



Reed and Hyde Families Papers.

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Day by Day

To whom it may
concern:

This is the diary
of my overseas
service in the
first world war.

See July 23-1918
for the beginning.
Up to Aug 4-1918

W. R. H.: Walter Reed
Hospital - Washington
D.C. my first
assignment.

May 21-1919 - was
my start with the
Smith College Relief Unit.

(over)

There is a detailed
letter of my overseas
voyage among my
letters that should
be part of this.

Sept. 1970

In 1919 when I
returned I typed a
combination of diary
and letters written
during the year in
Europe - making 114
pages. In 1970
I added some
things I remembered
which were not
included.

All of this typed
material was
offered and sent to
the Archives Dept.
of the 1905 section
of the Smith College

Library.

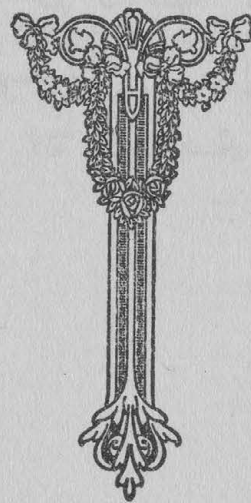
It is available,
on request, probably
by our own wishing
to see it.

Signed

Oliver Evans

Day by Day

Day by Day



January 1 Wed.

1919. Work in spite of holiday
some boys didn't show up so
more time to take things lessively
serene and I on rampage over
back of public opinion in the
arrangements for the question.

Talked like Dutch to some
of the boys. Had wonderful talk
with Strickland in effort to bring him
out of depth of discouragement.
He out of mind who always takes
or gets credit of everything.

Did not time over my resolutions
but wished to be able to do many
things.

January 2 Thursday

works works. still the same
Major Orr. appeared at work
with news that Miss S. had
gone to Tours to settle our
affairs.

Discovered that our orderly
had chronic diarrhoea.
Made up mind to discharge
him immediately.

16 new nurses arrived
for duty.

January 3 Fri.

Busy day - mind relieved by
announcement that orderly
was leaving hospital in day!
Worked in a new one!

Discussed with Capt. Tolson the
possibility of having help from the
orthopedic nurses. Idea seemed
good all around.

January 4

Sat.

Examined many new cases
nearly finished with work
so tired at 4 p.m. could hardly
go up to 416 to treat Buffalo
and still had 6 cases to do.
Went to bed depressed and
disgusted with life.
Planning to put nurses
in my work until girls arrive.

January 5

Sun.

Tried to sleep late but nothing
like that possible. Did many
things at home and in office.
Wonderful surprise at supper
time to see the long desired
three aides. Spent evening
talking with them and planning
work for Monday. Love! such
a relief.

January 6

Mon.

Great fun starting out the
real department. Rather
difficult though to do my
cases and steer the others
along. Marvelous to finish
work before 5 P.M.

January 7

Tues

Work easier still. with new
members. Miss Raden very
efficient and the others fine.
Q. L. Ford. Sec. T. decided that
Reidies would give a party for
newcomers and officers. Refused
in without consent on our part.
The merriest person I know.

January 8 Wed.

Hoped to get through early enough to go to town but no such luck. Took French lesson instead - party of A. de Ford & several men played such uninteresting cards. Men acted like school boys.

January 9 Thurs.

Started the day by having stove pipe fall - long climb boys late after lunch. Scrap on Lt Capt John & Jones. Capt John great in kindness to us and works with us.

Rather weary —

January 10 Fri

Long day much interrupted
so not so much accomplished
New dept. working well
but added numbers is more
or less of straws - many
details

January 11 Sat.

Hard long day pouring rain.
Went down town in evening to
play Traveling Salesman - sodding
but attractive walk home down
side streets.

January 12 Sun

Sleep - spent morning
writing article for year books.
Walked through park and by
flooded river - Had very
nice evening with Madame
Robert. French coming a bit
more easily

January 13 Mon.

Day of words - rain - French
lesson.

January 14 Tues.

Busy day - rain
heavy clinic, 21 new cases
added. spent evening in
assignment of cases for heavy
day

January 15 Wed.

Grace and I worked all
morning and struck in afternoon
Pouring rain but went down
town - had hair wash in teaspoon
of water & beer. Such a town
and such habits.

Much chasing around in rain
to get rain hat. dinner in
"English spoken" place good.

Had letter from Michigan
saying that girls were sending
me \$100 to use in work here.

Toughed beyond words that
they should do it.

January 16 Thurs.

Started morning early - went
to Officers Hospital to make
es. in morning. Had chat
on way to H. H. with Capt. T.
about policy of Hospital - decidedly
jumpy in spots.

Finished all cases in spite
of interrupted day.

Wrote long letter to girls at
Michigan. Rather hankering
to go back.

January 17 Fri.

Fine morning with lots of
cases accomplished

Sunshine for first day
after 48 consecutive days of
rain - some weather.

Capt. T. absurdly jumpy at
clinic

Boys went to show in
afternoon so we not busy.
Parker at last arrived & in use

French lesson - cleaned
paraffine - went to "Kels Du."
American company at R. C.

January 18

Sat

Morning went smoothly.
Afternoon long clinic.
much interrupted.
Capt T. humorously undignified
Had meeting of aides to discuss
how we could take on all new
cases.

Took weekly bath & to bed
early.

Had final talk with Fordham
during treatment. - Told me how
war had taught him to
appreciate home and parents
as he never had before.

January 19

Sun.

Gate sleep. Went to office to
discuss cases. Watched Dr. put a
traction on foot that was entirely
severed except gastrocnemius.
Heard big convoy going out - mostly
of boys going so problem of new
cases solved. Saw Buffalo
special meningitis - paralysis said
wonderful things to me about my
work with boys. He showed me
beautiful letter from his captain
congratulating him for D.S.C.
Modest boy had never mentioned it.
He touched me beyond words by
his big personality and simple
nature.

Had short walk - wrote long
letters and read in evening.

Much stirred up by fundamental
depth of life some of these simple
boys have gotten in war.

January 20

Mon

Work rather easy - so many
evacuated. Long clinic -
spent evening trying to get
Miss Rader to hospital in
ambulance. novel experience
to take stretcher case in
ambulance. Miss R. really ill.

January 21

Tues.

Easy day - no clinic finished
early and wrote letter.
Had interesting new case Mark.
Shot three ^{in back} side & spine three other
side muscles badly severed -
After injury last April went
back to Regiment fought thru
St. Mihiel, Argonne Woods,
Sedan and marched into
Coblenz with regiment, then
disqualified. Shown gold
German cross dated 1866
with inscription "Got used up".
Even there! He took it from
German Major prisoner.
Had 1000 marks note etc -
Such experiences!

January 22

Wed.

Bury - long clinic.
changed orderly because Hye
going home. (address
Poultice, Miss. Route 3)
Hye presented me with elaborate
silk and lace piece "Souvenir de
France". Tragedy because so
expensive. Très drôle garçon.
Had first snow and driving
storm of winter.

French lesson, bought
some beautiful ensembles
in lace and bangles bought myself
ordering more.

Letter from Jan. saying she
would be married soon.

January 23

Thurs.

Have sleep or no sleep -
chills & fever all night - had
head all day & tired but worked
through alright. No clinic.
Took extra cases of Miss Raders.
Had nice professional talk w/ Russell
and Deheron. Went to bed very early.

January 24 Fri

Felt full of pep - lots of work things a bit mixed up by anticipated evacuation.

Got excited about my old profession by having Capt. Tolson talk about Russian Ballet & its charms.

Amusing French lesson. Some how blue - guess tired.

January 25 Sat.

Busy day - long clinic. Much commotion because bunch going out. Hey, our chore boy, left us amid much regret on his part at leaving the dept. Funny and nice boy.

~~Strickland also left - ended with fine talk with him~~

Just as cramped for time and many ^{new} cases leaving need for treatments, many old cases leave. Capt. T. receptive about our getting more help.

Went to bed early because could not get opera tickets. Tried to get hot bath down in corner of hall way by stove. Just as in midst of bath, standing both feet in bowl clothes line I was using as screen fell cauldrons spilling newly washed clothes all over place. Could not step out because wet and had to yell for Grace to rescue me. Three pails of water tipped over on all my night clothes on floor. Such are the vicissitudes of a weekly bath in France.

January 26 Sun.

Slept late. T. Bell brought me elegant breakfast eggs & bacon chocolate & toast french petite pains delicious.

No fire in house so left early and stayed at office all day to keep warm read & write. Evening had splendid dinner with Mr. Robert. awfully cold but delicious food. egg roll in sauce was marvellous. My french improving some.

January 27 Mon

Started on new school - full and interested in new career. Wonderfully touched by sweet personality of Forthingill. Seemed like a sick child needing care. Appealed to my motherly instincts, French lesson.

Many boys going out tomorrow including Strickland, had a fine talk with him. Only hope that I have really done something for him other than his hand.

January 28 Tues.

Long clinic - hard day
spent evening looking up
lists of those gone out and
assigning new cases.

Seems funny in 1.30 with
all the stand by walking
patients gone.

January 29 Wed

No clinic - through early
Had building time helping Crest
walls, almost swamped in process.
Society improving marvelously
in health and spirits.
Many ¹³⁰ bed cases going out soon.

January 30

Thurs

Long day - clinic takes up most of afternoon because Capt T. so slow and chatty in examinations.

My sweet boy Fortherrigill sick with pneumonia. worried about him. Miss Raden and 4th floor in quarantine for spinal meningitis.

Mildly bath.

First time had any heat in Villa since Saturday last, and this coldest season of year. Hope to have leave soon.

January 31

Fri.

Same thing - no clinic - lots of new cases coming into hospital. Cases in wards heard work and take lots of time.

Almost getting on my nerves to hurt boys so much in trying to loosen stiff joints. Takes nerve plus strength.

Went to see Fortherrigill pneumonia. Tragedy after six months of wounds. Sweet personality and pathetic. French lesson.

Memoranda

Sat.

February 1

Sat.

Busy day because long clinic
Fothergill not very ill -
Spent evening writing letters
for Fothergill and quivering up
words.

February 2 Sun

Surprise visit from Taft & King
in morning, collected much
news from them - Bateman
sent to states under arrest -

Went down town for walk in
afternoon -

Wrote long letters -

February 3 Mon

~~Day as usual~~ except finished
early and took a walk.

Day unusual because of
arrival of Gen. Pershing and
large staff. All hospital staff
and ~~ad~~ corps boys lined up
for two hours in cold & wind
for inspection. We had front
row view from our window.
Could see Pershing distinctly.
They all upset as to hours and
schedule.

February 4 Tues

Clinic - many cases
wonder how we can take
them on.

Had fine talk with Capt. J.
about leaves - he strongly
advised going as we planned
Bell Green & J.

February 5 Wed.

Great surprise to have three
new Aides arrive - Lockwood
Holton and Corp. did not expect
them for weeks. Spent
evening talking with them and
arranging cases.

Official request sent through
for leave

February 6

Thurs

New girls worked in the
refuge - started cases & observing
were told that we could not
send more than one at time
from department. One P.T.
have to go with our M.T. read
explains over it.
Finally decided that Dudley
Grace & I go because odd
number. Miss Bell
frustratedly disappointed.

February 7

Fri

Turning over cases to new
girls - like their attitudes
and personality except C.
They came just in time for
our leave.

Spent evening packing
and getting clean.

Colonel Goldthwaite visited
us during day. Said we were
to have all the help necessary
and base would continue as
long as orthopedic cases in France.
But later said all such cases
would be evacuated in six or
eight weeks. Short time for
us.

February 8 Sat.

Rather rushed in morning
to get off, did your cases and
left. Waited for ambulance to
take us to station but none arrived
Rushed down on cars - train late
so rapid. Much thrilled -
Trip short and comfortable
good meals and warm enough.

Met by George with ambulance
rode down. Champs Elysées
across Seine, past Place de la
Concorde & Arc de Triomphe
to small hotel near "

Everything covered with snow
afternoon by dogs along the
way - a thrilling glimpse.

February 9 Sun.

Wonderful day - I left late
breakfast in bed chocolate &
petite pain. Miss Shelley and I
took a long joint see pied down
Champs Elysées - met scrappy
officers - Eng, French, Russian
Italian, Amer - many others -
Miss H. explained all buildings to me
Grand & Petite Palais - Place de la
Concorde - Tuileries - around by
Rue de Rivoli, Rue de la Paix
to Opera House, big circle around
through Fountains and over to
Hotel Voltaire for delicious lunch.
Through Latin Quarter to Luxembourg
Gardens - to Pantheon and
Cathedral St. Etienne du Mont
de Genevieve - this a beautiful
mixture of renaissance & gothic
Exquisite stone work beautiful lines
Boats by way of metro. Bought
cakes at one franc per for small
one. Had blissful nap and
dinner in Grace & George at
sporty place on boulevard. French
sporty dressers.

February 10 Mon

Another breakfast in bed -
Geo. peeled up in ambulance
went down town over to Gar de l'Est
to look up possible trip to front
surround by Notre Dame -
Jewel of Jewels - was appalled
by its long vistas and great
simplicity in spite of its exquisite
and detailed workman ship.
Carved wood choir screen beautiful
very spiritual in effect.
Did not have time to see it all.

Rose windows not there at present.

Afternoon had wonderful trip
to Versailles in ambulance -
went through Bois de Boulogne.
Left famous race course.

Got there just in time to be taken
in to a party. Luxurious meals
permeated with conceit and
flowery ideas of Louis XIV. shows
marvelous conception of space
in & outside - gardens beyond description
with snow covering and ice on lakes
many boys skating. Saw set and
snow rise over gardens too marvelous.
Had dinner in small hall.

Loved statue of dying Napoleon
and high column of Savoy church.
Must return in spring time

February 11

Tues

Late breakfast - Grace & I shopped.
bought locket for Shirley and barret
pin for myself. Lunch at Hotel
Voltaire - Went to Tourne in afternoon.
Was amazed at grace and charm
and willowiness of Genes in addition
to her great strength. Did not
look carefully at many things
except a beautiful porphyry vase
and of course Winged Victory.
She is epitome of all grace power
and motion in art, magnificently
set at head of stair cases.

Sat at all angles possible and
gazed in silence. Saw room of new
furniture since war.

Went to church St. Germain
back of Tourne - beautiful coloring
of murals & windows. Was church
from which signal rang for
massacre of Bartholomew.

Had conversation with Mr.
Vibbert in University Union.
Miss H. and I went on real
boat from point of view of price
15 fr. for simple meal -
Sports there but not worth the
price.

February 12 Wed.

Yeo took us in ambulance to
R.E. for shopping - then around
to Eiffel Tower - so foggy
could not see the top - it was very
clouded & could not even see
much of ground - fog.

Took long run out to
St. Hilaire - church of tombs
of kings - enjoyed it more
than any - spacing wonderful -
sun light through stained glass
made beautiful effect on
high pillars - stone near
altar give fine breadth.
Tombs and crypt very
interesting some rare
sculptures -

Had dinner in Latin
Quarter - funny place man

February 13 Thurs

Wasted most of day looking
for parents for mother -
liked bag but for expensive
searched Paris and returned
to get it but found it gone.

Sat in Tuileries watched
crowd - children having snow
battle -

Walked thru Tuileries
and out Champs Elysees
enjoyed Place de la Concorde
many women & one large
German Tails.

February 14 Fri

Went in town early saw
Ellen Emerson and batted
with her all morning.

Saw two girls from South
Aunt and heard thrilling
news about work from
them.

Met Marion Poole by
chance. astonished me
by news that Ruth B. had
just gone to Coblenz. Did
not know she was thinking
of coming over.

Had lunch in F. D. M. and
went to see Hotel de Ville
and St. Chapelle. This a
fine even if most of windows
are out - much beautiful
color and interest left.

Grace and I both are sick
Today - lot much chills, too
much night seeing & too much
Paris

February 15 Sat

Hair wash - waited for
family. delightful lunch
at Miss Dudley's friend
Mrs. Farnum, beautiful
Frenchy apartment. She and
husband charming and
very interesting. Afternoon
spent in trying to change
Opera tickets without success
and buying some bronzes
at small shop on Rue.

Rush home dress Opera
Faust. Opera house
most magnificent - foyer
halls salons more grand
than I had imagined.

Opera enjoyable but not
awfully well sung - had some
of ballet work in holes in
translation to Faust. new
element in opera to me.

Took as soon as possible in
anticipation of Sun. trip to front

February 16

Sun

Early rising - good weather for
 5 miles. Started ab. 7. A.M.
 thru park & gate over road taken
 by Toffe's Taxi cab army. 2 horses
 at Meaux furthest point of Ger. 1914
 went thru Baty - first barbed wire
 and sections of trenches and
 graves & monument to French.
 Saw there many small villages
 & crowds of small boys
 met many cannon & soldiers
 French returning toward Paris
 some helped us out of ditch.
 met them heavy woods along
 G.C. - grand concrete road!
 signs of continuous barbed wire
 entang. and series of trenches
 and many digouts - some
 holes in ground & others well
 built. piles of ammunition along
 road - some shells empty other
 not - old helmets gas masks &
 dumped any where.
 woods beautiful with winter
 colors and snow and mist.
 sections of road lined with
 old cannon muzzles and

February 17

Mon.

Slept late - had lunch with
 Ellen Emerson, Marie Wolfe, Eliza
 Biddlecomb, wonderful talk about
 works of Smith next and A.E.T.
 in general.

went right seeing by myself
 scattered around Notre Dame to
 get all views - along the quays etc.
 Had dinner with Mary Stevenson -
 ill in bed. She talked with me
 all evening about their work in
 establishing cantons in back of
 fighting fronts.

February 18 Tues

Slept late expected to pack
and go at noon. Y race broke
news that there was no noon
train, had to take night one.

Spent afternoon sightseeing
Hotel des Invalides - wonderful
simplicity and yet grandeur
of Napoleon's tomb.

Slept more than expected to
on trip down. Arrived

February 19 Wed.

Arrived Nantes pouring rain 6 P.M.
ate in R.C. canteen. Tried to find
cab. but failed so walked home
in early morning darkness.

Seemed good to get to work again.
Boys very cordial in welcoming
us back. Everything in splendid
order - Love it here more than
I thought. Such improvement
in the boys in two weeks. Hardly
knew Garret, dressed like a soldier
and without his splint.

Very easy to take back old
cases and divide up Miss
Holton's

February 20

Thurs.

February 21

February 22

February 23

Sund

Happy day - felt after two effects
of trip to Paris - a bit ill.
Let down dresses, saved most
of day -

Must get energetic on Sun
to see the country.

February 24 Mon.

Feeling a bit sea-sick, but
works seemed to help it.
Same work -

February 25 Tues.

Uneventful day.

Had meeting and went over
Loretta's Infantile Paralysis.
Grace & I took walk in evening.

Fathergill brought over from
Pneumonia to 130. Sweet boy.
Why haven't I some to raise -

February 26 Wed

Capt. Major. Tolson serious
injection of arms. Very ill -
Mr. Kierley carried on clinic
much excitement, bunch going
out. Lost the Walrus, Post
and most of my nice boys
in 130. Gave more of a
monday than ever. Real heart
ache to see them go.

Seems like the beginning of
our end. All too short

Officers hospital to be
evacuated tomorrow and
closed. Looks dubious for us.

February 27 Thurs

April fool on the evacuations
most of them sent back to ward
for days perhaps. Lost few
boys only. Schedules rather
full.

February 28 Fri.

February 29

Continued from Feb 16th

Memoranda

A number of cars wrecked along road side - some battered trailers sitting in fields.

From famous Swisson ridge could see battered city - mass of ruins as if shaken to pieces by great earth quakes.

Some walls standing most fallen to pieces. Famous sugar refinery partly standing church just skeleton showing real beauty in past.

Some of inhabitants returned. Stores being opened in lower parts that were good.

Had good lunch in old Jim House in fairly good state. Old man anxious to tell his experiences.

Collected many shells etc from dump heaps.

Coming home gave 2 Poilus a lift. Many soldiers marching along roads for permission. Home 8.30 not very tired plastered with dirt. Wonderful day.

March 1

Sat

March 2

Sun.

March 3

Hospital for breakfast and
early morning walk in rain
to Boulton to see Re'ides.
Chatted with them most of
morning and saw Miss Vories
H.B. who planned Phys. Educ.
in this P.T. work.
16 times in 15 minute conversation
amused me.

Got a field up going
and coming.

Wrote letters all afternoon.

March 4

March 5

March 6

March 7 Fri.

Got through work rather early and had abscond meeting of Head Aides - nothing happened but some idle gossip. Five to see Helmer King again.

Miss Sanderson telephoned from Tours to ask about anyone wishing to go to Germany. Miss Bell decided to go.

March 8

Sat.

Rather busy.
Sewer pipe spring - baby
of tomorrow - came home early
and sat in garden and read
French in afternoon.
Much discussion about
leaves.

March 9

Sunday.

9.05 for Guernsey - Grace
B. Radnor. L. Russell & G. Deleson and
9. Raining day but all in good humor
for a laugh.
Quick trip for France - got
there at noon. Had dinner snails
oysters etc at old jenny hotel
outside wall. Walked along moat
and around wall. Interesting
chateau forming gate to city.
Visit town inside. Church
built 1100 - aged beautifully.
Ambled around town down
crooked streets - very small -
could walk through in 5 minutes.
Had fine morning remarks & la
De Ford and left in sight seeing.
Went out country road to see
Moulin de Bielle - soft air sun shine
and charm of peaceful country.
Went to La Baule at 3. Here
Atlantic sea board cities - superb
beach - beautiful shells. Saw
some of Unit 52 horses going home.
Had good dinner in Patiserie.
French officer on train talked long
with us all the way. 25. started as
birds worked up to 1st Lieut.
5 years in war no wounds.
Intelligent man. Got home
12 G.M. - but not fine day.

March 10

Mon.

Getting busy again because
2 on leave, Tracey and
Miss Bell going ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{every} ~~to~~
schedule for the rest of us.

A bit weary after Sunday bat.
Had hot discussion with boys
about, in defense of, French
soldiers. Boys not very far
seeing in ideas.

March 11

Tues.

Large number of boys
on inspection for evacuation
Told all afternoon in the cold wind
and then at end evacuation
was cancelled. Boys so
pessimistic that it is funny.

March 12

Wed.

Boys expected to leave tonight
but no such luck.
Still busy with heavy
programs.

March 13

Thurs.

Boys still on the racks and
more sarcastic than ever.

March 14

Fri

Huge evacuation early in morning. Stood & waited while they loaded on trucks. R.E. gave doughnuts chocolate etc. My but boys were smiling and shouting when they left.

Lost over half our cases.

Some from 130 and Crest Shannon Scotty and the old stand bys. Port and Eliza after months of waiting left.

Glad to see them all go but hate to lose such interesting work.

Say on bench in office alone from 5 to 6 and thought and thought over all the boys who had come and gone in that room and had been really helped in ^{many} other ways as well as orthopedic. Our coming to France has certainly been worth while. I love it.

Word that all of 130 is going out tomorrow. Heart sick at the real end of things. Hate losing my spirit of youth, & other ill.

March 15

Sat.

130 did not go order canceled - Some of boys relieved because expecting to go to Savigny.

Expected Miss Sanderson all day but no such luck.

Busy a little more than $\frac{1}{2}$ day. Took nap in afternoon and read French in evening.

Received \$1.00 from girls at kitchen for relief work.

March 16

Sun.

Slept till noon. Had time
getting Grace to Paris the last
minute. Miss Bell and I took
walk out Rue de Reuue and saw
soccer game bet two French teams.
Miss B. left for Germany.

March 17

Mon.

Expected evacuation still not
taking place. News that boys were
who left Fri. were too late for boat
and were sent to Savoy, reclassified
and held over for evacuation.
Poor boys. This getting out of France
is hard proposition.

March 18 Tues.

Things the same.
No sign of vaccination.
went down town in afternoon
hair was a little messy.

March 19 Wed.

Expected Miss Sanderson but
telephone message that she had
measles. knew something would
happen.

March 20

Thurs

Word again that 130 leaves tomorrow
went down town to shop for boys.
Sewed on Terry's wound stripe
sacks arrived from Paris.
Not much chance of her transferring
to R.C.

March 21

Fri.

Orders for evacuation recalled
so work continuing the same.
Got Fothergill all equipped in
sleeves with braces so that he
can walk alone with just a cane.
Wonderful fine to put him on
his feet after 8 months in bed.

March 22

Sat.

wonderful weather air like tonic.
finished at noon Grace, Gibson
Russell and I went to Base ball game
beautiful field to play in. Great to see
a game again.

Went to see movies at R.C.
in evening.

March 23

Sun.

Terribly rainy dreary day -
went over for pictures at 10 but
postponed - built fire and wrote
letter slept and read all day.
Took walks alone after supper.
Not much excitement in this life.

March 24

Mon

Only 1/2 day's work. Many boys
being lined up for another
injection. Spent afternoon
at house sewing.

March 25

Tues.

Easy work. Sewed on in square
most of afternoon for Fathergill
and enjoyed immensely the
chatter of the boys while I did it
like boys.

March 26

Wed

Not very busy day - finished at noon. Served on more insignias for Fathergill in room - sweet chap news that 130 leaves in morning.

March 27

Thurs

Had only few cases, all stretchers cases leave in morning with much yelling and many farewells from us all. Seem almost end of things. Heart sick to see them go. Schwindt left behind because money would not right.

March 28

Fri

Went to - 11 o'clock in morning
saw Fleet McKenna about work
and saw girls giving treatments,
found all 130 boys that left us
yesterday, such a silent went
up in the ward when I arrived
had great half hour talking with them
Terk move train for Tours to see
Miss Sanderson. Met Scottie
in station - had been reclassified A
at Savenay and sent back to co.
I did too good a job on him
Went out to Barrack 66 used H.F.
was informed by nurse could
not see Miss Sanderson - trip in
vain perhaps.

Spent night at Hostess House
met Margaret Chas Smith 1903
and had wonderful talk.
nearly froze at night till they
gave me more covers.

March 29

Sat.

Tours - pouring rain - breakfast
in bed - long windy walk to B. 66
then long windy walk back to Miss
Sanderson. They let me see her
2 hrs wonderful talk. Heard terribly
discouraging stories of Germany
decided not to go. Will go home
as soon as work through here.
Had a fine gossip along with business.
Had dinner at same old cafe near
station. Terk slow local to Nantes
glor. trip. Nice young aviator
French girl and H.F. man on
board, much interesting conversation.
Got a lift home in ambulance!
still raining. Whole country
between Tours & Nantes flooded
by Loire all under water but
railroad tracks

March 30

Sun

Most interesting birthday
wrote mother long letters about
plans took walk in Barbale
around old chateau on Ebre
River. lovely flowering plants
in garden

March 31

Mon

Wobs of new boys in hospital
new cases pouring in.
difficult to get any examination
for them.

Memoranda

April 1

Tues

Started the day with lovely April
Joke by Perrett, amused whole
clinic

Had clinic with ~~Miss~~ John
33 new cases examined -
42 new ones in 4 days -

Guess we will be busy again -

Grace and I went over to 216
to see boys - Had a fine walk
and loved talk with them.
Fathergill fine boy. Baldy cried
large alligator tears when we left.
Such jolly talk. Had very soul
good to chat with them again.
Had good dinner down town -

April 2

Wed.

Her cases worked in simply
and easily. More like old
times with busy day.

Had a real cleaning up of
office work. Took French
lesson and started Hobbesse
Americans.

April 3

Thurs.

April 4

April 5

Sat.

Still get through early in afternoon
Grace Beulah and I went to 216 to
see boys for last time, much
excitement as they were finishing
last preparations before leaving.
Sweet mixture of feelings for them
and for me.

April 6

Sun.

Sleep in morning. Trip to Clisson
in afternoon - one of two old
feudal castles in France - started
in 260 by Romans later taken by
Charlemagne 811. much additional
building, destroyed in French
revolution - all women & children
killed in castle
known in to well alive. Later
revolutionists repainted filled well
and planted tree in memory.
Ruins very beautiful, fascinating
contours and covered with magnificent
ivy. Very interesting inside. No
floors remaining but could see
layers of dungeons - secret stair
ways turret chambers - old chapel
chamber of justice with dungeons
below, methods of defense in wall
for cannon, arrows and dropping
of rocks etc. note surrounding.
Beautiful outlook over Loire River.
Redolent with history and charm.
want to go again.
Went to bed in fever of 102 but
lost it soon.

April 7

Mon.

Received service stripe for
6 months in A.E.F. Went down
town in Launce to get summer
sailor. Tried on every one in
Launce but awful. Still wearing
winter hat.
Not much over half a days work
now. Very nice.
Had five letters from Savin.
Went to Beach private dance
at Chatteau - not very much fun

April 8

Tues.

Easy day - expecting evacuation
that will help clear us out.
Slept and secured most of afternoon
hard cold on chest.

April 9

Wed

Did some errands downtown
Took French lesson.

April 10

Thurs.

Edith's birthday
All excavations canceled.
Work same as usual.
Much rain

April 11

Fri

Chinic getting smaller because
boys going out a few at a time
others being dismissed.

April 12

Sat.

April 13

Sun.

Sagey in morning as usual.
Grace Miss Dudley and I rented
boat and rowed up Erbe river,
Got out at beautiful old chateau
and rambled around, beautiful
primroses and purple flowers in
lawn. Charming gothic tower
half covered with ivy and set in
front of gorgeous grove of hemlocks,
a real treasure.
Enjoyed the charming French
garden and old farms.

April 14

Mon.

New touch of interest added to
our clinic in having boys
under arrest brought to clinic
with guard in attendance.
more hard rain.

April 15

Tues.

Went down town to buy in signs
for boys.

April 16

Wed

Bessie and I had wonderful walks after supper. Went through private place to high bank of river and found wealth of flowers - violets & primroses

April 17

Thurs

Had a surprise trip to Saveney, expected to go to Miss Leblanc's funeral - Miss Parise Miss Hudley and I - raced all the way and were arrested just before we got there - had to wait while chauffeur was straightened things out. Saw H. King and left but funeral was postponed. Enjoyed the ride.

Went to Buck's private dance in evening - enjoyed a lot dancing with our boys.

April 18 Fri.

Cases continuing to dwindle - looks like end approaching.

Reberson & Russell returned from leave - much upset because considered A. V. U. S. - not very just in attitude and absurd in actions at prospect of being separated. Spent most of evening trying to console and brace them up.

April 19 Sat.

Spent most of day anticipating Miss Sanderson - no results.

Hectic evening trying to get Reberson & Russell off. Reberson not allowed to go to Germany ill - Russell made to go.

Went to adjutant's office twice to get necessary papers - furious at carelessness of office. Too late to get baggage checked to Paris and wrong train so A. & R. came back both acted like champs about being separated.

Had letter from Ellen Emerson offering possibility of joining Smith and thrilled at prospect. Wrote acceptance if place open.

April 20 Sun

Easter - had wonderful day!
took trip to Pontchattrain -
had dinner in small town,
rented two wheeled cart and
drove out to Chemin de Croix
salvage! not much impressed
with figures and disgusted with
beggars. I never thought the Catholic
religion.

Boys took us in big truck
to beautiful Chattean Versailles
gorgeous place, set on lake in the
port cullis & note - charming
13th cent gothic - armory room
a rare treat to see with old
collection of arms, splendid
stables - kennels, beautiful
groves & roads, gorgeous
rhododendrons. Picked out
by amusing big chap from
Alabama with pack full of
gold teeth. He thought the
Chattean reminded him of
home.

Found both Robinson & Russell
gone to Germany. Lectors at
A go just to avoid trouble.

April 21 Mon.

Cold clear fresh day - fine for
work. not much to do.
Grace off with Geo - stopped
French lessons with the family
Expected Miss Sanderson but
nothing doing.

April 22

Tues.

~~Expected letter from~~

April 23

Wed.

April 24

Thurs.

April 25

Fri.

April 26

Sat.

Worls and French.
e. est Trout.

April 27

Sun.

Geo. arrived early with news that he was leaving for states in few days. Grace thrilled to pieces. Had a merry chat w. G.

Gloomy cold afternoon, spent time reading Woodie Horse by H. Walpole in front of Benches fire

Ruthers anticipated Miss Sanders but no arrival.

April 28

Mon

Miss Sanderson arrived
after lunch. Fine talk -
discussed with self & Q. closing
of our dept. Started orders
through for all.
Telegraphed Seattle agent to see
if place for me.

Snowed a bit in morning
very cold for this time of
year.

April 29

Tues.

Work morning - downtown
& lunch in afternoon. ^{the} ~~the~~
Pison spent evening with me.
Miss Sanderson left.

April 30

Wed.

Orders out that no Americans
can be on streets for three days
for fear of French strikes
around Labor day. Excitement
and possible danger increased
by Italys withdrawal from
peace conference and fact
that French govt has not
yet begun to do its reconstruction
for civilians. Anticipation
of serious strikes in Paris.

Spend day as usual
work in morning - some
new cases - French lesson
with Ricci.

Write letters to boys and one
to J. Belmon in response to her
blast.

Memoranda

May 1 Thursday.

Left house early in morning
and had to stay at hospital
all day - no Americans allowed
down town or none of us
allowed outside of hospital grounds
Had movie show - a bit of cards
and dance for boys there
all taken home in ambulance
for protection - Saw no
evidence of trouble - Everything
quiet in spite of fear.

May 2

May 3

Sat.

Had passes to Anger & even stayed at same hotel. loved chasing around. Mary Horton and I tried to buy lace & books - then went over city saw old cathedral - rather beautiful woodcarving, not otherwise impressive - went across river to two old churches and museum that was hospital - full of interesting historical things. Had dinner at Cheval Blanc - very French and very nice. Strolled around Jardin des Plantes. beautiful natural hilliness and rhododendrons. Statues beautifully set in trees.

May 4

Sun

Breakfast in bed - up for good day of sight seeing. Started on old Chateau, historic from times of Romans - 17 towers and connecting battlements - very fine command of surroundings went through prisons where ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~there~~ ^{there} of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~range~~ ^{range} was imprisoned + many other historical characters Chateau in center of court where duels lived surprisingly small. Went to see tapestries that are finest and best preserved in France and probably in world. Fascinatingly vivid designs wonderful combination of colors. Marvellous to think of any hand weaving producing such results.

Went through art gallery saw much of work of B. and d'Angers, nothing especially good. ~~I guess~~ ^{few} of day was ruins of abbey of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~clear blue~~ ^{clear blue} sky and floating clouds magnificent background for rose window. Saw bones in sarcophagi - prob. not real. Had tea and lunch.

May 5

Mon

Returned to work with many of patients gone only 15 left in dept and many new ones coming in for day or so.

Went down town & bought more lace - had French lesson. M^{me} Rion seemed depressed. sweet woman.

R.C. took for lovely drive in evening. Went out into country beautiful in evening glow spring in meadows and all life of farm in spring time too cheering for words - carts filled with green, & yellow blossoms. women driving cows drawing carts. We came into small town with large church. saw American soldiers collected in square watched wrestling match. Went out through more cheering hilly country, with river old groups of stone houses with "toits de tuiles" going over set-over "le cime de culture."

Happy all day at prospect of going home.

May 6

Tues.

Warm wonderful weather. Went down town for more lace.

May 7

Wed

Much excited by arrival of telegram offering me definite place in Smith Unit. Telephoned Tours to stop orders. Wrote acceptance. Strange to readjust so thoroughly my mind so many times.

May 8

Thurs.

Gorgeous spring day. finished work early played tennis w/ Beulah & boys - long French lesson & read out in warm sunshine in garden. Played bridge in garden after supper. spent time late in evening sorting out all things to send home.

May 9 Fri.

Easy morning again -
finished early, had shampoo
down town went to game in
afternoon at Houlong saw
Miss and some of boys.

A. H. Ford. gave party for
Rebides - much fun and
much absurdity. Made rude
remarks to Miss Herrick about
her lace collar not being real
and got squelched flat, amused
me all evening.
Two girls left on 3 day leaves

May 10 Sat

As I intended to leave vacation
orders arrive for all units.
Could not leave because other girls
away. Orders to be held up for
a few days. Telephoned to
Tours to see if Miss Strickson
could change my orders.

Miss Sanderson necessary to
revolve them and she is Germany
out of reach.

Went to game with Whitney
rain spoiled it but good game.

May 9 Fri.

Easy morning again -
finished early, had shampoo
down town went to game in
afternoon at Houlong saw
Miss and some of boys.

A. H. Ford. gave party for
Rehides - much fuss and
much absurdity. Made rude
remarks to Miss Herrick about
her lace collar not being real
and got squelched flat, amused
us all evening.

Two girls left on 3 day leaves

May 10

Sat

As I intended to leave ~~embarkation~~
orders arrive for all units.
Could not leave because other girls
away. Orders to be held up for
a few days. Telephoned to
Tours to see if Miss Stimpson
could change my orders.

Miss Sanderson necessary to
revolve them and she is Germany
out of reach.

Went to game with Whitney
rain spoiled it but good game.

May 11

Sun.

Got up early to play tennis but too much rain -
Spent morning poking around
Office talking to Majors John Jones
about work. Advised us to all go
home.

Went down to Chateau through
dungeons etc.

Spent evening with Miss Kelley
see. Miss Stimpson - gave
us much hope on my transfer
looks doubtful.

May 12

Mon.

Took on some new cases although
died almost through work.
Word came that my orders had
been canceled and I could join
Smith Unit. Thanks heaven for
that decision and also thanks Miss
Stimpson chief nurse.

Finished up some chores
and then went on bicycle to
La Chapelle with Grace.
perfect day and charming
country. road into long broad
drive to chateau which was a
gem - and beautifully located on
estate. Chateau inside full of rare
things and outside very large and
charming with many small towers
and coats of arms and much
very simple and attractive
ornaments. Went all through the
first floor which is completely furnished
living room very attractive in its
mass of colors in ceiling & walls all
beautifully blended.
Gathered masses of flowers in lawn,
gorgeous moss & sun set and the
real spirit of peaceful France over
everything. Never felt France so
much. Everything redolent with her
simple quiet spirit.

May 13

Tues

Expected orders to come all day
but no.

Spent afternoon picking
up office and started to pack!
Long & last French lesson.

May 14

Wed

Last morning of work.
Tragic that it is over - hate to go.
Orders for Paris arrived - feel
decidedly queer in pit of stomach
at news!

Did all final jobs in office and
they were. Ready to go on new task
in morning.

May 15

Thurs.

Locked up everything & said
good bye - Hard thing to do
Gave Maj. Tolue last treatment in A.E.F.
and he presented me with lovely
bouquet of violets & lilies beaverly.

Had interesting trip to Paris
Told most of way with Med.
Lieut Col. from Savoy. Most
conceited but entertaining, probably
a divil. Some conversation we
had on morals of the French ^{sex problems}
Glad it was private, certainly
food for thought, some devil of a man.

Paris wonderful - Springtime
blossoms and spirit and business
everywhere. Going to enjoy it
even if alone.

1919

May 16

Fri.

Demobilized from the Army
Some process but much
faster than I thought possible.
Spent morning getting on to
the ropes and afternoon working
them. Medical exam
papers turned in, pay voucher
and expense account. But
I earned all the money paid in
climbing stairs. Paris is short
on elevators.

Paris wonderful in spring
like a dead city come to life.
Dem's mounds wearing very tight
shorts. very short with under
silk leg below. Streets jammed
with people many children -
Trees beautiful, Taxis thicker
than flies and so busy can't think

Many more French in cities
and fewer men in uniform.

A bit weary - used to rest up
for journey to Verdun.

May 17

Sat.

7.55 To Rheims. Train crowded with French excursion. Fine day.

11. A.M. at R. parts of city standing & usable - about 20,000 there now.

Had poor and expensive dinner in shot up hotel. Very much destroyed around cathedral

but almost entire shell of that standing. Perfectly magnificent thing. delicacy of stone work

proportions and both solidity and lightness remarkable.

All roof gone. not able to go inside because dangerous now.

Going to save as a monument of Boche activities. Nothing that I have seen can compare with it

in beauty. Don't know whether cathedral itself was some what avoided

or whether smashed up surrounding shows attempt to entirely destroy.

3.30 started to Chalons. All from Chateau Thierry to Epervier entirely destroyed not village standing.

Crossed Marne many times. continual evidence of old trenches

white lines in green grass. see distinctly German & French

close together in places with no known land in between.

May 18 17.

Range of hills looking like snow white covered - shows extreme smothering up of every inch of ground. Thousands and thousands of lives lost, taken and retaken many times.

Had wonderful conversation with four dough boys on train. They all told me their life history and their

hot discussion on most of vital problems. Had a fine appreciation of French.

