from the other side have been 2 from Aunt Lillian, and those written 11 days apart came yesterday and today and I do so long to hear from you. Yesterday Louise brought me a letter from Ted and one from Aunt Lil. They came just when I needed them most - and helped me carry on.

I don't know what I am going to do just now - the only thing I want to do is to go home just as fast as I can - go and see the dear Cutlers and give them the comfort of hearing all the things that I can't get into the longest letter - and then come home - and maybe get you to go to Dux with me for a little while. But they tell me at the Headquarters that it is impossible for me to take Rufus back and that I cannot get passage for three months probably.

so I may just go on - Of course I will if they need me - it's only if they don't that I would be able to go home. Just at this minute it seems almost impossible to go on and do alone what I had so counted on doing together - from the very beginning I had counted on it; even before I went to Chatham and persuaded her to come - I know she would want me to - I know she tried to say so last night - but she never imagined how big a part of the scheme having her was.

Mother dear - How much December 23rd means to us doesn't it -

Goodnight

December 26

Mother dear - It's late and all the time I planned to have for writing has been taken up by important errands or by calls from people who are being awfully kind. But this must get off to you tomorrow in the American mail. I have been busy every minute of the day planning the little service for Rufus that had to be postponed till tomorrow, Friday at 2:30. It is to be at the American Church - a very nice little place not far from here. I went around there this morning and also talked with the minister Dr. Chauncy Goodrich, who knows Aunt Lillian and Aunt Mary thro New Haven relatives. It is all going to be very very simple but I wanted to arrange to have the organ play "peace" - you know, that

chant that we thought so much of at college. There are ^{6.} so many of 1912 here I think it will mean a good deal. Some of us had the music. but I got one of the manageresses of the Club - French woman to take me to her home and I picked out the melody on her piano and I think the organist will be able to play it. And another thing I have done today was to take to be developed a picture I took of Rufus on that Sunday just before she was taken sick. I do so hope it will be good as it is the only one we shall have of her in her uniform. I hope it will help the Cutlers to feel that it all was sudden and not a matter of neglect. I have tried all these last few days to think of everything they would want. both during her illness and since. I can't bear to think that even tomorrow they won't know. For you see we all felt and the doctors, including Dr Farrand, too, that since it takes 4 days for a cable to go from here over special Red Cross Cables and longer for a private answer - it would really be ^{easier} ~~easier~~ for the Cutlers not to have a long anxious wait even if it should mean this terrible shock instead - so we did not send any word till we cabled Monday saying she was very ill but that everything was being done and we would wire daily. - and the next day we wired that she had died. I cannot bear to think of Mr Cutter and Amelia, they all depended so on her and they've had such sad years these last two - I have written them a long ^{long} letter

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enclosing a picture of the hospital and a photograph
of the really wonderful nurse who was so ~~affectionate~~
specially lovely to Rufus - hoping it will help to
make it a little more real. I shall send it by
a friend of theirs who is sailing very soon and
who will also see about taking home her things. I
wonder if you would sometime go over to see Elmer
Mrs Rice Thompson who has an apartment in the
Strathcona. Tell her how I loved Rufus and how I
am thinking of her. I think she would be glad to see
you.

I asked you in my cable to notify Libs, Mary &
Jack. I hope you got the latters address from the
Vassarion or from Mary. I just didn't want them to
hear rumors - not know definitely ~~that~~ the Cutters
may notify them too. I am writing Mum all
as soon as I can - and they will write others. I'm
sending Mary only a line. Perhaps you will let
her read this - or better still send her all - or almost
all of it. And please tell Uncle Mitchell how I have
blessed him for his letters to Dr Farrand - you can't
imagine how good he has been to me - coming
over to the hospital himself on one of his rare free
afternoons, ^{that Sunday} and being so awfully kind and helpful
and cheering. I do think he is a dear - and he has
the loveliest family - the most interesting & attractive
children. I saw them all the night I went to ask
his advice about a specialist. He thanks a lot
of U.M. and did all that