6.30 Chalons. attractive city. larger than I expected. Had brown room but fine

dinner. picked up nice crowd of three

May 18th up early, train for Verdun. Same devastation only continually

more bleak and more lilly. stuck on hill and waited 2 hours

until another engine came. only 2 hrs in town. Fortunately

got a lift out to Fort. Fort in partial ruin - underground kitchens

sleeping quarters & passages for ammunition. most amazing of all was view of

great plains stretching out below. Inconceivable how any troops could

think of attacking such an impregnable stronghold. Time there too short to

study situation. almost completely went through town almost completely

in ruin in parts and saw most

May 1918

of underground Citadel which seems enormously strong. awful dampness and smells there must have been terrible when they used part as hospital. Had awful run for train, directed way out of way. Train crowded. Spent all night of trip with nice boys Cogswell and Morgan. Arrived in Chalou at 9th had dinner and stayed in hotel. Took one of boys rooms because town crowded.

May 19th (Arrived at 5th)
1914 ~~for work~~

Early morning train for Paris. Very pleasant trip on fast train, enjoyed talk with Morgan, nice chap.

Landed in quiet room at hotel found Rosey & Ida prostrate on beds after 1/2 day in Paris. Spent afternoon in getting passport fixed. Loved all cute children in Champs Elysée. Wonderful life along the streets in Paris.

May 20

Tues

1919 Started early to transfer my trunks. Took most of morning, spent rest in Commissary getting funds for rent.

Afternoon, went to Pavillon de Guerre - wonderful thing only more of curiosity than art I think. Most impressed with figure in black kneeling in front of tomb.

Dropped in to Louvre to see Venus and Victory and discovered that all paintings galleries were open. Saw all the old masters including Mona Lisa. Surprised that they had so many of Italian school and Flemish school.

Found Eddie and ~~Hot~~ in Paris in addition to other girls. For 3 beds. Had many little remarks from Hot.

1919

May 21

Wed.

Early train for Amiens.
rather offbeat trip. Four hours
in Amiens, spent seeing cathedral
undamaged except few holes
and all glass broken. Sand bags
over all treasures inside still.
Sand bags strapped together with
steel bands and mounted on
iron girders cemented into floor
thru all inside cathedral.

Town not pretty, only interesting
because such a war center
Many Eng officers & Americans
there practically no Americans.

Hot and I went to Boulogne
on very slow train. Continued
evidence of devastation. no towns
standing all variety to war
devastation.

Cordial welcome from girls
Place of living very attractive, in
grounds of ruined chateau,
comfortable sheets, fine living
rooms and lots of trees around
loads of flowers grow peasants
and shells to put them in.

1919

May 22

Thurs

Made round of three villages
with heavy for play work.
Interesting to see children's faces.
Perfect expression of genuine joy.
People out to meet us with bunches
of flowers. All very raggedly
dressed, mentality low except in a
few cases, but great appreciation
of fun.

Did 3 towns in auto.

Wonderfully interesting to see what
girls are doing. Town left
supplying lapins & poules & coques
seeds, utensils of all kinds.
Store furnishing clothes of all kind
necessary, social service dept
welfare of all towns and estab. library
Girls great on practical and business
end of it.

1919

May 23

Fri.

Spent morning helping with
 farm accounts and afternoon
 did two more Times with Mary.
 Had fine response from children
 before to get some of native
 folk dances going.
 Some of them returned from
 Paris with much fine for all.

1919

May 24

Sat.

Started in French class - covered
 books all morning for library -
 afternoon went to desk to find
 some one who knew French
 folk songs. Not any luck.
 Put up lunch for Sunday trip.

1919

May 25

Sun.

Five day started 4 strong for St. Quentin
 Every Hallon - Verlaines - Ham
 St. Sulpice - Port Aubigny - three
 Fluguières - E. Trailleurs - Atilly
 Martville Vermand - ride trip to
 Caulainco to see old ^{chapels} tombs of royal
 dukes all tombs destroyed but one of warb
 in crypt most of ~~tombs~~ coffins had
 been taken out and robbed.
 Small and old graveyard attached had
 graves of French and Germans in 1870-71
 and French Eng. & Germans in this war.
 Tallied with Eng. Tombs in Vermand
 showed us pictures of country.
 Continued along road to Holnon wood
 famous for much fighting - full of dugouts
 buried in woods - one with 4 barrels
 with name in chalk on each one.
 climbed tree with 57 rounds on ladder
 three platforms in tree for look out
 must have been 70 ft high. marvelous
 situation for the country. ~~how~~ thick
 in trees to hold communicating wires.
 tracks through woods to carry ammunition.
 destroyed airplane - found German bayonet
 went on to Hindenburg line trenches
 to west of St. Quentin - trenches in
 side of steep hill. looked down top
 dugout into incredible depth.
 went into some trenches & dugouts
 down about 30 steps all muddy
 and dripping inside, barrels along
 each wall. dugouts connected.

May 26th Cont.

Saw uncovered German shell
 in shell hole. Rode on again to
 St. Quentin - city full of dirty rubbish
 much destroyed. Went to hospital
 now in Hotel de Ville awfully dirty
 and depressing place some wounded
 children there. blessed with "obes".
 Started back through Savy - road
 entirely destroyed with wires and
 shells. temporary ~~road~~ road over
 ground. side fields absolutely churned
 up to bits. holes 8010 feet deep 20X30
 wide so thick that edges touch
 ridged with trenches thick with
 barbed wire. dugouts along line
 built in solid blocks of concrete
 & bricks iron girders and huge
 iron doors about 6 in thick.
 There were just small rooms
 and center of all telephone connections.
 fields very much uncleaned.
 Rode on to Savy but found nothing
 but holes where houses should
 have been. wooden sign to show
 where town was. Savy in Vaux
 absolutely nothing there but
 powdered bricks.

at home at 6.30 without
 accident - loaded with trophies
 and impressed beyond measure
 with the days trip.

1919

May 26

Mon.

9 Covered books for library all morning. Enjoyed two classes at Emory Hall on immensely. Had interesting talks with Mrs. Ford head of R.C. Personnel, in evening. Some wild tales of people in R.C.

May 27

Tues.

Worked on books again. School classes in Brooklyn in afternoon.

Hard for me to leave places and children. Think the work will be very difficult to swing; not used to children or language.

May 29

Aved

Went with Mary to two
towns in morning. Amused 5-
boys for 2 hrs in afternoon.

May 30²⁹

Thurs

Religious fête day.
Mary gave all classes to see
in morning. Had a good
time with birds alone.

1919

May 30

Fri.

Decorative day. Decorated cars
with flags and took large
baskets of flowers to graves of
three American boys in
our villages. Two were in
Jaffard's Esquadron 21823.
German graves in Hane
with pieces of propellers
as tomb stones and history of
death.

Had two classes in afternoon.

Memoranda Sat. 31

Spent morning looking over
game material and afternoon
sitting in room waiting for
German prisoner to put up a shelf.
Took him all day just to make
top. Slower than molasses.

Evening had farewell party for
~~Sat~~ Hot & Rio - cute songs - much
fun and many jokes. Afterward
collected on steps of chateau and
sang all evening. Some old
poppy Benito spirit

June 1

Sun

Worked like a trooper all day
To get room in order made
curtains fixed closet unpacked
etc. Feeling more like a human
being now that I have some
place for my things

June 2

Mon.

Took over all of Mary's class
schedules. Spent morning
going to all near by towns on
bicycle to give out copies of Canticles
for Versers.

Afternoon enjoyed E. H. School
immensely.

June 3

Tues

Hon. Mr. Bur. girls here, sewing class & games.

Laid out field for boys game in afternoon. Played hard for six hours w/ boys.

Worked at B roughly hard because group not having work made so much confusion.

June 4

Wed.

Off in morning. boys who saw very cunning. Hard to get games going because such a different age.

Small class here in afternoon. Not much work while.

June 5

Thurs

Not very successful morning
because threatened rain & too
short time to accomplish much
in two places.

Cauby had fine game
with boys - evening children

June 6

Fri.

Morning at E.H. fine class
good response.

At 2:00 on Houlihy & Sencourt.
Sencourt had short session because
of puncture enroute. Getting some
experience in car repairs.

Tired and went to bed early

June 7

Sat.

Great fun at Brouchey School.
Classes did well, good place to play.
Sat in shade by road long time
and waited for train.

Afternoon had rehearsal of
cantiques for surrounding towns
and games for children.
Evening had crises in farm dept.
Many crates of chickens arrived.
watered, fed chicks. opened crates
and sold chicks to peasants.
Uncle amused at array of figures
of women - something fierce.
Terribly hot.

June 8

Sun.

Spent morning in bed writing sermon
etc. accomplished lot. afternoon sat
out garments for class. Had a
fine sermon in cathedral with Canon
Ida Frances & lot. Terribly hot
during day but fine change at night.

June 9

Mon

Donilly had fine class but too late
for Saneourt again. Sat in binning
sun for hour & waited for car.

Whitbourne so holiday in school.
Spent evening talking to Mr. Gore about
Orthopedic work.

June 10

Tues.

Hot weather - rather difficult to
carry my load of work in hot
weather. Hope to heaven it cools.
Had good games with girls
fine class at Brouchy. Enjoying
school work but realize my
temperament not kind to teach
children.

June 11

wed.

Terrific day - class went better than usual, one rather difficult child. Getting a little practice in running a car. Great effort must have one sometime.

Wrote to Mr Ricor.

June 12

Thurs

Hard but profitable day because children had fine time, but but games went splendidly in all classes today. Children full of giggles and japs. Getting so I can understand them better.

June 13

Fri.

Very hard day. four classes.
in different villages.

Childrens fête continually on my
mind. Had fortune told with card
Should come true on Fri 13th

June 14

Sat

Works a bit discouraging because
such mixed ages. Awfully hard
to have same game go with all.

Sewing class large in anticipation
of Fête Sunday. Children have
lovely time correcting my French.
Took them all out into fields to
gather flowers for Vierge. ^{and} ^{shadows}
Sweet in dairy fields.

June 15

Sun.

Spent most of morning getting sewing ready for week.

Afternoon 7th time. Had every thing ready ahead of time. Children arrived at 2. instead of 3.30. Mob of children dress in Sunday best. Girls so toggled up could not really play. Children from many towns not ours so very difficult to manage.

Had 2 circles of boys & 2 of girls going at same time. Tried relay races but with no success. One howling mob. Awful job feeding and giving out presents. All marched to church singing cantiques.

Service rather impressive in little shot to pieces church. Singing fine. Children all happy & queer. About 140 children and lots of elders. Went to bed early tired. Seem to be tired somewhat depressed these days. Wondering if have made a mistake in changing work.

June 16

Mon

Very - very hot day - four classes hard trip. & not awfully satisfactory in morning.

Two French detectives arrived P.M. late to find thieves of many things that were stolen. Some one stole my leather coat down it.

June 17

Tues.

Hotter than ever but thank heaven
for cool nights. Morning without pep
good classes at Branches.

Evening Ellen & Frances came in
with truck load of animals from journey.

Spent entire time in evening unloading
and feeding animals. Sadie & I did not
not be turned by 10 P.M. so Frances
& Ellen went after them returned at
1 P.M. Stranous life for some of the
night. Detectives still at work on
stealing.

June 18

Wed.

Found much spite work when I came
back at noon. All servants were being
arranged. Mr. ^Wogant confessed to having
expressed with Henry J. Price and ^Celine.
and Bert in robbing unit of many things.

At dinner Ellen told tale in her inimitable
way. The houses of all Houlbays knew
that stolen goods were being sold in Houlb.
Yard from 3rd night. Ellen in told
Eddie in basement of Chateaux etc etc.
Girls watched all night. At two A.M.
some one entered basement stole box.

Detectives got confession of all from
them went to Mr. ^Wogant & ^Selines
and found large amounts of goods
stolen. Bert implicated but did not
find much actually stolen.

Girls rather sympathetic with Bert.
She very tragic and melodramatic.

Rather a blow to think that the
prince would connive with
German prisoner to do us.
All of us were disturbed about it
than we will confess.

June 19 Thurs.

Leave inquiries about stealing
Bert still retained

Had rather good as far as work
went

Took walk in evening with
Miss Griffin to find Eng. graves.
Enjoyed lovely evening scene

June 20

Friday.

Children very responsive and
lots of fun today. Had to wait
for ages for Ida and then had
another puncture - and later got
stalled by road side.
Very tired and not in happy state
of mind. Rather concerned as
to the Peace. Will the Germans
sign or no. Will we have war
again? If so what will be my part

June 21

Sat.

Cooler - good fun at Bronchy.
and in afternoon with girls.
Quite tired at end of week.

June 22

Sun.

Expected to go on long drive to
Sisson but so many hints that
I had been there and others had
not that I staid at home.

Still very homesome for my work
and people at Uantes. Can not
seem to feel very happy here.

Wrote letters most of day and
started "Civilisation" by Lewis Thorne,
wonderfully written

June 23rd

Mon

Will hustle to do many errands
in our car because all other cars
needed for expected cows & pigs which
never arrived. Had to give up

Sauceourt. Stormy day. but did
not interfere with work.

A bit bored with life in evening.
near a grave.

June 24

Tues.

Good morning with sewing class.
Nothing different.

June 25

Wed.

Colder weather rain - stayed
home and cut a prong and
chinesees almost all day.
Seemed rather good to be out
of my routine for one day.

June 26

Thurs

Cold & rain part of time. But
hard classes just same.
Not at all satisfied with what
I am able to do with Verbeuse -
difficult problem of ages

June 27

Fri.

Hard day but very successful.
Marie went to E.H. and thought
classes were wonderful.

She was somewhat encouraging.

June 28

Sat.

Good work in school in morning.
So weary or lazy in afternoon could
not do anything with class.

Four R.C. guests for dinner.

Biddle came back from Paris
with Tales of Peace requiring
Paris absolutely phlegmatic - no
confidence that Germany will live
up to any terms - much depression.

In evening heard guns announcing
peace. Really a sad and dark
future for France.

June 29

See

June 30

Memoranda

July 1

July 2

July 3

very little rain, mostly light
showers, but a few heavy ones
at night. The weather is
very pleasant.

July 4

Fri

Schools had vacation for our day but I had as many classes as I could.

July 5

Sat.

Marie & Frances started off in the farm car for Belgique - Fiege etc. Some joint.

July 6

July 7

July 8

July 9

Very interesting
and well known for their
history to know that
the Chinese in the
around the year 1800
and the Chinese in the
and the Chinese in the
and the Chinese in the

July 10

July 11

Tu.

Every body anticipating
fare well dinner for Marie and
hoping to be over that she
will blow in in time. She
arrived back from Belgium at 7:30^{PM}.
Had delicious dinner and many
good songs and cute play written
by Mary.

July 12

Sat

Started bag and baggage for Paris via Soissons, Reims, Chateau Thierry. Early in morning. Fine day. no car trouble. Went to Chateau Blérancourt to Coucy le Chateau, this surprisingly interesting, large feudal castle and town on hill, captured by Germans and dynamited out of existence. Went to Soissons which is remarkably built up since my visit in Feb. Place busy and occupied many stores open. Saw Cathedral which is badly smashed.

Went on over famous Soissons Reims road, all destroyed, towns blown up - branches lines down heaps etc.

Reims also wonderfully built up & busy. Went in cathedral with Sexton who stayed there during all of war. He told us story of continual shelling and burning etc. Used for German hospital but shelled in spite, shelled from three directions. Small hole in roof near entrance all of nave shot through, all windows smashed except Rose window which they saved.

July 13th continued

Shelled continuously so that could work at dismantling inside only one rainy or foggy day. Took 18 months to remove ^{Rose} window and other parts and 2 acres were killed in process. Sexton told us that reason inside was not more destroyed was because shells could not penetrate roof. ^{A hundred of smaller shells} 215 shells of large caliber exploded in roof but no shell penetrated into nave part. Inside is to be repaired but outside kept as this. 12 of 22 bells in tower only 2 remain, one of two in famous Charlotte's while Sexton rings at Armistice Castle and when Bishop re-entered town refused to ring it at time of peace because so disappointed in peace terms. Cathedral pillars magnificent beautiful capitals and wonderful carvings in stone. Fire burned out magnificent ancient wood carving & tapestries. Loved the feeling of beauty and peace inside cathedral. Beautiful beyond words in fading evening light. Spent night at Hotel Savoy

July 14³ Sun.

Got up de bonne heure started for Chateau Thierry. Beautiful ride down valley of Marne wonderful weather. Saw all places in C.T. where the unit had lived in 1918. Town quite attractive with large châteaux etc. Rode out to Belleau Woods. Most impressive thing is grave yard of over 3000 American graves. Woods much destroyed. Vestiges of German occupation - saw 2 or 3 washed out German graves with parts of old uniforms and bones of humans.

Had luncheon attractive ridge and rode into Paris. Arrived at 5 P.M. Succeeded to find room at the Ref. Mr. Alice Ober and I walked over Blvd to Place de la Concorde - there took Metro to Etoile. Got caught in frightful crowd around Arc de Triomphe - thousands and thousands of people. Cenotaph not very visible over crowd.

July 14³ Cont.

Decorations thick down both sides of Champs E. not wonderfully impressive except the two masses of heaped up German cannon strewn with gold laurel and mounted by gold eagle. Place de la Concorde more patchy and gaudy than beautiful.

Saw the guard for the cenotaph march along in hollow square of Toches with ^{floral} ~~long~~ ^{long distance} of Paris to dead. View later of circle of lights, lightening up base of cenotaph and clouds and evening sky in the background was loveliest thing of all.

Got caught in terrible jam in Place de la Concorde and had trouble going home.

There was no sleep that night in Paris, the streets were one seething mass of noisy people and autos all night long.

July 16/14 Mon.

Got up at 5 Am. after sleepless night dressed, ate sandwich and dashed off to R.C. H.Q. per order only to be told to go back to Place de la Concorde and take chances at a standing place. Crowds were thick, French had been there all night. Stood in jam which sun rose and cool breeze played over our heads. Thinks heaven for coolness after 3 hrs. comm. as parade arrived. Good natured French soldier gave me place in front of him and held me up by elbow during entire parade 2 1/2 hrs.

Every minute was thrilling. 3 French Poilus led the whole then 2 Guard de Paris in marvelous costume of Napoleon's time, then Toffe and Foch all alone, my heart the crowd cheered. saw all sections of French, then Pershing setting his horse as straight as a rod and our fine tall boys very military, eyes to front marching in marvelous rhythm and ease. Then Belgian - Eng. in Sir Hor. Haig in lead, the navy and representatives of all colonies etc very varied and interesting marched wonderfully. Then Italian and colonies etc. Then repres. of all Army corps of French with colonies all followed by artillery and small tanks. Flag of every regiment carried through war carried

July 18/14

in parade. Some tattered to bits and black with use and many decorated. Some brought tears to your eyes. The American flags looked almost out of place they were so new.

Crowd was more or less entertaining. Best of how hard it was to make my knees & hips after 5 hrs of standing.

Started home right after dinner and had a wonderful trip down or up. country beautiful. Went through Soissons and charming old city of Compiègne. Must go there again.

July 18

July 19

July 20

Saw

Had talks with Ellice about my work
cut material for sewing classes.
Went to party at Teuina's for
Yissell's first communion.
Had to drink wine & coffee to be polite.

July 21

Early in the morning
I saw a small boat
coming out to the beach.
It was a pleasure boat
and I saw a man
and a woman in it.
They were going
to the beach.
I saw a man
and a woman in it.
They were going
to the beach.

July 22 ^{III}

July 23

1918. Eagle Lake Bar Harbor.
Telegram received from Washington
assigning me to Walter Reed H.
Rather non pleased but accepted it

1919. ~~was~~ ^{was} Mrs. Reginald Barne,
friend of Eddie's, visited.
she very prominent in organizing
works for and care of refugees and
repatriated in France for 5 yrs.
very interesting conversation with
her especially about children's work.

July 24

1919. Dr. Rosalie Slaughter Morton
visited Dr. here. Has been much
interested in Serbia. is now taking
500 bed hospital as gift to Serbia.
She gave me favorable impression
at first, large woman. & wore many
medals across her front but she
gave us a wonderful talk on Serbia,
got us interested in educating
Serbian girls etc. asked me to
take charge of a group of Serbian
girls to U.S.A. in Sept. hope
it will be interesting if anything
comes of it.

July 25

July 26

July 27

1919 Had farewell dinner for Mr. Gore
Mary & Alice lots of fun. place cards
of things cut out of magazines etc
Much lively conversation about
R.O.H. & Orange man. cute quinds.
Huddled wrote letters etc.

July 28

July 29

July 30

July 31

Memoranda

August 1

August 2

August 3 Sun

1919. Such a heavenly day. got all cutting
out finished early in morning. washed
my hair. read wrote letters, relaxed
most of day. Time is beginning to
pass quickly. Finished my school
work worse luck. - will not enjoy the
other so much.

August 4

1918. Orders received. Started for
Washington from Bar Harbor.
A real employee of U.S. in war
work now.

1919. Just one year since took oath of
office. One of most wonderful years of
my life but enjoyed the Orthopedic
work always more than children's
work in Soudue. Am burning
anxious to get home.

August 5

Mon.

1918 Hot trip down from Bar Harbor.
arrived Wash. broiling. Much
chasing around Dr. R. H. To locate
myself. Met Miss Sanderson
who got me settled nicely.

(Walter Reed Hospital)

August 6

Tues

1918 First day of work - only not
work; just observed. 114 official temp.
terribly hot. Very interesting seeing
different types of mass etc in
mess hall and nearly died of noise
& heat.

This is all

August 7

Wed.

1918. Assigned to amputation ward
in afternoon - first patient
arthritic foot. - 127° on porch
110° in ward with electric fans
going.

in Walter Reed Hospital
Wash. D.C.

August 8 Thurs.

1918. First full day of work
did not mind heat because dripping
so. Given charge of ward 65 & 66
Miss Neil assisting. Much variety
of patients. awfully interesting

1919. 1919 Aug. Fri.

Started early in morning in former
bus for Paris with Hot, wonderful
cold morning, got hot later in day.
Had one puncture and barely made
bills. Had good dinner in Saul's

Reached garage 3.30.

Harried to hotel changed clothes
and beat it for Embury. Had no
trouble in getting temporary passport.
Bought coat at Burberry's -
wonderful cloth. Bought 2 place
tickets at P&O.

Went to movies with Mr. Gove
Sarah Hot & Jan.

August 9 Fri.

1918. Schedule delayed because
of inspection. Got through
heavy cars easily - surprised
that are not more fatigued

1919. ~~Sat~~ Did rounds all morning
gloves Bon Marche, sewing things
etc etc. Spent afternoon with
Dot & Dorothy riding around
Bois de Boulogne in taxi. Had
real human driver who showed
us all the sights - set Chateau,
Longchamp race course
etc. Got on banks of lakes for
long time and watched people. Finally
decided to have dinner in small
chalet on island which looked
"of the people" and our speed.
Dinner was more expensive I
have ever had and very little to eat.
5 fr. for ^{only} half rotten peach etc.
Good job on us.

August 10 Sat.

1918. Schedule worked beautifully
three interesting cases added.
embryoned elbow & 2 smashed up
wrists. Mexican can not speak
English but fine worker.
Not so hot.

1919. Sun.

Rode down from Paris in farm
bus with Fay. Had troubles
frequently. boiling hot day
dusty. Went through Chapilly
interesting chateaux and old
government buildings there.

Stopped just before Moyon and
went through section of woods
that were one solid mass
of shell holes trenches & dugouts.
Went through underground cement
rooms with two large cemented
entrances and walls five
to 6 feet thick solid cement and
iron frame work. That part
of country very much shot to pieces
found old French cemetery used
as German burying ground & old
monument with old inscription cut
away and new ones added.

August 11 Sun.

1918. Fixed uniforms all morning
and wrote letters all afternoon.
Went to call on Miss Tolson & Grace.

1919. Mon.

Back at work. same old
work but new spirit due to
vacation.

August 12

Mon.

1918. Enjoying work - boys are interesting & whole some & love to have medical profession because no medicine given them. Finished early. Miss Bateman and I went in town in afternoon - 12 o'clock Talk by Miss Sanderson. She is splendid

August 13

Tues.

1918. Day rather long because patients late. Lunch in words very rest full. Tried to read a little French.

1919 Wed. bricking hot day. Went swimming in evening after days work.

August 14 Wed.

1918. Strenuous morning. 9 patients
Mexican showing real improvement.
I blistered his scar with Behr's
hills. Afternoon off Grace & I went
in town for serum in Patience.
Water hot & muddy - not enjoyable.

August 15 Thurs

1918. Interesting talks with boys
most of them feel abused because
doctors don't give them medicine.
Work in use only interesting.
Evenings rather slow.

August 16

Friday

1918. Very full day. 4 new amputation cases and one other new. Had interesting and amusing conversation with Fieit King - who gave me full response and "wished to cooperate". Hope he will. 15 cases done today.

August 17

Saturday

1918 work going splendidly - men very responsive and nice to talk with. One patient sent to same ward. Compliment from Fieit King about my work, rather stated that he had anything to say. Entertaining conversation with Miss Lohme & Miss Sanderow - much fun & Miss S. said to me "Look out you'll be taking a unit over before you know it." Patients divided up and sent to three dif. wards. Don't like to lose any of them.

August 18 Sunday

1918. Had planned trip to Blue Mount with Pearl Suiette but it poured so gave it up. Slept & wrote letters in morning and had fine walk with Miss Solene & Grace Archibald in afternoon.

August 19 Monday.

1918. Men moved to three different wards so schedule change. Moved to ward 5. Whole new contingent brought in from France. Heard band in afternoon and rode home in W. S. ambulance with Grace & lots of fun. Lieut King gave me cordial greeting in ward 5.

1919. Tues. Afternoon had interesting trip to Etricourt, north of Peronne. Country around there more desolate and good for salome treasures. Practically none under cultivation. "Quatre Anglaises" quite a good sized plant. many departments - Tabbed with Miss Thompson children worker and had wonderful table with me. R. L. had a lot of interest in subject of organizing unit of Boy Scouts for R. L. Thinks something may come of it. will do all I can in U. S. A. to help it along.

August 20 Tuesday

1914. Day full to 5.05 P.M. strenuous but interesting. Many new cases mostly arm wounds. Boys seem different from boys here because of experience. Say that they kept thinking all the time over there what America is like in wartime and find everything just the same war making no difference. Boys seem really depressed over it. Winifred Jones came to see me.

August 21 Wed.

1915. Help in work. part of case given to Miss Taylor. Rosie from New Orleans, aged 17 and fought in Mexico & Verdun. The spirit of youth in spite of many wounds. Spent afternoon and evening making bandaging caps and fixing dresses.

August 22 Thursday

1918 Getting some results with new patients. Hard to remember all details of each case.

Finished early - Some of the girls came over in evening and discussed foreign equipment.

Continued - Aug 23.

wanted to stay but no such luck. Had more shopping right seeing met Francis with load of pigs, birds and young goat that I held in my lap all the way home.

Goat so tame that she cried like a baby when we left her ~~at home~~ had amusing time feeding her from a nursing bottle.

Such a mental relief to get away for the day.

August 23 Friday

1918. Some what disturbed of noise and confusion made by boys where we are working. Must change place. Am interested in looking up curative vocational work for blind cases. People in charge were very cordial. Must return to hear community sing in Patrice Parks.

1919. Sat. Very unexpectedly turned over my classes to Rose for the day and went to Beauvais with Frances in Ruth's car. Had fine ride and enjoyed hearing Frances account of retreat last year. Went through Ussy, Rons, Montdidier, St. Truiste and Beauvais. Montdidier smashed to bits - fighting area drops away suddenly just out side of U. Much building of barracks there.

Market day in Beauvais - city crowded square full of booths - country weddings pass out crowd. Sight saw cathedral which is impressive but strange because of its incompleteness. Tapestries from Rheims cathedral there.

Had lunch in Forest of Beauvais wonderful, peaceful & gentle woods no underbrush but carpeted with ivy and brown leaves. Loved it and. (See Aug 22 for continuation)

August 24 Sat.

1918. Work as usual. Batted in
Tome for supper & theater.
Took Miss Bell to dinner at
Heavies much to her disgust
enjoyed show "Seven days leave"

1919. Sun. Had back of a day
getting things straightened out for
packing and much cutting for
sewing classes. busy thing but
a peaceful day. The whole unit
has adopted the goat and made
a real pet of it.

August 25 Sun.

1918. Went in Tome. met Oliver
Jones and Miss Wind, rode all
over Tome with Firs Heavies.
Afternoon went to Arlington alone.
Loved the peace & quiet and
sweeping beauty of it all

1919 Mon. Wonderful clear weather
this fall. Had fine time at Hooley
and Sauer court. Nearly went
crazy with confusion of Erenery
Hall on classes boys and girls
together. This (the goat) too cute for
words, followed me and came to
my whistle.

August 26

Mon.

1918. Had long discussion about going abroad. Reached a point where I demanded being taken now because of ~~very~~ fair conditions in central office and because Miss Sanderson & Miss Tolson were going.

1919. Tues. Had terribly hard day surprised family by going to bed before supper because so tired. Had visit from everybody during evening. Biddle came back from Paris with statement that Amer Ex had no passage for us although he promised definitely. Leaves for ^{the} R.C.

August 27

Tues

1918. Had talk under trees with Miss S & Miss L. about work. Never did I hear such tales of professional rotten saddle treatment. Miss S. said she had put me definitely on the list for foreign service.

1919. Wed. Left class at 4 P.M. Took victrola and gave them all ride in auto very happy children. Began to feel sad at leaving.

Had conference in afternoon with ^{the} Misses Paul Laval from League Anglaise Etranger and organizing boy scouts. She is a charmer and a woman with wonderful vision. Hope to put through some organization for boys in Region Libérée.

August 28

Wed

1918 While working Miss John
Told me that I was going
soon to France. Joy for
beyond words. Nearly expired
with excitement. Expect call
first of Sept.
Went in town with Grace -
tried to meet Janet but failed

1919 Thurs. Ellie came back from
Paris with word that Sadie & I were
to sail on Thurs 4th Sept. and
must be in Paris Mon. morning.
Spent evening packing. Some
job for the final trip.

End of work at Vint

August 29 Thurs

1918. Not yet subdued from
joy of prospects of Europe.
Displayed trousseau to
some of the girls.
Time of mobilizing changed
to, not earlier than 15th Sept.

1919. In middle of morning had
word that we must report in Paris
Sat morning because Mon. Labor
Day things would be closed.
Was rather excited. Had to wind
up all work in a hurry.
Started right after lunch for Bouche
sawyer & hurriedly to take rest of sewing
and give all the ladies a ride.
Had a terrible rush to finish packing
and get off at 6 P.M. with Sadie, Katie
& Eddie in White for Paris.
Terrible storm before we started and
marvelous sun set & cloud effects
on the trip. Reached 3 miles good
time had dinner & spent night
in Hotel de Grand Cery.

Had fine bed. good room
except for windows that kept blowing
all night. Got up 6 times to fix them.
Thursatt bag soaked with wine that
burst from cask Eddie was taking to
Paris. Said wine was old 148 bottles
barricaded during all of war and dug up
and delivered to Paris by us. don't know how

August 30

Fri.

1918 Usual day. Probably go
To U. Y. Sept 12th
Mary Alice came out to see me
Went to Post movies.
No Janet yet

1919. Sat. waked up early - cleaned to
see beautiful spire. against morning
sky with birds flying all around it.
Took early trip in to Paris - had our
passports - went immediately to
Councils for Passports. Had to wait ages
and finally take it to Embassy myself.
Got to R. C. just in time to finish business
before 1 P.M. closing time.

Spent afternoon in shopping
had supper with photo friend at
small Italian restaurant - wonderful
chase sulette. Had interesting
conversation.

August 31

Sat.

1918. Lots of cases, worked in
stump ward after finishing our ward.
Went with Miss John to new
house for girls - lovely place.
Miss G. told us to write Ruth
to join our unit, much excitement
over prospect. Wrote many letters.

1919. Sun. Took early train for Etaples
long journey uninteresting. Had dinner
in Buse and walked through town.
River full of fishing snags beach filled
with fisher folk - shore line and Paris
Plaque across the river - beautiful.
walked on through series of hospital
buses - hundreds of wards in one section
prison camps etc. Met many Eng
Officers & men & A. A. C. I.
walked along sand dunes to cemetery.
Cemetery beautifully located in hollow
between pine covered dunes with
harbor and fishing boats in distance.
Found Auch Mills grave - took many
pictures.

Walked back and took car to
Paris Plage - wonderful french sea
side resort. No trees there.
Had annoying trip home because of
awful french soubrettes with 2 french girls
nearly died of sleepiness. Arrived
home. midnight

Sept¹ Memoranda Sun.

1918. Lazy morning in bed.
Afternoon went to Great Falls.
All inspiring and beautiful
place.

1919 Mon. Went in search of Boy Scout
information in. Went to Barbary for
coat fitting. Bought hat some back etc
Dinner china near Utrah House.
Had lunch with two women to talk over
possibility of chaperoning some
Saskatoon girls home to M.S.O..

Plans impossible to carry out.
Went to R.C. in afternoon. Hair wash
Yash! how tired one gets just trotting

September 2. Mon.

1918. Labor Day but - worked in
morning. Had wonderful time
furthering over cases and talking
with doctor. More enthusiastic
about work than thought I could
be. Had two young lieutenants
and fracture bed case added

1919 Tues. spent whole morning and
part of P.M. looking up man after man
about Boy Scouts did more shopping.
R.C. again but no tickets. Went to bed
early after finishing packing.

September 3 Tues

1918 Stranous day. Jan surprised me in afternoon and came out again in evening. She is the same dear child. Getting her interested in work.

1919 Wed. finished all arrangements at R.C. for Helset. got trunks to station then took Sadie on sight seeing tour, Napoleon tomb, St. Chapelle, Louvre and Notre Dame - got concierge to take us up in to again left along side balcony out onto roof under flying buttresses. Thrilling to be there in that old atmosphere over looking the city.

Beginning to put rose windows back in both St. Chapel and Notre Dame

September 34 Wed.

1918 - Rushed all morning to get cases done before noon. Miss Sanderson said she would leave on Sept. 6 or 8th much excitement discussed Ruth's going with her. Went shopping and to Jan's to dinner. Saw Capt. Grainger and found out that no show for Ruth.

1919. Thurs. Took early train for Harre but heard messenger that boat would not sail until Sat. Had good trip with Miss L. Mather & Sadie. Arrived at La France early afternoon and did all business and then went out to Ethel's. She was not home but came to boat in evening and took me home with her. Went to bridge party at Eng. friends every one played for money. All slept at Ethel's friends because of burglar scare. Gossiped until 4 A.M. Billy Mathews spent whole evening teasing.

September 4 Thurs.

1918 Official information that we go Sat. at midnight. Heavens the excitement. Miss Sanderson terribly worried about all the vicissitudes of dealing with these men. I am miserable I think of way she has been treated.

1919 Fri. Slept late - very dopy went down to boat but every body out. Took beautiful ride in afternoon to Eritat - passed through small town en route and stopped at quaint old inn where many famous artists have stayed and painted wooden panels for rooms. Filled with collection of every sort of things, cluttered with old china and copper things. It is one of the 3 inns in town. Three homely inns. Eritat a combination of fishing village style summer resort with big gambling casinos used as hospital and orphan home during war. Took beautiful ride after supper through small village fascinated with farm houses surrounded by double row of tall trees on high ridge of earth - many thatched roofs and stucco and beam farm huts. Fine ride home in moon light to talk with Ethel - like old times.

September 5 Fri.

1918 I did all cases and then rushed in town to get tickets for visit to U. G. - a long process. Jan came out after dinner in state of fever. Spent evening sleeping on my bed. Stayed all night - Faded for U. G. much excitement.

1919 Sat. Late breakfast - went to boat for S & Miss M. Took them on ride in country had lunch at Ethel's then to boat. Spent afternoon getting deck chair place at table etc. Sailed right after dinner, docks thronged with people everyone threw coins as we passed through locks and boys fought for them. Ethel signalled with lights from her house. Beautiful evening - sunset and moon. Superb ship in size & equipment.

September 67 Sat.

1918. Last day of work in A.R.H.
Much diversion during day
very weary - Mary Alice came
out to get me off. Went
in to Theater "Nothing But Lies"
very amusing. Jan. in wonderful
spirits. My intention to leave her
Boarded train for N.Y. at 12.20 AM.

1919 Sun. went sleep in our stateroom
because little air - Jan. to see the
crowd. Lots of dressy people, one
awful looking one we dubbed "the
Vampire". looked just like the boys
in college plays who take women's
parts. Galled a little got
acquainted with the Gaiety the
new Peace conference reporter
with small grand daughter of French
countess and many other interesting
ones.

I spent the whole evening on
top deck in moon light & wind
wonderful - slightly rough.

September 7

September 8 Sun.

1918. Landed in U.S. 6.30 a.m.
Actually on the first lap of our journey
Albert Hotel a strange place.

Rainy day. We all sat around and
gossiped and slept all day.
Hotel full of nurses in complete
uniform. Two branches left
during day. Very exciting.

1919 Mon - a bit rough every
one dopy. Spent most of day
in chair sleeping. Discovered that
the Vamp is the best of something.
Read a little wrote a little.

Evening went to grand concert
every one in low heels but us

September 9 Mon.

1918. Fine night's sleep - enjoyed our
apartment for 6, and private bath.
Spent morning with Grace looking
up ropes of our registration etc
Spent afternoon listening to head
nurse give instructions.
Mother arrived in evening.

1919 Tues. Another dopy day but
feeling better even if more stormy
still watching the dressy crowd file by
some clothes - many Burberry coats.

Played cards with Capt. Farborg
and watched dancing again.

One woman wears veil like
woman of far East but American -
small colored creature with fascinating
head gear, probably a dancer with her
manager. Name Kyoto Nishio.
Grette Gilbert sits near us
very loudly but much force.

September 10 Tues

1918. Great U. Y. Mother & I shopped and took Riverside drive, went to see Yip Yip Yaphank - camp suture show, enjoyed it. Most of the girls got leave for 3 days.

1919. Wed. - Fine weather more pop walked considerable - meals not very good because no vegetables. Sackie feeling brim. Boat too big to get acquainted with any. Miss Weather showed us beautiful things bought at Liberty's, such gorgeous materials.

September 11 Wed

1918. More errands. O.D. in afternoon - had fine visit with Mother and wrote letters. Went to movie in evening. U. Y. swarming with people. More impressed than ever with the

1919. Thurs. rather disagreeable day a bit rainy. Getting much bored with trip - nights in inside state room terrible absolutely no fresh air - meals not very good and service poor, but boat rides well. Gift handed in for auction for trench coat & med, saw them all during day. Every one in grand clothes for ship talent concert. Such jewels. Had four shocks during evening -

1st Countess de R great grandmother - bourgeois figure plastered with jewels, sang or rather tried to sing two old chestnut sentimental love songs terrible voice. Tons for embarrassment to look at during process.

2nd. Saw veiled lady without her veil she was shockingly homely.

3rd Hindu girl Vyota Kisha danced rather uninterestingly with nothing on but jewels across bust and turbid trousers hideous display.

4th Woman dancing after show with most delectable dress ever seen - nothing in back but narrow strip of thin chiffon from waistline to shoulder.

Gretta Gilbert gave powerful and beautiful recitation. She and 2 men auctioned. She was clever & fascinating.

September 12 Thurs

1918. Spent much time at tailors every thing fixed & hope. Had passport picture taken.

Miss John & Miss Sanderson arrived full of tales of bureau management in Washington. Miss S. wished to report to Gen Pershing in France.

1919. Fri. rather slow day - made out customs list. Had very interesting talk on Germany with Mr. Gaumont reporter - gave me first note of optimism for the future because he thought Germany was going to be a real republic & democracy and so would not land grab. His description of unrest in Germany very vivid. He said that Germans felt very bitter ag. Kaiser for abdicating but this impression may be propaganda.

Had long auction in evening followed by dance at which Sarah & Miss Weather and I had a terrible fit of hysterics watching the very fat G. M. C. B. boy dance with the French girls.

All in better spirits than any time as result of laughter. Had glass of champagne to celebrate last dinner.

September 13 Fri.

1918. Miss S. Told us that we were to be next unit to sail unless transferred. Many thrills. Unit 5-8 left today. Getting pass ports ready. but cannot begin shopping till all here. Mother & I went to Hippodrome much bored.

1919. Sat. Every one watching the sailing record carefully. Hope to land today. Finished packing etc. perfectly gorgeous day, most beautiful blue & white sea have ever seen. Early breeze.

In afternoon sky air to be interesting. Passed many ships. Pilot boarded ship - began to see land and light ship. Entered channel and eventually came in sight of U. S. skyline with gorgeous sun set and beautiful lights. Most beautiful harbor in evening light. Decidedly thrilled to see the Statue of Liberty. Just like the boys I guess.

Locked 8.30 - Took two hrs. to collect baggage and finish customs inspection. Miss Weather and I went to Hotel U. S. Alpine for night.

September 14 Sat.

1918. Roll call morning - meeting with Miss S. discussed equipment. Had five talks in Miss S. & Miss L. Miss Bateman not arrived. Spent afternoon trying to get in Navy yard but walked Brooklyn Bridge instead. City is inspiration from point of masses of size. Had dinner with F. Case talked Camp.

1919 Sun. Lazy in morning but too excited to sleep last night. Telephoned for about half hour then breakfast and went on bus up Fifth Ave. Great to see the business and exposure. Thing that impressed me most was the vast railroad system and extreme rush life in A.S. too tense and complicated for words.

Spent afternoon & night with Aunt Minnie - talked my ideas off our Europe.

September 15 Sun.

1918 - Very sleepy but refreshed. Trunk wrote letters and went to Ridgewood. Morris fine boy but Joe! No new developments in works.

1919 Mon. Had conference with Mr. Miller on Boy Scout work for our villages. Very interesting and inspiring. Afternoon went to Railway U.T. Base Hospital U.S. Had interesting time with Basilak Rader. He regrets our being out of the world now because it all seems so casual and uninteresting.

September 16 Mon.

1918. Started early en masse to Red Cross. The "boss" made us feel like whipped school girls. Talks about your ugly sales women. Finished pass port papers recommended as head aide. Spent afternoon buying shoes. Mothers last evening with me.

1919. Tues. Met Mr. Miller again and we had fascinating meeting with Miss Ralib Sartoris vice pres. of French central committee in U.S. Discussed financing of Boy Scouts for France. Took train for Helen Hills farm. Great to see her again. Enjoyed her baby immensely. Deluded over her fear of babies nurse.

Had good talk in evening and wonderful sleep.

September 17 Tues.

1918 Shopped in morning and had dedication of flag and pictures taken at Old ~~South~~ St Pauls Church. Said good bye to mother - really hard. Spent afternoon shopping. Early to bed.

1919 Wed. Hid the farm with Helen

September 18 Wed.

1918. Went to 120 Madison for
vaccination cert. Then drill
3rd Army. Very funny to
see nurses try it. More shopping
drill again at 4.30. Wrote
letters in evening. Miss Moulton
in town.

1919. Thurs - spent the day going
to Wellesley Hills. Great to see
Marion & kids again. Shirley
didn't know us.

September 19 Thurs

1918 Drill in morning - more shopping
all unit went to Hoboken for passports
Glimpses of Towers of large ships, thrills
stood in line for p.p. branch red tape.
Bought in commissary.
Went to C. W. Skinner with Mr. Winslow
family. Such a good gossip with
W. about all New York things.

1919. Fri Spent morning in Boston
talking to May Lewis about unit
and Sadie. Afternoon saw
Miss Vivian and arranged
course.

September 20 Fri.

1918. Spent 2 hrs looking for identification tags for unit. Finally found place. more drill - & shopping. pouring rain. Ordered to complete packbag. Awful job with trunks down stairs. terribly tired.

1919. Sat. all day getting course at Ar. fixed.

September 21 Sat.

1918. Last drills with unit 52 & 64. much shelling. Had lunch and a wonderful chat with Helen Hill. Spent evening at song rally of all nurses in town. Very impressive to see the members. Thrilled at prospects of actually going.

1919. Sun. packed and went riding with Sadie.

September 22 Sun.

1918. Possibility of leaving Sunday but later did not make to report until late at night. Spent the day finishing up odd jobs writing letters etc. Evening heard Galli Curci - perfect and sublime beyond words.

1919 Mon. Saw Miss Sanderson and took train for Warren Pa.

1919. Tues. ²³ arrived at Tanets Mary Alice there - met Gates and Frank Pershing. Spent most of time in hut.

Gates rather lacking in understanding of Tanet not right attitude, too critical - been misinformed but young.

1919. Thurs. ²⁴ Started for Chicago.

1919. Fri. ²⁵ arrived in C. but no one there to meet me. Mother missed the train. Gee but was good to get home. Went to Ft. Sheridan to see my boys found Geis, Hentrich

September 29 Sun

Removed in turning pages because keeping diary a mistake. Also tore up long letters written en route. Hard to get into realization of war silence. Spent morning having French lesson with officer on board. Lots of fun. Lazy most of day.

Nowas cloud Arts. Hensley, Saint Joseph, Baldy, Filer, Webb, R. B. McLaughlin, Marion Holder, Emma Sawtell and Miss Cooper all in R.R. left there.

Again glad that I was not in the world in U.S.A.

Sat. 26. Went to Edith for week end. E. very well and very happy over prospects.

Wed. 27th Started Joan & Peter by H. G. Wells. read and odd sewing all week. Saw Coffey Richards with Edith

September 30 Mon -

1915 Not very good weather and many boys getting ill with influenza. No place with them in hold so put on decks. Nurses and medical put on 8 hrs duty every day.

First duty was with two dying pneumonia cases in back upper decks. Spent all evenings trying to keep one in fever, quiet.

1919. Wed. of Oct 6th had dressmaker Miss Hanson revived 3 old dresses one with "Three Wise Fools" with Jean Brodley and sorority bunch.

Fri. lunch with Gertrude and her bunch Harriet Ashbel Curtis from London very interesting.

Sat. lunch with Mary Brodley and talk at Smith meeting.

Memoranda Oct 6th

Trip ended with two days of most terrific storm ever seen. Waves the most violent I could imagine. Looked like hell inferno turned into a seething glacier brought to life. Marvellous & awful sight. Threw every thing in sick words. Topsy Turvy. Undescribable conditions among us. Felt as if nothing could ever raise the depression of the trip.

October 1

October 2

19

This is a very old manuscript
 and the text is very faded
 and difficult to read. It appears
 to be a list of names or places
 written in a cursive hand. The
 text is written on a piece of paper
 that is heavily stained and discolored.
 The ink is very light and the
 paper is very yellowed. The
 text is written in a cursive hand
 and is very difficult to read. It
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 piece of paper that is heavily stained
 and discolored. The ink is very
 light and the paper is very yellowed.
 The text is written in a cursive hand
 and is very difficult to read. It
 appears to be a list of names or
 places.

October 3

October 4

1915

October 5-6

Sailed from U.S. up along Sandy Hook. Sept. 24 there anchored over night until other convoy arrived. Had wonderful evening concert given by boys and Eng. crew. Never will forget the mass of faces below me on poop deck that evening in the light - with the anticipation of every thing unknown ahead combined with sorrow of parting - ~~the~~ Started real journey under convoy Sept 25

End of trip such violent contrast so many of boys had died or were desperately ill on way over every one sad and disheartened and almost afraid of what was coming next. The climax of awful storm was tragic finish to trip. Everyone looked worn and haggard and sad.

Reaction on having it end and actually landing was queerest feeling I have ever experienced.

1915

October 6

Mon.

Sailed Liverpool. Bands playing much excitement. The reaction from trip was wonderful. Watched unloading of sick from boat, a sad sight especially when they took Miss Gibson of our party.

We were lined up, rationed, and marched off the boat over to train where fine looking Eng. men and women fed us and gave us welcome until train left.

Never can forget ride through Eng. saw shiny peaceful wonderful homelike country.

Watched passing view continually Thrilled to pass thru Stratford on Avon & Oxford. Kept feeling that I always knew some of it looked like that but did not expect it all to be so perfect. Sailed late at night Southampton. Crowd divided to us wait to go, W. P. A. old rooms & no bath.

Dark streets at night seemed queer, after

October 7

1917 South Australia

October 8 Tues

Slept late and then started
 sight seeing. Went down by old
 walls along river - built in
 time of King John - palace entrance
 there. Saw statue to John
 Alden who sailed in Mayflower
 from there. Interesting
 court yards and narrow
 winding streets. Old tower
 where Eng. marched to
 battle of Agincourt & Crecy.
 Saw group of children
 give old Eng. play ground
 games and songs.

Visited Tudor house
 and old church of St. Michael.
 Clearing atmosphere and
 surprising cleanliness.

Afternoon spent looking around
 town in shops etc.

Evening Grace and I went
 to see Eng. van der Ville
 with Bairnsfather shot.

Eng women wonderful to
 look at, awful dressers but
 splendid color and faces

Southampton
1914

October 9 Wed.

Spent morning buying things
garage lining of fur collar etc.
Raine - Took tara out to
various cars around the
country. Had to report so
often at house could not
go away far. Enjoyed
walks in rain along
charming wet streets.

Went to bed early.
Sight seeing is difficult task.

1914

October 10

Thurs

Had to wait around all morning
for orders. Called at noon
to report at head quarters.

Started march to Channel boat
at noon. Embarked on splendid
hospital ship that was in service
at Harbours entire time.

Scottish Engineer talked to us
all evening about his personal
experience at Harbours. It was
thrilling beyond words to hear it
first hand.

Trip out of harbor was splendid
searchlights were playing all over
sky and rockets shooting.

Had splendid dinner that
night - just good meal in
Eng. Food very scarce in Eng.
but nothing as expensive
as in U.S. No sugar in
tea and bread scarce.

1915 ^{at home} ~~to France~~
Oct. 11 Fri.

Slept all night with clothes on more usual occasion now than otherwise.

Moire up anchored in bay outside of Havre. Many camouflaged cruisers & transports in harbor observation balloon & aeroplanes flying over head.

Land in stores at quaint port of Le Havre. Went to Hotel - Grace. E. Herron & I started to see the town send cable etc.

Funcky funny because first French meal. etc. everything in sight and asked for more & then discovered that there were four more courses.

Grace and I went out to find Ethel Slack. Talked with her mother for 2 hrs. before she came in. Great to see her again. Her end of city full of Belgians because B. govt. there.

Left at seven in pouring rain for Paris. Saw many sad sights as French Poilu's bit fare well to families.

Nearly froze going to Paris sitting up all night in train. 6 in compartment. Funny sight, our efforts to get comfortable.

1915 October 12 Sat.

Stiff and weary in morning. Had two hrs in Paris but saw nothing as we were hurled from one station to other and put on another train.

Rode to Chaumont some 4 hrs trip thru pretty country.

Characteristic red tile roofs with white stucco houses, pretty gardens. All land seems under cultivation - provincial highways with rows of trees each side make roads visible long way off.

Chaumont. A. E. Chaumont. Beautiful city quaint charming houses and buildings - deep valley running through. Had wonderful dinner and spent walk around town.

Land in Rivecourt of 3 1/2 hrs for 31 K. of distance. Some trains stop French. pouring rain - went right to messes quarters. All new buildings built in settling mud. Lights dimmed - very cold. Slept 3 on 2 army cots. Shared the ridges.

October 13

Sunday

1918. Began work in morning after sleeping on ridge of two beds between Grace & C. Harrou. Felt as though I had been thru Spanish inquisition.

Began by rustling breakfast for nurses. Washed clothes and hung them up in rain to dry. Went on duty at 10.30 in ^{operating room} Surgical Ward. Had wonderful time making dressings. Worked like this to prepare for operations next day.

Fun to begin working again and thrill to be in surgical.

Reports that Kaiser has agreed to evacuate and make peace.

October 14

Monday

1918. All day making dressings and preparation for operation. Made thousands. A few doctors at end of day in very nice but quickly improvised operating room.

Just as operation ended all lights went out and left us in total darkness.

It was a strange procession to see orderlies carry man off on stretcher in darkness and slipping in mud with nurse at each end holding candles.

Wrote today that Americans will not make peace. Much fighting at front near by.

1915

October 15

Tuesday

Made dressings continually
 work monotonous but occasional
 interesting of operations very
 interesting. More appendicitis
 and an erysipelas.

Took walk in evening
 along long road in moonlight
 beautiful view of hills and
 flat country and mists
 rising from all around.

Word that Bush air planes
 had been overhead night before
 cautioned about lights.

1919. Week of Oct. 13. Went to

Toliet to see Aunt Fannie and
 take pictures of Uncle Will's grave

Wed. Smith meeting & address

Talked again.

Fri Thomas Concert.

Visit

1915

October 16

Wednesday

More dressings, nothing but
 dressings - some terrible
 operations ^{one for} had hemorrhage
 man almost died on table.

Great rush to make thousands
 of lap. pads for immediate use

Went to town in evening
 for walk. Love the quaintness
 and picturesqueness of village
 nestled on hill side - old wall
 & towers of Chateau in beautiful
 line. Church seems old
 as can be. People all in wooden
 shoes.

1918

October 17 Thurs

More dressings -

Saw amputation of gas infected leg could not give man ether enough to keep under because of bugs. Had to help hold him on table - smell of wound terrible. Man died later in day on table.

1918

October 18 Fri

Frightful sounds from operating room from men with gas wounds that had to be cleaned out. Per told us that one chief had been over top 27 times had Croix de Guerre and 5 honorable mentions etc and was slightly nervous.

Cries of men sound like wounded animals in great pain.

Left work long enough to see presentation of distinguished honor to patient. Happened in large open plain with hills on all sides. Band and military on one side officers on other and audience on other. Very impressive sight - seemed like watching movie.

October 19

Sat

1957

October 20

Sun.

Worked just same as any day.
But afternoon ^{we} were told to take time
off. Miss Taft and I took fine
walks into town across river
and up onto hill from which
could see the whole village
in its charm of color and form.
Strolled around then and
and back main street. Saw
open door and fire going inside
stopped and was invited in by
old French woman who talked
French to us in her quaint
room by her fire side.

1919. week of Oct 20th lots of odd
jobs in sewing - Mother read
aloud, Science of Power by
Benjamin Kidd - very deep but
enlightening

Thurs. M. ch. Bess telling
Fri. Thomas.
Sat. "Tea for Three" with
Mother.

October 21 *here*

1975

October 22 Tues

Worked all morning heard started on an errand downtown in afternoon and instead went into Chattem grounds. Wonderful old trees forming avenue and river so clear that it did not look natural. Chattem in rear not so large apparently but well proportioned - seasoned and vine covered - wonderful sweeping green lawns stretching for $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ mile on levels ending in wooded hills covered with autumn colors. We strolled through woods over beautiful bridal path all flecked with autumn leaves. Woods so gentle and charming and rich that they relaxed and pleased immediately. ~~Went~~ ^{Up} up winding bridal trail to wider place with row of stones around base of hill forming beautiful amphitheatre. Sat and rested but had to return to work. Woods stimulated imagination of all past times there. No wonder that it was one of hapless favorite hunting grounds.

October 23

October 24

Arched.

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some faint smudges and discoloration, characteristic of old paper. There is no text or other markings on the page.

October 25th Thurs

1915

October 26th Fri

~~Peel and~~
Continued folding gauge - much
secured by increasing sarcasm
of girls on regime.
Harry & Muller most amusing
pair of comedians - good nature
and really funny. If it weren't
for them would be almost too
monotonous to endure.

Miss Johns interrupted work
by news that we were leaving
next day for Sarcway.
Spent evening bathing and
packing.

1916

October 27

Sat.

Expected to leave Rimaumont at 3 P.M. worked on gauge all morning. Girls in operating room positively funny they were so sarcastic over rules & regulation and Miss Schleid.

Afternoon told that train was 24 hrs late so would not leave until Sunday. Grace & I took fine walk to Audelot $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Rime. cute town & square and grave yard which we inspected in detail but not so charming as R.

Spent evening chatting with our bunch.

1916

October 28

Sunday

Grace C. Hermon and I took wonderful trip in morning to beautiful chateau in hills at Raywell. Peach of day beautiful autumn coloring - fine climb to small town and town a jewel of age and quaintness chateau only 200 yrs old - fine outlook of valley & small lakes below - occupied by Amer. General ~~Hobbs~~ - officers off in surrounding woods hunting les sangliers (wild boar). could hear wild boar dogs bark and shots fired.

Town has old arch ^{100 yrs old} with round tower on each side most stirring to imagination. Chatted with women on only street in town. A lovely spot in France.

Left at 3. cold train changed & had dinner at Chaumont. first in time to see fight between Amer. sold. & French proprietors. Long cold night on train so I used because no Paris for us

1914

October 29th Mon.

Grace & I nearly froze sleeping on hard benches in compartment. Both mad because we had not reached the crowd and gone to Paris. Left at 9.30 A.M. in Tours but arrived at 9.30 P.M. usual occurrence. Able to get meals on train.

Went through Bourges and other very interesting cities. First sight of real French cave dwellers - houses built in rock cliffs. Passed through zone of many American army camps. Whole way seemed swarming with American soldiers. Saw few French soldiers except in stations.

Read French, whittled and played cards in evening with 4 Amer. officers going to Belgian front.

Rather tired at end of long day.

At Tours no beds in Tours except at American Hospital - old building - probably monastery. All slept in one used ward. Were very nice to us in getting us settled.

1915

October 30th 29 Tues.

Worked journey to see all the line of cars begin to make up along the line. Coffee & toast served in messes quarters - started on strenuous sight seeing day. City very old - high walls & crooked streets. Walked along esplanade by Loire, fine avenue of trees, to cathedral at Yvetot. wonder.

1919. Week. Oct 27th

Was Shopped & lunch with Miss Cook.

Thurs. lunch with Mary Kings and Ruth. Mrs. Cold's implements. Thurs left for. Ben Arbor.

1915

October 31st Wed.

Fine sleep - up rather late
 just time for bits of breakfast
 and time to take car for Vauvray.
 Small town part built in
 cliffs - old French wine caves
 in rock walls. Went up
 fault between two high old walls
 to open vineyards stretching
 far into distance. At grapes till
 we most burst. Visited in sun,
 grave yard made beautiful with
 tall cedar trees - old wall &
 ruins of chateau. Walked
 through village & up stairway to
 top of plateau in villa yard -
 wonderful view in hot sun on
 around - overlooking Loire long
 distance. Fine dinner in
 court yard of inn in town -
 Spent afternoon going over
 grounds of chateau - beautiful
 outlook - many gardens & promades
 talked with pathetic old lady in
 in wine cave. She doing all
 work, ^{including wine} 5 nephews & 1 cousin
 now in war. She touched me
 more deeply than any one I have seen.
 Packed to leave early next
 morning.

Oct 31st

1915

Memoranda Thurs.

Got up in cold dark morning
 to catch early train for Saumur.
 Winded in ^{dark} streets.

After much waiting got train
 and started through attractive
 country, though not as pretty
 as the East of France.

Came into cities of Angers
 and Nantes and the land of
 chateaux, and old buildings,
 many windmills in landscape
 and sweet faced old peasant
 women with beautiful white
 caps.

Laid on time in Saumur
 and went right out to hospital.
 So glad to see Miss Sanderson.

Hospital here ~~as old~~ ^{a new}
 French military school.
 Steam heat electric lights &
 hot water. numerous luxuries
 including a real bed.

1918

November 1

Fri.

Registered new convey
in morning.

Afternoon was expecting
to be free and started writing
letters but was dragged
off to work on files for
this eve. Really interesting
from point of view that
helps to straighten out lists
of boys to be returned home.

1918

November 2

Sat.

Miss Behson and I spent
all day on files in Major Orr's
office. Tiring work.

1918

November 3 Sun.

Child files all day long for
major Dr. very tireless
and interesting work.

Had a fine walk with
Grace at end of day.
Country around here not
attractive like Rima Court
very flat - can see the
Loire and St Nazaire
in distance.

Read French in evening.

5 Tues.

1918

November 4

Painted Grace in fracture
ward all morning. Had
fine talks with wounded boys.
They looked like "Spirit of '76".
Told his story of being wounded
severely and lying in trenches
4 whole days before rescued.
German officer in trench tried
to flee but would not
take him prisoner because so
near dead.

Some boys say no one
ever wants to go back to
trenches - others say that that
is the only place worth being,
only place where excitement
and sport is.

Had four cases in gymnasium
in afternoon and later more
office work.

Dr. Goldthwait talked to us
in evening on work, emphasizing
words of L.T.

1918

November 5

Thurs

Continued writing letters and doing office work until 11:30 finished my section and started for a new job along orthopedic lines. Margaret Blahm took her through the woods rest of morning.

Spent wonderfully interesting afternoon in plaster room. Worked with doctors while they put on all variety of casts many under ether. Tense and absorbing work.

Went in evening to house of French woman to see some lace. Had fine talking French to them.

Went to home entertainment in Y.M.C.A. building. Interesting to see such mobs of boys in audience.

wrong date -

1918

November 6

Wed.

Spent the morning doing new cases. Had many "well legs" of boys who had been in bed for months with fractures, terrible muscle atrophy. No work after three so came home and unpacked and settled all my clothes I hope for a long stay.

Very enthusiastic over Capt. Tolens' thorough way of explaining cases and sympathizing with our work. I think it is going to be great to work under him.

Nurses are cordial to us and really interested in our work.

1918 Wed. Nov. 6th

We are office work - a few cases in the afternoon - very little chance to work comfortably.

Roux mate still obtuse of speech.

November 7 Thurs

Same old thing -

& some mail from home

1918

November 8 Fri.

Same old thing. clerical
work.

Talk by Major Orr &
Capt. Wilson on Orthopedic
work.

November 9

Sat.

More records and church
work. Tiring beyond words.
Gossiped with Margaret Blake
while working.

Had interesting demonstration
in evening of on infantile paralysis
and craft work - and later
Grace Miss John, Miss
Sanderson and I talked at
length on the "intimacies of
France". wonderful fun
hearing Miss S. dissertate.

November 10

Sunday

Rather excited at prospect of
moving on to a supposedly
permanent place. Morning
cleaned up and packed - lunch
down town in Cafe and rush
for train to Nantes.

Heads of people in the streets
of Nantes
in Sunday array excitedly
waiting for news of cessation
of war. Atmosphere of all
very exuberant!

Taken to hospital in limousine
quite a treat after our former
treatment.

Saw Miss Brown, head
nurse, impression of
friendliness - nurses helped
us settle and very cordial

Went to song service in
hospital for enlisted men.
Chaplain not very impressive.

First night in French
beds.

Started work as Head Aide

November 11 Mon.

Interviewed chief Kurra about
work. waited for interview with
Everyone much excited over possible
peace. Parade through hospital
grounds of water crew, soldiers
of all races, civilian, children
Americans, all yelling beating tin
pans - saluted brass band as they
passed - very thrilling to see their joy.

Every woman & child rushed out as
I passed and said "la guerre est finie".
Bell Dudley Grace & I went down town
in afternoon to see crowds. No cars
remaining walked all way down.

People in groups singing and dancing
down streets. City some scattering mob
of people all variety and ages singing
waving flags and surging through
street, lights and rockets shot off.
Crowd got wilder and wilder as
time went on, like wild carnival
with confetti, tinsel, straws etc.

So many drinks that almost a
dangerous thing to get through streets.
Had dinner in hotel and then leave

did not go down town 12

November 12 Tues.

No appointment with Capt. Tolson
until late so we went waiting
for day. Went around old
Chateau of Pittsburg Castle - of seven
towers - now used as barracks
for French Army. Rambling place
with attractive sections of old
Gothic building.

Cathedral of St. Pierre much
damaged by time - being repaired
and restored one modern tomb
with familiar figure of "Charity"
on corner. Windows somewhat
garish and disappointing.

City still filled with crowds
celebrating peace.

Capt. V. talked with us and
assigned the cases

See Nov. 6 -

November 13

November 14 Thursday

Very happy and enthusiastic day full of work. Boys were glad to see us for treatments. Many new assignments. enough work to keep Grace & me busy.

Started French lessons and had a bath in front of my fire - joy forever.

November 15 Friday

Heavy schedule of work
all day. Boys give to work
with. Took walk and
wrote letters all evening.
Wonderful clear fresh weather
and beautiful moonlight.

November 16 Sat

My work for breakfasts
some what of a rule. work
wonderfully interesting.
Heard remarkable violinist
from Royal opera house Roumania
in officers ward. best for me
as well as the boys.

French lesson in evening.

Grace entertained me until
12. Midnight with history of her
life. "C'est drôle!"

November 17 Sun.

I slept until eleven, then
graved rush to get some washing
done before dinner.

All went to Town in afternoon
and walked streets with tout &
bands in Sunday clothes,
bands & crowds. ^{French} in
all types of French & colonial
uniforms, women in pretty
British costumes. Went
to Cathedral for part of Mass
very elaborate & impressive.
Saw other churches and
"Jardin des Plantes."

Miss Hudley led us through
side street narrow & crooked
filled with Moroccans & Algerians
in costume, painted women
in doorways & leaning out of
windows - real oriental Red
light district - looked like a
bit of Egypt itself. Had fun
teasing Miss Hudley.

November 18 Mon.

Rumor in hospital that
cases were to be evacuated
soon, especially orthopedic.
What will become of us.

French lesson in evening
and wrote letters

November 19 Tues

Cases through rather early
so went down town to get
some toys for children.

Bought lake collar 12 f.

Called on Madame Follie
and had long chat in French
with her. She told me of the
capture of her home by
Verdun by the Germans
her self & father taken prisoner
and all loss of everything.
Father died in G. so she was
returned - works on French
militaire uniforms for a
living. Will take French
lessons of her.

November 20 Wed.

Enjoyed cases today seemed
to get more personal response
from boys. Gave some
extra rubs.

Had French lesson and
read La Maitre all evening.

Beautiful hoar frost on
all cut down - beautiful
on green foliage and blooming
roses. Strange climate!

November 21 Thurs.

Rather full day but not hard work. Came home about 4:30 and read.

Had interesting lesson of M. Follet in evening. I impressed by her lack of faith in the German situation.

November 22 Friday

Last day of getting breakfast. Very easy day doddled in work. wrote & read all evening.

November 23 Sat.

Finished work early because of
more of cases evacuated, getting
worried for fear work here will
not last.

Met Miss Sanderson just
as about to go down town - had
fine visit with her and dinner
later with Major Orr, Q.M.C.A.
near and Miss S. Bought
some Buss cards.

November 24 Sun.

Left & wrote letters all morning
afternoon went to Musée de Beaux
Arts.

November 25 Mon.

Not very hard day because
some cases gone. Had
very interesting French lesson
enjoyed long chat in French.

November 26 Tues

Many new cases added.
Took off Charles leg after 4 months
of terrible with its wounds.
Staff busy operating getting boys
ready for traveling.

Had French lesson in evening
and dismissed teacher because
did not learn anything. Continue
French with M. Fallet in preference

November 27 Wed

Same - a French lesson
in evening.

November 28 Thurs

Thanksgiving day - did full day
of cares. Much anticipated among
boys for dinner. Boys had such
fine dinner that no one wanted
seconds for first time in history
of army. We had wonderful dinner
in mess hall "almost like home".
Much entertainment in afternoon
by R.C. and in evening a
dance for enlisted men and
officers first in history of
unit. Hall jammed with boys
and few girls - all dances were
cut it and lots of fun.
Enjoyed the boys but music but
not stale floor or crowded room.
Best part of day was mail
from the states, the part in ages.

November 29 Fri.

Heavy day nothing unusual
got more disgusted ^{daily} with Lieut
Moly's personality and brutish
treatment in dressing cases.
Wee hate him cordially.
Major Markwiler wonderful
with the boys and liked by them.

November 30 Sat.

Rather heavy but interesting
day did 22 cases.
Went to Red Cross entertainment
given by boys from Argonne Forest,
full of pep and funny war hints
boys in audience enjoyed it
immensely.

Walking home saw street lined
with 8 inch howitzers drawn by
tractors. Stopped and talked to some
of boys. They swarmed around us
to hear American girls talk.
They were preparing their beds
on top of trucks and right in
view of road side. They were
just crawling in bed where we
passed and wished them good
night. Were planning to sail
on convoy of 37 ships from
St. Nazaire on Dec 5th.

Memoranda

December 1 Sunday

Another long sleep in morning
An attempt at letters with
little success.

Grace Miss Hudley & I had
fine walk out Boulevard
and along country roads.
Always walls on either side
of road beautiful farms
stretching over the hills.
Passed lovely old Chateau
winding around and lost our
way finally ended in town.

Miss Sanderson dropped
in on us in evening.
Had a fine gossip with her.

December 2

Monday

Rainy weather continually
now warmer & muggier.
Many cases. French lesson
Mail from home

December 3

Tues.

Nothing but work. did 22 cases
Read French & Tools both evening

December 4

Wed.

Sawie - worked until late
had heart rending talk with
gravity at end of day - poor
discouraged chap.

Mr. Johns returned much
to joy of boys.

Capt Johns promised to
get room for us and
more assistants.

December 5 Thurs.

Saw adjutant about pay
went around with Colonel
looking for room for work.
Finally given just room I
wanted. Capt. T. and I spent
half afternoon looking up
room equipment - had great fun.
Told at end of day that
Samson & Taft were arriving
tomorrow. Talk about quick
work. Am anticipating
wonderful chance for work.

December 6

Friday

Moved in room and established
our work there. Great fun.
Boys much interested in room
especially warm stove.
Underly assigned us.

Worked hard all day.
Paid for first time in C. E. A.
Paid French lessons.

December 7

Sat.

Sunshine in room all day
work going beautifully - doing
heavy schedule working from 8.30 to
6.10 on message.

Spent evening fixing hospital
dress and writing letters.

No sign of help in work.
Zeremon & Taft did not arrive

December 8 Sun.

Miserably rainy wanted to wash hair but no heat all day. Seved on dress and wrote letters. Spent very enjoyable evening at Madame Robert's interesting French lady near hospital.

December 9 Mon.

Heavy schedule - started 2 o'clock clinic of all cases to be treated. Capt. Tolson wonderful in giving us time and help. French lesson

December 10 Tues

Tried to get connected with
Miss Sanderson. To get more left.
New cases coming in for waiting
list. Started treatment of E.H.
Harriman's son. Fat and peculiar.
He talked to Capt. Tolson about this
murder but to me about his wife
safety first.

December 11 Wed

Same full day and French lesson
Continued brain

December 12

Thurs

Rain and work but no depression.

200 boys left hospital in morning for States. They were up all night getting ready. Joy unbounded for them.

December 13

Fri

In spite of date we had luck. Christmas cable from Mother. She is not a procrustean.

Still rain.

Paid French labours to date.

December 14 Sat.

Boys waiting for treatment in room spent time talking about length of time they had been without bathing and changing clothes. They won't forget those details. Major Wm. brought note from Miss Sanderson that Russel Anderson and Rader (Wellesley & 2 yrs. used sel.) were coming. Capt. Tobus' comment on last, "She will probably be an impossible person curious to see."

December 15 Sun

Slept and at last a hairwash. Made out monthly report for Nov. Grace & I alone did 467 cases in two weeks & 3 days even then were not very busy part of time.

Had charming and refreshing walk in country. attractive vistas and cute village by river "Elbe" bought violets from farmer lady who picked them from garden. Wonderfully warm weather. clear sun shine.

Wrote letters all evening. Relieved at prospect of help and happy in my words.

December 16 Mon.

Sawee heavy work -
much rainy weather
Still no help from Sawee.

December 17

Sawee

December 18.

December 19

December 20 Fri.

Busy treating full member and giving extra paraffine baths and electric - almost had hysterics watching exam. of Negro with facial paralysis. I could not work his red tongue in the right direction. Laughed every time I thought of it all day.

December 21 Sat.

Double programme works well clinics most entertaining. ~~sometimes~~ Had real chat with work. Capt. John made orthopedic doctor in chief and has full sway in hospital. which means more work for us. Went to opera expecting to see Faust and saw Les Hirondelles instead. Paula singing. Rather entertaining to hear spoken French on stage. Disgusted with action of some American officers, one especially. Drunk and much are frustrated with a French woman.

December 22 Sun.

In spite of late the night before
woke early and dove into the
family washing and other chores.
Rained afternoon - spent in trying
to sleep and write. Evening
Madame Robert & daughter
called - entertaining conversation
in French. Madame charming
and very good to us.

December 23 Mon.

Still no help. getting almost
desperate. no time to work on
office work. Still rain.
Weather and work almost getting
on my nerves.
Every one concentrating on Christmas
preparation. Boys going off in
gangs to get greens. Never
saw so much holy mistletoe.

December 24 Tues.

Very heavy day, very fatigued.
Clear weather. Nwards all busy
decorating. Lots planned for 130.
made dolls for beds for doctors
perfect Toys.

Went to pupils show in evening.
could not help strange feeling
of disturbance over things in
general.

Announced that B.H. 34
would return to states the first
of the year. What will become
of us. No more start in our
work than it is uprooted.

Strange tugging at my heart
strings tonight

December 25 Wed.

Christmas Day. Woke up to
wonderful sun rise early
breakfast and then help in the ward
Boys like birds in excitement
when Tony - one of our sickest boys
saw Santa he got almost hysterical
with amusement. Boys had
wonderful day and dinner served at
table. I love the feeling of human
personalities in that room.

Realized today again and more
than ever that really loving and
caring for some one or ones is
absolutely the ^{most} fundamental
thing in life. Fought for all
mine today.

Went to church in cathedral
not much impressed with service,
but much moved within myself.
It is wonderful to have one day
in the year that makes you feel
intensely.

Grace and I went on shopping
expedition in afternoon.
bought lace & Bette's china.
To bed early in evening.

December 26 Thurs.

Decided let down after bus.
more or less like blue Monday.
Boys all tired after the exciting
round 130 a very happy place.

So much talk about drinking
among boys that it makes one
a rabid prohibitionist.

Copy

December 27 Fri.

Am becoming more discouraged
over the demoralizing effect of army
life than I can say. It brings out
so definitely the fact that the boys
and men have very little the idea
of any self respect except what is
stimulated by outside elements.
The army seems minus those
elements. Standards are too low
for any use.

December 28

Sat

Heavy and long day, no
relief in sight.

Great pleasure to get Christmas
box from mother.

Capt. T. brought Belgian Police
pup into clinic - pup miss behaved
Capt. T. ejaculated "Oh Lord! accidents
will happen, but this is
hydrotherapy room so you
need not say anything"

December 29

Sun.

Wonderful sleep 13 hrs. Miss
Bell brought me the best breakfast
I have had in France, wonderful
eggs bacon toast and coffee.
Was lazy all day. Afternoon
wrote long letters. Got furious
at Grace over proposed call on
Madame Robert and went walking
by myself in rain to calm down.
Read French all evening.

December 30

Mon

Felt really like work, guess
getting my second wind.

Letter from Miss Sanderson
saying that she was going to
Tours to see why orders did not
get through.

December 31

Tues.

Heaviest day of year almost.
Felt like bathing in evening and
went down town. Intended to go to
movies but got switched off on
beer buying instead. Rubbed around
some of the side back streets.
Quite a gay crowd - New Years eve

Memoranda

[Faint, illegible handwriting in cursive script, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Memoranda

Memoranda

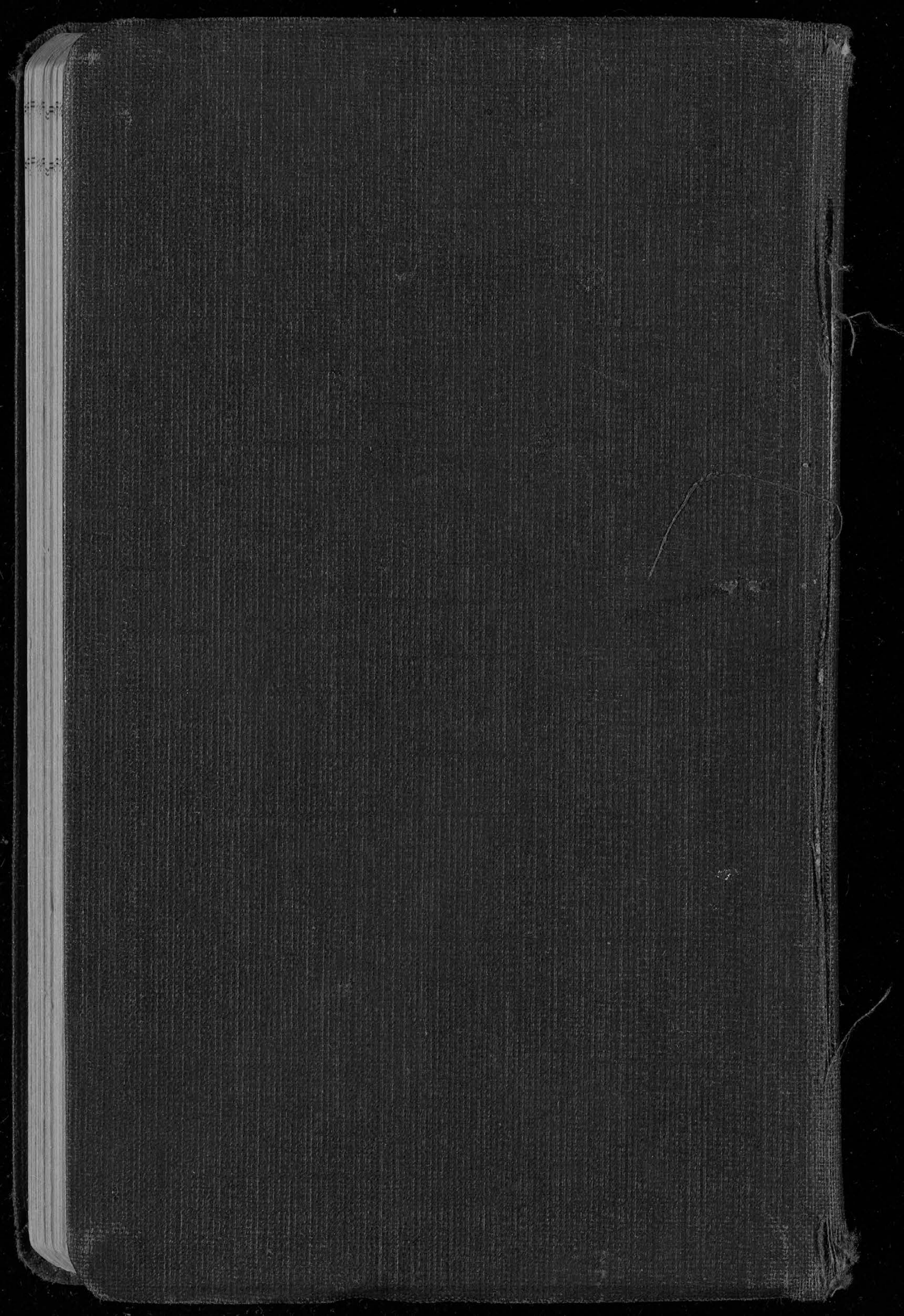
Memoranda

Memoranda

Memoranda

Memoranda

535



2A

There is a detailed letter of my overseas voyage among my letters that should be part of this.

now blow - dry

81P1-35 July 23
 81P1-4 July 24
 81P1-5 July 25
 81P1-6 July 26
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(3000)

2B

2B Library.

It is available,
on request, probably
by any one wishing
to see it.

Signed

Alice Evans

1A

To where I may
concern.

This is the diary
of my overseas
service in the
first world war.

See July 23-1918
for the beginning.
Ship to Aug 4-1918

W. R. H: Walter Reed
Hospital - Washington
D.C. my first
assignment.

May 21-1918 - was
my start with the
Smith College Relief Unit

(over)

1B Sept. 1970

In 1919 when I
returned I typed a
combination of diary
and letters written
during the year in
Europe - making 114
pages. In 1970
I added some
things I remembered
which were not
included.

All of this typed
material was
offered and sent to
the Archives Dept.
of the 1905 section
of the Smith College

My War Service.

August 4th. 1918, to September 13th. 1919.

Selections from letters and diary during service.

July 23rd. 1918. Bar Harbor Maine.

Telegram received from Washington D.C. assigning me to Walter Reed Military Hospital. Rather disappointed that it is not Europe, but accepted.

Aug. 4th. Orders received. Started for Washington full of strange emotions and rather proud to be sworn in as a real employee of the U.S.A. in war work.

Aug. 5th. Hot trip down from Bar Harbor. Arrived in Washington, broiling hot. Much chasing around W.R.H. to locate myself. Met Miss Sanderson who got me settled nicely.

Aug. 6th. First day of work; only not work, just observed. 114° official temperature-terribly hot. Very interesting seeing different kinds of massage. Ate in mess hall and nearly died of noise and heat.

L---If it is hotter than this in Hell I certainly will be good so that I may avoid it. The Maine end of my trip was wonderful and cool but from N. Y. down it was unspeakable. However I lived through it and arrived in Washington to day to find every one even the ~~messes~~ dripping and mopping and calling this the hottest day of the year.

I came out to the hospital, and after chasing from pillar to post with all my baggage I met Miss Sanderson herself and located immediately. It seems that there are no accommodations on the grounds for more staff, so we new arrivals are asked to find our own living quarters. Fortunately a very nice girl, of the Dept. at Wellesley and I have the only two rooms in a very comfortable house quite near the hospital, and we can get good meals across the street. The Gov't. pays us \$62.50 a month extra for maintenance. My room is a very nice one but costs \$25. per month. However I will only be here a month because quarters on the hospital grounds will be ready for us then.

Grace Archibald who was in Wellesley with me and is a peach of a girl, is here in this same work. From all I find out most of the girls who have recently come here, all expected to go to France just as I did. They think that this work is just temporary and that we are being prepared for some sort of foreign service. Anyway we know that the units are not going till some time in Sept. or Oct.

The girl I am living with here arrived in the broiling heat today from Boston clad in complete uniform including high brown shoes and suit and cape. Also she has a dunnage bag bigger than mine full of nothing but winter clothes. We have decided to invite Miss Sanderson over to see our foreign equipment. Do not say a word about my prospect of going over until

I have received my orders this time. I don't want people to think I am queer in the matter.