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for me because of him. Everybody has been awfully good
to me - all because they were so fond of Rufus - the
people on the steamer and at headquarters ~~were~~
everybody was drawn to her at once and they
want so much to help. Several have sent me
flowers too - or notes - or come to see me - and it
is wonderful that there are so many people who
knew Rufus even slightly at college. You see besides
Louise Alden - Ruth Skinner there are Reg(?) Pursol
and Ruth Burns all in our class. You may be
interested to know that I have kept for a bit and am
wearing the watch the class gave Rufus when we sailed.
I think the Cutlers won't mind for a little as they
never associated her with it and I not only had
a little part in arranging it for her, but I knew
how delighted she was with it and I have seen her
wearing it.

You can't possibly imagine how I enjoyed my
box of Christmas things yesterday. It just meant
everything to open it - feel it had come straight from
you (because I haven't even yet gotten mail) We slept
till 9.30 yesterday, Xmas morning, and then I got into
Louise's bed with it (and our beds being the tinnest
cots in the world, it was amusing) and we pretended
it was a stocking. We spent over an hour on it
and simply loved everything inside and outside - all
the wrappings and all the perfectly lovely poems!
You couldn't know what a comfort they would be
when you did them up and took all that

trouble but you would have felt well repaid. And you would never imagine unless you had been over here how much candy and those luscious cakes of chocolate mean - honestly if I had made out a Christmas list from this side it would have been all sweets, and I loved the letter (?) and the powder box and the Ninette ?, Rententum (?) and the match box. I tried to guess who had contributed what, but I wouldn't dare tell you anyway. I specially loved the poems which I'm sure are yours - Louise called the one on the soap, her idea of "concentrated poetry". We worked all the afternoon at a big canteen at the Gare St Lazare - and certainly there is great satisfaction in scraping and washing dishes and working just as hard as you can to keep the piles of dirty dishes from overflowing the entire place!

We were simply dead when we got there but most grateful to Ruth Burns who got us the chance to help out.

I have just read this over and I realize I have written a great deal more than I meant to. I don't want to make you feel sad but it has been a great help to write all that I am feeling - and by the time this reaches you - you will know I have gotten a little more adjusted. Do write to me often letters mean so much over here - and address them always to the A.R.C. 2 Place de Revoli. They will be forwarded.

Much much love Mother darling - and all you darlings
 from
 (Eda) Elmon

Mr Cutler and family
360 Summit Ave.
Saint Paul ,Minn.

Dear friends, and family of Ruth,

The class of 1912 of Vassar College desires to express sympathy collectively, and to say that each individual seperately recognizes a deep personal loss in the death of Ruth.

Ruth was known and loved by every girl in the class and her life of unselfish and valuable service has been a constant inspiration. The class will always be proud to claim Ruth, and in the heart of each member her influence still continues and is expressing more fully than ever the spirit of her life and her beautiful character.

Harriet Thwing Havens
Secretary of 1912

My dear dear Brother-

You have been very much in my thoughts (and Amelia too) since I received Will telegram late yesterday afternoon telling us the sad news of dear Ruth's death. I cannot seem to realize it. So quiet and loving so strong and so capable, it seemed as if there would be nothing to prevent a long and very useful life here. But in a moment we find that happy useful life is to be on the other side. You and I are getting on here we have nearly as many of those dear ~~one~~ us on that side, as on this. In another week we both shall have passed the three score and ten, but I trust have many years of useful work with joy outrunning sorrow.

I went to Marblehead this morning and told Lucia that Ruth had gone to join her Mother. She could not seem to realize it at first and broke down, but soon became calm and talked with me for an hour. She seemed to feel very strongly how hard it would be for you and Amelia. I talked with Dr Edgerly before going down - I reported to him after returning - He said he would see her within a day or two, but felt she would brave it without injury. I wish there was something I could do for you and Amelia but I can only send my heartfelt sympathy and love.

Your affectionate
brother,

Jim.