Our working hours are from 9 to 5 with one hour for lunch. Out side of those hours we are not in the service as it were

and can wear what we like and what we like.

This is early next morning, the heat has not let up a bit all night, so little sleep for me.

The hospital is a wonderful place. It covers an enormous amount of ground, has a few good looking red brick buildings with row after row of grey one floor wards all connected with corridors and stretching all over the place. There^{are} over 2000 military wounded here now and they are preparing for 10,000

They say that the work in our department has been overwhelming lately. I guess that is why they called a good many of us now.

When I arrived there was a military band of wounded boys playing under the trees and the place was swarming military of all sorts and descriptions. It seemed so funny to see the boys wondering around in public in bath robes and pajamas.

Aug. 7th. I have not had a chance to mail my letter to you to day so I am adding a sheet, or will try to if I do not melt away. It has been hot beyond conception today. One thermometer I saw in the shade registered 110 degrees and I know that it was 20 or 30 hotter than that in the sun. People said that in town it was terrible beyond words, especially in those quickly constructed Gov't buildings that are all crowded in together and not properly ventilated.

Fortunately for me I did not have any patients to work on; merely observed the others. It is thrilling to hear all about this big hospital and all the things they are planning to do. They are giving us valuable training in our work. Miss Sanderson herself is out here working most of the time now so I see her quite often. She is a corker beyond words. I am going to lay low on the foreign service question and try to make so good that they will send me. I understand that we are here strictly on trial. For the last six weeks there has been a unit in N.Y. waiting to sail. Another is going in Sept.

Have drunk so much cold stuff to day that I am floating away.

Aug. 7th. D.--Assigned to amputation ward in afternoon --first patient, arthritic foot. 127 deg. on porch; 110 in ward, with all the electric fans going.

Aug. 8th. D--First full day of work, -did not mind work because dripping so. Given charge of ward 6.5 and 6.6 with Miss Neil assisting. Much variety of cases---awfully interesting.

L---Thank Heaven we had a rain last night and the world is a bit cooler. Yesterday was another corker for heat. But this has not really effected me in the least. I was such a running river of perspiration continually that it saved the day. I tried to sew on my uniform one night and the water ran off every angle of my face to such an extent that I could not keep my work dry.

Things are certainly not formulated in our work yet. They told us yesterday that the men in Miss Sanderson's office had been given explicit directions to send out statements to the girls not to buy their foreign equipment as it would all be furnished by the R.C. But the directions have never been

Red Cross

(3)

paid any attention to. I have room in my trunk for more so I am going to take all they give me, if I go over. All the girls came here entirely outfitted, so I am not the only one fooled. Our uniforms are very attractive and I must admit are more becoming to me than I expected. Our suits are really good looking and the capes are quite stunning. Wish you could see me in it

I am more impressed than ever with this hospital. It is so huge that it is bewildering. Yesterday we went through 75 wards and I know that is not the last.

We have been eating lunch in the big mess hall and a mess it certainly is. The boys usually eat before we begin, but there is always a bunch of hot perspiring bath robe clad boys making a great noise still in the room, and then the boys who set the tables seem to get their daily exercise by slamming down the tin plates and dishes with all their might on the wooden tables. The lady of the house here is very nice to me and has offered to put up a picnic lunch for me that I can eat every day in the woods at noon.

Had my first and only patient yesterday. It seems that they have just called in about fifteen new Aides so that we have twenty-two ~~to~~^{for} the staff. At present the doctors have not sent over many new cases so there are a few days of lull. Some of us are only to be here a few weeks and then are to be transferred other places.

I feel almost as though I had had a promotion because one new girl who has had ten years experience in orthopedics under the best Boston doctors, and I, have been transferred to the amputation ward where we get the interesting experience of working on stumps. Miss Sanderson herself is in charge of that work and spends all her time there. I don't know whether I am lucky or not to have her find out how little I know. But they tell me that it is the most interesting place to be in. So I am really pleased. One certainly feels really in war work here. All the boys we have now in our ward have been over seas. Most of them are fine chaps. The one that I told you of is still here. He is the chap with no legs but has progressed to the extent of wearing one artificial leg and is walking a little on two crutches. It is an inspiring sight to see his bravery.

Aug. 9th. D--Schedule delayed because of inspection. Got through many cases easily----surprised that am not more fatigued.

Aug. 10th. D--Schedule worked beautifully. Three interesting cases added, ankylosed elbow and two smashed up wrists. Mexican cannot speak English but is a fine worker. Not so hot

Aug. 11th. D--Fixed uniforms all morning, wrote letters and went to call on Miss Lohne and Grace.

Aug. 11th. L--It is another very hot day and I doubt if this can be much of a letter. It has been a terribly hot week but it does not seem to have upset me much. The work itself makes me drip with perspiration like a fountain and I suppose that is the relief I need.

I have really gotten into the swing of things now and

am enjoying the work hugely. Miss Sanderson has given me charge of all the orthopedics in two wards with one girl as assistant. The variety of cases is interesting. Have two arthritic ankle joints in very serious condition, one arthritic knee, dislocated shoulder, strained knee, two men with stiff wrists and very bad scars on the fore arm and another with a very badly ankylosed elbow. The only trouble about this arrangement is that I never can see any one else long enough to ask them about my cases. The boys are fine and seem to have confidence in me.

Miss Lohne the Head Aide is a fine person and has had heaps of experience in this work. I am learning loads from her. Every day at 12 we meet and discuss the problems of the work. We also have to demonstrate and explain our method in massage. Most of the workers are doing different kinds of massage and they are trying to take the best and standardize it. I am learning heaps every day.

They are asking the girls if they have signed for Foreign service. When I emphasized that I wanted it very much Miss Lohne told me that they were working me up for Head Aide and would send me over when I had had enough experience here, or that they might take me over now and later put me in as head. The H.A. have to have almost medical knowledge so that idea rather scares me.

I see Miss Sanderson often and enjoy her immensely. She is splendid to me.

We get through about four every day and then have nothing to do which is a frightful bore these hot days and evenings when one can not light a light to read without roasting to death. I will be glad when Janet and her sister come back.

Aug. 12th. D--Enjoying work--boys are interesting and wholesome even if they do love to slam the doctors because no medicine is given them. Finished early and Miss Bateman and I went in town. Miss Sanderson gave us a splendid talk.

Aug. 13th. D--Day rather long because patients late,--lunch in the woods very restful--tried to read a little French.

Aug. 14th. D--Strenuous morning--Mexican showed some improvement--blistered his scar with the baker worse luck. Afternoon off--Grace and I went swimming in the Patonic but water was so hot that it made me ill.

Aug. 15th. D--Had nice talk with the boys --most of them feel abused because the doctors don't give them medicine. Work immensely interesting--evenings slow.

Aug. 16 th. D--Very full day four new amputation cases and one other. Had interesting and amusing conversation with Lt. King who gave me full responsibility and wished to cooperate. Hope he will. Fifteen cases done today.

Aug. 17th. D--Work going splendidly--men very responsive and nice to talk with. One patient sent to the insane ward. Compliment from Lt. King about my work--rather elated that he had anything to say. Entertaining conversation with Miss S. & Miss L. much fun and joking. Miss S. said to me, "Look out young lady you will be taking a unit over before you know it".

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Patients all divided up and sent to different wards. I don't like to lose any of them.

Aug. 18th. D--Had planned a trip to Bleumont with Pearl Smith but it poured so that I gave it up. Slept and wrote letters in the morning and had fine walk with Miss L. and Grace in the afternoon.

L--I was going on a lovely bat today to a place called Bleumont Va. But it has been very cold and rainy so I gave it up. Janet isn't here and none of my friends are in town now so things seem a bit slow when I am not working. With this coldness it does not seem like the same place. But my work is interesting and I have enjoyed it hugely this last week. My ward is behaving like lambs and the boys all seem so anxious to help get results with the work. I have every thing on schedule time so that I don't have to wait a minute between treatments. Five more were added to my list all stump cases and great to work with. Now I have 16 in the days run. It does not really amount to that though because some one is always out on pass or on inspection. Most of the boys now have showed me pictures of their best girls or have told me their life history,--so you see it is really a friendly atmosphere that I am working in.

There has been and still is terrible difficulty in Washington to get our work established, especially as some of the doctors in the central office are violently opposed to having civilian employees, such as we, in the military service. Frank Billings of Chicago is the worst enemy the work has. And yet they all acknowledge that the work must be done and done by specially trained people, and that there are no specially trained workers but us. The men are almost impossible to deal with in their arbitrariness. Miss Sanderson is making a grand and noble fight for the work and I hope will win out in the end. Attitude is different abroad I understand.

Knowing all this I have been trying to size up the attitude of the doctor of our ward. At first he cautioned me so often against overdoing the treatments that I got mad. So I had a real talk with him on the subject and he ended by giving me full say of the cases I was treating as to the amount of work they should do etc. Sat. I was working when a visitor was brought in by another R.A. to see my work. She was later introduced to the Dr. who took special pains to show her my pet cases and made the remark that I had done splendid work and was a corker etc. So I feel that I have made a good start any way.

Miss Lohne is splendid to me and includes me in many of the inside conversations which I find rather edifying at times. Yesterday Miss. S. and Miss. L. and I were talking and Miss S. said that they had called the present unit here because Miss. S. was afraid that the office might send them abroad. At that I blew up, in fun. Miss. S. lit into me with the remark, "See here young lady you will be taking charge of a unit to France before you know it!" So you see what is up their sleeve for me.

AUG. 19th. D--My men moved to three different wards, so schedule all changed. I am moved to ward 5. Whole new contingent brought in from France. Heard band in afternoon and rode home in the U.S. ambulance with Grace who had just had an operation on her thumb. Lt. King gave me cordial greetings in ward 5.

Aug. 20th. D--Day full to 5.05 P.M.--strenuous but interesting;--many new cases mostly arm wounds. Boys seem different from those here because of foreign experience. Say that they kept thinking all the time, over there what America is like in war times, and they find every thing just the same, war apparently making no difference. Boys seem really depressed over it. Winifred Jones came to see me.

Aug. 21st. D--Help given me in ward --Miss Taylor given part of cases. "Essie" from New Orleans, aged 17 and veteran of Mexico and Verdun, the spirit of youth in spite of many wounds, one of my new patients. Spent afternoon and evening making blooming caps and fixing dresses.

Aug. 22nd. D--Getting some results with new patients. Hard to remember all details of each case.--Finished early--some of the girls came over in the evening and we discussed foreign equipment.

Aug. 23rd. D--Somewhat disturbed by noise and confusion made by boys where we are working, must change place. Am interested in looking up curative vocational work for hand cases. People in charge were very cordial. Went in town to hear community sing in Patomic Park.

Aug. 24th. D--Work as usual. Batted in town for supper and theater--took Miss Bell to dinner at "Dearies" much to her disgust. Enjoyed show "Seven Days Leave".

Aug. 25th. D--Went in town with Winifred J. and Miss Wind, rode all over town with Lois DE Vries. Quite a Mich. reunion. Afternoon went to Arlington alone, loved the peace and quiet and sweeping beauty of it all.

Aug. 26th. D--Had long discussion about going abroad. Reached a point where I demanded being taken now because of possible unfair treatment in the central office and because Miss Sanderson and Miss Lohne were both going.

L--Just received your letter and am sorry to say that I can not give you any more definite information about my future prospects. There is only one possibility that I go soon. There has been some talk lately of sending Miss Sanderson over with a unit of 100 to be placed by her when we get there. In that case I think I will be going, there is slight prospect of it though I think Miss S. thinks that things will be decided on before the end of this month, but things are frightfully slow in the central office you know.

We are all so enraged at Col. Billings now that we don't know what to do.. For some unknown reason ~~or~~ other he is violently opposed to our work; never considers us in any way that he can help, and in fact has just petitioned some authority or other to have the right of wearing insignia taken away from us. I don't see how any one so high in a profession can be as petty as he is. He professedly knows nothing about

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^{our}work and will not deign to find out. In spite of all this he is head of our branch of reconstruction work.

^{other} Another gentlemanly kind thing we had done to us the day is this. With permission of Col. Trueby in the central office some wealthy woman who is interested in us has offered us a lovely ^{house} to live in and has offered to back it financially and start us with supplies. Every thing was arranged for us to move in Sept. 1st. Saturday Miss Lohne went to see Col. T. and he told her in a most casual way that he had decided not to let us have the house because it was too fine a place for us. Of course he has no legal right to forbid us taking the house but he said that he would see that we got quatered on the hospital in a month or so. Which means of course that our living allowance would be withdrawn so that the house would be an impossibility. We are quite sure that the arrangements will not be made to quarter us, but it will be a continual threat so that we we can not take the house. Did you ever hear anything to beat that. Talk about professional meanness. They are task masters in it here. I hope I get to Europe before I become a militant suffragist. The doctor in my ward seems fine in his attitude though.

He has been away for five days and today in making his rounds said fine things about the improvement in some of my cases. In addition he acted on every suggestion I had to make and I dared to make quite a few. It certainly is remarkably fascinating work because there is such definite improvement in some of the cases. It thrills me to bits and I am afraid that I am almost too enthusiastic some times. I think though that my enthusiasm helps the men to get lots more work into it. I adore it and do not seem to get a bit too tired in fact hardly tired at all by evening.

I did a lot of batting this week end. Went in Sat. to dinner and the theater; not an expensive bat. Sun. met some Ann Arbor girls in town and drove around all morning through Rock Creek Park, and Soldiers Home and all over the city. Then in the afternoon I went out to Arlington which I loved beyond words. The beautiful peace of the place is something I have never felt before. I stayed there hours to let it all sink in. the view of the Potomac from the house is wonderful.

It has been very hot again today but I lived through it with no discomfort. I guess we are in for a rain right now.

We have not had any pay as yet but expect it will come soon.

Aug. 27th. D--Had talk under the trees with Miss S. and Miss L. about work. Never did I hear such tales of professional cadishness and such treatment as has been inflicted on Miss S. She said that she was so unable to trust them that she had put me definitely on the list for foreign service.

Aug. 28th. D--Miss L. Ohne came in to me today, while I was working, and told me that I was going to France soon. Joy beyond words. Nearly expired with excitement. Expect call first of Sept. Went in town with Grace; tried to meet Jan. but failed.

Aug. 29th. D--Not yet subsided from joy of prospect of Europe. Displayed "trousseau" to some of girls. Time of mobilization changed to not earlier than Sept. 15th.

Aug. 30th. D--Usual day. Probably go to N.Y. SEpt. 12th. Mary Alice came to see me --we went to post movies. No Jan. yet.

Aug. 31st. D--Lots of cases--worked in stump ward after finishing own ward. Went with Miss L. to new house for the girls--attractive place. Miss B. told me to urge Ruth to come into this work. Wrote many letters.

L--More excitement here due to the different reports every day about time of sailing. This morning it was that we would leave here on the 12th. Sept. and would sail soon.

They are having such a time getting girls of the right personality to send that they are asking us to recommend girls of the right sort. I mentioned to Miss L. that I was anxious to get my sister Ruth into this work, told her qualifications etc. and she urged me to have her write immediately for application blank. She thought there was a good chance of her going in my unit. She would have to acquire some knowledge of massage and anatomy which she has probably had and then I could teach her on the side. It can not be settled until I talk it over with Miss S. and she is away for the present. It would be wonderful for us to be together. I know that there is no comparison in interest between this work and what Ruth is doing. Her nurses training will be a great asset as many a time our girls abroad have to lend a hand at that. Lots of trained nurses are taking up this work because it is so interesting.

They tell me that they are planning to make me head aide as soon as the group is divided up over there, and Ruth could surely be with me. In that way I could regulate the cases she would get. I think it is a wonderful opportunity for us both.

We are getting swamped with work again as so many new cases are being brought in. Two days ago 75 stump cases and many other variety came in. My ward is going beautifully only the doctor shows too much confidence in my ability the way he is heaping on new cases. He has invited me to make his rounds of the ward with him now and discusses every case with me.

The boys are rabid against the Y.M.C.A. abroad. They have no use for it what soever. They say it is the biggest wholesale robbery they have ever known. It never gives them a thing and always charges three prices, even makes them buy their matches when they buy cigars. One boy said that he knew them to sell for a large price, articles that had been contributed to the Y.M. by mothers of the boys. Don't ever

give them any more money until you know these charges are 'nt true. Every boy here from France despises them so there must be some truth in it.

The visitors both men and women who come to this hospital to "cheer up the boys" are screams. I never heard such silly things as they say and such absurd questions as they ask. The boys make much fun of them.

One woman came up to an amputation case that I was working on the other day and this is what she said. "You poor boy, how did you get your wound." "High explosive Mum." "Oh! hit from an aeroplane, were you?" boy answered, "no, heavy artillery." I could scarcely restrain my mirth until she had disappeared. Some times they make remarks that upset the boys terribly.

Sept. 1st. D--Lazy morning in bed., After noon went to Great Falls one of the beautiful and awe inspiring places around here.

Sept. 2nd. D--Labor day dut worked in the morning. Had wonderful time puttering over cases and talking with Doctor. more ~~un~~fratuated with work than I thought I could be. Added two young Lts. from officers ward and a fracture bed case.

L--The latest in regard to us is that we will not leave here before the 15th. and perhaps not till later. They are trying to organize a unit of 100 and that takes time.

I don't know how that will harmonize with your plans but I want awfully to see you before I go. Do try to meet me in N.Y.

I certainly am sorry that Ruth's nursing course is so unpleasant. I guess that most of the things that we hear are pretty true. The nurses here have all sorts of indignities thrust upon them by the government regulations. The latest here is to dock from the nurses hard earned \$50. per month the cost of every towel and sheet etc. that belongs to the ward and disappears.. From the rate that things disappear here it means that the nurses will be in debt to the government at the end of each month.

Why doesn't Ruth try the course in psychiatrics that they are giving at Smith or try to go into this work. she could do it much better than some of the girls that are here. Dr. Lovett is giving the only course that is authorized by the gov't now and it is a splendid thing. Have her write to Miss Merrill Children's Hospital.

Do plan to meet me in N.Y.

Sept. 3rd. D--Jan surprised me in the afternoon for a short visit and came out again in the evening. She is the same dear child. Am getting her interested in the work.

L--Just a line today that they told us this morning that we would be mobilized for over seas the beginning of Sept. Am ready to bust with excitement.

We will probably start for N.Y. next week. We may be

in N. Y. six weeks or so but I would love to have you there for a few days with me. They drill us every day and keep us busy most of the time so I do not know that I could see much of you but it would be great to have you there any way. Have loads more things to buy, probably a double amount of underwear and three more hospital dresses, a warm dress and ulster. It certainly takes money galore. Isn't it splendid that Miss Sanderson is going with us.

Sept. 4th. D--Rushed all the morning to get cases done before noon. Miss S. said that we would leave on Sept. 6th. or 8th. Discussed Ruth's going with her, went shopping and to Jans to dinner. Saw Major Grainger who says that there is no time to get Ruth's papers through now.

Sept. 5 th. D--Official information that we go Sat. midnight. Heavens what excitement!! Miss S. terribly worried about all the vicissitudes of dealing with the men in the central office. It is inconceivable the way she has been treated by them.

Sept. 6th. D--Did all cases and then rushed in town to get tickets for the unit to N. Y.-- a long process. Jan came out for the evening but had such a cold and fever that I kept her all night. Hoorah! packed for N. Y.

Sept 7 th. D--Last day of work in W.R.H. Much diversion during the day-- very weary. Mary Alice came out to get me off. She, Jan and I went to see "Nothing But Lies"-- good show. My but I hate to leave Jan. Boarded train for N.Y. at 12.20 A.M.

Mobilization in N.Y.

Sept. 8 th. Sun. D---Landed in N.Y. 6.30 A.M. actually on the first lap of our journey. Hotel Albert, mobilization place decidedly strange. Pouring rain so we all sat around and gossiped and slept most of the day. Hotel full of nurses in full uniform--two units left during the day-- rather tense excitement.

Sept 9th. D--Fine nights sleep--enjoyed our apartment for six with bath--quite like a house party. Unit= J. Bell G. Archibald, E. Taft, H. King, L. Bateman, L. Zernow, C. Herron, J. Acheson and myself. Spent morning with Grace looking up ropes for registration etc. In the afternoon the Chief Nurse gave us our instructions. Mother arrived in the evening.

Sept. 10th. D--N.Y. great--Mother and I shopped and took drive down River Side Drive--went to Yip-Yap-Yaphank, camp Upton Show.--enjoyed it immensely. Most of the Unit got three day leaves.

Sept. 11th. D--More errands. O.D. for the afternoon-- had fine visit with mother and wrote letters. Movie in the evening. N.Y. swarming with people; more impressed with it's size than ever.

Sept. 12th. D--Spent most of the day at tailors, everything fixed I hope. Had pass port pictures taken. Miss S. and Miss L. arrived from Washington full of tales of bum management in office. Miss S. orders read to report for duty to Gen. Pershing in France.

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Sept. 13th. D--Miss S. told us that we were to be the next unit to sail unless transferred. Continual thrills. Unit 58 left today. Getting pass port ready, but can not begin R.C. shopping until all unit arrives. Mother and I went to Hippodrome which was so boring that we left early.

Sept. 14th. D--Roll call in the morning--meeting with Miss S. and MISS L. to discuss equipment---also had talk with them about Miss Bateman who had over stayed her leave. Spent afternoon trying to get into Brooklyn Navy Yard but failed and so walked over Brooklyn bridge instead. City is inspiring from point of size. Had dinner with Fannie Case, good talk about camp.

Sept. 15th. D--Very sleepy, but repacked trunk/wrote letters and to Ridgewood for dinner. No new developments.

Sept. 16th. D--Started early en masse to R.C. for shopping. The boss made us feel like whipped schoolgirls,-- talk about your sarcastic ugly sales women. Finished Pass port papers --I am recommended as Head Aide. Spent afternoon getting shoes. Mothers last evening with me.

Sept. 17th. D-- Shopped in morning and had dedication of flag that we presented to Miss S. and pictures taken in group at Old St. Pauls church. Said good bye to mother--terribly hard. Spent the afternoon shopping---early to bed.

Sept. 18th. D--Went to 120 Madison Ave. for vaccination certificate, then drill at 34th. St. Armory. Very funny to see the nurses drill. More shopping and drill again at 4.30. Wrote letters in the evening. Mina Winslow in town.

L-- It is well that you have not been here the last two days as it has been nothing but continual shopping and chasing around. Today it poured all day so it was not very comfortable chasing around. We started drill and song practice today at the Armory and quite enjoyed it even though the nurses still can't see what we are doing there.

Talk about spending money fast! today I blew almost \$9 on a few things at the drug store. If I get out of here with any left I will be lucky. Today we got up on our ears about lack of insignia and composed a very elegant letter to Pres. Wilson on the subject. We are anxious to hear the results.

At I have made connection with Helen Dill and am going to have lunch with her Friday.

It looks now as though we might be here next week for the Liberty Loan parade. We are finishing up our trunks and shopping ready to go at any time, but I think that all the unit is not complete as yet. I miss you terribly and appreciate from the bottom of my soul all you have done for me.

The picture of our group is a corker. I am having one sent to you which I hope you will have carefully preserved for the archives of the family. I feel as though I were part of history now, no longer a retiring private individual. ✓

Sept. 19th. D--Drill in the morning--more shopping. All the unit went to Hoboken for pass ports. Glimpses of towers of large ships in the harbor make the prospective going very real. Stood in line for ages for p.p.--so much red tape to

to ship an army. Bought lots of things at commissary. Went to see Ottis Skinner with the Winslow family. Such a good gossip about Ann Arbor.

Sept. 20th. D--Spent two hours finding the store where the unit were havin gtheir identification tags made---more drill and shopping--pouring rain. Orders received to complete packing--awful job to do it down in the trunk room with all of the trunks piled on top of each other,--terribly tired.

Sept. 21st. D--Last drills with unit 52 and 64--sang a long time. Had lunch and a wonderful talk with H. Dill. Spent evening at song rally of all nurses in town.--very impressive to see the numbers. Thrilled more and more as time draws near.

Sept. 22nd. D--Possibility of going Sunday but doubtful because not told to report until late at night. Spent the day finishing up odd jobs and writing. Evening heard Galli Curci--enjoyable and sublime beyond words.

L-- We have been busy almost to the point of breaking this week; finished all shopping thank heavens--have transferred all my money into francs/in French service checks. -----I am writing to the bank today and hope to get things straightened out for you. Edith has a book with the statement of when my small investments are due. You can find out about my coupons from that.

I want you to have my ruby ring, but don't know what I want done with the rest of my small estate. I will leave that to you.

Tomorrow is to be a busy day and I feel that I won't find time to write next week, so don't expect any letters.

Yesterday I had lunch and a wonderful visit with Helen Dill and she also presented me with a beautiful pocket book, for my uniform. Mina and Crystal gave me a fine boodle bag all lined with rubber and with lots of pockets. Got every thing into my trunk nicely.-----

There were pages torn out of the diary during the trip over because the chief nurse called us all together and told us that it was considered an unwise thing to carry with us any written matter that might give information of any kind to the enemy. Part of the following was written on the date and part added later.

Account of trip on "The Saxon" Sept. 24th. to Oct. 7th. 1918.

Sept. 29th. D--Spent morning having lesson with French officer on board --lots of fun. Lazy most of day.

Sept. 30th. D--Not very good weather and many boys getting ill with the flu. No place for them in the hold so squatered on deck. Nurses and R'e Aides put on 8 hour duty every day. My first work was with two dying Pneumonia cases, in the back poop deck. Spent all evening trying to keep one of them, who was out of his head, from getting out of bed, --frightful,

Oct. 6th. D--(Added later). Trip ended with two days of the most terrific storm I had ever seen, --waves the most violent I could imagine, --looked like hell inferno turned into a seething glacier and all brought to violent life. An awful and marvelous sight. Threw every thing in the sick wards topsy turvy. Indiscribable conditions among the sick men. felt as if nothing could ever raise the depression of the trip.

(Added later). Sailed from N.Y. up along Sandy Hook Sept. 24th. and there anchored for the night until the rest of the convoy could collect. Had wonderful evening concert given by boys and Eng. crew. Never will forget the masses of faces below me on the poop deck that evening in the strong electric light, with the anticipation of every thing unknown before them, combined with the sadness of parting. Started real journey on Sept. 25th.

End of trip such violent contrast; so many of the boys had died or were so desperately ill on the trip over, every one sad and disheartened and almost afraid of what might come next. The climax of the awful storm was a tragic finish to trip. every one looked worn and haggard and sad. Reaction on having it end and actually landing was the queerest feeling I ever had.

Oct. 1st. L--Just tearing up a long epistle to you in the form of a diary which I realize was too full of details to send you. They are impressing on us so violently that we must say nothing about anything, that I am almost tempted not to write anything at all.

We left just about the time my postal card to you would indicate and are taking rather a slow journey over. We have no definite idea of where we are going to land but expect to land somewhere in Scotland or England. It looks as though it would be almost Christmas time before we get into our work.

It certainly was lucky I did not get a warm coat for the trip over because it has been almost too hot most of the

time.

Our first night out was a unique experience to us all and very enjoyable ~~to-us-all~~, because it was so much in keeping with camp life. We have an interesting group of enlisted men on board and they gave us a splendid vaudeville performance. There were some fine singers, others recited and played the piano etc. The best part of it was the way they performed their stunts without urging and without embarrassment. It was fascinating, ~~to~~ from where we sat on the top deck, to watch the mass of interested faces in the electric light. There were some fine faces among them and splendid spirit in their faces. Their superiority over the officers as a group is distinctly noticeable. They sleep in crowded masses down in the hold, and have to wait in line for their meals and then have to eat them any old where, mostly standing on deck, and never a murmur. They accept it as their lot.

We are comfortable in our "state room for three," except that, since we started there has been no change of air there. War times necessitate the sealing of all port holes and the ventilators are closed at night. This of course does not ~~add~~ to our feeling of refreshment after a night's sleep. We are not allowed on deck after six because that is the only airy place the boys have to sleep.

There ~~are~~ such heaps of things I want to say to you that I know would interest you, but I mustn't.

This convoy business is immensely interesting. We hear many bits of news over the wireless so we are not exactly cut off from the world. We look more or less like the Spanish Armada sailing along with our painted hulls.

Some of the weather has been quite rough, at least enough to lay out more than half the list. It is certainly lucky that there are nurses aboard, because as it is even our group is serving its turn in being on duty. I suppose the bad air at night adds to our trouble. I have been lucky enough not to be nipped as yet by a qualm of sea sickness.

The crew are all English and most amusing to listen to. I longed for Ruth the other night of the show because some of them sang such catchy Eng. street songs. The English way of speaking amuses the boys to pieces. Yesterday I heard a bunch of them on deck, taking off an Eng. conversation and roaring with mirth over it.

We have our life saving drill daily and started out bravely with gymnastic drill, but they were soon given up because of the large number of sea sick victims.

The crew seem to be taking very good care of us. The most impressive thing and the thing hardest to get used to is traveling at night without lights. Until we got used to it it was almost impossible to find our way around on deck and it gave us a strange feeling of suppression and danger. One of the hard things about the trip is the lack of deck space for walking and games. But then there are lots of things that we must stand in war times. We are well fed and well protected so what more could we ask.

Our crowd is getting along wonderfully together except for Miss Bateman who is, and will be, a violent thorn in our flesh. She has proved to be anything but the kind of a girl we thought her in Wash. If she keeps on she will surely be recalled. It is splendid having Miss S. with us, she is such a superb company.

A young French non com. has been giving us French lessons and I am finding out how little I know. But I must say that I know more than some of the rest. If we ever land in France I hope I can learn the language well.

This letter will have to be done in piecemeal but I know you won't mind as long as you finally get it.

There is one enlisted man standing right near me now that looks as though he were the original living model of Bairnsfather's cartoons. One would only need to do an exact likeness of him to get the real cartoon.

Haven't been sea sick a minute.

(Days later). We are expecting and hoping to land tomorrow but can not tell. These last few days have been terrible with the combination of bad weather and sickness. But our unit with the exception of Miss Acheson are thriving. She, poor child, has pneumonia but we hope that she can be taken to a good hospital when we land.

Will write you a long letter when I get ashore.

Landed in Liverpool Oct. 7th. 1918.

Oct. 7th. D--Liverpool--bands playing to greet us--wonderful sound. The reaction from trip was wonderful relief. Went on deck to watch the unloading of the sick, from our boat---sad sight especially to see Miss Acheson of our party taken..

Were lined up on the dining salon, rationed, and marched off the boat to the waiting train where fine looking Eng. men and women of the R.C. fed us and gave us welcome until our train left, just half an hour after.

Never will forget our ride through England--sunshiny peaceful, wonderful, homelike country. Watched passing view unceasingly. Thrilled to pass through Stratford-on-Avon and Oxford. Kept feeling that I always knew that it must look like that but had no idea that it would all look so perfect. Landed late that night at South Hampton.

Nurses and we split company and we went to the Y.W.C.A --terrible place, cold rooms and no bath.

Dark streets at night seemed queer.

Southampton England. Oct 8th. to Oct. 11th.

Slept late and then started sight seeing.. Went down by old wall along river, built in time of King John--palace entrance still there. Saw statue of John Alden who sailed in the Mayflower from there. Interesting court yards and narrow streets. Old tower where Eng. marched to battle of Agincourt and Crécy. Saw groups of school children give old Eng. playground games and songs. Visited Tudor house

and old Church Of St. Michel; charming atmosphere and surprising cleanliness.

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Afternoon spent fooling around town and in shops.

Evening Grace and I went to bum Vauderville to see a Bairnsfather skit.

Loved the looks of the Eng. women but oh such clothes.

Oct. 9th. D--Spent morning buying things--Jaeger lining and fur collar for coat--pouring rain--Took various tram car trips around country. Had to report so often that could not go any distance. Enjoyed walk in rain along charming neat streets. Went to bed early --sight seeing is difficult work, Oct.

Oct. 10th. D-- Had to wait around all morning for possible orders. Called at noon to report at head quarters. Started march to channel docks at noon. Embarked for France on splendid hospital boat that was in service during entire siege of the Dardinells. Scotch engineer of the boat talked to Miss S. and me the entire evening about his personal experience at the Dardinells. It was more exciting than anything I have ever read to hear it first hand.

Trip out of harbor truly splendid--searchlights were playing all over sky and rockets shooting, everything else dark.

Had splendid dinner that night---first good meal in Eng. Food very scarce in Eng. but not as expensive as in the U.S. --no sugar in tea, and bread scarce.

Havre France. En route for??we did not know where.

Oct. 11th. D--Slept all night on boat with clothes on --a more usual occasion now than otherwise. Woke up anchored in bay outside the city of Havre. Many camouflaged cruisers and transports in harbor--observation balloon and aeroplane flying over head. Landed in pouring rain at the quaint old docks of La Havre. Quatered at punk hotel. Grace, C. Heron and I started to see the town--sent carefully censored cables. Lunch funny because not used to French way of serving, --ate every thing in sight at first, asked for more, thinking that was the main course and discovered that there were four more to follow. Grace and I went out to find Ethel Slack. Talked with her mother two hours before she came in. Had time only for a short visit. Her end of city the seat of the Belgian Gov't, so many Belgian soldiers on streets.

Left at 7 P.M. for Paris in pouring rain. Saw many sad sights at station as whole regiment of French poilus were bidding good bye to their families for the last time perhaps.

Nearly froze sitting up all night on train to Paris --funny sight our efforts to get comfortable, with six in compartment.

Two hours in Paris en route to Chaumont.

Oct. 12th. D--Stiff and weary in morning--had two hours in Paris but saw nothing because rushed from one station to another and put immediately on train.

Four hours ride to Chaumont thru pretty French country-- characteristic red tiled roofs over white stucco houses-- gardens everywhere----all/and under cultivation--wonderful highways with rows of trees along each side made roads visible as far as the eye could see.

Chaumont A.E.F.H.Q., quaint old city built on the high hills of the Haute Marne valley---charming homes and very old public buildings. Had good dinner in old inn and the time for walk around town.

Took us three and one half hours to go 31kilos to Rimaucourt. Some trains! these French. But I suppose being on the main line to Toul we had to make way for military.

Went right to nurses head quaters-- pouring rain-- buildings new and built right in the seething mud. Very cold --light dimmed. Did not have enough room for us so we had to sleep three in 2 beds--I of course drew the ridge,

Rimaucourt, Oct 12th. To Oct. 27th.

Oct. 13th. D--Slept on ridge of two beds between Grace and C. Herron--felt as though had been through the Spanish Inquisition. Began day by helping serve breakfast to the nurses. Washed out clothes and hung them out in the rain to dry. Went on duty at 10.30 A.M. in operating room. Had wonderful time making dressings. Worked with all our might to prepare for operations the next day. Wonderful to be really working again and thrilling to be connected with surgical work. Boys came in with the report that the Kaiser had agreed to evacuate and make peace

L--I wrote you a long epistle from the boat but fear that it was not sent because I put my address on the front as I had been told to do. They change their directions so every minute that we never know where we stand.

Any way we have reached the end of our journey, temporarily at least, after three weeks of the hardest kind of travel. I could not wish such a journey to my worst enemy. But of course I would not give up the moments of thrill and interest in these foreign lands.

I have not yet been able to adjust my writing to the possibility of being censored. One hears so many different statements. But I have wished all along the line that you could have seen some of the strange and charming sights I have seen. (Omit the rest of this page.)

~~It was clear and sunny and England was at her best~~ as we sped through her. Every minute of the way was the same charming English landscape that I have always read about. But I never imagined that it was all so perfect and beautiful. Every inch of ground was under cultivation but there seemed always time and room for the attractive touches of gardens and hedges and willows along the canals, and the wonderful vines of Eng. ivy on the dear red brick cottages. The thing that continually charmed me was that every bit of landscape and every cottage was just as charming as all the rest.

After I wrote you on the boat we had the most frightful storm that I have ever conceived of. Some how I did not feel any fear for our ship, for we had such splendid ships officers. But they told us afterwards that it was the worst storm they had seen in six years and that there was not a life boat on board that would have stayed up a minute if launched. We saw them the next when we landed and most of them had broken to smithers.

(A full description of the storm was written at a later date).

We were relieved beyond words to pull into the docks at Liverpool on a bright and sunshiny day and be greeted by two Eng. bands and a strange and motley crowd of Eng. people people on the docks.

Our boys yelled lustily when they heard the first notes of the band. My! the satisfaction of actually getting to land was beyond belief. We were hustled right over to the station and put on a first class Eng. train. But before we left we were well fed and had some worthwhile conversations with the B.R.C. who were most attractive. One Eng. woman was so hopeful that Wilson would not accept the German peace offer. She said that the Eng. were not through until they had whipped Germany. We were delighted over our reception by these charming people.

Then we began one of the most refreshing and charming days I can remember. It was clear and sunshiny and Old Eng. was at her best as we sped through her length. Every minute of the way was the same charming landscape that I had always read about. But I never imagined that it was so continuously lovely. Every inch of ground was under cultivation for food supply but there seemed always time and space for attractive touches of gardens and hedges. Then the canals were bordered the soft and lazy willows and the dear red brick cottages were were smothered in the shiny green Eng. ivy.

The thing that continually amazed me was that every bit of the landscape, every bit of the house and cottage, was as charming as all the rest. Any part of it could have been written about and producer the same charm.

One place we raved over especially as we pulled into it and, to our joy, discovered that it was Stratford-on-Avon.

Then again we saw a small thatched roofed village that probably has not been touched since a century before Shakespear. I am sure that it was the inspiration of some of the country bumpkin scenes of Shakespear's plays. I could rave on about cottaged England to eternity but will hope instead that you can see it with your own eyes some day.

I sent you some postals from the city we were in. We stayed there three days and did a good deal of sight seeing but of course could not go on long trips because we had to report for orders every so often and then had to wait around much of the time.

We loved the charm and splendid good looks of the Eng. women. They look such a strong independent lot and there is no job they are not tackling at the present moment. An Amer. medical officer who has been in England for a year told me

that if English men had worked as hard during the war as the women had, that the war would have been ended long ago.

We came over to France on one of there fine hospital boats, where we had a fine dinner and quite a thrilling ride out of the harbor. A Scotch engineer who was part of this ships crew and was in the bay of the Dardenells during the months of fighting there, described it to us in detail and then spent the entire evening talking of the war. It was better than any story book I ever read.

It was pouring rain when we landed on French soil but it was a wonderful feeling to be ther at last, in spite of the dreary outlook, of rain. We had only the day there but it gave me time to send you a cable; to tramp around through some of the quaint by streets; to take in some of the quays; and to call on my friend Ethel Slack, whom I had a short but splendid visit with.

The journey out that night was anything but a joy to us because we, who had not had a good nights rest for many nights, were doomed to sit up all night in cold uncomfortable coaches. But we were not any worse off than many different nationalities of soldiers who were hauled along by the same engine.

We landed in Paris early in the morning because we had to all take a train in a short time. The few people we saw seemed sad and so many of them were wearing mourning. Then we had an all days journey after after two nights without removing our clothes, and never a chance to really wash. We were not as lively a crowd as we might have been.

We loved France too and were continually surprised that it could be so different from England and yet so lovely. England is characteristically red brick houses and France seemed to be grey stone with red tiled roofs. The roads are very well made, you know, and have a line of trees on either side, by which you can see them for miles as they stretch through the farm land. I certainly want to take an auto or tramping trip around here some time.

We went A.G.H.Q. which is located in one of the pretty old towns settled high up on the side of the hills, with the river valley stretching out below. We had a real French dinner in a cafe and then had time for a walk around town. Of course we poked into all the châteaux gardens, as Americans are prone to do. I have such fun trying my French on the natives. I am always amazed when they understand me.

We are now in a center of base hospitals that I think will offer much of interest. We are not near any big town but are poked off in the hilly country. I do not think we are more than 40 or 50 miles from where Web was last winter. We landed here in the pouring rain and it has not stopped pouring yet. It has rained so much that we have seen nothing so far but our rows upon rows of barracks, and mud mud seething mud every where. Rubber boots are the most necessary garment one can own I guess. At present I am dressed in all the warm clothes that I could bring in my suitcase and am hoping for my trunk soon.

We started the day by washing dishes for the nurses break fast. Later I was delegated to the operating room and had a

thrilling time preparing a perfectly empty room for operations tomorrow. I am pleased to pieces to be here, at least for a while until the orthopedic work is ready. When that will be we have no idea.

I am enclosing a clipping of the destruction of one of the boats of our convoy you don't wonder that we were anxious to get to shore.

Am dying to hear from you all but suppose I will have to wait for ages.

Oct. 14th. D--Spent all day making dressings in preparation for the operations-- made thousands. Had appendectomy at end of day in our quickly constructed operating room. Just as operation was ended all the lights went out and left us in total darkness. It was a strange sight to witness the orderly carrying the man off on a stretcher in the darkness, slipping in the mud, with a nurse at each end lighting the way with candles.

Word today that Americans will not make peace. Heavy fighting on front near us.