Sunday Dec. 29, 1918.

Dear Miss Cutler-

I cannot possibly tell you how shocked and overwhelmed I was when Margaret Metcalf came down to the hospital to tell me about Ruth before I should have to learn it elsewhere. You know I think how well we had grown to know each other, but you may not realize how very fond I was of her - we seemed to have so much in common and to think alike about so many things. I have never seen a girl who had so many fine characteristics - one felt there was nothing that could not be hoped for her - so that this sad interruption seems all the harder to bear. But I like to think of it as the beginning , rather than the end, of a deeper

happiness for Ruth, and as the fulfillment of the sweet unselfish life that was hers. But despite ones convictions of all this, it is a crushing thing, and I am full of the most heartfelt sympathy for you all. Only it is impossible to express, and for some feelings there are simply no words.

Ever Sincerely Yours,

Ruth Eliot -

January second.

OUR WORK

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No. 1

The Officers and Board of Directors of the United Charities extend to all members and friends of the organization, cordial wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

THE CHALLENGE OF 1919.

When Nature in the dying hours of the old year covered everything with her shroud of snowy white, she performed a sacred rite, an act symbolical. She hid over night the wreck and ruin left in the wake of the last years' wars and conflicts, and at the same time issued a challenge to those who have vision and thought for the future to build anew on a foundation of spotless purity.

Probably not since the beginning of civilization, certainly not since the birth of Christ has any year held such possibilities for good or evil, as the year we have just begun. The agreement men will reach and the articles they will write in Versailles in 1919 will decide the welfare of the whole world for centuries to come.

The policies of reconstruction adopted this year here in the United States will, to a great extent, decide whether or not the nation and its individual citizens are about to embark on a period of sound growth and prosperity. What is true of the nation at large is also true of the city of St. Paul and its citizens.

The attitude of society towards its unfortunate members, the recognizing or ignoring of its responsibilities for the rational care of the needy will play a large part in determining the weal or woe of society as a whole. No man can ignore with impunity a just debt; neither can society hope to escape disaster except by discharging fully its obligations to those who for any reason whatsoever, are unable to help themselves. A wrong attitude always dangerous in the past, spells disaster at this time.

There is one force of evil that has survived and has even been strengthened by the war. Autocracy is gone; thrones have tottered and fallen, crowns are popular only with the dental profession; but Bolshevism is with us, a menace real, not fancied.

Bolshevism is a fungus growth of poverty. When men's stomachs are empty, their heads soon become filled with its destructive doctrines. At such a time the agents of Bolshevism find prime subjects for their pernicious work.

Albert Atwood, in a current number of one of our national weeklies shows how Bolshevism became rampant in a certain part of Texas, where it had not rained for three years and where in consequence, the settlers were poverty stricken. Oil was discovered in that district and every trace of Bolshevism disappeared by magic.

Now oil—or gold—cannot always be found to serve as a cure for poverty; nor is this necessary. The one thing needed is organized, systematic effort to strike at the root of poverty, to strike fearlessly and effectively, whether it be in the social system or in the individual needy family. Such effort will find quick response on the part of those who must be served and wherever it is put forth with sufficient strength and sincerity, Bolshevism will find no home.

Moreover we must get away from the philosophy of David Harum "that a reasonable amount of fleas is good

for a dog;" that a reasonable amount of privation are good for the poor; and that we have done our full duty when we have kept them from starving.

If it is true poverty makes for sullen and violent discontent which may swell into a great wave of social unrest, bringing in its wake disrupted business, closed shops, unemployment and lawlessness—and one glance at Russia will convince you that this is so—then the danger is apparent, that this poverty may clutch even you in your comfortable home and make you one of its very own.

No charitable organization can be content to be a mere supply house for food and hand-me-downs and satisfied to merely keep the poor alive in their poverty. As responsible citizens of a great democracy we must realize, that by banding ourselves together into an organization—such as is the United Charities—and jointly fighting poverty, we are doing our plain duty and are only attempting to remove the powder kegs, which a spark from the firebrand of a conscienceless Bolshevik agitator may ignite at any moment.