Oct. 15th. D--Made dressings all day,--monotony relieved occasionally by witnessing an operation. More appendicitis and an empyema. Took walk in the evening along road in moon light,--had view of beautiful wooded hills and flat lowlands all bathed in mists.

Word that Bosh planes had been over head the night before--cautioned again about lights.

Oct. 16th. D--More dressings, nothing but dressings,--- some terrible operations, one for hemorrhage--man almost died on table. Great rush to make thousands of lap pads, for immediate use. Went to town in the evening for walk. Loved the quaintness and picturesqueness of village nestled on the hill side--old wall and towers of châteaux in beautiful line.-- church seems old as can be. Peasants all in wooden shoes.

Oct. 17th. D--More dressings. Saw amputation of gas infected leg wound,--could not give man enough ether to keep him under because of lungs,--had to help hold him on the table--smell of wound terrible,--man died later in day, on table.

Oct. 18th. D--Frightful sounds from operating room from men with gas wounds that they were cleaning out. Dr. told us that one chap they were working on, had been over the top 27 times, had the Croix de Guerre and 5 honorable mentions etc. and as a result was slightly nervous and high strung. Cries of men sound like wounded animals in great pain.

Left work long enough to see awarding of distinguished honor cross to a patient. Took place in large open plain with hills all around, band playing and military on one side and boys on the other. Very impressive ceremony,--seemed like watching a movie.

L---Have been trying to get a letter scribbled to you every evening for the last week, but it seems almost impossible. We jumped into work here at a frightful pace and have kept it up ever since. We are on duty twelve hours a day with never a minute off seven days in the week. The last few evenings have

been spent in moving from place to place and settling. I have been so bursting for fresh air that I have been trying to take walks in the evenings. There is a charming French town near us but I have never seen it except in the evening and always in the rain. We are surrounded by a most enticing bowl of hills in the near distance which ~~are~~ covered with trees that are taking on a wonderful color now. It is a real aggravation not to be able to get into them. Then we have the characteristic long roads that look as though the Romans must have had a hand in laying them out, with their row of trees on either side, and then the level fields stretching off to the hills across the valley. Yesterday evening was the first bit of clear sky since we arrived, and to add to our pleasure it was full moon light. Today we had our first sunshine and reveled in it as much as we could from our work room.

Lord you should see the mud. You sink in way above the tops of your rubbers and are very lucky if you get across the street with both of them on. Thank heaven that I was old maid enough to bring my rubbers with me. Most of the girls didn't and have to raid the village stores for whatever they can get. You should see the only variety. We are somewhat able to appreciate what the boys are going through in the trenches and we pity them from the bottom of our hearts. I don't see how any of them can survive the wet mud alone to say nothing of the shot and shell. We are thankful indeed for our woollen clothes and only wish we had more. Right now I have on lots more than I wear in the coldest winter weather at home and it is only Oct. We have comfortable beds but our barracks are unheated and so a bit chilly at night. Our bags just arrived last night after six days and our trunks are still on the way. We literally kissed the contents of our bags they were so welcome.

My work is not as interesting as it might be because it is my lot to spend 12 hours a day making surgical dressings. Where the R.C. dressings that you people at home are making, ~~are~~ we do not know. They certainly are not here. I am disappointed not to have some direct care of the boys, because they are such trumps and have such exciting tales to tell. The talk among the nurses about the boys shows the awfulness beyond imagination of the mustard gas poisoning. You people at home think that you know something about things over here but you have absolutely no conception of it and never can. My hatred of those Germans who started this war has increased to such a pitch that sometimes I think I will burst.

Many interesting things happening. A neighboring company sent in a band today to give us a concert. The whole hospital that could be on their own feet collected to hear the show. We have aeroplanes flying over head often and feel really protected at the thought of them.

I am enclosing a coupon which has to be put on anything you send me for Christmas. I have no idea what to ask for because I seem to have so much already. I think a dark blue petticoat will be useful though. I am so sorry not to be able to buy anything for you and the kids. Perhaps I can

if we move from here. We are expecting a transfer as there is no opportunity for our work here under present conditions. Any way I am glad to be doing my bit even though it is not in my line. The nurses I am working with in the operating room are splendid and lots of fun.

We see no chance of learning French here as we deal only with Americans.

I am terribly anxious for your letters to start coming. Letters are our only diversion.

Oct. 20th. Sun. D--Worked just the same as any day. But due to insistence of our Head Aide we were given a little time off. Miss Taft and I took a ^{walk} into town, across the little river and onto a hill from which we could see the whole town in its charm of color and form. Strolled around and back by main street. Saw ^{through} an open door in one of the little houses a fire brightly burning on the hearth,--as we were looking in the little old lady came out and invited us in. She talked French to us, toothless French I should add, and it all seemed very quaint there in her queer little room.

Oct. 22nd. D--Worked all morning hard --started on an errand downtown in afternoon but instead went into the chateau grounds. Wonderful old trees forming avenue, and river so clear that it did not look natural. Chateau not so large in the rear but well proportioned, well seasoned and vine covered,--wonderful sweeping green lawn stretching for a quarter of a mile out before it and ending in wooded hills now well dyed in the autumn colors. We strolled through woods, over beautiful bridal path all flecked with autumn leaves. Woods were so gentle and charming and rich that they relaxed and soothed immediately. We mounted up bridal trail to place where it widened out a bit into sort of an amphitheater. There we found a row of stone seats around the base of the hill, so we sat and rested as long as time permitted. The woods and paths stimulated imagination to think of past times and people there. No wonder that Napoleon thought it one of his favorite hunting grounds.

L--Just a line because it is a bit late and I have no right to keep the lights in the operating room going much longer. I seek out this place because it is warm and light and free from the howling mob. Our rooms in the shack you know are without heat and all lights have to be so dim that it is impossible to see anything.

Can not understand why I have not heard from you yet especially as I have had letters from other people. If you realize that we have no diversion here on top of 12 hours of most monotonous work for me, folding gauze, you will take pity on me and write often. The one alleviating thing in the work is that the gauze is violently needed and needed immediately and continually.

I did steal some time off today because it was so sunshiny and warm for the first time. We took our lives in our hands and asked if we could go into the chateau grounds. We had a wonderful time. The chateau is old, about 12th.

century and is redolent of French feudalism of a quiet sort. The grounds are sweeping lawns and wooded hill sides with the proverbial small river running through and the paths winding along its edge and up into the hills. We loved our walk and forgot all of our troubles as we gazed at the long sweeping vistas and beautiful autumn coloring. They tell us that Napoleon loved to hunt in these forests. We sat on an ancient stone bench in the hills and thought of all the life that had passed over that path in ages past. My only one regret was that we had to rush back to work.

Oct. 23rd L--Trying to finish this if I can in the middle of all this mob. One can never seem to get away from the mob.

We are wondering all the time when they will transfer us so that we can do our work. It will probably take ages. Miss Sanderson in Paris is trying to make arrangements for us, but we have just been able to get an answer from her. I will send you a cable as soon as we change.

There will be no chance for me to learn French here because we are with Americans only. Once in a while we chat with a French peasant in the village or drop into an open doorway to see a blazing fire and incidentally chat a bit. We are trying to study but find little time. You have to plan the short evenings way ahead to get anything done.

One thing impresses me continually, and that is that I although I thought I had a pretty good idea of the awfulness of the war before I came, my idea was nothing to the terrible-ness as we see it here. You at home can have no conception of it and it is well that you can't. But don't think for a moment that it is the women at home that suffer the most. I know better. It is the boys themselves. They are the bravest things I could imagine. You never dreamed of such wounds. It makes me boiling every time I think of it, that William and his crew could plan and work for 40 years to bring this awfulness and suffering to pass.

Must cease this raving as it is a bit chilly here. Am very comfortable and well in this kind of life.

Oct. 28th. D--Still folding gauze. Much amused by increasing sarcasm of girls in the operating room on the regime. (Chief nurse apparently pro German in the way she insists in over working the nurses, never a minute off any day in the week whether they are needed in the wards or not. Prussianism is in other places besides Germany. Such unreasonable rules for conduct that the nurses felt positively insulted.) Harry and Mullen the two boys in the operating room make a most amusing pair of comedians and their good nature is inexhaustable. If it weren't for them work would be almost too monotonous to bear.

Miss L. interrupted work with news that we were leaving next day for Savenay. Spent evening bathing and packing.

Oct. 26th. D--Expected to leave Rimaucourt at 3 P.M.---Worked on gauze all morning. Girls in operating room positively funny. They were so sarcastic over rules and regulations

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and Miss Schlund C.N. Afternoon told that train was 24 hours late so could not leave until Sun. Grace and I walked to Andelot about 2 miles away. Cute town with square and grave yard which we inspected in detail. Spent evening in a good old gossip with our bunch.

Oct. 27th. D--Grace C. Herron and I took tramp in morning over the hills to the beautiful chateau at Raynell. Peach of a day, superb autumn coloring. Fine climb to small town which was quite a treasure of age and quaintness---chateau only two hundred years old, set majestically on the prow of the hills with fine outlook over valley and lakes stretching way below. Occupied by Amer. General Holbrook.. The officers were at that moment off in the woods hunting wild boar,-- could hear dogs bark and shots fired. A very nice sgt. on duty in the town showed us through. Town had old arch over 1000 yrs. old with round tower at each end, suggestive of history. Chatted with old women in the only street in the town. One of the lovely spots in France.

Left at 3 P.M. cold train--changed and had dinner at Chaumont. Just in time there to see fight between Amer. soldier and French proprietor. Long cold night on the train. G. and I mad because we could not get permission to go to Paris

Oct. 28th. D--Grace and I nearly froze sleeping on hard benches in the compartment of the Amer. special. Both mad because we had not ducked the crowd and gone to Paris. Due in Tours at 9.30 A.M. but arrived at 9.30 P.M. usual thing on that train. Fortunate to get meals on that train. Went through Bourge and many other interesting cities.-- first sight of real French cave dwellings--houses built right in the rocky cliffs. Passed through zone of many Amer. army camps. Whole way seemed swarming with Amer. soldiers. Saw few French soldiers except in station. Read French, knitted and played cards with 4 A. officers on train, they were going to Belgian front. Rather tired at end of day.

At Tours no beds to be had in town except at Amer. hospital--this, in old building, probably monastery in the 15th century. All bunked in unoccupied ward--men of hospital very nice to us in getting us settled.

L--Since I am enroute I will try to drop you a line if the train will permit. We are on the Amer. special which is notorious for being late and sustained its reputation by being 24 hours late on the eastern end of its journey, and is now losing anywhere from 6 to 12 hrs. now. We spend most of the time sitting on the tracks for ages and then rattling along at a furious pace when we move. One can only write in the moments when we are sitting. I think I can catch ^{up} with all my correspondence during that time.

We were really glad to leave the last post because there was no chance for our work and we were under a very stiff and unpleasant regime.. You never imagined any regulations more prussian and more absurd. Some of the nurses were corks and we hated to leave them there.

This traveling in France is funny but it gives us a

chance to see lots more of the country than we would otherwise. Parts of the country are beautiful now in their fall coloring.

We had to wait a whole day for the train so Grace and I spent the afternoon tramping over to the next town, browsing around the small streets and the old cemetery. The French idea of death is so queer and the great beaded wreaths they hang all over their graves are such unique bits of architecture.

The next morning we started across country to a chateau that we had seen way off in the hills. It was not a long walk, not nearly long enough to suit us, but every inch of it lovely. We went over the wonderfully made roads sheltered from the sun and through the cultivated fields. (Described in diary).

I have fallen in love with the little old women of France, but I can not say as much for the rest of the people

Tours Oct 28th. to Oct. 31st.

Oct. 29th. D--Hospital---looked funny to see all the line of cots begin to wake up along the row.--coffee and toast served in the nurses quarters. Started on sight seeing tour--strenuous. With very old--high walls and crooked streets.

Oct. 30th. D-- Fine sleep --up rather late so just time for a bite of breakfast and a rush to catch the tramway to Voovray. Grace and I decided to shake the crowd today. Voovray is small town down the Loire built mostly on the cliffs--many old wine caves in the rock walls. Went up ~~and~~ roadway between the high walls to the open vineyard covering the entire top of the plateau. We ate grapes till we most burst, loitered in the sun, roamed around an old graveyard made beautiful by rows of cedar trees--saw ruins of old chateau. Had fine dinner in the courtyard of old inn. Then climbed up to a villa on the top of the bluff where we both took a nap in the broiling sun. Spent afternoon going over grounds of another chateau which had magnificent outlook over the Loire.--gardens very elaborate and splendid promenades. Talked with pathetic old lady in wine cave--she was only one left to do the work because 5 nephews and 1 son were in the war. She touched me more deeply than any one I have seen in France. Packed to leave early the next morning

Oct. 31st. D--Got up in cold dark morning to take the train for Savenay. Dark streets weird. After much waiting got train and started trip through Loire country. Did not love it as much as eastern France. Came through the land of chateaux to Anger and Nantes. Many buildings in the cities very old, country dotted with windmills. Sweet faced peasant women wearing white caps. Savenay

Landed on time at Savenay, and went right to hospital to find Miss Sanderson. Hospital new buildings of military school,--steam heat electric lights and hot water, unknown luxuries, including a real bed.

Nov. 1st. D--Registered new convoy in morning. Afternoon was expecting to be free and started writing letters

Savenay Oct 31st. To Nov 10th.

but was dragged off to work on files for Maj. Orr. Work interesting only from point of view that it helps get boys records straightened out so that they can get home quicker.

L --Savenay. This letter has been written at so many times that I doubt if you can make anything out of it. It is harder than you can imagine to be alone or quiet long enough to get any kind of the simplest letter done. We have been, and will be living in crowds until this thing is over I guess.

Last Sun. we left our base and took 5 days to this place which is a big hospital center for Americans. We were dying to come through Paris but that is the one thing they try to keep the Americans from doing. The trip was very interesting because we saw so much of the military side of France. There are very few of the war paraphernalia that you read about in the paper that we are not continually seeing, except of course the actual fighting and the devastated region. We have had wonderful chats with boys just from the front, and have heard tales that fill us with wonder that such things can exist.

From what we hear over here the dough boys are the real real boys of this war. They stay in the front line trenches continually through stretches of time with little sleep and seldom even the chance to take off their shoes and are continually under shell fire or terrific nerve strain. It is the boys behind the lines that get all the leaves and have the good times. I take off my hat to the fighting doughboy and hope I have a chance to do something for him before I finish my work here, in France.

You can know that the two days that we were in Tours we put in every available minute in sight seeing. I mailed a whole package of postals of the things that we saw there, so I will not enumerate them here. Hope that you will save them for me. The second day Grace and I shook the crowd and went to Vouvray a town on the other side of the river, where the famous Vouvray wine is made.

You probably don't know that there are a good many rock cliffs in this region along the Loire and that they have been used for generations for wine caves and dwellings. They call them the cliff dwellers. It certainly is a picturesque sight actually built into and on the side of the cliffs.

At the end of the car line we climbed street and up some stone steps between high walls until we came to the top of the plateau where were the ruins of an old castle and vineyards stretching as far as the eye could see. We asked the old man there if we could buy some grapes and he said "pas acheter mais manger tous que vous voulez." So we set to and did with a vengeance. The vines had been harvested but there were plenty of splendidly ripe bunches left.

Grace and I were feeling relaxed for the first time since we began the journey. We ambled back to the village only to be side tracked by a fascinating stone pathway that led up to a small villa on top of the cliff. (The rest of the letter is repetition of diary Oct, 30th.)

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We left early the next morning for Savenay and had another beautiful day for our travels through French country. The weather is usually terrible here but we have been lucky to have sunshine on most of our trips. We are now in the land of windmills, old and ruined chateaux and Britanny women with their beautiful white caps. I love the French Peasant women more than ever. They have such beautiful faces under their caps.

Grace and I went for a walk through the village this morning with more or less empty pocket books but could not resist some of the pretty laces we saw. You have no idea how very expensive every thing in France is. Any thing in the way of under wear is more than at home and the laces that used to be cheap are no longer so. I did buy some chimese yokes for the girls and a collar for you that perhaps I will send for Christmas. But every one advises against sending anything that we value, so I may wait until I get to the U.S.A.

I really can not buy much because I have not had a cent of pay since I left Washington. You see we dont get paid until we get settled permanently and as I am to move on from here some time soon again I see no financial aid for some time to come. I guess it means no Christmas gifts for the family till later.

Our work in this country at present is in such a mix up that I can not tell where it will end. Our girls are lending a hand any where they can and only too glad to help out. The boys are being shifted around so rapidly it seems hard to do our work for them.

This is supposed to be a day of vacation before we go to work tomorrow on regular duty. Thank goodness for that because I am weary. I have not been ill one minute yet so I have not had a chance to rest as most of the others have.

There seems so much to write and I keep wishing you were with me, because I know you would love some of it. I am going to get restless though if I do not get a chance soon to do regular and hard work for the boys. Of course that is what I came for and want, even though I do not seem to mention work much in my letters.

It will be another month or so before I hear from you again with all this moving. But keep on writing. I will cable as soon as I know any permanent address.

Nov. 2nd. D--Miss Acheson (she had joined us just before we left Rimaucourt in decidedly a fragile state but remarkably well considering the seriousness of her sickness and the poor care she had had in the hospital in Liverpool.) and I, spent all day on files in Maj. Orrs office. Tiring work.

Nov. 3rd. D--Did files all day--very tiring and the most uninteresting work possible. Had a fine walk with G. at end of day. Country around here not attractive like Rimaucourt--very flat --can see the Loire and St. Nazaire in the distance Read French in the evening. Sunday.

Nov. 4th. D--Continued doing office work and doing files until 11.30, finished my section and struck for a new job along orthopedic lines. Margaret Blake took me through wards the rest of the morning.

Spent wonderfully interesting afternoon in the plaster room. --worked with doctors while they put on all sorts of casts, many cases under ether. Tense and absorbing work. Went in evening to house of French woman to see some laces, --had fun talking French to them. Went to bum entertainment in Y.M.C.A building, --interested to see such mobs of boys in audience.

Nov. 5th. D--Assisted Grace in fracture ward all morning. Had fine talks with some of the wounded boys. One looked exactly like the "Spirit of 76", --he told me his story of being wounded and lying out in the trenches four whole days before rescued, German officer who took the trench tried to feed him but would not take him prisoner because so nearly dead. Some ^{of the boys} insist that no one ever wants to go back to the trenches --others say that the trenches are the only place worth being in as they are the only place where excitement and sport is. Had rather wild talk with a chap who was a Christian Scientist. Four cases in the gymnasium and later more work in the office.

Dr. Goldthwait talked to us in evening on work, --gave over emphasis to the O.T.s.

Nov. 6th. D--More office work--a few cases in the afternoon. --very little chance to work comfortably. Roommate (one of the Unit 8 nurses who Grace and I drew unfortunately,) still obdurate of speech.

Nov. 7th. D--Same old thing.. Some mail from home.

Nov. 8th. D--Same office work. Talk by Maj. Orr and Capt. Wilson on orthopedic work.

Nov. 9th. D--More records and clerical work, --tiring beyond words. Gossiped with Marg. Blake while working. Had interesting demonstration in evening on infantile paralysis and craft work. Later Grace, Miss Lohne, Miss Sanderson and I had a peach of a talk on the "intimacies of living in France, i.e. in the A.E.F.", wonderful hearing Miss S's numerous dissertation. Officer came in and told us that word had just come through that an armistice with the Germans could be expected at any minute.

Nantes, Nov. 10th. to May 15th. 1919.

Nov. 10th. D--Rather excited at prospect of moving on to a possibly permanent place. Morning cleaned up and packed--had lunch down town in Café and rushed for train for Nantes.

As we drew in to Nantes on that Sun. there were mobs of people all in Sun. array excitedly awaiting the news of cessation of war. Attitude of all, very exuberant.

Were taken to B.H. 34 in limousine--quite a treat, after our former means of transportation. Saw Miss Brown, H.N., impression of friendliness--nurses helped us settle and were very cordial.

Went to song service for the enlisted men. Chaplain not very impressive.

First night in funny French bed.

Started work as Head Aide.

Nov. 11th. D--Interviewed chief nurse about work. Waited for appointment with doctors.

Every one much excited over possible announcement of armistice. Parade through hospital grounds of motley crowd

soldiers, of all nations, civilians, children, Americans, all yelling beating tin pans. They all saluted Grace and me as we were the only Amer. in sight. Every woman and child rushed out as we passed through the streets and called out "La guerre est fini. C'est fini."

Grace, Miss Dudley, Miss Bell And I, the entire staff of Re'Aides, went down town in the afternoon to see the crowds. No cars running so walked all the way. Met people in groups singing down the street. City one seething mob of people of all variety and ages, singing, waving flower decked flags, and surging through the streets--lights and rockets shot off. Crowd got wilder and wilder as night came on, like wild carnival--confetti, tickle straws etc. So many drunks that almost dangerous to go through streets. Had dinner in hotel, and home.

L---By the above address you see that I have again moved and I hope for the last time. We came down here yesterday after 10 days at Savonay where Miss S. has head quaters and from where all the aides are distributed to various points.

This B.H.34 is one of the big single bases and has been running for some months I guess. It is in a rather new brick building that was a priests college and is accordingly all walled in and has attractive grounds.

Last night we went to a song service for the boys in the big refectory. It was very informal, the boys asked for their favorite hymns and then sang them lustily.

Our greeting here was much more human treatment than anything that we have received in France. The nurses made an effort to talk to us and to see that we were comfortable. That is quite the opposite from the other places that we have been.

I am snatching a moment now while we are waiting to see the C.O. to drop this line to you. I can not yet tell what our professional fate will be, but we are expecting a splendid opportunity here. There are about 1700 beds here and Grace and Miss Bell and I are to start an orthopedic P.T. dept. Miss Sanderson has put me in as H.A. in spite of my protest but I guess that it won't be as hard as I had anticipated. If we make a go of it we are to have any necessary increase of staff.

Yesterday Sun., when we came into the station in Nantes the streets were crowded with people all dressed up in their best clothes making a rather brilliant array of color. There were the French blue uniforms in abundance, the Amer. olive drab the bright red caps of the Algerians, all sombered in spots with the prevalent mourning. The crowds were waiting for news and were passing away the time by bursting forth with bits of elation every now and then.

We have not been in France long enough to know what the conditions and atmosphere were in the past but it must be a decided change that the French are going through. The Amer. food and supplies and money have made a very definite change in the prosperity of the whole country. All the boys who have been here a long time say that, and they, the French certainly know how to charge the Americans.

I wish you could see the cute place we live in. The ~~no~~ hospital has no quarters on the grounds for the nurses, so part of them live in ^{an} old chateau some distance from the hospital and the rest of them and we, live in a cute villa that used to be a pension before the war.

There is a lane about 3 blocks long shut off from the main blvd. by huge iron gates. This is lined on either side by planted ~~tres~~ trees, and has, running off from it, many little lanes. Our villa is beside one of these little lanes and opens out from the main lane through another gate into a long and narrow court yard. This is filled with flowers and trees and has a number of small houses along the side. We have one section that seems to be separated from the rest. And best of all I have a single room. It is about as big as a minute and has no closet but it has a fire place (which I was not allowed to use much during the cold weather because of wood shortage), and real French windows which overlook a series of queer but buildings, old walls and gardens. We occasionally see an ancient nun prowling around the house, or the dark clad concierge of the villa out in his garden.

We can not say that it is warm but we can perhaps have it so at times, and we actually have one spigot of cold water down stairs. We are going to fix up as much as we can and really enjoy life. We anticipate being able to get our own breakfasts down in the kitchen, so that we will not have to get up as early as the nurses do.

I am going to cable you today if I can get down town

Every one here is patiently waiting to see if they will shoot off the 21 canon shots at eleven as a signal that the armistice has gone through. My I am glad to be herereven if it is late.. As far as we can find out there is a long period of work ahead of us here even if peace is signed. Every one of course is wondering what the future will bring. I personally dont want to go home for a long while.

^{have} It is going to be great being in a big city, because they have theaters and opera and many things of interest. It will be a liberal education for us if we have the energy to take it.

We hear such terrible reports of the influenza in the states that I am continually worried about my family. I have been mixed up with much of it here but have escaped so far.

Have not had any letters from home since Rimaucourt but trust that they will all get forwarded some time.

Nov 12th. D--No appointment with Capt. John (until late so we went batting for the day. Went around Chateau of Ann of B-Britany--castle of seven towers--used now for barracks for the French army. Rambling place built through many centuries --has some attractive sections of old Gothic buildings. Cathedral of St. Pierre much damaged by time--being repaired and restored,--one modern tomb with familiar figure of "Charity" on corner. Windows some what garish and disappointing. City still filled with crowds celebrating peace. Capt. John talked with us and assigned cases to us.

Nov. 13th. D--Started work in wards with bed patients, mostly well legs of boys that had been in bed for months with bad fractures--terrible atrophy of muscles. No work after 3

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so came home and unpacked and settled all my things, I hope for long stay.

Very enthusiastic over Capt. J's thorough way of explaining cases and apparent sympathy with our work. Nurses are cordial to us and really seem interested in our work.

Nov. 14th. D--Very happy and enthusiastic --day full of work. Boys more glad to see us for treatment than the first day. Many new assignments--enough to keep Grace and me busy all the time --Miss Bell in officers hospital. Started French lessons. Actually had a bath in front of my fire --joy forever.

Nov. 15th. D--Heavy schedule of work all day.--boys fine. Took walk and wrote letters all evening. Superb clear fresh weather and beautiful moon light.

Nov. 16th. D--My week to get breakfasts,--some what of a rush. Work just great. Heard remarkable violinist in the officers ward, a member of the Royal Opera of Roumania,--treat for me as well as the boys. French lesson in the evening. Grace entertained me until midnight with the story of her life, c'est drôle.

Nov. 17th. Sun. D--Slept until eleven, then grand rush to get some washing done, before dinner. All went to town in the afternoon and walked the streets with tout le monde in Sun. garb--crowds and crowds--men in every kind of uniform and women in pretty Britany costumes. Went to the Cathedral for part of mass --very ornate and impressive. Saw other churches and Jardin de Plantes. Miss Dudley led us through narrow side street crooked and dark, filled with Algerians and Morroccans all in uniform, painted women leaning out of windows and door ways--real Oriental red light district--looked as though it had been taken straight from Egypt itself. Had a good time teasing Miss Dudley.

L-- I have been taking in all the excitement of celebrations this week in whatever spare time I had^{so} that writing has been out of the question. Last Mon. Nov. 11th. we could not get connected with any of the doctors to be assigned to work as they were all celebrating, so we decided to celebrate too.

We started down town about 4 P.M. only to find that the conductor women were enjoying the celebration as well as the rest of the world, which meant of course that we had to walk. We did not mind because we were continually entertained by groups of men and girls arm in arm dancing and singing down the street. Or there were small impromptu parades made up of anybody and every body waving flags and singing. As we drew near the city the crowd seemed to sweep in from all directions and concentrated densely in the Place Royal and the narrow streets leading off from it.

It was a crowd gay and foolish and wild and partly drunk of course. Much confetti went flying through the air and fire works lit things up later in the evening.

I think all the girls in town but the nice ones were on the streets, at least there were enough for every soldier to have two or three. The really interesting thing was the cosmopolitan crowd, uniforms of French, American, Algerian, Moroccan Russians. I don't think there could have been any uniform but

lacking but the British. They are not in this part of the world. The crowd seethed up and down the narrow streets imitating the wildest kind of a carnival.

We stayed for dinner in a very respectable hotel and then beat it for home soon after as the crowd had grown even wilder during dinner time. One of the nice things about it was when a French person would grab us by the hand and thank us for our share.

I hope to heaven that America won't think that, just because they hurried up the end that they have done the whole show. The boys here talk in that strain some times and I am always sorry to hear it. They seem to forget what France and England have done for four long years. I certainly hope that we will have no more weight at the peace table than our time of fighting warrants.

To continue, the next day we really got to work and have been working ever since. We are enthusiastic beyond words over the whole situation here. Capt. John under whose direction we are working has been doing splendid orthopedic work. He is much in sympathy with us and is willing to give us every opportunity. We don't know what the future will bring but the last report was that this hospital was to be continued as an orthopedic center. That of course will mean a big department of our work. But all plans are liable to change at any minute. The boys are so interested that it is funny. I am beginning to feel now for the first time that I was justified in leaving the good work in Washington.

We are enjoying our cunning little French villa although these mornings are a bit cold. The hospital has steam heat so we are warm most of the time. (The steam radiators however never were known to have any heat in them.) I have found that I can not wear woolen stockings because they seem to give me chill blains.

We get our breakfasts here and don't have to appear for work until 9 o'clock and then stop when we finish at about 5. We have Sundays off so we get a bit of rest.

Yesterday we, with the rest of the city including the inhabitants of the surrounding towns, paraded around the city streets. Every one was in Sunday array. I love the Britany costumes but don't see how they keep the women warm. We had one amusing experience. Miss Dudley who is head of our Occupational therapy, was leading the way and thought it would be fun to go down some of the queer side streets. So we went down a small stone stair way around a sort of alley way between high houses and turned into a narrow street rather filled with Algerians and Arabs. They looked at us rather strangely and we realized that in the windows and door ways were grouped, women all bedecked in queer costumes, much short skirt, and singing queer songs to entice their patrons. One of the men was the handsomest human creature I have ever seen, a perfect human animal with all the beauty of the East in his face. When we realized where we were we beat it as fast as we could go to the other end of the street. We could not refrain from violently teasing Miss D. for so miss leading her children. But we were glad to have had that

passing picture that might have come from Egypt itself. I volunteered to lead the crowd the rest of the way, and we had a perfectly proper time of it.

Grace and I are taking French lessons but I think it is going to be slow work to learn to talk.

A bath over here is a rare affair but I think I will indulge in one tonight as we have a hot stove down in the hall. Here's hoping that no one will molest the public highway while I am using it.

I am going to try to get some toys that are made by the soldiers for the children. Every one says that it is not safe to send any things of value by mail, so I will keep the things that I have bought. They have gorgeous laces but all very expensive.

Must to my bath before the fire goes out so no more.

Nov. 18th. D--Rumor that the cases were going to be evacuated soon, especially the orthopedic ones. What will become of us. French lesson and letter writing.

Nov. 20th. D--Enjoyed cases today; seemed to get more personal response from boys. Gave some extra back rubs. Had French lesson and read La Mafin all evening. Thick hoar frost on all out doors--beautiful on green foliage and blooming roses. Strange climate.

Nov. 19th. D--Cases through rather early so went down town to get some toys for the children, also bought lace collar. Called on Mme Fallie and had long chat in French with her. She told me of the capture of her home near Verdun by the Germans, of herself and her father being taken prisoners and the loss of everything they had in the world. Her father died in Germany and she was returned-. She sews on French uniforms for a living. Have decided to take lessons of her.

Nov. 21st. D--Rather full day but not hard work. Came home about 4.30 and read. Had interesting lesson in evening with M-Fallie. Impressed with the lack of faith that she has in the German situation.

Nov. 22nd. D--Last day of getting breakfasts--takes too much time. Very easy day--doddled through work. Wrote and read all evening.

Nov. 23rd. D--Finished work early because five more cases evacuated,--getting worried for fear work here will not last. Met Miss Sanderson just as taking the car for town -- had fine visit with her, dinner later with Maj. Orr and Y.M.C.A. man. Bought some Christmas cards.

Nov. 24th. D--Slept and wrote letters all morning afternoon went to Musée de Beaux Arts.

L--This morning it has been a bit foggy but the last few days have been so balmy and warm and sunshiny and the evenings so flooded with moon light that it almost seems as though spring were here rather than winter just beginning. We have had no rain, nothing but sunshine since the armistice,

We are still waxing enthusiastic about our work. But every thing in Europe is in such a violent state of change that we do not know what will happen to this hospital. Every day we hear some different rumor of our fate.

They are having a conference in Paris now to decide all the medical questions for the A.E.F. and in a day or so we may know something definite. Miss Sanderson came in to see us yesterday and said that in all probability we would be here for some months as this will be one of the last depts. to close.

It is rather difficult because we get a nice full day of cases and run on that schedule for a time and then some morning we find that they have moved half of our men another step toward home. There may come a time when they take away all our orthopedic cases and give us no new ones; then home for us. However we are needed very much now.

I am taking French conversation of a very interesting woman now. She lived in a small town near Verdun which was captured the first year of the war. She and her father and brother were taken into Germany as prisoners. Later her father died and she was sent back. She has written a book about it which I am reading in French. She is very intense and of course full of sadness. I think I will get a lot of the feeling of conditions here from her. I love studying French but I know I can never learn to talk the blooming language.

I got some simple toys made by the French wounded for the kids and am looking up a purse for you. The leather here is no good now so it had better be a beaded one. They have beautiful beaded bags in the stores but, alas, very high priced.

I have not done much of outside interest this week but still find life very busy and entertaining. We have such a nice group and such a quaint place to live. I can not say that we are going to be warm always as we had orders yesterday not to have fires in our rooms because of wood shortage. We hope it is just temporary. We have a good old Amer. stove in the hall way that heats the whole house pretty well. I guess ^{new} baths in the future unless we bathe in the hall below. I have gotten to a point where baths are a minor detail to me.

Last night I had dinner down town with Maj. Orr from Savenay, Miss Sanderson and a Y.M. man who arrived from Amer. just in time to be in Paris ⁸ days after the armistice was signed. His description of it was thrilling. I am going to break my neck to get to Paris some time before I leave for home. Regulations here are so strict here that no one in uniform can go on the train with out a special pass and to enter Paris it takes another pass. Even then you are allowed only 24 hours unless you are there on war business.

Hope that none of you have had the flu. I seem to have avoided it very successfully. It is remarkable how well I keep over here, am really getting fat.

Nov. 25th. D--Not very hard day because some cases gone. Had interesting French lesson and chat.

Nov. 26th. D--Many new cases added --- amputated Clarks leg after 4 months of terrible suffering in attempt to save it. Had French lesson with first teacher and dismissed her because learning nothing, --continued lessons with Mlle. Fallet

Nov. 27th. D--Same thing.

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(The following is a description of my trip over, which could not be written until the censorship was raised, for that reason and because of other contents it is placed here.)

Nov. 27th. L---This is by way of a Christmas letter but I have no idea whether it will get to you before or after. Any way it takes to you a heart full of love from this far off land and a greater longing to be with you at this season than ever before. I hope that I can always be with you in the future at this time.

We are about to celebrate our Thanksgiving dinner tomorrow and they are making as much of it for the boys as they can. The boys have talked of nothing for a week but the things they would like to eat and how they would eat any old thing their mother would set before them if they could just put their legs under this same mother's table again. If mothers only knew how much they are in their boys thoughts and on their boys lips during the days of their suffering they would have real thanksgiving to offer. Mothers seem to be the chief topic of conversation especially when they are feeling the worst. The boys speak of the simplest and sweetest things about their mothers in the simplest and sweetest way. It almost makes one feel weepy some times.

The boys are so wonderful to each other too in many ways. In one corner of our ward is a case of real human kindness. One chap has a fractured arm all done up in a frame and useless. In the next bed is a chap with two broken wrists both splinted and useless. The first lad dresses and feeds and cares for the second in every way possible and both of them are continually joking about the fact that they have only one good hand and arm for the two of them. Many of the boys will be changed when they get home.

We are extremely busy again having 20 cases apiece now. We used to think 16 a full day but not so now. They are continually bringing in new groups and taking out old ones so we are never quite sure what the morrow will bring.

I understand that the censorship is practically off now, so I think I will try to write you a description of our voyage over here. It was a fit subject for Kipling or Joseph Conrad but I will try to do my best ~~en~~ though poor.

I think I told you that we had 12 ships in the convoy, well escorted by sub chasers and cruisers with areoplanes and hydroplanes flying over head and a large derrigible looking like a huge sea monster in the air, sailing over our boats for hours out of the harbor.

We spent the first night anchored near Sandy Hook and had a splendid home talent concert by the boys and crew which thrilled us to bits to be a part of. Then we started on our journey with the highest hopes possible for a bon voyage.

For about two days we had rather a smooth sea and very warm weather, but of course there were no lights on at night and the port holes of our state rooms were sealed up and we had to sleep two decks below with absolutely no ventilation. Somehow we never got used to that awful lack of ventilation especially when the officers on board persisted in breaking

Letter to
Trip over
See notes I.

the regulations and smoking in the small hall way between the cabins.

About the second day out one or two of the nurses and a few of the men were reported sick with the grippe, they did not call it the influenza then. Each day more cases came down with the disease and each day the weather grew a bit more disagreeable.

At first we were allowed on the deck after dinner but when the disease began to spread the boys, who were crowded 500 over capacity, in a total 3000 on ship board, in the ships hold, were given the deck to spread their one thin blanket on for the night, and we were not allowed out after dinner.

Each day the number of ill ones increased until certain decks were given over entirely to the sick. This sounds rather comfortable perhaps but when you think that we had considerable rain and that it was rare that the decks were even dry it made a different problem.

After a week out we and all the nurses 120 of us were put on duty for an eight hour day to care for the sick men. The decks were used for a while for the mattresses, but after one stormy night when the night nurse and the chore boys were with large waves in their effort in the pitch darkness, to find all of the sick men and help them on doors, that system was changed. Then they cleared out the lower troop deck which was the usual place for cattle on the boat and assigned the wet deck to the well boys for sleeping quarters.

My first night on duty I will never forget. I was assigned to a small room on the back deck with a nurse and a chore boy to help care for two delirious pneumonia patients. I had to give to one, in a top bunk of the double deckers, an alcohol rub in a freezing cold place with no light to see by. The poor chap got so congealed that I could give him but a lick and a promise. Then the nurse told me to watch the other delirious one and not to let him turn on his side. She and the chore boy went off for what seemed to me ages and ages and left me alone with this tossing delirious chap whom I could not keep still and who frightened me most to pieces. This chap died during the night and was the first to be buried at sea the next morning..

I was not in that ward again but was put in another similar place with the serious cases of pneumonia and suspects 14 in all. Eight hours a day cooped up in that small place with them was rather a strain. I can not go into the details of it.

All these last days the weather got worse and worse, rain almost continuously and such rough weather that most of the nurses were desperately sea sick and the men were sea sick as well as suffering with the flu and pneumonia. The cases continued to mount up until there were over 400 cases of the flu and over 60 pneumonia with 23 deaths.

They cleared out all the salons, the stewards dining room two decks below, a whole section of state rooms, all parts of the hold that could be used and in fact every available place where a mattress could be put with a sick man on it. To add to the tribulation was the bad weather which got continually

worse so that there was not a dry inch on deck for the well and every once in a while a wave would wash into some one of the many places where the sick men were and soak them and all their clothes. One unfortunate part of it was that there was no extra supply of dry things either clothes or bedding if they once got wet.

Then the word went around that all the crew were getting sick and that out of eight engineers of the boat crew only two were able to work. It was doubtful if the boat could be kept moving unless help came. Help didn't come but we kept going some how.

One of the depressing things was to see, many times a day, the flag run up to halfmast showing that other boats in the convoy were having trouble too.

Friday night the barometer went down with such a violent jump that the boat crew were keyed up to the top notch to meet the coming storm. We had then had the racks on the table for two days because of the rough sea, and the feeding of soup to the sick men was a real problem because it was almost always spilled before we could get it to them. Also during one night down on troop deck seven where there were over 100 very sick boys a wave came over the side and flooded the place and then to add to the unpleasantness of it the toilets back watered and flooded the place with unspeakable filth which swashed from end to end of the place not missing a boy.

Fortunately we did not know what was coming, neither did we know that we were just out side the north west coast of Ireland which is rarely anything but rough at its best. All day Saturday the wind blew and whistled through the rigging until I could scarcely believe that the sound could be wind and the sea rolled us around as though we did not have the weight of an egg shell. Many of the boys died that day and some of the chore boys had ghastly experiences at night carrying the litters of the dead from the back deck to our part of the boat where they kept the bodies until they could be buried at sea. Two of the boys were carrying a body across the open part from the poop deck in the pitch darkness and rain and wind when a wave struck them that threw them all three in a heap against the troop galley, the two living and the dead all rolled up together. The boys finally collected themselves and their burden and came down into the salon below deck with their eyes just popping out of their heads with the horror of it. They could not refrain from telling all the graphic details.

That Sat. night was worse than a night mare to me. Why the boat ever stayed upright I don't know. No one slept, no one could move around any where with out danger of injury, some boys were thrown so violently that they had broken bones and many of the sick ones were rolled out of their bunks into the middle of those on the floor on mattresses. The night passed some how. I was not really frightened at all because I did not know the danger.

The next morning we still had the frightful wind and sea but the sun was shining brightly and the coast of Scotland was visible in the far distance. Never as long as I live can I forget that sea and never can I give you any idea of

the awfulness and magnificence of it.. It was like mountains of green glassy glaciers come to life with the foam blowing over them like a real snow blizzard. They mounted up so high or rather we rolled down into them so low that it seemed as though we were being engulfed forever. I can't tell you the awfulness of it. Then the sun got to such an angle that it showed through these mountains of waves and I never conceived of such magnificence of color.