The New Year's challenge then to us is to continue and strengthen to the utmost the organized, uncompromising fight against poverty. We have accepted it.

HER SERVICE STAR GLEAMS GOLDEN NOW.

From over the seas comes the word that another of St. Paul's heroes has made the supreme sacrifice for the cause of liberty and justice. This time it is Ruth Cutler, daughter of E. H. Cutler, who was called to pay the price of devotion. She died from pneumonia, in Paris, two days before Christmas.

Since the day war was declared, her supreme desire was to serve her country on the battlefields of France.

Her chance came last November when she joined the Vassar Unit of the American Red Cross. Her death after only a few weeks of service was a sad but withal fitting close to a life devoted to the service of her fellow men.

For some years she filled the position as Assistant General Secretary of the United Charities with marked ability and devotion. Not only did she put into effect the present system of district offices, but many a needy family—without ever suspecting the identity of the kind donor—received aid out of her personal funds. Such was her quiet custom and those who were privileged to know her, valued her all the more highly for it. Her life and her death shall be an enobling example to us all.

The Board of Directors and Officers of the United Charities extend to her bereaved family their sincerest sympathy.

Darling Elinor-

I want t you to have a few words from me when you arrive tomorrow morning to let you know I am thinking of you with deepest sympathy. I wish I could tell you one half how terribly I feel for you but I am sure you know it, and also how much I love you and wish I could do something for you in this great sorrow. I am so thankful you can be here with your father and si sister and the dear baby.

As I told your sister I dont want you to feel you have to see me until you feel perfectly able to do so. I shall wait until Mrs Will Cutler telephones to me to go, so wait please until you feel stronner and I will come down then.

I long to see you, and I shall be thinking of you constantly as I have been for three days. These few words carry a world of love dearest Elinor, from your

devoted Eleanor.

January, 5, 1919.

Dear Amelia-

Do not think that you have not been in my thought during the great sorrow that has come to you. My heart goes out to you all. I sincerely hope to see you if you feel like it, before I go back to New York. With love and deepest sympathy,

Affectionately

Blanche.

Brookline
Jan. 5, 1919.

My dear Miss Cutler-

We had such a nice visit from Mr Thompson last Friday when he came over to hear some of Elinor's letters. He thought that even though Ruth had written you about the same things you might like to see these letters. He took the first one and I am enclosing copies of the others.

Of course I have had no letter yet since the cablegram. I was so distressed to hear how the news had reached your Father. It was cruel that it could not have been softened in any way.

It was a comfort to me to learn that the girls were stopping at a hospital in Paris for it made me feel that they probably had help at hand from the first. Of course we know that Elinor did all a sister could and I believe mourns as much. I wonder if you know how she loved and admired Ruth.

Of course the joy has gone out of her winter's work, but I don't think she will come home if she finds there is anything she is needed for.

With loving regards to you all,
Margaret B. Prudden.

Jan. 21 1919.

Mr. Edward H. Cutler,
Saint Paul, Minn.

My dear Mr. Cutler,

We have just learned very recently through our people, of the sad death of your daughter Ruth, and while we realize that words from outsiders don't of necessity mean much we do most sincerely express our sympathy and not only that but a desire to pay a tribute to one who went to the front and so far as she could served her country as well and nobly as any on the fighting line.

Patriotism means more to us all now than ever and we are more appreciative of a manifestation of it than formerly and those who went even though they did not have to go are entitled to double credit.

With deep regards I am

Yours sincerely

Geo. H. Smith Jr.

My dear Mr. Cutler -

Elinor Prudden is one of my dearest friends and through her I have always felt that I knew Ruth better than I really did. At the time they sailed I was in New York and spent all that last day rushing about with them while they tried to get everything they needed in time to leave the next morning.

Now I shall always be glad that I had that opportunity to see Ruth, for she left me with a very fresh and decided impression of her wonderful personality.

To me Ruth has always been one of the most beautiful girls I have ever known. I suppose that it is difficult for a girl's father not to take her very much for granted; but in a crowd of girls, such as we live with during college, a well-balanced person like Ruth stands out as very unusual. A girl who has a good mind, but is genial and ready for fun, whose interests are in worth while things, but always in a normal sort of way, and who is built for athletics and has a very lovely face is rare indeed, Mr. Cutler, and it is very hard to think that she is not to live to give all the pleasure of which she was capable.

The thought of Ruth is always an inspiration to me and I know that many other girls have the same lasting impression of her: so I hope that you can realize how very deeply we sympathize with her you

who are losing so much of her companionship.

Very sincerely yours,

December 29.

Florence Barrett.

December 30, 1919.

My dear Amelia,

Betty has just sent me word of your great sorrow which has come to you and I want you to know that I am grieving with you. My heart goes out in strong love and sympathy to you all. We too are in sorrow. William's wife died Saturday night the 28th of December, we shall lay her away tomorrow. But for her it was a happy release for she suffered much and was glad to go. But dear Ruth was at the threshold of life and it is hard to let such go. Only our Heavenly Father can comfort you, and He will in His own good time.

Give my love to your Father and much to yourself from,

Your affectionate friend
Susanna I Becker.

Vassar College
April 18, 1920.

My dear Mrs. Sargent -

I know that if Ruth's spirit could speak to us carrying a message from the great Beyond to our earthly presence she would be wishing us a happy Easter. She would concur entirely with the words of a brave boy, son of one of my dear friends who wrote to his Mother before going into the aerial flight where he lost his life - "You must not grieve", "If I must make the supreme sacrifice I will do it gladly ** and the life that I lay down will be my preparation for the grander finer life that I shall take up. I shall live!"

I enclose a quotation from a letter of Prudy's - I had it copied for you intending to send it when I wrote to thank you for the paper you were so good as to send me. That so long a time has elapsed has been owing to a multiplicity of small demands on my time and thought which have made me postpone other and more important undertakings.

I am always glad that I have known Ruth in so many ways and never failed to enjoy and appreciate her. We shall always have the memory of her to hearten us in our daily round of life.

With best wishes for the peace of God in your heart, I am

Sincerely yours,

Isabel N. Tillinghast.

(over)

" The more I see of the work here the more I realize how wonderfully Ruth would have done it. It takes the very best we have to give and her best was so very fine and she gave it so readily. I like to think of her in her uniform for her whole life has been one of the most unselfish and devoted service I have ever known. She never thought of herself never considered her own comfort; never knew her own worth. She was always such a brave, keen, honest spirit, so awake in her interests, so sound in her thinking, and so absolutely sincere in all her relations -- there are few who can be so crystal clear and so beautiful. Here she would have found a tremendous need for all her gifts; she was a born nurse and knew so well how to soothe and how to cheer; and she was so ready and versatile with her hands, so thorough and systematic in her executive work -- and how she would have loved it! "

Dec. 29 1918

Dear Edward
and
Amelia

Richard has telegraphed you, and though I know these are no proper words to say it, I must try to tell you how much I feel for you in this new sudden sorrow that has come upon you.

Dear Ruth! As I saw her that last night at Elinor's so quietly happy that at last she was really to do the work of which she had been thinking and for which she had so long been preparing, how little any of us thought she was so soon to be called to nobler deeper work than she had planned. We that- know that is what it must be. She is so capable, so quietly efficient, with such a love for all the worth while things - how eagerly she will take them up in the new fields that will open to her.

How lovingly her dear Mother will greet her "over there", not so far as France!

As she was a blessing to her Mother here, so she will be a blessing there. It is so hard for us to think of the young life ended here, but oh! how beautiful the beginning and continuance of that young life there.

I am glad you are to have Elinor and the dear baby with you for a while, Little Amelia will be such a comfort, and we hope dear Elinor will gain the much needed strength with you.