It was really a physical effort to watch any of it because you had to hold on so violently to keep from going overboard. I remember one sight almost too clearly; I suddenly looked around the edge of the shelter behind which I was standing and there bearing down on us right near at hand was the master ship of our convoy adrift without its rudder. I don't know how it ever avoided hitting us because I had to turn my face away, but the next time I looked it was going in exactly the opposite direction from the rest of the convoy, sitting high on the top of the waves. This boat was later dashed to pieces on the Scottish coast with the loss of about 500 lives. You perhaps read about this in the paper.

We had one scare in the storm that gave some of the women a real fright. I was two decks below in the front of the boat when such a crash and ripping noise struck us that I was sure we were torpedoed at last. Everyone grabbed life preservers and rushed toward the deck only to find that, to avoid hitting another boat loaded with depth bombs we had turned into a wave that had nearly ripped us apart and had washed over the top deck deluging the forward cabins where all the sick nurses were.

Well we lived through it and almost enjoyed the trip down the channel between England and Ireland because the colors were so magnificent.

You can imagine how glad we were to come in sight of Liverpool the next morning. We were a tragic sight thought with all the convoy under half mast. Our last halfmast was for Maj. Pruden of the medical military staff who was responsible for putting boys on the boat who were actually sick with the influenza when they came on, and for overloading more than 500 over capacity of the ship. He died of pneumonia the last morning out.

When we landed at ~~at~~ Liverpool we went up on the top deck to see the disembarkment and were perfectly astounded to see every life boat smashed so that they would not have floated a minute. The captain told us that it was the worst storm he had seen in 6 years.

The final climax to the boat and crew was, that after they unloaded us they had to go back to Glasgow the next day with a load of oar, and struck a floating mine that had been loosened by the storm. We heard that the boat was lost but know nothing of the fate of the crew.

You don't wonder that we were glad to see the shores of England and to hear the sound of the Eng. bands that greeted us.

The tales ~~tales~~ of some of the other boats in our convoy seemed even worse but we only heard them in bits here and there. Our boat was the only one that carried women.

Miss Acheson of our group had pleuracy and double pneumonia all the way over and was taken off the boat in a dying condition. But she got well in a surprisingly short time and joined us later at Rimaucourt.

This is really a tragic sort of Christmas letter but I wanted to get it out of my system some time and had time to-night.

Your presents I will bring when I come.

As yet we have not had a bit of money since Washington and I have reached my last 20 francs. I can borrow if necessary. But letters! no letters from any one since the last of Oct. It is almost getting on my nerves especially as we can see no reason for it. I have not the price of a cable of Merry Christmas.

Thanksgiving Day. Nov. 28th.

Nov. 28th. D---Did full day of cases,--boys anticipating dinner. Later---Boys had such fine dinner that no one wanted seconds for the first time in the history of the army. We had wonderful dinner in the nurses mess hall "almost like home". Much entertainment in the afternoon by the R.C. and in the evening a dance for enlisted men and nurses, the first in the history of the unit,--hall jammed with boys but of course few girls,--all dances were "cut in" and lots of fun,--enjoyed the boys and the music but not the rough cement floor or the crowd.

Best part of day was mail from home at last, first in ages.

Nov. 29th. D--Heavy day---nothing unusual. Get more disgusted daily with Lt. Wolf's personality and brutal treatment in dressing cases,--men in ward 130 hate him cordially. Major Marksmiller wonderful with the boys and liked by them.

Nov. 30th. D--Rather heavy but interesting day--did 22 cases went to R.C. entertainment given by troop from Argonne Forest company, full of pep and funny war hits--boys in audience enjoyed it immensely. Walking home saw street lined with 8 in. howitzers drawn by tractors,--stopped and talked to the boys who swarmed around us because so glad to hear Amer. girls talk. They were preparing their beds on top of trucks and right in the mud on the side of the road,--were just crawling in bed when we passed and so we wished them good night. They were headed to St. Nazaire and hoped to sail on convoy of 37 ships on Dec. 5th.

Dec. 1st. Sun. D--Another long sleep in the morning and attempt to write letters with no success. Grace, Miss Dudley and I had fine walk out Blvd. and along country road. Always walls on either side roads which are most aggravating in the way they cut off the view,--beautiful farms stretching over the hills,--passed old chateau--made big circle and lost our way--finally ended in the town. Miss Sanderson dropped in on us in the evening and we had a wonderful visit.

Dec. 2nd. D--Continual rain now--hot and muggy!--many cases.--French lesson-mail from home.

Dec. 3rd. D--Nothing but work--22 cases--read French and took bath in the evening.

(40)

Dec. 4th. D--Worked till late. Had heart rending talk with Garrity at end of day, thought he was going to die, poor discouraged chap. He had to pour his heart out even if he could only do it in a whisper. Dr. John returned from leave much to joy of the boys. He promised to get work room for us and send immediately for more assistants.

Dec. 5th. D-- saw adjutant about pay;--went around with C.O. looking for a suitable room for our clinic, finally given just the room I wanted. Capt. J. and I spent half the afternoon looking up room equipment--had great fun rummaging around store room. Told at end of day that Taft and Zernow were arriving as new staff. Talk about quick work. Am anticipating wonderful chance for work.

Dec. 6th. D--Moved in room and established our work there --great. Boys much interested in the room especially the stove. Worked hard all day,--paid for the first time in the A.E.F.

Dec. 7th. D--Sunshine in new clinic all day. Work going beautifully. Heavy schedule --worked from 8.30 A.M. to 6.40 P.M. on massage. Spent evening fixing dresses and writing. No sign of Help, Zerno and Taft did not arrive, mistake in orders.

L--Have just been revelling in news from home that was forwarded in a large bunch from B.H. 52. I guess I have them all now. It was so good to hear all the news and to feel that at last our mail is connected up.-----

The nurses here are splendid girls, some of them, and exceedingly cordial to us. Most of them seem violently interested in the question of matrimony just now but I can not say that I see any of the side that Miss S. described as possible over here.

This has been a week of good hard work for me with very little by way of diversion. They have dances often for the patient officers and the nurses but I have not indulged but once because I don't know the officers and never come in contact with them. I guess I am getting old because I can't dance all night and massage all day.

Things have evolved so wonderfully for me this week that I am happy as can be over them. The doctor whom we are under was away on leave for the first three weeks of our work here, so we just poked along more or less in our own way doing our work in the wards or where ever we could find a place. The first day he came back we discussed the possibility of having our own room for treatments and of having two more assistants as we are getting so swamped with work now. The next day he made arrangements for a fine big room for us, flooded with sunlight when there is any and fitted out with necessary benches tables chairs etc. made the right height for treatments; all pans and things we needed for the hydrotherapy and in fact as complete an equipment as we can get here. The C.O. says we can have anything we want to build up a good department. Aren't we lucky. I think Capt. J. is one of the biggest minded men professionally that I have yet met in the army.

I think though the best of all is that we are to have all cases that are assigned to us come up each day, for diagnosis and inspection when he will perscribe the necessary treatment. Also no case of arthopedics can be dismissed from the hospital until passed on by him. Since he is a firm supporter of, and believer in, our work you may know that this gives us a splendid chance to make good. Here is hoping that I know enough to hold down my job. Any way I am stimulated at the prospect and absolutely contented in the work at last. We have fine people in B.H.34 that are most congenial.

One of the most satisfying things is that the boys are convinced that our work is a large part of their cure, and that they work like time to help their cause along. Two or three I have already gotten into their normal condition and most of them are doing splendidly. It is certainly great to be able to do my little part.

My days program has been 22 cases for a week now, which means before 9 to after 6. But I am not going to keep that speed up after we get more workers here. I am amazed and thankful that I do not get more tired.

My French lessons are going fairly well although I have very little time to study for them.

I have seen those Jean d'Arc medallions and love them. Am going to bring home a Verdun medal for the boys. They are being sold to raise money to rebuild the town of Verdun. See if you can get a French book for the kids "History of Alsace and Lorraine" by Hansi. It is full of his wonderful cartoons and is written especially for children.

No more tonight as I have so many letters to write. My letters to you are for the whole family so I write always to you. I love your sympathy with my being here and really don't feel far away when I hear from you often.

Dec. 8th. Sun. D--Misserable rain,--wanted to wash my hair but had no heat all day. Sewed on dress and wrote letters. Spent very enjoyable evening at Mme. Robert's an interesting French lady who lives near the hospital.

Dec. 9th. D--Heavy schedule---started daily clinics. Capt. J. fine to give us time and help. French lesson.

Dec. 10th. D--Tried to get Miss Sanderson by phone to ask about more help. Have to put new cases on the waiting list. Started treatment of ~~son~~ of E.H. Harriman--fat and pudgy and peculiar,--talked to Maj. John about money but to me about his wife--safety first.

Dec. 11th. D--Same full day, no relief. French lesson. Continual rain.

Dec. 12th. D--Rain and work but no depression. 200 boys left hospital today for states,---they were up all night getting ready--joy unbounded for them.

Dec. Friday 13th. D--In spite of date no bad luck. Christmas cable from mother,--she does not procrastinate. Still rain.

Dec. 14th. D--Boys waiting for treatments in clinic spent time talking about length of time they had been without bathing and changing their clothes--some of them weeks without even washing face. They won't forget those details.

Maj. Orr brought note from Miss Sanderson that Russell, Acheson and Rader were coming.

Dec. 15th. Sun. D--Slept and at last a hair wash. Made out monthly report for Nov.--Grace and I alone did 467 cases in two weeks and three days and even then were not busy all the time. Had charming and refreshing walk in the country --attractive vistas and cute village by river Erdre.--bought violets from farmer lady who had picked them in her own back garden. Wonderful warm weather and real sunshine part of day. Wrote letters all evening. --relieved at prospect of help and continually happy in the work.

Dec. 16th. Same heavy work--continual rainy weather,--still no help from Savenay.

Dec. 17th.-18th-19th. D--Same.

Dec. 20th. D--Decidedly busy treating full number, giving extra paraffin baths and long clinic,--almost had hysterics watching doctor examine negro with paralyzed face who could not work his tongue in the right direction. Laughed every time I thought of it all day.

Dec. 21st. D--So busy had to adopt a double program---it worked well. Clinic very entertaining--had some good chats during work. Capt. J. made orthopedic head of the hospital and has full sway,--which means of course more work for us. Went to the Opera expecting to see Faust but saw Les Hirondelles instead,--punk singing,--rather fun to hear French spoken on the stage. Disgusted with the actions of some Amer. officers, one especially one who was drunk and acting disgracefully with a French woman.

Dec. 22nd. Sun. D--In spite of being up late the night before woke early and dove into the family washing and other chores. Rainy afternoon spent in trying to sleep and write. Evening Mme. Robert and daughter came over for a nice chat in French. Mme. very charming and very good to us.

L--This may end in being just a line as we are expecting a call from a very nice French lady. She is going to take us to the big Cathedral on Christmas morning if we can get away from the hospital in time.

Every one here is absorbed in Christmas things now and I think they are going to have a wonderful day for the boys. Will tell you all about it later. I helped fill some stockings for the tree and got a bit home sick in the process. It certainly seems like home here because the people are so lovely to us and we are so happy in the work.

Practically nothing has happened this week except continual work. No help has come as yet although orders were started almost two weeks ago. We have been at it strenuously I can assure you. In order to take on more cases we have had to split our program and are taking the boys on alternate days. It will work that way for a while longer I guess. We are feeling more and more pleased with the opportunities. Capt. J. has recently been put in charge of all the orthopedics in the hospital and has the supreme right to decide just what treatment they will have. He has a clinic every day for us and does every thing he can to boost the dept.

I lost my fountain pen, worse luck and as they are about

77 here I shall not get one even though I hate this one.

Last night I went to the Opera for the first time here. It was decidedly punk but I decidedly enjoyed the French part of it. I was more than disgusted with the actions of some Amer. officers who thought they owned the whole place. Why do they have to act over here as they never would at home.

I am trying hard to learn some French but find it almost impossible to study and know I will never get a vocabulary.

Have not had a chance to go down town during the week for four weeks now so have not indulged in any Christmas shopping.

Dec. 23rd. D--Still no help-getting almost desperate,--no time to do office work. Still rain,--weather and work almost getting on my nerves. Every one concentrating on Christmas preparations. Large gangs of boys going off to get greens from the surrounding country. Never saw so much mistletoe as grows wild here.

Dec. 24th. D--Very heavy day,--terribly fatigued. Clear skies. Wards all busy decorating,--lots planned for 130. Made dolls for beds for doctors--perfect imitation of fracture beds. Went to punk show in the evening at R.C.--could not help strange feeling of disturbance over things in general. Was announced that B.H. 34 would return to the states the first week of new year. What will become of us? We no more start in our work than it is uprooted. Strange tugging at my heart strings tonight.

Dec. 25th. F--C

Christmas Day Dec. 25th. 1918.

Dec. 25th. D--Woke up to wonderful sun shine --very early breakfast and then helped in the ward. Boys like kids in the excitement. When Tony, one of our sickest, saw Santa Clause he got almost hysterical with amusement. Boys had wonderful day, Christmas tree and fine dinner served at a real table. I love the feeling of human personalities in that room. Realized today more strongly than ever that really loving and caring for some one or ones, is the most fundamental thing in life. Longed for all mine today.

Went to church in the Cathedral but not much impressed with the service, although much moved within myself.

It is wonderful to have one day in the year that makes you feel intensely.

Grace and I went on shopping expedition in the afternoon,--bought Britany laces and china. Very early to bed.

Dec. 27th. D--Am becoming more discouraged over the demoralizing effect of army life than I can say. It brings out so forcefully the fact that boys and men have very little the feeling of self respect except when it is stimulated by outside elements. The army, minus those elements. Standards are too low for any use.

(NN)

Dec. 26th. D--Decided let down after Christmas--more or less like blue Monday. Boys all tired after the excitement, ward 130 a happy place. So much talking about drinking among the boys that it makes one a rabid prohibitionist.

Dec. 28th. D--Heavy and long day with no relief in sight. Great pleasure to get Christmas box from mother.

Capt. J. new Belgian police dog into the clinic--pup behaved badly and Capt. J. ejaculated, "Oh Lord! accidents will happen, but this is the hydrotherapy room so you need not say anything."

Dec. 29th. Sun. D--Wonderful sleep--13 hours. Miss Bell brought me the best breakfast I have had in France, wonderful eggs, bacon, toast and cocoa. Was lazy all day--wrote long letters. Got furious at Grace over proposed call on Mme. Robert, so cooled myself off by taking a walk in the rain.

L---Have enjoyed so much the box from you which arrived yesterday only two days late and about the only one that came for our crowd. The candied fruit was as delicious as the day it was made and certainly touched the spot. Then I loved the handkerchief from Edith and the petticoat will fill great need. It seemed rather funny to ask for a petty from the land where they are made but I certainly would hate to spend my hard earned money for anything like that. By the way I never told you that that petticoat Edith sent came to me here before I got any mail at all. I did not know that they would let any packages through with out heaps of red tape. I am well supplied now and many thanks to you. I feel that you have been too good to me as ~~me~~ as my trunk and watch were really my presents.

I feel so wonderfully rested now as a result of 13 hrs. in bed last night and an extra fine breakfast presented to me before I got up. Miss Bell is certainly a peach in doing things for other people.

Our extra help has not yet come and we have struggled through another frightfully busy week. We are doing massage and resistive exercise from 8 to after 6 daily and I am running clinics for the doctor besides. As soon as the girls come I am going to drop about half my work and have more time for the organization end of it. It is going wonderfully well though and the doctors appreciate our work or they would not continue to deluge us with cases. I am really enjoying it hugely and think it will be valuable to me later.

We were really flabbergasted Christmas Eve by the news that Unit 34 of nurses and doctors here would be sent to the States the first week of Jan. and a replacement unit would take their place. We have no idea what it will mean to us but as far as we can see we will stay on in the work. The patients will remain any way and more will come as it is to be an evacuation hospital. Some of the old unit have signed to stay so it won't be so bad.

It makes me laugh when you say that Uncle Sam is good indeed to give me such a good trip across France. I can assure you that it is not a result of any kind intention on the part of Uncle S. It is merely an expression of the dumb

headed way our government has of planning, or rather not planning and running our business over here. If I thought that the medical dept. in the U.S.A. was rampant with inefficiency I find that it is even worse here and that every other branch of the service is about as punkly managed. I think we have very little to be proud of in the organization and management of much of the work of our government.

The tales we hear now about the efforts to ship the boys home are really funny. I am just hoping and praying that they will really do the business up quickly and get the boys out of this country because it is no place for them now that discipline and the tension of war is over. Even the boys who are in the hospital as patients have but one topic of conversation and that is drinking. If prohibition can be put through in the states immediately it will be the biggest blessing possible. I am more violently for prohibition than ever.

It has rained practically every single day in Dec. except two the day before and day of Christmas, and even then it rained at night. It helped to make our Christmas a lovely one to see some sunshine.

All the wards were decorated beautifully with garlands of holly and and great bunches of mistletoe which grows in great profusion around the country side. And then each ward had a tree which the boys decorated with things they made. They were busy the whole week before hand making things. Our ward had a wonderful time of it.. Each boy received a pair of stockings from the R.C. with 4 boxes of cigarets, 3 cigars, 2 nice handkerchiefs, candy, nuts, chocolates a Christmas card and a special present a nice one for each. All these fillings were bought with ^{the} the nurses and the doctors contributed.

In the morning a group came into the room singing carols, then Santa appeared and shook hands with all the boys. One of the boys Tony who had been frightfully ill, in fact just recently been dragged from the valley of the shadow, was so funny when he saw Santa. He was being dressed at the time and was lying very flat in bed. Suddenly when he saw him he raised his head, looked for a moment, and then fell back just roaring with mirth. Then he did it again and again each time consumed with mirth at the sight he saw. He said that he had never seen a Santa Clause before. It Made the whole ward happy to see him enjoy it so much.

Grace and I went down to the big Cathedral for the morning service and had a wonderful chat on the way about what families and real friends really ment in ones life. We were a bit disappointed in the service because it did not seem a bit Christmasy but just all form and mimicry. But the thing that really impressed me anew was the fact that the people, especially the old Britany women, seemed not even to notice that there was any service going on, but seemed absorbed the entire time in continuous prayer to themselves. One could not help feeling that they came to church just to worship and were in real communion.

We hurried back to the hospital to serve dinner to the

Boys who are usually on "chow duty". That is the boys who usually serve the meals for the bed patients. We fixed a long table in the middle of the room for them and gave them a real "waited on" dinner. The first they had had in the army I guess. They enjoyed it hugely.

Then we had our dinner which was delicious food and very attractively served. This unit makes a great effort to set a good table and to celebrate all occasions in a nice way.

G. and I went down town again in the afternoon and splurged on shopping. This time we were enthusiastic over Quimper and Brittainy china. It is quite cheap but has cute designs of flowers and men and women on it. G. bought a beautiful piece of filet lace. I have about made up my mind that I will come home bankrupt because there are so many things I want here.

You spoke about wanting to come over this spring with Aunt Fannie. I and every one I have talked to here strongly advises against it. Hotel rates are terrible and traveling is the ~~coldest~~ most uncomfortable ~~coldst~~ hungriest thing I could imagine. You and Aunt Fannie would die if you had to go through some of the trips people have to endure these days. It is really no time to come. Every thing is frightfully abnormal and few of the places of interest are open. Wait until I can come back with you some day.-----

I think I have had about all your letters even though they do not come as often as I should like.

I have adopted a new way to wear my hair which greatly enhances my beauty comme ça, (sketch of my head), parted and with a French roll behind. I look exactly like the picture, beautiful. (You should see the picture.)

I must tell you what the boys call us. They call the occupationalists the "blue birds" and call us the "rubber nurses". Aren't they funny.

Dec. 30th. D--Felt really like work, guess I am getting my second wind. Letter from Miss Sanderson saying that she was going to Tours to see what had happened that delayed our orders.

Dec. 31st. D--Heaviest days work of the year almost. But felt like batting in the evening so went down town. Intended to go to the movies but switched off to shopping instead. Ambled around some of the back streets,--quite a gay and interesting crowd,--New Years EVE.

New Year 1919.

Jan. 1st. D--Work in spite of holiday---some boys did not report for treatments so more time to take things leisurely. Grace and I on rampage over lack of public opinion in the army against liquor.--we talked like Dutch aunts to some of the boys. Had wonderful talk with Strickling in efforts to bring him out of depth of discouragement. He is one of kind who always gets the brunt of every thing. Tried to make him feel that he had some good qualities and something to respect in himself. Did not turn over any resolutions but hoped to do many things.

Jan. 2nd. D--Work work, still the same.. Maj. Orr appeared at noon with news that Miss S. had gone to Tours to settle our affairs. Discovered that our orderly had chronic gonorrhea---made up mind to discharge him immediately. 16 new nurses arrived for duty.

Jan. 3rd. D--Busy day --mind relieved by news that orderly was leaving hospital in a day. So we worked in a new one. Discussed with Capt. J. the possibility of having help from the nurses in our work until the new ones came. Idea seemed a good one.

Jan. 4th. D--Examined many new cases and was so nearly finished by work that I could hardly crawl up to the 4th. floor to do Buffalo, and then had still six cases to do. Went to bed disgusted and depressed with life. Planning to start nurses in our work on Monday.

Jan. 5th. Sun. D--Tried to sleep late but nothing like that possible--did many chores at home and in office instead. Wonderful surprise and pleasure at supper time to see the three new Aides. Spent evening talking to them and planning work for Mon. Jove! what a relief.

Jan. 6th. D--Great fun starting out the increased dept. Rather hard though to do my cases and steer the others along --marvelous to finish before 5P.M.

Jan. 7th. D--Work easier still with the new ones. Miss Rader very efficient and the others Louise Russell and Janet Acheson fine. A. de Ford and C.T. decided that the Re Aides would give a party for the nurses and the officers--this without any consent on our part. She is the nerviest person I know.

Jan. 8th. D--Hoped to get through early enough to go to town but no such luck. Took French lesson instead. Party of A. de Fords, a scream, never played such uninteresting cards, and men acted like silly school boys.

L--The reason that I did not write you last Sun. was because the time I had saved for it was taken up by the arrival of the three new Aides for our dept. I was so discouraged and tired on Sat. that I thought I could never could stand another day of it. We had just made arrangements to have two of the orthopedic nurses help us out in the emergency when the help really came. Thank heavens!!

One of them is Miss Acheson of the original unit that left N.Y. together, and another is Miss Russell whom I studied

with in Boston this summer, the third is Beulah Raded, a fine person and an experienced worker. She knows heaps more about the work than I do. I feel as though I should give her my white cap and the job of H.A. with it. It has been such a wonderful relief to finish my work these last two or three days while the day is still young that I don't know what to do. We are planning to have a half day off every other week now.

I have done absolutely nothing of late but go to bed. We have had such rotten weather lately that it has discouraged even wanting to go out. The Loire river is so high and rapid now that it is almost a source of danger to the city. Much of the country side is under water.. But whenever the sun ever comes as it does once in a while it is beautiful beyond words. And in spite of all these storms the flowers are still in bloom. I have a ravishingly pink camellia here now just fresh from the garden.

Have to go to French lesson so no more .

Jan. 9th. D--Started the day by having the stove pipe fall---long clinic--boys late after lunch. Scrap on between Capt.s John and Jones, over the orthopedic cases. Rather weary.

Jan. 10th. D--Long day, much interrupted so not much accomplished. New Dept. working well, but added numbers is more or less of a strain on me --so many details.

Jan. 11th. D--Hard long day--pouring rain. Went down town in the awful weather in evening to play under Y.M. Traveling Salesman--good show --all army audience. Had wet but attractive walk home down side streets.

Jan. 12th. Sun. D--Slept --spent morning writing article for the Year Book of Unit 34. Walked through park and along flooded river. Had nice evening with Mme. Robert, French coming more easily.

Jan. 13th. D--Day of work--rain--French lesson.

L--I did not get a chance to write you yesterday because again my one day of rest was full to the brim with many things to do, among them an article to write for the Year Book that the Unit is printing.

Today's mail from the states brought two from you the last one written on Dec. 24th. So you see the letters are coming through rather fast now. I am glad that you enjoyed my letter describing the trip over. It was exciting. You need not have any fear about me though because I am very comfortably located, have a nice single room in an almost warm house, have loads to eat and a splendid place to work in.

At present we are not so busy because the three new workers have taken such a load from us. But from the looks of things we are going to be swamped again soon. The hospital is undergoing a great change; half the nurses are going home many of the doctors are going and the patients are being evacuated rapidly. We will probably stay on here with the new unit for some months yet. The work may last through to the summer at least.

We hear a rumor, one of the many, that perhaps we Re'Aides can resign here when the work is over. If that is so I might want you to come over and spend the summer with me. -----We are getting rather excited about the approach of the time for our first leave. It is due some time the end of Jan. or Feb. I am crazy to go to Chaminix at the foot of Mont. Blanc with a day of Paris at either end of the journey. Paris is tightly closed now except for twelve hours to the traveler, so it is impossible to stay there. You know that I would answer the call of the mountains first and foremost. I have not yet found out whether or not Chaminix is open to Americans. They have restricted the places that the nurses can go to very few.

I am still studying French three evenings a week although many times I have been too tired to get anything from the lessons. However I think I am improving a little. My French teacher has a friend in town here that does beautiful embroidery and filet work. I ordered a centerpiece of squares of embroidery and filet with lace around the edge. It is really a beauty. If Edith wants a runner for her living room table let me know. The pattern on mine has the porcupine and crown of the coat of arms of Ann of Britany, and is most charming. -----

Today is the first whole or almost whole day we have had without rain for 43 consecutive days. And the day is not yet through. You never imagined such weather. Even the French think it is pretty bad so you can know that it is.

Jan. 14th. D--Again busy day --rain--heavy clinic, 21 new cases added. Spent evening in assignment of cases--looks like more heavy work for us all.

Jan. 15th. D--Grace and I worked all the morning and in the afternoon struck for a holiday. In spite of pouring rain went down town--had hair wash in about a tea spoon of water and a bum curl. Quelle ville et quelle moeurs. Much chasing around town to find rain hats--dinner in "Eng. spoken" place very good.

Had letter from my girls at Mich. U. saying that they were sending me \$100. to use in any work I wanted. Touched beyond words that they should do it.

Jan. 16th. D--Started cases early then went to officers hospital to make examinations. Had chat on the way home about the inside policy of the hospital, amusing to a degree. Finished all cases in spite of the interrupted day. Wrote long letter to girls at Mich.

Jan. 17th. D--Fine morning with lots of cases accomplished. Clear day at last. Capt. J. absurdly funny in clinic exams. Boys went to a show in the afternoon. Our "baker" made of half a stove hinged on the back with three electric lights in each end at last arrived. Not pretty but we hope will be useful. French lesson---cleaned paraffin--went to Kick In" at R. C. --Amer. company.

Jan. 18th. D--Morning went smoothly--afternoon long clinic exams.--many interruptions. Had meeting of the Aides

to discuss how we could take on all new cases which seemed to be swamping us again. Had fine talk with Fordham during treatment--told me how war had taught him to appreciate home and parents as he never had before. Took weekly(?) bath and to bed.

Jan. 19th. Sun. D--Late sleep. Went to office to discuss cases with our boss. Watched him put traction on foot with leg entirely severed except the gastrocnemius. Heard big convoy going out--many of our boys going so our problem of new cases solved. Said good bye to Buffalo, spinal meningitis with resultant paralysis--he said wonderful things to me about my work with the boys, also showed me beautiful letter from the captain of his regiment congratulating him on his winning of the D.S.C. It was the first that I had known of it, the modest boy had never mentioned it. He touched me beyond words by his big personality and simple nature. Had short walk--wrote letters and read in the evening. Much stirred up by the fundamental depths of life some of these simple boys have reached in war.

Jan. 20th. D--Work rather easy--so many boys were evacuated. Long clinic exams. Miss Rader very ill --spent evening taking her to the hospital--rather novel experience to take stretcher case in ambulance.

Jan. 21st. D--Easy day--no clinic exams--finished early and wrote letters. Had interesting new case Marsh, shot thru back and spine, in one side and out the other side, muscles badly severed and body of the spine penetrated. After injury was healed last April he went back to regiment, fought thru ST. Mihiel, Argonne Woods, Sedan and marched in to Coblenz with the first troops then collapsed. Dr. thinks it the most interesting cases we have had in the clinic. Marsh showed me a gold German cross that he had taken from a captured German Major, dated 1866. On it were the words "Got mid uns." Even then! think of that. Showed me a 1000 mark note and other things of interest. Such experiences!!

L--I am getting in bad habits about writing but seemed continually swamped with ones that I owe.-----

We are getting along beautifully in our work and not having such a rush right now because so many of our boys have been evacuated. A whole new bunch of new ones came in but have not yet been assigned to us. The Dr. is making thorough examination of all the wards now which takes up much of my time but is very interesting.

We had a new case in yesterday that is going to be great to work on. The man was shot through the back about 4 in. from the spine at about waist line. The bullet penetrated the body of the vertebrae and came out on the other side of the spine about the same distance away as its point of entrance. Then the two scars were connected by a long incision that they had to make to clean out the path of the wound. That the bullet did not injure the nerves or the blood supply that pass through the spine is a marvel. The man was wounded last spring and was later returned to his company

and went all through the St. Mihiel drive, the Argonne Woods, was in the battle of Sedan and marched into Coblenz with his company. Then he collapsed and was sent back to the hospitals. -----(contents in diary)

I was sad indeed to see some of the boys leave Sun, but of course very glad for them. One boy in particular I shall miss, Buffalo chap from the far west who was quite paralyzed as a result of Spinal Meningeitis. His power of walking came back remarkably under the treatments and he was grateful beyond words. He said such nice things to me when he left that I could not help weeping a bit. He showed me a letter that he had just received from the captain of his company who, by the way, had lost his right arm and was writing the letter with his left hand. He was congratulating Buffalo in the nicest way on winning the D.S.C. Here I had been treating him for weeks and he had never mentioned it to me. When I asked him why, he said "Well! why should I". There are really some great souls in some of these simple boys. I am glad to get the occasional glimpse of them that I do.

I have really done nothing much but work and study a bit and go to bed. It seems a shame that we can not get more French and come in contact more with French things now that we are here, but there seems so little time. Perhaps sometime I can come back and be with just French. I can't say that I like their habits of living though. Ewart's discomfort at not having his morning bath amuses me. I felt so at first but now I have degenerated to only about one a week in a hand basin and do not feel so very mortified about it. You can't bathe without some of the necessary comforts like heat and something to bathe in, very often. I only hope that when I return I will pick up some of my American habits again; if I don't you are disgraced for ever.

It seems to agree with me frightfully well over here. Dressed in my thin cotton uniform I weighed 107 the other day; and I don't feel tired any of the time except a little. I guess that part of it is due to having a bully good time doing my work and loving all of it.

Some of the boys are going home soon. I mean some of the sick bed patients that we have had from the beginning. I think Tom Garrity will write to you. Send him something nice for he has had a frightful struggle to hang on to life and even at that is not hanging on to much of his former efficiency. He is a monkey of a boy but I am awfully fond of him just the same. So it is with those you really do for.

Do write me if you want some lace. The cost of underwear here is prohibitive \$7 for a chimese of simple variety. I am not indulging.

The hospital has changed hands but part of the unit is staying including our orthopedic doctor, I am thankful about that.

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Jan. 22nd. D--Busy day--long clinic,--changed orderlies because Dye, our nice boy, going home. He presented me with an elaborate silk and lace piece "Souvenir de France" type,--a tragedy because he paid so much for it. Un très drôle garçon. Had first snow storm of the winter. French lesson,--bought some beautiful en piéçement in lace and bankrupt myself by ordering more. Letter from Jan. saying she would be married soon.

Jan. 23rd. D--Bum sleep or no sleep--with chills and fever all night--bad head all day and tired but worked thru alright. No clinic but took extra cases of Miss Rader's. Had nice professional talk with Russell and Acheson. Went to bed early.

Jan. 24th. D--Felt full of pep--lots of work--things mixed up by anticipated evacuation. Got excited about my old profession by a conversation on Russian ballet and it's charms. Uninteresting French lesson. Some how very blue, guess I am tired.

Jan. 25th. D--Busy day--long clinic--much commotion because bunch going out. Dye our nice orderly left us amid much regret on his part at leaving the department,--funny and nice boy. Many old cases leaving but with many new we are just as cramped for time. Capt. J. not very hopeful of our getting more help.

Tried to get Opera tickets but couldn't so went to bed early. Made an attempt at a hot bath down in the corner by the stove,--just as I was in the midst of bath, standing, both feet in the basin carefully sheltered by clothes line full of wet clothes, caplunk! down! went clothes line spilling newly washed clothes all over the place and leaving me to the public view. Could not step out because all wet and had to yell to Grace to rescue me. Then pitcher of water spilled all over my night clothes that were on the floor. Such are the vicissitudes of bathing in France.

Jan. 26th. Sun. D--J. Bell brought me delicious breakfast, eggs, bacon, chocolate and toasted french petite pain. No fire in the house--very damp and cold so went to office and stayed there all day trying to keep warm--read and slept. Evening had splendid dinner with Mme. Robert--her house awfully cold but oh such food,--egg rolled in sauce marvelous. My French improving some.

Jan. 27th. D--Started on new and very full schedule--very difficult and interesting cases--much touched by the sweet personality of a chap, Fothergill--he seemed like such a child craving care that he touched my motherly instinct. Many boys going out tomorrow including my Strickling--had a fine talk with him, only hope that I have really done something for him other than the work on his hand.

Jan. 28th. D--Long clinic hard day and then spent evening looking up lists of those gone out and assigning new cases. Seems funny in 130 with all our stand by walking cases gone.

Jan. 29th. D--No clinic--through early. Had killing time trying to help Crest walk, (he was an arm case but had had such severe sepssemia that it took him weeks to learn to walk)

I was almost swamped in the process. My monkey Garritty improving marvelously in health and spirits. Many 130 bed cases going out soon.

Jan. 30th. D--Long day because clinic takes up most of afternoon--Capt. J. so chatty over the examinations. My boy Fothergill sick with Pneumonia--worried about him. Miss Rader still ill is now in quarantine with all of the 4th. floor for spinal meningitis. Weekly bath horrah! First time we have had any heat in villa since last Sat. and this the coldest season of the year. Hope to get leave soon.

Jan. 31st. D--Same thing no clinic --lots of new cases coming in to the hospital. Cases in the wards hard work and take lots of time--almost getting on my nerves to hurt boys so much in trying to loosen stiff joints---takes lots of nerve as well as strength. Went to see Fothergill in the pneumonia ward--tragic after six months of wounds to have to end with that----sweet personality, and pathetic to see his efforts to make light of it. French lesson.

Feburary, 1st. D--Busy day because long clinic, Fothergill not very ill.--spent evening writing letters for him and finishing up monthly reports.

L--We hear today that they have just organized through congress an official Reconstruction Aide Corps, like the Army Nurse Corps. So we feel that we have won our point, proved our usefulness and are at last officially recognized. You can put R.A.C. on my letters now if you wish.

I guess that it has been some time since I wrote you. The reason was that it has been too cold to write at home this last week. Not that the weather has been anything but alright but the stupid quartermaster let us go five days in the house here without either coal or wood or a boy to start the fires during the coldest weather we have had. Another example of the efficiency of the A.E.F. It meant going to bed the minute we struck the house so there was not much work done.

I am afraid that my letters have no thrills for you now because life here has become so humdrum and nothing but work. That work is going well except that one of our workers has been laid up with tonsillitis for two weeks now and is still a bit wobbly, and then we have had a deluge of cases this week that we can not possibly handle. I have become sensible in my old age and am refusing to take on any more cases until they give us more help regardless of the need of the boys. It is the only way to make them realize our point.

I have had such an interesting new case this week, more interesting from point of view of his personality perhaps than the uniqueness of his wounds. After six months in bed with serious wounds he has just contracted pneumonia and is a pretty sick boy. He has the sweetest and most appealing personality of any boy I have had. He seems so much like a child that he appeals to my motherly instincts. He considers that he is lucky not to have lost an arm or been wounded

seriously in the vital parts, and now that he has pneumonia he talks only of being so happy that he is in a dry place and getting good care; never a complaint. One doesn't wonder that he got pneumonia because in the last hospital which he just came from the wards were so damp that his mattress got so green with mould that it had to be changed every week. My but the boys have put up with a lot in some places over here. They have no love for the Democratic administration or the A.E.F.

They are evacuating the hospital rapidly but are filling their places equally rapidly.

This Sunday has been wonderfully sunshiny but inspite of it's not being very cold we almost froze in our walk down town. It certainly is penetrating and raw.-----
I am hoping to go to Paris soon on my leave but fear that I will have to put it off unless we get more help. Grace is going any way and I want to go with her because her lover is ^{there} and could show us all around. But I have learned not to anticipate in the army.

Feb. 2nd. D--Surprise visit from Taft and King in morning --collected much news from them especially on the subject of Bateman who has been sent to the States under military arrest. Went down town in the afternoon--and wrote usual Sun. letters.

Feb. 3rd. D--Actually finished early and took a walk. Day unusually interrupted by the arrival Gen. Pershing and his staff. All hospital staff and the chore boys stood lined up in the cold and wind for two hours waiting his, Gen.. Pershing's, inspection. We had front row seats from our front windows--saw the General very distinctly.

Feb. 4th. D-- Clinic and many new cases--wonder how we can take them on. Had fine talk with Capt. J. about our leaves --he strongly advises taking them even if the boys have to go without treatment for a time--advised going as we had planned, Grace, Bell and I all at the same time.

Feb. 5th. D--Great surprise and pleasure to have three new Aides arrive, Lockwood Holton and Cerf--did not expect them for weeks. Spent evening talking with them and arranging cases. Hurrah!--official request put through for our leaves.

Feb. 6th. D--New girls worked in on the ropes--observed and started cases. Office informed us that we could not have but one from the department on leave at a time--so one O.T. have to go with a P.T.--real explosion over it. Finally decided that Dudley Grace and I could go together because an odd number in the two Depts. Miss Bell frightfully disappointed.

Feb. 7th. D--Turning over cases to new girls--like their attitude and personality except C. They came just in time for our leave. Spent evening packing and getting clean. Colonel Goldthwaite visited our clinic -- said we were to have all the help we could need and that this Base would continue as long as there were any orthopedic cases in France--but later said that they would probably all be evacuated in six or eight weeks. Short time for us.

Paris--My First Leave.

Feb. 8th. D--Rather rushed in the morning to get away from Nantes,--did four cases and then left. Waited for the ambulance to take us and luggage to the station but it never showed up as per usual and we had to rush down on the cars--lucky for us that the train was late. My! so thrilled. Trip to Paris short and comfortable and warm enough--fine meal. George met us in P. with an ambulance, drove us down Champs Elysee from Place de la Concorde, past the Arch de Triomphe to small hotel near the Etoile. Everything covered with snow, captured cannon by the dozens lined the way. Our first, a thrilling glimpse.

Feb. 9th. D--Sunday. Wonderful day--slept late, breakfast in bed chocola et petite pain. Miss Dudley and I took a long jaunt au pied down Champs Elysee--saw many snappy officers, Eng. French, Russian, Italian, Amer.--many other nationalities. Miss Dudley named all the important buildings along the way to me Grand and Petite Palais, Place de la Concorde, Tuilleries,, went around by Rue de Rivoli, Rue de la Paix to the Opera House then made big circle around through the Louvre and over to Hotel Voltaire for a delicious lunch. In the afternoon we continued through the Latin Quarter to Luxembourg Gardens--to the Pantheon and Cathedral St. Etienne Du Mont. de Genevieve--this a beautiful mixture of renaissance and gothic, exquisite stone work and beautiful lines. Back by way of metro. Bought cakes at one franc per. for small one. Had blissful nap and dinner with Grace and George at sporty place on the Boulevard--such sporty French dressing.

Feb. 10th. D--Another French breakfast in bed--Geo. picked us up later in the morning and took us in the ambulance to the Gare de l'Est to look up possible trips to the front--swung around by Notre Dame,--jewel of jewels--was appaled by its long vistas and its great simplicity in spite of its exquisite and detailed workmanship,--it's carved wood choir screen beautiful and very spiritual in effect--did not have time to see it all, Rose windows not there at present. Afternoon had wonderful trip to Versailles in ambulance--went through the Bois de Boulogne and past famous race track--got there just it time to be taken in toe by a party. Palace has luxurious mural decorations all permeated with the conceit and flowery ideas of Louis the 14th. Building shows marvelous conception of space both inside and out--gardens lovely with their snowy covering and ice on the lagoons covered with ice --many skaters enjoying them. Stayed out through sunset and moon rise over those incomparable gardens. Had dinner in an inn in the town. Of things in the museum rooms I loved the statue of the Dying Napoleon and the high column of Savoy china the best. Hope that I can return in the spring time.