Richard went to see Lucia this morning. Of course, she was very much over come, but I know my dear husband helped her. Indeed he has been busy - and gladly busy to help, even so little all day, seeing different relatives etc.

We are hoping that Elinor was not informed before she left. Rice knew through the Pruddens and asked Richard's advice as to telling Elinor. Of course Richard told him of the request in the telegram and we hope that she left before anyone had an opportunity to tell her.

Richard has tried many times today to get Rice by telephone - so far without success. We thought he might like to spend this first lonely week with us.

Dear ,de r friends - I do not feel that I have said anything - I know I cannot comfort you, but the Lord can and He surely will.

Very affectionately yours

Carrie.

January 7 1929

My dear Amelia -

It is with the deepest sympathy that I write you this morning, my heart full of grief over the news of Ruth's death, in Paris, which has just come to us - I am unable to express my feelings

Will and ~~hhs~~ sisters and I are here together and we feel so shocked and so full of sympathy for you and your Father and the girls, that you all are constantly in our thoughts.

We knew that Ruth had gone to France for war work - and how unselfishly she has given her life to her country - a true soldier she was so dear and sweet, we loved her very much and so gifted in many ways. She was so needed, so loved and moving - It is impossible for us to understand the Great Purpose, in taking her from this world.

Will you please accept our great Sympathy and know how glad we would be could we say even one word of comfort to you.

Yours very lovingly
Mayy E. Abbott.

January 7. 1919.

My dear Mr.Cutler and Amelia-

It is with a sad heart that I write you of your ~~and~~ our great loss, in the death of dear Ruth. We have just heard from mae, and want yo to know of our profound love and sympathy.

Why Ruth should be taken from you and us is difficult to understand. She was such a lovely, sweet girl, ~~k~~ind and noble and so much beloved by all who knew her best.

That she w s taken in ~~d~~oing her bit for her country and humanity is a consolation, and that she will be with her dear Mother is another.

Since her birth I have known and lovedh her.

With much love to you both and to the others of your family,

I remain
Sincerely yours,
W.P.Abbott.

Feb. 6, 1919

My dear Amelia -

I have intended to run in and see you ever since your terrible sorrow. My thoughts and sympathy have been with you constantly and will you please give my love and heartfelt sympathy to your father and sisters in your overwhelming loss. I had the privilege of really getting to know Ruth last year when we met frequently at the College Club board meetings and every time I was more and more impressed by her splendid judgment and ability. It will always mean a great deal to me to have come in close contact with her, for your dear Mother's friendship and all of your family have always been of great value to me.

Always with love and sincere sympathy -

Caroline Saunders Linde
ke.

January, 13, 1919.

My dear Friends -

We can hardly believe it possible that Ruth has gone from us. Although Mr. Thompson telephoned us the dreadful news on Saturday. On Friday I went to the apartment to call on Elionr, but found she and baby had gone to St. Paul. Through Mrs. Fultz I heard a sister of Elionr's had died in France. For sometime I was dazed and could not believe it true. I am so sorry for you all. I know what the loss will mean to you. Ruth was such a wonderful young woman. So full of energy ambition, sweetness and love. I thought when I heard of her going over to do her part in the World's struggle, what a help she would be, and how happy she would be in the work. Now, to think she was snatched away before really entering upon it. It is too dreadful and unexplainable. How

many of these tragedies there have been. My nephew died of the influenza a few weeks ago, leaving a wife and three children, who are simply crushed by the blow. He was one of the finest of men, a model husband and devoted to his family. One of our Hemingway cousins, a Captain, in the 104th was killed as he was trying to get his men under cover, in a gas attack. Another nephew is in the hospital in France recovering from a second gas attack, and so it goes, until we are simply overwhelmed by the awfulness of it all.