L---Doutless you will be glad to know that I am actually in Paris on my leave. It does not seem possible that I have been over here long enough for a leave but such is the truth. Every thing came out very nicely at the hospital because

the three new aides that the Colonel finally consented to ask for, arrived most unexpectedly just two days before we left. We turned over the whole department to them and I feel very happy about being away.

I can not yet believe that I am in a foreign land, I have gotten so used to my own small circle in Nantes. But I certainly realize that I am in the city of the world. We had a fine trip up on the train which was actually heated, most of them aren't. Grace has a lover here who is in charge of the American section of the French service in Paris. He met us at the station with an ambulance and spun us through the Place de la Concorde down the Champs Elysee past the Arc de Triomphe and down a block or two to our small hotel. It is almost impossible to find a room in P. these days you know. G. rode about 30 miles around the city looking for rooms for us before he found any. These are comfortable and convenient and inexpensive so we think we are lucky.

It is real luxury to sleep late and have breakfast in bed. Yesterday Miss Dudley trotted me on a wonderful trip through the city which she knows like a book because she has lived here two summers. It was fascinating to walk down the Champs Elysee, the ground is covered with snow now and the whole way is lined with captured German cannon that look decidedly used and weather beaten. I can not give you any conception of the breadth, the sweeping space, the vistas and the superb buildings in the center of this great city. I had no conception that it could be so splendid. Miss D. took me down the avenues--(rout given in the diary) There are so many things to see that it is almost distracting. But I am not going to try to see it all in a week. We are hoping that G. can get us through to Rheims but it is very doubtful.----- About your coming over this summer, I think it is very doubtful if we are here that long. Colonel Goldthwaite who is head of all of the orthopedic work in France came in to see us the other day and said that all the hospitals have already evacuated all the orthopedic cases to the sea coast centers, to Bordeaux Savenay and our center in Nantes. These centers will be the last to close. We are to have all the staff we need to carry on the work carefully and well he said. But the climax was that he said they expected to have all the cases out of France in 6 to 8 weeks. Which will end our career. All the other Aides from other centers are being sent to Savenay to await evacuation to the states. So we are darn lucky to be located just where we are. -----

I am not going to mail this until the end of my stay but will send you a postal to let you know that I am alive.

Feb. 11th. D--Grace and I shopped --bought locket for Shirley and basket pin for myself. Lunch at Hotel Voltaire again. Went to Louvre in the afternoon--was amazed with the grace and charm and wiflowiness of Venus in addition to her great strength. Did not look at many things except a beauti-

ful porphyry vase and of course the Winged Victory--this is the epitomy of all grace power and motion in art, magnificently set at the head of splendid marble stair case--sat at all angles possible and gazed to my hearts content--saw room of things acquired since the war began. Went to church St. Jermaine back of Louvre--beautiful coloring of murals and windows--was church from which the signal for the massacre of St. Bartholomew was rung. Had long conversation with Mr. Vibbert of Mich. in University Union about money sent by the U. of M. girls. Miss Dudley and I went on real bat from point of view of price 15 fr. for a simple meal,--sports there but not worth the price.

Feb. 12th. D--G. took us in ambulance to R.C. to shop--then around by Eiffel Tower but so foggy that we could not see the top--Trocadero closed and could scarcely see the grounds right beside us because of the fog. Took long run out to St. Dennis --the Church of the Tombs of the Kings--enjoyed it more than any so far--spacing splendid--sun light through stained glass windows made beautiful effect on the tall pillars--stairs each side of the altar gave fine breadth--tombs and crypt very interesting--some rare pieces of art there.

L---Writing seems impossible while I am in this gay fascinating spot.-----The city is swarming with Americans and Australians who seem to be taking every opportunity to have a gay time. -----We have had such cold weather that I am wearing all my clothes at once.-----.

We hear that the French are getting pretty exasperated with Wilson because he is so easy with the enemy. They say that Fosh is claiming that Wilson's slowness and deliberateness is taking away every bit of the force of victory and giving the Germans courage to resist again. We certainly are anxious to see how it will end.

L---So much has happened that I don't know how I can ever give you an impression of it. We are seeing Paris wonderfully, both the new and the old parts because G. shoots us all around town in an ambulance.

Monday was a day I shall never forget, We drove around many places in the morning including Notre Dame. My sensitiveness to things of art seems frightfully dull from lack of use for some time past but Notre Dame could not help but penetrate any sort of a thick skin. It is marvelous the way it sits in it's perfect composure from century to century and it's great simplicity made up of the most intricate lacininess.. I have not half looked at the outside yet but I am going back in a day or so. The power of the Catholic religion is certainly typified in a way that I can't express. But it is marvelous with it's long isles of arched columns, wonderful wood carvings, it's spaces and it's windows. The beautiful Rose Window has been taken out for safe keeping and not yet replaced but all the rest was there.

In the afternoon we spun out to Versailles, through the residence part of Paris and the Bois de Boulogne which is

amazingly large and natural considering that it is right in the city. It was only a short run out and yet seemed so decidedly in the country.

Again I was impressed with the French idea of setting for their buildings. The space and vistas of the gardens around the Palace is superb. We went through the Palace in the usual fashion with a guide and a crowd of American soldiers. They seem to swarm every where. Much of the mural decorations have been removed and some of the rooms are still closed, but it still has the charm of much mural decoration, brilliant gold work and continual evidence of Louis 14's very grand and glorified idea of his own importance. Some of it is really laughable. We were much impressed with the chapel which is really a gem of art work and color and was enhanced by brilliant sun light streaming through the upper windows and bringing out the rich coloring and figures on the walls and ceiling.

We stayed in the grounds long after the closing signal had sounded. It was sun set over the gardens which were covered with snow. You can't imagine any thing more lovely than those long stretches of formal gardens, balustrades, fountains, lagoons stretching into the distance, statues every where and groves of trees arranged in isles radiating from every direction you looked; sun set and beautiful moon rise over the beautiful winter evening. We strolled in it for hours, sliding over the ice in the lower lagoons where people had been skating and then through the woods. You don't wonder that it has left a strong impression on my mind.

We had dinner in a small inn in the town and then rode back to star lit Paris.

Feb. 13th. D--Wasted most of the day looking for a present for mother but found nothing I wanted. Sat in the Tuilleries gardens and watched a crowd of children having a snow battle. Walked through gardens and out Champs Elysée had time to thoroughly enjoy Place de la Concorde--many large cannon and one large German tank.

note 5

Feb. 14th. D--Went in town early saw Ellen Emerson and batted with her all morning. Saw two girls from the Smith Unit and heard thrilling news about the work from them. Met Marion Pook by chance and learned that Ruth Blodgett had just gone to Coblenz--did not know that she was even planning on Europe. Had lunch with Miss D. and then sight saw "Hotel de Ville and St. Chapelle--this is a gem even though most of the wall space is windows and the stained glass has been removed --still some beautiful color left. Grace and I both sea sick today too much cheese, too much sight seeing, too much Paris.

Feb. 15th. D--Hair wash--waited long time for the family. Delightful lunch at Miss D's friend Mrs. Farnum--attractive French apartment--she and husband most entertaining and interesting. Spent afternoon in trying to change Opera tickets with no success--bought some cute bronzes at the small shop

on the quai. Rushed home to dress for the opera Faust. Opera House most magnificent--foyes salons more elaborate than I had expected.--opera enjoyable but not very well sung --had scene of ballet work in Hades that was new to me in that opera. To bed as soon as possible in anticipation of Sun. trip to the front.

Feb. 16th. D--Sun. Early rising--good weather for Soisson --started at seven A.M. through North-east gate--over the road taken by Joffre's taxi cab army in 1914--in two hours reached Meaux the furthest point of German advance in 1914 --went through Betz where we saw the first barbed wire and sections of trenches, graves and the monument to French dead. --swung through many small villages, always a crowd of curious, especially the small boys. ---met many camions and French soldiers marching toward Paris, --some of them helped us out of the mud, --went through forests along the Grande Chemin-- continual signs of barbed wire entanglements and lines of trenches and many dugouts, some of them just holes in the bank and others well built. --piles of amunition along road, some shells used and unused--rubbish heaps of old clothes helmets gas masks etc. dumped every where. --woods beautiful with winter snows and mists --sections of road lined with old camions omnibusses and cars wrecked along the road side --some battered tanks sitting in the fields. From famous Soissons ridge could see the battered city just one mass of ruins as if shaken to pieces by a great earth quake, --some walls still standing but most falling to pieces---famous sugar refinery still partly standing--church, of real beauty in the past, just a skeleton against the sky. Some of the inhabitants returned --a few stores being opened in lower floors of buildings that could be used. Had lunch in old Inn that was in fairly good condition, --old man of the house anxious to tell of his experiences. Collected many shells and souvenirs from the dumps. Coming home gave two Poilus a lift. Many soldiers were marching along the road "On permission!" Home 8.30 P.M. not very tired but plastered with mud. Wonderful day.

Feb. 17th. D--Slept late--had lunch with Ellen Emerson Marie Wolfs Eliz. Diddlecome--talked about the Unit and the A.E.F., fascinating to me. Went sight seeing by my self sauntered around Notre Dame got all possible views from along the quais etc. Had dinner with Mary Stevenson who was ill at the Hotel Petrograd, --she talked to me all evening about her work of establishing canteens in back of the fighting Amer. lines, --one of the most thrilling tales I have heard

L----Will have to eliminate most of the detail if I ever get this off to you. Sight seeing has made letters impossible. We have done many of the jems of the city although not all by any means. I must come again to see all the things that are closed or not all complete now. I spent some time in the one section of the Louvre that is open but must confess that I did not look carefully at much

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of any thing but Venus and Winged Victory. It takes so much time to get in mental touch with the different periods and see the series of statues that I decided to use all my time on the few things. I loved Venus even more than I thought I could because the color of the marble is so beautiful and she is so much more willowy and slight than the reproductions.. The Winged Victory to my mind is the epitomy of all that is best in art and I reveled in her for as much time as I could.. She is so wonderfully placed that the sight of her just makes the thrills run up and down your spine. There is only part of the sculpture section open and none of the paintings so there is really very little to see.

We have done St.Germaine and St.Dennis, both beautiful in coloring but I think I love the latter as much as any Cathedral we have seen including Notre Dame. It has beautiful proportions and some wonderful carving on the tombs of the royalty that are buried there. There are some splendid large figures tucked away in the crypts down below. The steps up either side of the altar give a breadth to that that the other churches lack. The sun was shining through the stained glass windows so that all the stone pillars were flecked with color.

I have had a number of interesting walks down the old quais looking in the curio shops and loitering over the bridges to watch the famous old Seine with its barges moored along the walls and the current rushing by.

I started for the Hotel des Invalides this morning but was diverted by the funeral procession of the Military Gov. of Paris. This was made up of Poilus and cavalry and French 75's with the special guard of Paris etc. I will have to save the Invalides for some other trip.

Then I had a lucky time in meeting people. I found on inquiry at the R.C. that my friend Alida Bigelow had gone on the Balkan Commission of Sanitary Inspection. Also discovered that Ellen Emerson was in town and have batted with her twice and had lunch with a lot of Smith people. We had a racy talk I can tell you of doings of the Unit and a general disgust fest over the actions of so many of the Amer. officers. We can not say they are acting in a way to be proud of in many circumstances. Paris rather makes you ill on that account just now.

Met Marion Pook and heard that Ruth Blodgett is in Germany. Tonight I had a wonderful talk with Mary Stevenson who is down from the Somme for a few days to get over a cold. Mary has had a wonderful experience this summer organizing canteens in the evacuation hospitals and back of the line. They moved from place to place so that they were always directly behind every drive made. I never heard anything like the things she tells.

Yesterday we went to the front at Soisson but I will have to tell you about that later as it is too long a story. Tomorrow we start back for Nantes and to work again for for goodness knows how long.

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My first permission has been a marvelous one and will fill my mind for a long time to come.

Feb. 18th. D--Slept late expected to pack and go at noon, but Grace broke the news to me that there was no noon train and we would have to take the night one. So we put in a few more licks at sight seeing--Hotel des Invalides--splendid simplicity and yet grandeur of Napoleon's tomb very impressive. Had almost a real sleep on the night train in spite of anticipation--almost didn't wake up a time to get off,--some scramble.

Return to Work --Nantes.

Feb. 19th. D--Arrived Nantes in the pouring rain 6 A.M. --ate in the R.C. canteen tried to find cab to take us home but no such luck so walked all the way home in the early morning darkness and rain. Seemed good to get to work again. Boys in fine shape and gave us a cordial welcome. Love it here more than I thought. Such improvement in the boys in 10 days.---Hardly knew Garrity dressed and without his splint. Very easy to take back cases and divide up Miss Halton's for the next leave.

Feb. 20, 21, 22nd. (nothing written.)

Feb. 23rd. D--Lazy day--felt after effects of trip to Paris--almost ill. Let down my dresses and sewed all day. Must get energetic on Sundays and see the country.

Trip to Soisson.

L---This is more or less of a continuation of my letter from Paris. We came back last Wed. and have gotten well into the harness again only it does take time to recover from ten days of Paris food.

One day of our trip I shall never forget because it was such a new experience to me and that was our trip to the front. We chose Soisson because the boys said that it was more unrepaired and in it's ruined state than Chateau Thierry or Rheims and besides was a better trip. Because of Georges work here in the ambulance section that was our strange means of conveyance to the scenes of battle. We left early in the morning tearing over the wet streets of Paris, out the North-eastern gate and along the very road that Joffre's taxi cab army took in 1914 to stop the German on rush at Meaux. The road is a wonder, straight as a dye, level and lined the entire way with huge trees. We went through a number of small French towns before we came to Meaux which made a very picturesque journey. It took us just two hours to reach Meaux. Just think of the horror of Sept. 1914. I never conceived of it until I came to Paris and realize how much it means to the French people.

We did not stop anywhere along the line but began to see the vestiges of the fighting as soon as we passed thru Meaux. First it was solitary graves planted in the fields where they fell; then we came to a big stone monument on the cross roads to the memory of those who fell there in 1914.

Then we ran through a cozy little French village that looked normal enough until we passed a group of houses with huge shell holes through them. Then there were more graves both Hun and French. The country there is open and a bit rolling and charming even in the bleak winter weather.

We swung into Betz which not only met the Hun attack in 1914 but in 1918 as well. Lots of Americans were in this second drive and helped to stop the attack there.

There is considerable destruction here the most noticeable thing being the church which is a blackened skeleton now and hovers over the town like an evil thought.

We met many French soldiers along the road at this point and a whole company with camions and all sorts of wagons marching into Paris, were stopping for a meal by the road side.

I can't for the life of me remember the names of the towns that we passed through there were so many of them and they had such queer names. Each one seemed a bit more shot up than the one before. That did not seem to make much difference to the inhabitants. There were always enough present to swarm around us when we stopped to ask the way. The children were especially curious and funny. They seemed to have lots of play spirit.

Then we came by some long stretches of heavy wood and here the trouble seemed to increase. There were suggestions of real trenches and whole lines of barbed wire entanglements stretching from the road. Then we came to dugouts even smaller and more like holes in the side of a ditch than I had imagined. How even rats could live in places like that I do not see. Some of the open fields had ~~apex~~-tanks sitting in the middle of them right where they were wrecked. There was one section of houses quite close together with a wall around them all of it in complete ruin. These must have been a scene of hot fighting because right close to the wall ran four or five double rows of barbed wire entanglements which continued across the fields as far as the eye could reach.

As we went along now we saw, especially in one place, a whole line, dozens perhaps, of old camions and omnibusses from Paris, big auto trucks and every sort of auto-conveyence. They were not shot to pieces but were the worse for wear. It looked as though they were exactly where the army had ~~array~~ had dismounted from them four years ago only shoved a bit off the road. We did see, though, three sections of cars on the road side that had been blown to bits without a doubt.

The road of course is in perfect repair but it looks as if everything had just been swept to one side and left sitting. There were piles upon piles of unshot ammunition along the road as we got into the wooded part that was really shot up. And through the more open part of the road there was a trench running along each side of the road all the way, and heaps of all variety of stuff, bits of metal all twisted up, shot up helmets both French and Hun, shell cases, bits of old clothing and all sorts of war refuse except the bodies themselves. We stopped in spite of the pouring rain and

gleaned a few trophies mostly shell cases.

As we drew up to the predominating ridges around the Soisson we could see just why they fought so bitterly for that spot. Soisson itself lies on low ground between two high ridges that command long distances of open country. The city was quite large and from the top of the hill it looked as if it were just one mass of tumbled down debris. The Cathedral which must have been quite a splendid one has most of its walls and part of each tower gone and is ruined absolutely beyond repair.

We swung down the curving road into the city passing on the way the famous sugar refinery that the Huns took and lost so many times. This must have been quite an imposing building judging from the shell that is left standing. We rode along the streets that have all been opened up and had a fine chance to see the general smash up. Some of the ~~are~~ ^{buildings} are in fairly good condition, that is the first and second stories are possible to repair enough for temporary use and there was one hotel already open in a partial state of repair. But most of it looked as though a great earth quake had shaken the city into a mass of brick and mortar and general debris.

We had dinner in a small Inn that had been repaired enough for use. The top floor was all smashed up but the second and first were quite possible. The ceiling of the room where we ate was full of holes from shells and bullets but that only made it the more interesting. The old man and his wife were pleased to pieces at least the old man was, the wife of course was busy with the meal, to recount their weird experiences of the last four years. They had evacuated in 1914 and later returned. For two and a half years the Huns had held the heights on the eastern side of the city and shelled it and filled the valley with gas frequently during that time. Then they came down into the town again and ruined almost everything that had escaped before.

Lots of the Amer. boys know Soisson, some of the boys I am treating were wounded there. And just outside of the city there is a large Amer. cemetery solid with graves and crosses for about an acre or so with the stars and stripes floating over head.

We talked of going home by way of Chateaux Thierry but decided not to as the weather was bad and it would have made a much longer trip of it. I guess that the boys were glad because we did not get home until 8.30, as it was.

The trip home was almost as interesting as going because we were continually seeing things we missed before. We gave a lift to some poilus who were going home on leave and had an interesting conversation with them. I could not quite get all they said but Miss D. could so we missed nothing. We rode through whole companies of them marching along the road.

They have absolutely stopped demobilizing now in both the French and the Amer. army because of possible future trouble with Germany. So a permission is all the poor chaps can get I guess.

We weren't very tired in spite of the hard trip but we

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were so dirty that our own mothers would not have known us. The back of the ambulance had a way of sucking in the mud that plastered us for fair.

I was certainly glad to get in this trip before it had become tourist ridden. I forgot to say that the woods were really beautiful in spite of the destruction because the ground and the trees were covered with snow. They had quite a snow storm in and around Paris just before we got there.

I really was glad to get back here to the boys and the work again. The boys had improved so that I hardly knew some of them. My little chap who has had pneumonia is getting better now and I am working on his foot again. This work of ours may not have such thrilling circumstances connected with it as the Smith Unit but it is frightfully satisfactory. I am getting more thrilled with it every time I think about it and actually see the results. We have a corking department now.

I am getting to a state of mind where I really think the work will be over soon. At Savenay the biggest base of all they are counting on just a month more.

Feb. 24th. D--Feeling a bit sea sick but work seemed to help it-----same work.

Feb. 25th. D--Uneventful day. Had meeting of the dept. and went over Lovetts Infantile Paralysis muscle training. Grace and I took a walk in the evening. Fothergill brought from pneumonia ward to 130. Sweet boy why haven't I some to raise.

Feb. 26th. D--Major John seriously ill with an infected hand. Dr. Kirkley carried on the clinic. Much excitement --bunch going out,--lost the Walrus, Post and most of my nice boys in 130. Garrity more of a monkey than ever----real heart ache to see them go, seems like the beginning of our end. All too short a service. Officers hospital to be evacuated tomorrow, and closed.

Feb. 27th. D--April fool on the evacuation--most of them sent back to wards for days perhaps. Lost only a few boys, schedule rather full.

March 1st. L---I have no idea whether or not you are getting any of my letters because I seem to be getting so few of yours.-----Base 34 that we were with originally are expected to land in the states soon so they are not sending across any of their mail. It is necessary to have the new address Evacuation 36.

Our time is really getting short; they are bringing in no new orthopedic cases because they say that they have already been moved and there are no more to come. Lots of the boys are really going home now and as a result we are continually losing patients and getting no new ones. Lots of the Reconstruction Units have gone too.

Even if I wanted to I don't know of any work over here that I could get into now. The R.C. is sending home it's

and not bringing over any new ones. And the Smith Unit which is the work I should like to go into will be through probly before June so it would not be worth while. So I guess I will be ambling home although I have no idea what I will do when I get there.

The weather is getting so wonderful now that I hope that we don't leave too soon. The trees are all coming in to bloom and the flowers are getting profuse along the country side. France must be sweet in the spring but I can't say much for it's winter.

My life these days is very bromidic but I seem to enjoy it neverthe less. I had some real heart throbs the other day when they came in to my boys in ward 130 and asked them if they wanted to go home and then actually took them that very afternoon. They were boys who have been terribly sick and and have only recently begun to feel like human beings. They ~~were~~ my first patients in the hospital too so I really hated to see them go although they were the jolliest bunch you have ever seen when they left.

I got time to go down town today to do some purchasing that I had been unsuccessful with in Paris and found every thing I wanted right here in this little town.

Major John who used to be our Captain but has recently been promoted has been frightfully ill this week with a very serious infection in his hand and arm. He was dressing an a pus cases and punctured his rubber glove and finger with almost immediate serious results to him. They think he may have to have his finger amputated which would be a serious handicap to his surgery.

We are going on a long walk the other side of town, to see the new base hospital they have started, if the weather will only clear up. Sorry that this is not worth the paper that it is written on but such is life here now.

March 2nd. D--Sunday. Hoapital for breakfast and early morning walk to Doulon to see Beulah's Re Aide friends. Miss Vobries, the H.A. in conversation with me in 15 minutes slammed physical education work no less than 6 times---- must admit that she amused me. Got a lift both going and coming. Wrote letters all afternoon.

March 7 th. D--Got through early and had an absurd meeting of H.A. presumptuously called by Miss Thomas of Savenay --discussions came to nothing quite a waste of time but good to see Helen King again. Miss Sanderson telephoned from Tours to ask if any one in our Unit would consider going to Germany. Miss Bell decided to go.

March 8th. D--Busy----seems like spring--balmy afternoon--came home early and sat in the garden and read French. Had strenuous discussion about leaves--Miss Bell's prospect of Germany rather upset schadule.

M. 9th. Sun. D---9.08 for Guerande--Grace, Beulah, L. Russell J. Acheson and I----Rainy day but all of us in the mood for a lark. Quick train ride for France, got there at noon--had dinner in funny old hotel outside the wall--snails oysters etc. Interesting and very old city--walked around wall

along mote with the picturesque old chateau forming part of the wall and city gate. Quaint old town inside the gate--church built 1100 beautifully aged---we ambled around town down the crooked streets--whole place very small could walk through in 5 minutes, Had fun making remarks à la Cerf and de Ford in their professional way of sight seeing. Went out country road to see the Moulin de Diable---soft air and sun shine and charm of peaceful country side. Sat and watched French girl and her dogs tend the sheep. Went to Boule at 3 P.M.--this like our Atlantic resorts--superb beach covered with beautiful shells. Saw some of Unit 52 nurses who were waiting to go home,--the famous Miss Shlund with them. Had good dinner in Patisserie. French officer on the train talked Eng.fluently with us all the trip--he started in the war as a poilu then worked up to Soulieutenant, was 5 years in the war and never wounded although most of time in the active end of things,---very intelligent man. Got home 12 G.M.--tired but fine day.

M. 10th. D--Getting busy again because two on leave, Grace off with bum arm and Miss Bell going to Germany. A bit tired after Sun. bat. Had hot argument with the boys about French soldiers, I had to take their defence,--boys not very far seeing in their ideas.

M. 11th. D--Large number of boys on inspection for evacuation which took all the afternoon standing out in the cold wind and then finally the evacuation was canceled. Boys made such pessimistic remarks that they were positively funny.

L----I wish you were here now sitting in our calm and restful little garden with the magnolia tree bursting with blossoms near by and sweet pink daisies and hepaticas peeping up through the grass every where. All the trees are trying their hardest to burst forth into something either flowers or leaves. My! but it is calm and restful.

I did not write you Sun, because I went off on an all day trip. We were actually feeling strenuous enough to start off early in the morning in the pouring rain, of course, for a small and ancient town near St. Nazaire called Guerande. It was built within walls and well fortified in the 12 cent. The old church is still standing with it's moss covered walls and picturesqueness and the town is all huddled along ~~narrow~~ in a most irregular way. It did not take long to see the town as there was so little to it. We had lunch at a very old Inn and then started on a hike out over the country road to Le Moulin de Diable that was also built in the 11th. cent. B. Rader and I left the rest and wandered into some fields to gather flowers. There were not many flowers out as yet but we saw a most attractive peasant girl sitting in the fields tending her sheep. I don't see how they have the patience to lead their simple lives.

We took a train in the afternoon to La Boule one of the real watering resorts and summer places of France. Of course most of the houses are closed now but some of the hotels are

filled with nurses waiting for evacuation to the states. The beach is wonderful there, wide long and hard and colored with many colored shells. We had a full three hours to stroll up and down the beach. We met some of the nurses from Unit 52 that we came over with. The Unit is all broken us and part of them were going home. Their time was certainly short.

Our time is certainly short at their present rate of evacuating. 400 boys go out tomorrow and an equal bunch the following week. They expect to clean out the orthopedic cases the last of March. Our department is some what depleted because Grace has a bad arm and Miss Bell is going to Germany and two of the girls are away on leave all the time now.

What would you say if I should burn my bridges and decide to go to Germany myself? We have the chance to go in a Unit of this same work. But don't worry because I don't know that I want to.-----

We are having such fine letters from our boys who have gone home. It certainly makes us feel as though our coming had been well worth while. When they tell us that they enjoyed coming to our work room because the conversations and discussions were such a pleasant change for them, we feel that we have given them something besides professional care. I guess they are giving us a real reputation in the hospitals in the States if they talk about us as they say they do.

I am sending you a small picture of our work room. I had just taken off my cap to leave so that is why I am without "my dignity" as the boys call our caps.

March 12th. D--Boys expected to leave tonight but no such luck.

March 13th. D--Boys still on the rack about evacuation and more sarcastic than ever.

M. 14th. D--Huge evacuation early in the morning---We stood and waited while they loaded the boys on trucks,--R.C. gave chocolate and doughnuts cigarets etc. to each one. My! but the boys were grinning and shouting when they left. Lost over half of our cases, some from 130, Crest, Shannon, Scotty and more of the old stand bys. Post and Shea after months of waiting left behind. Glad to see them go but hate to lose the work. Lay on couch in office alone from 5 to 6 and thought and thought over all the boys who had come and gone in that room and had really been helped in more ways than the main way. Our coming to France has certainly been worth while. I have loved it. Word that all of 130 is going out tomorrow. Heart sick at this real end of things, --hate losing them especially my spirit of youth, Fothergill.

March 15th. D--130 did not go, order canceled--Some of the boys relieved because they did not want to go to Savenay. Expected Miss Sanderson all day but no such luck. Busy only half day. Took nap and read the rest of the day. Received \$100. from girls at Michigan for relief work.

March 16th. Sun. D--Slept till noon --had time getting Grace off to Paris as pass did not come through until the last minute. Miss Bell and I took walk out Rue de Rennes and saw soccer game between two French teams. Miss Bell left

for Germany.

M. 17th. D--Expected evacuation still not coming off. News that boys who left Friday and expected to get right on the boat were just a few hours too late and so had to be sent back to Savenay, reclassified and held over for another evacuation.--Poor boys, this getting out of France is not an easy matter.

M. 18th. D--Things the same -- no more signs of evacuation. Went down town in the afternoon for hair wash and errands.

M. 19th. D--Expected Miss Sanderson but had telephone message from Tours that she had the Measles. Knew something would happen to prevent her coming.

L--Things are dwindling so now that we are getting positively idle. So many boys went out last week that we are carrying only half day programs now, and they tell us that the rest are going out this week. But of course in the army we never believe any thing until it really happens and some times we don't believe it even then. We are on the list but it takes the army ages to move.

It literally makes me ill to think of their taking some of my cases. Here I am just in the midst of making a real cure on young Fothergill and I do so want to keep him long enough to get him on to his feet.----- Then I have one case Perrett whom I have had from the beginning of his wound almost and he will be in fine condition if they do not snatch him away from treatments too soon. I wish I could finish him up. But such it is in the army, continual tearing away from the things and people you grow fond of, and continual uncertainty about the future.

I have not done anything of interest since I wrote you last, life between times is very slow. Of course it is slow only for me and that is my fault because I do not enter into any of the social stunts for the nurses. There are always plenty of those.

I doubt if I can get the table covers and night gowns that the family want the prices are so terrible. I have not seen any hand made nighties that you would have less than about \$20 per. and I can not see putting that into a nighty.

Miss Bell has just left our Unit to join one under Miss Lohne that is going to Coblenz. We had a chance to go but it did not appeal to me some how. Grace is in Paris now for a few days to see about a possible transfer to the R.C. I am going to stay over as long as I can but have no idea how just now.

Tell my beautiful sisters that in spite of their comments I do look lovely with my hair over my ears and I have adopted the style for life. Also tell the snippy fat things that I am not so thin myself now and I am so far from killing myself with work that I am in better health than I have ever been in my life. You know we can't always pick and chose just how much work we will or won't do in this world.

I am reading French as much as I can but don't seem to g

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get any where with my conversation. I have not the limber tongue for the language.

Sorry this bit is not more interesting because I know how you anticipate my letters. but you know we can not always live up to expectations.

March. 20th. D--Word again that 130 leaves tomorrow.-- Went down to shop for some boys,--sewed on Tony's wound stripe, proud to do it. Grace arrived from Paris,--not much chance for her to transfer to R.C.

M. 21st. D--All orders for evacuation canceled so work continuing just the same. Got Fothergill all equipped in shoes with braces so that he can walk alone with just a cane. Wonderful fun to put him on his feet after 8 months in bed.

L---It was so nice today to get your letters wishing me birthday greetings and also the check.-----I bought a filet and embroidered center piece for myself which I will count as a birthday present from you. I have been more or less extravagant in getting things for myself because I want so many of the things that I see.-----

Edith seems to think that I can stay over and play with you this summer but Miss Sanderson says very definitely that we can't resign over here unless we can swear that we have a relative who is a resident here whom we will stay with during the rest of our time. So you see that absolutely excludes me. Any way I do not want to be here this summer unless I am working. I am quite sure that I will stay in the work at home if they need me. I don't see that it is any season for sightseeing or pleasure traveling over here.

I roar at you Mother at your enthusiasm over the letter of my trip over. I am glad indeed that it thrilled you as you say but for heavens sake spare the rest of the world. They will begin to think you are as foolish as a grandmother over it's first grand child. Do spare my friends.

March. 22nd. D--Wonderful weather, air like tonic. Finished at noon--Grace, Acheson, Russell and I went to base ball game in the Nantes Race Course--beautiful place to play in,--real fun to see a game again. In evening went to punk movies at the R.C.

M. 23rd. Sun. D--Terribly rainy dreary day--went over for Unit picture for E.H. 36 records but no picture possible. Built fires in office and wrote letters read and slept all day Took walk alone after supper. Not much excitement in this life.

M, 24th. D--Only half days work ---many boys being lined up for another evacuation. At home in afternoon sewing.

M. 25th. D--Easy work. Sewed on insignia most of the afternoon for Fothergill in the ward and enjoyed immensely the chatter of the boys while I worked ---nice boys.

M. 26th. D--Not very busy --finished at noon. Sewed on more insignia for Fothergill--news that he and other boys in 130 leave in the morning.

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March 27th. D--Did only a few cases,---all our stretcher cases from ward 130 left in morning with much shouting and many fare wells from us all. Seems the end of things. Way down in the depths to see them go. Poor Schmitt left behind the only one because after some five months in the hospital they had not had time to get his pay record straightened out.

M. 28th. D--Went to Doulong (hospital the other side of Nantes where they had moved all the stretcher cases for evacuation) in morning to see Lt. Mc. Kenna about plans for the two hospitals--saw girls giving treatments. Dropped in to see all of our boys from 130, such a shout as went up when I appeared. Had a good half hour talk with them. Then took noon train to Tours with the hopes of seeing Miss Sanderson in spite of the Measles. Met Scotty in the station at Tours --(he had gone to Savenay, been reexamined, graded A and sent back to active duty with his company in Germany) Poor boy, I guess I did too good a job on him. Went out to Barracks 66 Med. H.Q. and was informed by the office that I could not see Miss S. --Trip in vain perhaps and so many things to be settled for the Unit. Spent night at the Hostess House --met Margaret Cook Smith 1903 and had fine talk with her. Nearly froze that night until they brought me more bedding.

M. 29th. D--Tours---pouring rain--breakfast in bed---long cold wet walk to M.H.Q. then long walk in the pouring rain to Miss S.'s house.. They finally let me see her and I Had a wonderful talk for two hours. She told me terribly discouraging stories of Germany so I decided not to go. Will go home as soon as work is through here. Had dinner at a familiar Café near the station and took slow local to Nantes --9 hour trip usually 3 hrs. Young aviator on board most entertaining and French girl who spoke Eng. and K. of C. man--worthwhile conversation. Almost whole country between Tours and Nantes flooded by the Loire only the railroad tracks seemed to be above the water line. Got a lift home in an ambulance--still pouring.

March 30th. D--Most uneventful birthday I have ever had. Wrote Mother long letter about plans ---took long walk with Beulah around old chateau on the Erdre River--lovely flowering plants blooming in the garden in spite of the cold and rain.

L---Today your second daughter has reached the ancient age of 36 and does not regret it, in fact is rather glad of it over here. You see I have been able to do things for the boys and say things to them both professionally and personally that would not have been understood and that I could not have said if I had been younger. So you see I am really reaching my present age with no regrets.

Another little surprise today was to wake up and find the ground covered with snow and a small snow fleury in the air. Absolutely the only other bit of snow that we have had this winter was a little bit we had one morning in December. So you see we are still in the throes of winter although it

is almost the first of April and we are in the proverbially sunny France, where Spring is supposed to smile about the first of February.

Friday I took a little jaunt to Tours to see Miss S. Our work is so nearly ~~over~~ ^{done} here that we were all getting desperate as to what to do next. Miss S. has been planning to come to see us for ages but now has the measles and was not able to come, perhaps for weeks. My trip there came very near being a wild goose chase because I thought for a while they would not let me see her, in spite of the fact that they told me before I came that I surely could see her. But they finally relented and let me. I had a wonderfully satisfactory talk with her and think that we are all more settled in our minds now.

The situation is just this. The work here, that is in this whole center will probably be entirely finished in two weeks at the outset. That means for us either Germany or home as there are no places in France left to be transferred to. I gleaned as much about the situation in Germany as I could from Miss Stimpson who is head of all the Army Nursing Corps in France and has just come back from a two weeks inspection of the hospitals there in Coblenz and Treves. She is a very calm unexplosive person who rarely gets wrought up over anything and has always tried to give the Germans as fair a show as possible. Well! Miss Sanderson said that she had exploded as she had never done before, she, Miss Stimpson, said that she could not have stood to stay in that country another hour because of the absolute insolence of the German people and the slackness of the American rule. She said that the Ger. officers were dressed in the most spick and span uniforms very elaborate with highly polished helmets and wearing an insolent and sneering stare for the Amer. women. They are not cured in the least of their old habits of actually crowding an Amer. woman off the side walk if she seemed to be in their way. She said that the children in the streets who of course will make the next generation of fighters do not hesitate to gear at the Americans.

The army of course has the right to requisition any thing it wants in the way of buildings. Do you think they have taken over the fine hotels, of which there are many in these cities, as the Germans would certainly have done in their case. Not at all they have taken a simple one in Coblenz for the Y. to run and in Treves their choice was a dirty dingy one down near the railroad station like our traveling mens hotels in small towns. This was manned by one Amer. Jew in charge of a staff of German women over whom he had not the slightest control. Miss Stimpson raised the dickens there because it was all so disgusting.

She went into a store to buy some postal cards and the grinning German frau handed her first for purchase a picture of the Kaiser. The morning they arrived in Coblenz four American soldiers had been shot and killed by the Germans in a street row and no special punishment was meted out because the Amer. did not know just where to place the blame, Shades of Belgium make one boil.

The general attitude of the Germans for the Amer. is one of contempt. They are quite unconquered and do not hesitate to consider the Amer. a joke. They say quite openly that they will be at it again in about ten years.

And yet Wilson is doux, as the French say, and he thinks that we should placate them for the sake of the future. The Germans have no conception of what kind treatment means, and if we continue with our present method it looks as though we have got to suffer in a short time even worse than now. My! it looks serious and distressing.

Well! to continue my dissertation on the conditions of our work in G. There is practically nothing in orthopedics but fractures due to injuries and conditions of flat foot and rheumatism etc. They do not know how many girls will be needed for the work but surely not as many as have applied. The work according to that will not compare in interest with that in the states. Then the living conditions are rather difficult. The girls will be well billeted because the Amer. can requisition any thing they want, but they have the rules that no one can go on the street alone at any time; that you must be in your house after seven at night unless accompanied by an officer, & even the officers must go in pairs; that you can never attend any form of German entertainment concert or theater etc. and can have no social contact of any kind with the G.; that you can never buy food in any form from them etc. You can imagine what the usual regulations are in an enemy country.

As far as I can see it does not appeal to me in the least and so I have chosen home instead. However being the boss of the unit here I can stay the last one and it may be quite a few weeks longer. I am getting rather anxious to get started in the work at home because I think I will stay in it during the summer and then study next winter. I will need the money most likely.

Speaking of money, you asked me if I had ever gotten my pay from the gov't yet. It came through the first of Dec. and in spite of having spent about 700 francs on junk and taken my leave and all my other expenses I have on hand now 1150 fr. with 470 fr. coming Apr. 1st. So you see that I do not need any financial aid. I hope to come home with \$200 but don't know what expenses I will have between now and then.

The trip yesterday was the drearest thing I have ever done. The only train that I could get was a deadly local that took 9 hours on a 3 hour run and the whole country side was so flooded from the Loire River that it seemed most of the time as though we were riding through the middle of the ocean except for the occasional trees that stuck up through the water or an occasional house that was half under. I don't see how the people exist year after year.

I had my first row with the authorities here the other day.. Major John our doctor has been ill you know for some six weeks now with a very badly infected hand so he was not on the job to take our part. Some of the officers in the hospital came wandering into our clinic during the day with the comment that they had voted unanimously to take our room

for an officers club room. Nothing official was said to me about it so I just laid low until, in the afternoon, the adjutant who is a fresh little upstart of a Lieut. stuck his head in the door and said, "Orders that you have to be out of here by tomorrow noon, the officers want this room." I told him that I did not know whether I would move out of that room or not and that I certainly would not until I had discussed the matter with the C.O.

I went immediately to the C.O. absolutely in a white heat I was so mad both at the thing that was being done and the way they were doing it. I told him straight from the shoulder that I thought it was insulting the way the whole thing had been handled and that I refused to move unless we were given other quarters that would give us the chance to do as good work in the future as we had done, and that if that were not possible and they still insisted in having the room I would not hesitate to have the whole unit transferred from the post. The C.O. was very nice about it in his appreciation of the way the whole thing had been messed up and said that of course we would not move until we had adequate quarters.

I then went to Major J. about it and it was certainly one put over on him as well as me. Because of his illness the matter had missed a cog some where and the C.O. was not really to blame so much as it first seemed. And of course Maj. J. knew nothing of their vote or decision on the matter. I think the matter will end by our not being turned out. Not a word has been said since so we are laughing up our sleeves a bit. I roar now to think of the way I burst forth to all the powers that be with no consideration of rank etc. I think they were all so amazed to have any women assart themselves that it rather took them off their pins. Any way it strikes me as being very amusing now.

Thursday they took out all of our litter cases that we have had from the beginning of time here. It made me positively ill to have them leave I have become so inordinately attached to many of them. During the last week I got some braced shoes for Fothergill that enabled him to be dressed like a real soldier before he left and walk all over the place with only occasional help of a cane. His was a case that two of the doctors said that I could never do much with so I feel rather proud of the job. And the boy is the happiest thing you have ever seen.

The boys were just moved over to the center, a big evacuation base just the other side of town so I went over to see them the other day. You never heard such a greeting in your life as I got when I appeared. They were all a bit home sick for ward 130 I think and it seemed to do them good to see me. I had wonderful fun chatting with them.

We are not sure at all when we are going home. The doctors have said that there are no more orthopedic cases to come in and here the last two days the hospital has entirely refilled again giving us 20 to 25 new cases and no telling when they will stop sending them here. Any way we are busy and happy again.

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March, 31st. D--Mobs of new boys arrived in the hospital lots of new cases for us. Difficult with out maj.J, to get them examined.