Ruth was such a comfort and companion to her Father I fear her going will be almost more than he can bear, coming so soon after Mrs. Cutler's death. It does seem at times we could never recover from these blows, but we have to, and try to smile through it all. I do hope Elionr will improve in health. She must have had a fearfully hard time, with the servant problem and cramped quarters. I have been here a few weeks for the holidays while Mr Hemingway was away, but go to Dalton on Tuesday. I felt I must see Elionr Before I went back, Alice was to have gone with me, but Johnnie had a cold which prevented. We were so glad to hear Mr Thompson's voice over the telephone, as we felt more acquainted than before. I hope when any details come about Ruth's death Mr T. Will call us up, or go in to see Jack. We have had no direct news as yet from Marjorie altho we expected letters would go and come through. We did hear, however thro the aunt in Switzerland all was well with the family.

I wish I could say something to comfort you or help you to bear your sorrow. You have our love, however, and deepest sympathy,

Most Sincerely

Alice N. Hemingway.

Jan. 8 1919.

Dear Mr Cutler-

I want to thank you most warmly for the big check which you sent me for our French Hospital work, the other day. It helps us at a critical time, when interest in war work tends to wain, and yet when we must keep on for two or three months longer while the French Hospital are still filled with wounded soldiers, and when we need to do for the Refugee populations, and especially for our own St. Paul Dispensary in Northern France until the French Government takes over all such work.

I was also much touched that you should think of us at this time when your heart must be very heavy with your own great sorrows. Believe me we have all felt the deepest sympathy for you and the girls and have wished that all the comfort that comes to us in these days of constantly facing death may be with you, as I know it is. Death seems more friendly I think, at any rate we face it with a more certain faith that it is not an ending, but a beginning of a large life.

Sincerely and gratefully

Mary L. Ames.

Bridgewater, Jan. 6. 1919.

Dear Edward-

Such sad news from you today, I don't know how you can bear it, only that strength is always given us to bear what comes.

When our dear boys had to "take their lives in their hands" and go across to fight we were I think more prepared for such news but though so many have had to succumb to that dreadful epidemic, I had not thought of the possibility of her having to be taken. You surely have a great deal to bear and I wish I could do or say anything that would help you.

Give my love to those who are left for you and a great deal for you and Amelia, so much alone. Affectionately,

Hannah.

Dear Aquelia Saco

August 9. 1954-

MRS. HOWARD H. SARGENT
MARINE-ON-ST. CROIX
MINNESOTA

Elvior - I have sent a letter you may just
a few days ago. But I do want to get a few words
to you by Thursday, dear Ruth's birthday -
wait until tomorrow, I may miss out. For it's
serving day at Nell Ruth's & we often don't get back
in the afternoon until after the mail goes out. And
Wed. of course is too late, I plan then to take it
to town for a "can do" or permanent things, at
Schunemann's, getting ready to leave on Friday for
the Cal. trip. I hope I don't look too unattractive.
As you know with out my sending this I'll be
thinking of you with extra love on that day, as we
were remembering so many wonderful things about
Ruth & all who have gone on. So few of us left!
Just recently, looking over a box of Ruth's old V.C.
programs etc. I came across a very piece of
yellowed slightly torn paper, the kind we had on
our outside doors for girls to write messages on them.

It was to "Jack" (Helen Jackson, Steubens) & was
written after some one she knew had died, might
be a brother. I'll quote, "But who knows the inner
experiences, which the wait itself may have wrought
upon those who give themselves that others may
live. There is a glory about it spiritually, of which
you must be proud - you who loved him so dearly.
Some times I think you are not so sure about
that other life that he has gone to, as I am. That
is the reality, no longer question. Could spirits
such as Boland's mother be extinguished by the
death of their bodies? R. was in his prime of life.
That's what makes it so especially hard for those he
has left behind. You must be at peace about him -
and yet - and yet." Wasn't that a beautiful
thing to feel & comfort her with at that time?
I'll keep hold of it. But her signature looks like
"Bufe" not Rufus, as I suppose they called her.
I'm sure you'll hear from Margaret Table,
only sickness would stop her & I hope she is well.