April 1st. D--Started day with lovely April fool joke by Perrett, which amused the whole clinic. Maj.J. took clinic today 33 new cases examined--43 new ones in four days,--guess we will be buisy again. Grace and I went over to 216 to see boys again--walk was great and we certainly did have fun talking to them. Said good bye to them and Baldy cried large alligator tears when we left--such jolly talk that it did my soul good. We had corking dinner down town.

April, 2nd. D--New cases worked in simply and easily--more like old times with buisy day. Had a real cleaning up of office work--took French lesson and started to read Noblesse American.

April, 5th. D--Still get through early--Grace and Beulah and I went to 216 to see the boys again who still continue not to go---much excitement this time because making all final preperations for long journey,--queer mixture of feelings for them and for me.

April, 6th. D--Sun. Slept in morning --trip to Clisson in afternoon---this one of the two old feudal castles in FR. --started in 260 by the Romans, later taken by Charlemagne 811 and much additional building at odd times until the French Revolution when it was destroyed; all women and children in the castle were destroyed in an old and deep well. Later Revolutionists repented and filled the well up and planted a tree, huge and old now on the spot. Ruins very beautiful, fascinating contoure and covered with magnificent ivy,---very interesting towers and dungeons, secret stair ways and turret chambers--old chapel, chamber of justice with its prison dungeons below;--methods of defence places in the walls for the cannons and shooting arrows and rolling down stones, etc.--mote surrounding all,--beautiful outlook over the Erdre River.---redolent with history and charm of age and real beauty. Hope to go there some day and stay. Went to bed with a fever of 102 but broke it up soon.

April, 7th. D--Donned service stripe for six months in the A.E.F. Went down town with Grace to get summer sailor hat---tried on every one in town and all awful so still wearing winter hat. Not much over half a days work now, decidedly enjoying it. Had fine letter from Garrity. Went to Buck private's dance at chateau but did not enjoy it very much.

April, 8 th. each day expecting an evacuation that will clear us out. Slept and sewed most of the afternoon--hard cold on chest.

L---We had another interesting trip on Sunday; went out by auto buss line Amer. M.T.C. out to a place called Clisson one of the old and very beautiful feudal ruins of France. They say it is one of the two oldest and finest in France now. It was a good ride out there although I did not have

on enough clothes to be comfortable. The country around here is continuous farm land with occasional small hamlets quite picturesque even though they were squalid and unkempt. The chief occupation of the old men and women peasants seemed to be to hold the rope while the cow grazed. There was not a cow visible with out some member of the family being attached to it to protect it and urge it along in it's feeding.

It took us about an hour's ride through the country to get to the flourishing and attractive town of Clisson. The old castle dominates the river from quite a bluff and is a stunning old ruin covered with ivy. (Diary gave brief history.) We rambled all over the place trying to figure out which place was which. The walls were fascinating to try to study out because we could see distinctly the places and the methods used for defence. There were large towers that must have had at least ten floors in some parts from the arrangement of the fire places and windows and the dungeons, and we found a secret passage that led from the old chapel on the top of the cliff right to the street which was an enormous distance down. It was rich in historical suggestion and really fascinating. We had only an hour to spend there so we want to go back soon.

I had a letter from Miss Sanderson today saying that she was sending orders through this week for two of the girls to go to Germany and all the rest of my unit but two to go home. The three who stay are to be Grace, Miss Rader who is a corker and myself. She added at the end that we might go soon too. Our work is light now and we are losing a lot more of the cases in a day or so. In fact my present schedule finishes at 1.10 P.M.

I am spending my afternoons chasing down town and around the country side and reading a little French. I am enjoying it now but hope it doesn't last too long.

A whole bunch of our boys went home the other day on the famous hospital ship Mercy. You may hear from some of them. I am getting crazy to start in the work at home now that we are losing so many interesting cases.

Hope that Ted really gets here and that I get a glimpse of him, but suppose there are too many interesting things in France for him to see without looking me up. If he lands at St. Nazaire it is very near Nantes. Why don't you give more directions about his ship so that I can look it up. Is he on a transport or passenger or hospital ship or what? We have to have a lot of data in the army to find out any thing.

T Tomorrow is Edith's birthday----- I wish she were here to have the four large bunches of daffodiles, with about four dozen flowers in each bunch, that I bought today from an old peasant woman for five cents a bunch. She had picked them wild in the fields.

Am sending a postal of the Sunday trip and some photographs of our small lane and garden.

April, 9th. D-- Did some errands down town --took French

lesson.

Apr. 10 th. D--All evacuations canceled---work the same as usual---much rain.

Apr. 11th. D--Clinic getting smaller because boys going out a few at a time and others being dismissed as cured.

Apr. 13th. Sun. D--Lazy in the morning per usual. Grace Miss Dudley and I rented a boat and rowed up the Erdre River --got out at beautiful old chateau and rambled around the grounds,--grass thick with wild prim roses and a purple flower --saw a charming old round tower of the early gothic, half covered with ivy and set in a gorgeous grove of larches, a real art treasure,---enjoyed the charming old farms and the French gardens along the river side.

Apr. 14th. D--New touch of interest for clinic in having the boys under arrest brought to clinic with guard in attendance,---more rain.

Apr. 15th. D--Went down town to buy insignia for boys.

L----I have not heard from you for ages and hope to goodness you have not stopped writing just because you think I may have gone. Don't stop until you get a cable from me saying that I am in the act of sailing. I will cable at "my expense" so that you can save your money on stamps. Of course if I cabled at your expense as you suggested you could not save much on the stamps.

I don't know when we will come home; we may be here as much as a month longer but I doubt it. They are going to close the hospital some time in June so we are sure to be leaving before then.

It still stays such cold weather that I am beginning to think that we will have to go back to the U.S.A. to see any real spring weather. We have occasional sun shine though, that we relish with a will.

Sunday afternoon it tried to be nice so Grace Miss D. and I got a boat and rowed quite a distance up the river Erdre which is really quite charming and Frenchy and beautiful now with the soft new greens and the many colored spring flowering bushes. We got out on the front lawn of an old chateau and had a lovely time wandering around and picking the most beautiful combination of a purple flower and yellow prim roses that grew wild there and in great profusion. The chateau was not very pretty in it's self but out in the back near the stables was the most charming and ancient little tower with a narrow stair case curling up the outside and all over grown with ivy. It was so wonderfully set in a grove of evergreen that I think it was one of the most artistically attractive things I have seen in France.

I have taken to reading French novels lately with quite a vim so find some use for my spare time. We have very little work after 1 P.M. now. We are expecting the unit to be depleted soon as two of the girls are going to Germany when they come home from their leave.

-----I bought some lace for Ruth but think that over 6 frs. for a narrow edge is not cheap. The

only place you can get cheap lace is in southern France where the Amer. army has not been and where I have not been either.

We seem to have rather a bad lot of boys coming to our clinic now days or else the authorities are getting very strict. Some three or four of them come now under military guard which sits at our door while we give the culprit his treatment. We all have much amusement over it including the culprit. I think the offence is usually gambling which they do not consider very serious. They live in the guard house during the rest of the day when we are not treating them.

Apr. 16th. D--Beulah and I had wonderful walk after supper --went through private grounds to a high bank of the river and found a wealth of flowers, among them just carpets of violets and primroses.

Apr. 17th. D--Had an unexpected trip to Savenay---expected to go to Miss Delano's funeral (she was head of all the R.C. nurses in France and died of mastoid at Savenay)--Miss Parrish, Miss Dudley and I ---we raced all the way and were arrested just before entering the grounds---had to wait while chafffer straightened things out, it was all for lack of the necessary road pass and because the M.P. wanted to show his power. Funeral was postponed but we had a nice visit with H. King and Taft and a peach of a ride. Went to buck private dance in the evening and enjoyed a lot the dances with our patients--"Whitey" such a nice and amusing boy.

Apr. 18 th. D--Cases continuing to dwindle--looks like end approaching. Acheson and Russell returned from leave many days late because of Achesons illness and both much distressed because considered A.W.O.L.--not very just in their attitude toward Miss Parrish the C.N. and perfectly absurd in their actions at the prospect of being separated. Spent most of the evening trying to console them and brace them up and make them see reason. Acheson not well enough to go and Russell required to go by Military order.

L-----You must have written a number of letters that I did not get but they will probably come some time. I got one today mailed the 2nd. Apr. so you see they are coming thru in rather short time now.

I have not seen nor heard a thing about Ted or received any of the things you sent me. I think the boys must have eaten them en route. I have not been annoyed because you did not send me things in the least. I don't want candy because we have more here than we can eat and we do not need much because we have such excellent mess. I weigh 109 lbs. now so you can see I am still getting fat.

Our work is getting even less as they are evacuating a few every day. The rumor today is that they are expecting to close the hospital about June 1st. I have definitely decided not to go to Germany because it means transferring to one of the hospital units and staying any where from 6 to 18 months with work that might not be very interesting.

 We had a nice trip yesterday to Savenay a distance of about 15 miles with the result that the C.N. and the two H.A.s were arrested for being on the road with out travel orders. We were bound for the funeral of Miss Delano who was in charge of all the R.C. nurses in France and recently died of mastoid operation. The funeral had been postponed until the ^{next} morning so that was not interfered with. But we were a bit mad to have the fresh M.P. hold us up and arrest the driver until he could call up the hospital and ask if we had the right to use a car and be on the road. One has some rather funny experiences in France.-----

You have not said any thing about Aunt Fannie's coming over to France. I hope they have given it up because of conditions here.-----

Apr. 19th. D--Spent most of the day anticipating Miss Sanderson--no result. Hectic evening trying to get Russell off,--Acheson not allowed to go because of health and Russell made to go. Went clear over to the hospital twice during the evening to get necessary papers--furious at the carelessness of the office---were too late to get baggage checked on Paris train and it was the wrong train any way so we all came home --both A. and R. acted like chumps about being separated.

Had letter from Ellen Emerson opening the possibility of joining the Smith Unit--thrilled with the prospect,--wrote acceptance if place still open.

Apr. 20th. Sun. D--Easter had wonderful day--took trip to Pont Chateau--where we had a good dinner in a small Inn--rented a two wheeled cart and drove out to the Chemain de Croix, the Stations of the Cross, not much impressed with the figures and disgusted with the beggars--queer thing, the Catholic religion.

Amer. boys took us in big truck to beautiful Chateau Missillac, a gorgeous jem,--set on island in lake with port-cullis and mote--all 13th. cent. gothic--armory rooms a rare treat to see withold collection of arms, kennels, beautiful groves and roads, gorgeous rhododendrons.

When we came home found both Acheson and Russell gone to Ger.

L---Happy Easter! I wish you could have been with us today to spend it as we did. I am not going to write you about it today because it is a long tale and it is very late but I will write it in a day or so.

I had a letter from Ellen Emerson the other day which very much excited me and made me make a decision on the spot. I don't know how you will like it. I had understood that the Smith Unit expected to be through it's work in April so knew that it would be useless for me to think of transferring. In Ellen's letter yesterday she said that they were going to work with the full unit until Sept. and that there was a possibility of one or two of the girls leaving. If there was a vacancy and I was available they wanted me to join the Unit.

If they are staying through the summer and the tales are

true that we hear about the orthopedic work at home, that they are not as busy as they expected to be and are expecting to finish in many of the hospitals soon, I see no reason why I should feel any professional necessity of staying in the work at home.

Taking every thing into consideration, the wonderful experience it will be to do that kind of work, the opportunities to get more French and to see more of France, to continue to render services in a fine work etc. and be with those fine girls; well! I think I would be a real chump not to take advantage of it. It looks pretty thrilling to me and I am damn glad that I am free to do it. I hope you will not feel neglected or badly over it.-----

As soon as I know any thing definite I will cable the one word "transferred" which will mean that it has gone through successfully and that my address will be %Smith College Relief Unit, Greecourt, par Nesle, Somme.

It will of course cost me something. I think they pay 60 fr. a month and then your living and traveling expenses. But I don't care a darn, I am in for something interesting and think I have the funds. I have over \$300 now as a background over here that I have saved from my army earnings.

Apr. 21st. D--Clear cold fresh day--fine for work but not much to do. Grace off for the day with George. Stopped my French lessons with Melle Falley. Expected Miss Sanderson but still nothing doing.

Apr. 26th. D--Work and French with nice Mme. Ricou who keeps a chacutery shop and in spite is a well educated and charming woman----I teach her English and she teaches me French.

Apr. 27th. D--George arrived early in the morning with the news that he was leaving for the states in a few days. Grace too excited to contain herself. Had a merry chat with Geo. Gloomy cold afternoon, spent time in front of Beulah's fire reading Walpoles Wooden Horse. Heard again that Miss S. was coming; but no.

Ll--This may get you long before your birthday but I do not want to risk it to too late.-----

I wish you were here to day because the sun is shining very brightly, the sky is clear and all of Bretagne is bursting into bloom. One certainly appreciates spring when every house has it's garden and every garden it's pear trees bursting into bloom and it's bed of forget-me-nots and it's other charming early spring flowers; and when all the little lanes between the walls are lined with apple trees in full bloom; and when one can walk in a few minutes time to a wooded hill side beside a small stream where the violets and yellow primroses are thick in the grass and all the trees are wearing delicate new green, and the sun is setting beyond a distant hill with nothing but a small river valley and tree tops and one charming tiled roofed farmhouse on the opposite hill to come between you and it. That is the environment that we

are living in now and it is sweet and charming beyond words. I am so glad to be here for the spring. It is strangely cold here though. I do not know when the winter flannels will come off.

I have not yet written you about our jaunt last Sun. as I promised. We wanted to spend Easter at the rather famous Chemin de Croix near a town about 2 hours from here by train. So we had dinner in a small Inn in the quaint town of Pont Chateau and then rented a two wheeled cart to take us out the few miles to the Chemin de Croix. The road going out was crowded with truck loads of American boys going on the same sight seeing tour that we were, who had great fun waving to us as they sped past. I don't blame them for thinking us a good joke.

The Chemin de Croix was exceedingly disappointing. It is the ten stations of the cross done in larger than life life sized figures set out in a grove. The beginning with the trial and the end with the crucifixion set on a high hill were rather impressive but the rest seemed just bad art and decidedly Catholic. They have a huge "pelerinage" every Easter Monday of the peasants from all over Bretagne, but of course we missed that. It was very typical though because, much to our disgust the horribly deformed and whiny professional beggars haunted the place. We did not spend much of the day there.

We had planned to drive in our cart to a near by Chateau but some of the boys invited us to go in their truck so we dismissed our cart and went with them. The Chateau was a real gem, set itself in the middle of a good sized lake on a small island so that it had it's natural deep mote and it's drawbridge connecting it to the shore, and and it's battlements and wall around the small court between the buildings. The whole lake was surrounded by beautiful park. Perhaps you can tell something about it from the enclosed picture. It is one of the most up to date among the old chateaux in France and had the reputation of having the finest stables in the country before the war. The stables are minus horses now but there were a good many dogs in the kennels. The park drives were poetry itself. We could not go in any part of the building but the armory which was a rather small room filled with a collection of war weapons from many countries and centuries. I could not help thinking of Brownings poem "A Forgiveness". It must have been in just such a room.

A great big boy from Alabama seemed to attach himself to me on the sight seeing part. He had a mouth full of solid gold teeth and said, as he gazed over the the battlements and across the gorgeous park, "My this reminds me of home", I was kept amused by him all the afternoon but he did have an eye of appreciation.

We got back into town in time to have a good dinner and take a six o'clock home. We were entertained while waiting for dinner by the sight of a large collection of peasants in the street. We discovered it to be a funeral

procession which had stopped, placed it's casket across the street and was waiting for, we knew not what. After some time of silence all the pall bearers came out of a near by café mopping their mouths with large handkerchiefs, they had stopped to get refreshed for their labors, and pretty soon the priest and the church boys bearing long unlit candles came around the corner and joined the procession. While the priest was saying the benediction or rather prayer over the dead one of the choir boys took upon himself to yawn violently and he stretched so that the candle was dangerously near being broken off by hitting the ground. This seemed to make no difference to those concerned. They picked up the casket and went marching off with the priest singing his chant and occasionally casting a glance around at a possible American audience and all the group of peasants marching on behind. It was almost like a moving picture show especially with its bits of humor.

That was rather a splendid Easter Day wasn't it.

I had a wonderful bicycle ride this week. My new French friend and teacher who is a very nice little woman, and who I give Eng. lessons to has a peach of a wheel that she insists on my using. We rode miles and miles and thoroughly enjoyed it. We coasted down hill as though we were children. I hope to go out again to day.

I am more idle right now than I have ever been in my life. An evacuation yesterday leaves us with only 5 cases apiece so we are through about 10.30 A.M. for the day. I have taken to reading now and am having one or two hours every day with my French lady.

I have not heard from Ellen about the Smith Unit but hope to have it settled this week. I think most of our unit will be going home in a very short time now.

April 28th. D--Miss Sanderson arrived after lunch--- fine talk. We discussed with the C.O. the closing of our department--started orders through for all to go home. I telegraphed to the Smith Unit to see if place for me. Snowed a bit in morning very cold for this time of the year.

Apr. 29th. D--Worked part of morning ---down town in afternoon, a French lesson and in the evening a visit from Mme. Ricou and her little fluffy dog Chiffon. Miss S. left early.

Apr. 30th. D--Orders out that no American can be on the streets for three days for fear of French socialist strikes on their Labor Day May 1st. Excitement and antagonism against us increased by the withdrawal of Italy from the Peace Conference and the people resentful against the government because it had not yet begun it's reconstruction for the civilians. Anticipation of serious strikes in Paris I spent day as usual --work in the morning, some new cases --French lesson Mme R.--and wrote letters galore, one to J. Acheson in response to her blast.

May 1st. D--According to orders, left house early in morning and had to stay at the hospital all day--no Amer. allowed on the streets. Played cards and had a movie show and dance for the boys--all taken home in an ambulance for protection? ---saw no evidence of trouble, everything quiet.

May 3rd. D--Had passes to Angers at noon--stayed at a bum hotel--loved chasing around with Mary Holton and Grace. Tried to buy lace and books and then started on the real sight seeing part--saw old Cathedral, rather good wood carving not otherwise interesting---went across the river to old churches and museum that was one of the earliest hospitals in France, this full of interesting historical things. Had dinner at the Hotel Cheval Blanc very Frenchy and very nice. Strolled around Jardin des Plantes in the twilight; it was charming with it's natural hilliness and beautiful statues set in the groves of trees and its masses of rhododendrons in full bloom and it's swans floating on the small lakes in the evening light.

May 4th. D--Breakfast in bed--then up for a good day of sight seeing. Started on the famous Chateau which dates from time of the Romans---has 17 huge round towers on it's wall very high from the ground and has splendid command of the surrounding country, is really a massive bit of architecture. Went through series of prisons in it's towers --in one Duke of Orange was imprisoned also many other historical characters. It was the birth place of the House of the Plantagenets--Chateau in the court yard where many famous lines of Dukes lived seemed surprisingly small and simple. Went to see the tapestries that originally belonged to the Cathedral and are considered the finest of the old tapestries in the world,---they were fascinatingly wierd in design and wonderful combination of colors--marvelous to think of any hand weaving producing such effects. Went through art gallery and saw much of the work of David d'Angers nothing especially good I guess. Jem of the day was the Ruins of the Abbey Toussaint--clear blue sky and floating clouds magnificent background for shell of rose window--saw bones in some of the sarcophagi but probably not real. Had tea and home very late ---tired but in splendid mental state.

May 5th. D--Returned to work with many of patients gone, only 15 left in all the dept. but new ones coming in for a short time. Went down town and bought more lace--had French lesson, -Mme Ricou seemed depressed--she is such a sweet woman. R.C. took us for a long drive in the evening --went out into the country which was more beautiful than I had ever seen it in the evening glow,--spring in the meadows and all types of farm life in the spring time, too charming for words--colors of flowering things more vivid than I had ever seen them--two wheeled cart filled with the long green stalks with yellow flowering tip, wonderfully picturesque,

drawn by a cow and driven by peasant woman was rather an unusual sight to us. We came into small town with it's usual large church and square--Amer. soldiers collected here watching a wrestling match--we stayed for a time to see the fun. Then went out through more hilly pretty country with river running through and old groups of stone houses with "toits de tuiles" and a gorgeous sun set over "le cime de colline". Have been happy all day at the prospect of going home soon.

May 6th. D--Warm wonderful weather--went down town.

May 7th. D--Much excited by arrival of a telegram offering me a definite place in the Smith Unit. Telephoned Tours M.H.Q. to head off my orders to go home---wrote acceptance to the Unit. Strange to readjust my mind so thoroughly so many times.

May 8th. D--Gorgeous spring day---finished early and played tennin with Beulah and the boys, my first game in France---had long French lesson and read out in the warm sun shine in the garden. Beulah, Grace, Pricilla and I played bridge in the garden after dinner, the days are getting very long---spent rest of evening sorting over things to send home by the girls.

May 9th. D--Easy morning again, finished early--rushed down town for shampoo and went to base ball game in after. at Doulong--saw Geis and some of the boys who were still there and not getting good care at all. A. de Ford gave party for the Re'Aides--much fun quite the most we have had together--I made rude remark to Miss Merrick about her lace collar not being real and got squelched as flat as a pancake, roared inside all the rest of the evening about it. Mary and R. Cerf left for three days leave.

May 10 th. D--Astounded to have embarcation orders arrive for all the unit, came through more quickly than we expected and too late to head off the girls on leave--So office held up the orders a few days. Telephoned to Tours to get mine changed but Miss Sanderson gone to Germany and she the only one that could change them. Finally as last resort persuaded Miss Stimson, the C.N. of all the nurses to do the deed for me. Went to base ball game at Doulong with Whitey--good game but rain spoiled it.

May 11th Sun. D--Got up early to play tennis but too much rain. Spent morning fooling around the office talking to Majors John and Jones about work--they advised us all to go home. After. Beulah and I went down to the Chateau of Nantes and went through it's dungeons and towers etc. Met a Miss Kelly secretary of Miss Stimpson who later came up and spent th evening with us--she gave me much dope on my transfer, looks doubtful---she also told us of some awful experiences she had had with Amer. boys and officers.

May 12th. D--Took on some new cases although the dept. almost through work. Word came that my orders to go home had been canceled and that I was free to join the Smith Unit --thank heaven for that. Finished up some chores in the office and went au bicycellette with Grace to La Chappel--perfect day and country perfectly beautiful--everything in

full bloom, a riot of color. Chateau on Erdre River--we approached on long avenue overshadowed with trees to this gem of a chateau---beautiful view of the river--inside filled with rare things, we went through first floor with care taker--it was completely furnished, living room with Florentine coloring on the walls and ceiling and in the hangings and stunning pieces of wood carvings etc. Outside many turrets and small towers and lacy with rich fresco work and coats of arms and some color work in the carvings. We gathered masses of flowers in the lawn, watched the gorgeous sun set and the new moon rise over the river and felt the real spirit of peaceful France over every thing. I never felt France so much before, every thing redolent with her charm.

May 13th. D--Expected orders to come all day but no! ---spent after. picking up the office and started to pack--long and last French lesson.

May 14th. D--Last morning of work.---tragic that it is over so soon--hate to go. Orders for Paris arrived--feel decidedly queer in the pit of my stomach at the news. Did all final jobs in the office and chez moi--ready to go on new tack in the morning.

To Paris for demobilization.

May 15th. D--Locked up every thing and said good bye to the army and to Nantes,--a hard thing to do. Gave Major John last treatment in the A.E.F. and he presented me with heavenly corsage of violets and lilies which cheered me all the way to Paris.

Had interesting trip to Paris due to a talk most of the time with a medical Lieut. Col. from Savenay, most conceited person I ever met but entertaining--impressed me as being decidedly a devil. Some conversation we had on the French morals and the sex problem in general,--glad it was private and that I was not young--some food for thought. Paris wonderful--springtime bloom and spirit and business every where. Will enjoy it even if alone.

May 16th. D--Some process to be demobilized from the army but much faster than I had anticipated--spent morning getting hold of the ropes and the afternoon pulling them. Medical Exam. papers turned in, pay voucher and expense account straightened out at last, but I must admit that I earned every cent that they gave me climbing stairs in the Elysée Palace. Paris seems short on elevators. Paris in the spring like a dead city come to life--demi-mondes wearing very tight and very short skirts with much silk leg showing below--streets jammed with people, many children---beautiful trees on the boulevards--streets jammed with taxis and so noisy that you cant think---many more French in civies and fewer men in uniform and much less mourning on the streets. Was a bit weary after my strenuous day and needed rest for trip to Verdun on the morrow so to bed early.

Trip to Rhimes and Verdun.

May 17th. D--7.55^a train to Rhimes--train crowded with French excursionists--fine day. Arrived at 11A.M.--part of the city standing and lived in, about 20,000 there now. Had poor and expensive dinner in a shot up hotel. Very much destroyed around the cathedral but the shell of it almost in tact--such an amazingly beautiful structure, I did not realize that there could be such delicacy of stone work such splendid proportions and such a sense of solidity and at the same time such lightness. All the upper roof is gone and we were not allowed to go inside because of the danger. They are going to save it as it is as a monument of "Bosh Kulture". Nothing that I have seen can compare with it in beauty as it is now. Don't know whether the cathedral was purposely avoided more then we think or whether the smashed up surroundings show an attempt to entirely destroy.

At 3.30 took the train for Chalon-sur Marne where I had to spend the night. All the way from Chateau Thierry to Epernay entirely destroyed not a village standing--crossed the Marne many times--continual evidence of old trenches shown by the white lines of the upturned soil showing distinctly in the green grass,--could distinguish the German and the French lines very close together in places with narrow strip of No Mans land between. Range of hills just outside of R. looked as though snow covered, the ground had been churned up to such an extent--thousands and thousands of lives lost there in the many times it was taken and retaken. Had wonderful conversation with four dough boys on the train--they all told me the history of their lives and then ensued some hot discussions on most of the problems of life,--they had a fine and unusual appreciation of the French.

6.30P.M. reached Chalon-sur-Marne--such an attractive city and larger than I had expected. Had bum room in a private house but a fine dinner --picked up a nice crowd o of three.

May 18th. D--Up early--train for Verdun--got stuck on a hill and waited two hours for another engine so had only two hours to do the town in--trip showed continual devastation worse and more bleak and more hilly. Finally arrived and were lucky enough to get a lift out to one of the forts, this in partial ruin--had underground kitchens and sleeping quarters and passages for bringing up the amunition. Most amazing of all was the view of the great plains stretching out below--it seemed inconceivable how any army could think of attacking such impregnable heights. Time there too short to study out the situation. Went through the town which was almost completely in ruin in parts,--then saw most of the under ground Citadel which seemed enormously strong, awful dampness and smells down there--must have been terrible when thousands were living there and they used part as a hospital. Had breakneck run for the train because the stupids directed us wrong--train jammed again. I still with my friends of the night before Cogswell and

Morgan and a Y.girl. Arrived in Chalon at 9.P.M. had dinner and stayed in hotel in one of the boys rooms which he was kind enough to let me have --rooms were scarce in town that night I can tell you.

May 19th. D--Early morning train for Paris--very pleasant trip on fast train--enjoyed such a nice conversation with Morgan, nice chap. Landed in the Unit room at noon and found Rosey and Ida prostrate on the beds after half a day in Paris. Spent after. in getting pass-port fixed-- loved the cute children playing on the Champs Elysée --wonderful life along the streets of Paris.

L--I suppose that you have long ere this received my cable saying that I had transferred to the Smith Unit. I hope you don't mind because it is going to be a wonderful opportunity for me to stay over longer. I had a rather scary time of it because my orders to go home came through before I got the telegram from the Unit saying they wanted me. Then I had to call up H.Q. at Tours by phone and ask all sorts of help from them to get the orders changed. But they did it, nice things, and here I am in Paris.

Our work was entirely finished there. The Unit left E.H.36 the day after I did so I did not shirk any thing you see. They are in Brest now waiting to go home. They were all so jealous of me that it made me want to bring them all along with me. You see things have taken such shape over here that probably in two months time there will probably no Americans left in France either men or women, so there are very few chances open to stay.

Well any way I am in wonderful Paris which I love much more now than I thought I could in the winter. Paris is made for the spring and summer. It is about 100% more lively now and the trees in full leaf make it marvelous. You should have seen Champs Elysée today, it was thick with children of all ages playing at a great rate and all the nurse maids of the proverbial type sitting around knitting and sewing and swarms of people along the side walks and the streets crowded with all sorts of vehicles. It is a wonderful thing for the city to give the children a place to play like that. The city is alive with the demi-mondes who wear the shortest possible skirt and show the greatest possible leg. I can't say that I think they dress attractively.

I have certainly put in my time well here. I got in late one Thursday night, Friday morning I started in on getting demobilized and in six hours I was entirely disconnected from the army. It was a very strenuous process but the speed with which it was accomplished amazed me. I guess it was one of the speediest actions of the A.E.F. I have put in an application for a new pass-port which will take three months to be ready for me. Gee but it makes me feel funny to think that I am free to go any where and do any thing I want.

The very first thing I did was to demand a pass to

Verdun to see the spot of the greatest struggle in the war. I started Sat. morning at 8 A.M. stopped off at Rhimes for a few hours, spent the night at Chalon-sur-Marne and took the early train to Verdun Sunday. Our train was so long and over loaded that we got stuck on a grading and were two hours late in arriving and consequently had only two hours in all, there. Then we came back to Chalon and spent the night there again and arrived in Paris this noon. That is the best connections that we could get through now because one branch of the road has been all shot up. But imagine that two and a half day's trip for two hours there. I loved it all though because it was ~~it was~~ so wonderful to go through that much fought over land. And then the boys one meets on the train and always talks to are a joy forever. They are so simple and genuine and usually so appreciative of a woman. I have had some of the rarest conversations of my life on trains and in traveling.

I really can't give you any idea of the country as we went through, one has to see it.. It was just open pretty spring country until we came to Chateau-Thierry and then the devastation began and lasted through the whole distance to Verdun except through Eperney which the Germans didn't get-you remember.

The country side looks green and productive and every inch of land that could be has been planted, but there is ever and incessantly running in every direction the marks of the trenches. Most of the way they have been filled in but the soil there is almost solid chalk and consequently a distinct snow white line marks the trenches as there seems to be no surface soil and consequently nothing growing along these places. Then there is the frequent white patch or the original shell hole and many remnants of dug outs. And the Fort and the important line of hills just north east of Rhimes are nothing but masses of white in the distance, and look as though they were covered with thick snow in the midst of the summer green. It is a wierd feeling to think that it is made that way from nothing but the pounding of shell and the destruction of every thing including the destruction of thousands of thousands of human lives on that small hill that was taken and retaken so many times. You can tell quite distinctly which were the Allies and which the German lines. And in one place it looks as though one could easily throw a ball across the No-Mans-Land which is now a thriving green field.

The ground and stretches of land will survive well but the hamlets and cities are the things to despair over. There was not a single village along the line, and you know they are very numerous in France, not much more than short walking distance apart with continuous farm land between, that was not either in partial or complete ruin. The pictures can give you no real impression because you see only a small section at a time. But when you see everything leveled or made useless for more than the days travel

you do not see how even the Germans with all their great power can ever clean up the mess. They have gangs of Hun prisoners working all through that district but the task seems beyond human power.

I am awfully glad that I stopped at Reims (this is the spelling on the railroad station). There is a good deal of the city still standing in fairly usable condition, at least 20000 people are living there now. But all the part around the Cathedral is smashed to jelly. The Cathedral absolutely amazed me because it is so glorious even in its ruined state. Most of the outside is standing so that with the use of a little imagination one can get a pretty good idea of the original state. The roof is entirely gone and of course it is broken and marred in many places and none of the glass is left. But the magnificent work that is left was inconceivably beautiful to me. It is without a doubt the Taj Mahal of cathedrals. The whole surrounding district is smashed to bits. I could not make out whether the Germans had purposely avoided the Cathedral or had missed it by just that much. A Maj. of artillery that I talked to said that as far as he could see the aim had always been at the Cathedral but the force of the wind had swerved the shots and so had caused the smashed condition of the surrounding parts. He said that he saw photographs taken from planes of these towers when they were used by the French for lookouts. You must see it some time. I loved it.

Chalon -sur-Marne where we stayed all night is a quaint and rather pretty city on the Marne River. I think we crossed the Marne four times on the way up. There were few Americans there but in the hotel that night when we were having dinner Gen. Pershing and some Navy officers wearing four stars came in for dinner. So you see we felt in good company. I connected up with a Y. girl and two nice dough boys for the rest of the trip and had a wonderful and merry trip with them the next two days. One of the boys was a dandy, well educated and interesting.

We got up early the next morning and started on the final lap of the journey. The country was the same type of destruction only more so as we approached Verdun. It seemed an impossible mystery that they could have carried on any sort of defense with this punk little rail road line and the few roads running in there. I never will see how they did it.

Verdun of course is frightfully shot up but the forts are much more interesting than the city. We were taken out the five miles to one fort in a truck and were shown around the ruins by a soldier guide. The fort itself is pretty well smashed up but you could still see the walls within the walls, the underground barracks and kitchens and the passages for sending ammunition and supplies etc. It is a marvelously strong place. But it was a marvel to me and continued to seem more marvelous the more I looked at the plains below, that any army could ever expect to sweep across that open plain that extends as far as the eye

can see and succeed in attacking such powerful defense on such dominating and high ridges. I certainly wished that I had had a map and time to tramp over the whole place.

We went through the underground fortress in the city itself which they call the Citadel and can house 80000 people in time of stress. That was an interesting place too, just one long line after the other of underground passages and rooms. We did some tall sight seeing I can tell you in the two hours that we had there.

The second night at Chalon was more fun than the first in spite of the fact that we spent a good part of it in hunting around the dark and spooky city trying to find a place for me to spend the night. The trip down was speedy and comfortable. We are having such inspiring weather these days that it enhances everything.

Must stop as I am weary after such a jaunt. I have already seen some of the Smith girls and am going out Wed. to join them for good, am crazy to get started in work again.
Joined the Smith Unit--Grecourt Somme.

May 20th. D--Started early to transfer my baggage from one station to another--took most of the morning. Spent the rest in R.C. commissary getting supplies for the Unit. Afternoon went to the Pantheon de Guerre--a wonderful thing only more of a curiosity than art I think--most impressed with the figure in black kneeling in front of tomb.

Dropped in to Louvre for a moment to look at my pets Venus and the Winged Victory and discovered that all the galleries of paintings were open. Saw lots of the old masters including Mona Lisa,---surprised that they had so many of the Italian and Flemish schools. Found Eddie and Dot Brown in the room in Paris--this meant five, to three single beds. Had many funny remarks from Dot.

May 21st. D--Early train for Amiens--rather speedy trip --had four hours to waste in A.--"sight saw" the Cathedral --undamaged except for few holes and all the windows gone --all the treasures in side were protected with sand bags all atrapped together with steel bands and mounted on iron girders which were cemented into the floor--not especially attractive I think. Town not at all pretty, only interesting because such a war center. No Amer. there but many English officers and Tommies. Dot and I went to Hombleur on train that took for ever--continual evidence of destruction--no towns standing and all kinds of war devistation. Cordial welcome from the girls in the Unit. Place of living very attractive in grounds of ruined chateau, comfortable shacks, fine living room and lots of trees around the park and flowers in profusion in all the rooms,--these gifts from the peasants and held in shell cases.

L--At present I am in the Y. near the station in Amiens waiting for connections to Grecourt. I have done the town, filled my eyes with blinding white dust that is blowing every where and am now killing time. Of course I have done the Cathedral which is the one piece of interest here. How it escaped fire I dont know because

some other parts of the city are quite demolished and they always seemed to strike for the Cathedrals first. But it stands almost intact except that the altars have been dismantled and every thing taken away that could be moved.

The town is full of Tommies almost the first I have seen in France in any numbers and I do think they have pep. Also there are loads of German prisoners working around the town. They had better work them hard for they have a load to do before they finish.

My Unit left Nantes the day I did and they will soon be home now. I sent home by one of the girls who had little herself, a box of things for the family. You will have to count them as last years Christmas and birthday presents and I hope you like them. -----

May 22nd. D--Made round of three villages with Mary for play work with the children--interesting to see their faces--they seem to express a great deal of human joy when the auto arrives--they rush out to meet us with bunches of flowers for us. Children all seem very ragged and of low mentality except in a few cases, but they have great appreciation of fun. So interesting to see what the Unit is doing; farm dept. supplying lapines et poules et coques, seeds, utensils of all kinds; store furnishing all necessary kinds of clothes; social service doing the welfare of all the towns and establishing a library. Girls great on the business and the practical end.

May 23rd. D--Spent morning helping with farm accounts and in the afternoon did two more towns with Mary. Had fine response from the children, hope to get some of the native folk dances going. Some of the Unit returned from Paris with tales that amused us all.

May 24th. D--Started in French class--covered books all morning for the new library,--afternoon went to Nesle to try to find some one who knew folk songs and dances--but no luck. Put up lunch for Sunday trip.

May 25th. Sun. D--Fine day--started four strong for St. Quintin via Esmery Hallon-Verlaine-Ham-St. Sulpice-Aubigny-Fluquieres-Etreillers-Atilly-Marteville-Vermand and side trip to Caulinco to see old chapel and tombs of a royal line---all tombs had been rifled and destroyed by Bosh but one--in the crypt all the coffins had been taken out and robbed. Small and old grave yard attached to the Chapel had graves of French and Germans in 1870-71 and the Eng. French and Germ. of this war all lying under the same stone. We talker to the Eng. Tommies in Vermand and they showed us many pictures of that country. Continued along road to Holnon Woods, famous for much fighting, full of dugouts one of which had nine bunks in it with name of men marked on each in chalk.---Climbed tree that had been used as a lookout, 57 rounds to the ladder with three platforms, must have been 70 feet high at least, had marvelous view of th country--horse shoes stuck in the tree to carry communicating wires which connected with many parts of the woods,--small tracks through the woods to carry

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ammunition--destroyed aréo-plançon ground,--found Eng. bayonet. Brove on the five miles to the trenches of the Hindenburg line to west of St. Quentin--trenches there in the side of high hill--we looked down the entrances of the dugout tunneled rooms it seemed an inconceivable distance of darkness and nud and dripping walls,--went down one about 30 steps and with use of light avoided stepping on hand grenades and could see lines of bunks along the walls and room after room connected. Saw partly unburied human skull in a shell hole. Rode on again to St. Quentin, city full of dirty rubbish and much destroyed. Went to hospital in what used to be the Hotel de Ville, an awfully dirty and depressing place---some children there who had been wounded with "obus". Started back through Savy--road had been mined and entirely destroyed for about two miles --had made temporary road with planks---some fields here absolutely churned to bits filled with holes 8 to 10 feet deep and 20 to 30 wide and so many of them that the rims touched or overlapped --the whole place riddled with trenches and barbed wire entanglements---some dugouts along the road built of solid blocks of concrete and brick with iron girders and huge and thick iron doors about 6 in. thick,---these were just small rooms and centers for many telephone connections.---fields were very little picked up. Rode on to Savy but found nothing there but the holes where the houses used to be,--nothing but a wooden sign to tell us where the town was. Same condition in Vaux, absolutely nothing there but powdered brick. Got home at 6.30^{PM} without accident--car loaded with trophies--and we were much impressed with the day's trip.

May 26th. D--Covered books for the library all the morning. Enjoyed two classes at Esmery Hallon immensely. Had interesting talk with Mrs. Ford head of the R.C. personelle in the evening--she gave us some wild tales of the actions of R.C. women.

May 27th. D--Worked on books again--Brouchy school in the afternoon. Hard for me to learn the different towns and all the children---think the work will be very difficult to swing, not used to children or the language.

May 28th. D--Religious fête day--Mary gave all the classes to me in the morning--had such a good time with the kids alone.

L--I hope you have received my letters and cable about the Smith Unit and hope you approve of the move. At present I don't know just what to say about my work here as I have spent the whole week going with Mary Stevenson around to the various villages to give the children their play hour. Most of this play ground work is going to be turned over to me as Mary is to have the library. I am decidedly stumped at the idea of conducting all my work in French which I can not understand well any way and especially when it is uttered with a childish lisp or is rattled off as most of them do it here. And I have no idea

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whether I can get any thing across to them. But here is hoping that I will learn. I feel decidedly like a fish out of water at the present writing. I was decidedly more at home in my old job.

The problem is rather hard here too because some towns have only 5 or 6 children and other towns have as many as 50. Then they are all ages from five to fifteen and according to French customs the boys and girls never play together. I am trying to make them but don't know how it will work. The French men and women in these parts never do any thing together but hard work and making love, there is no such thing as play in their ideas, that is, together. I don't think the French as a nation know any thing about sports. I can't understand why they fight so well.

The way we live here is very nice indeed. The Unit is back in the same place where it was in the beginning 1917-18 and they have two large barracks for living quarters set back in an attractive part of the park of the château. then they have another barrack up near the gate that houses the work end of the unit, the dispensary, the store, the farm and the social service office. Then there are some barns that have been repaired enough to house the cows and rabbits and they have made two fine chicken houses out of large pieces of corrugated iron left by the Bosh.

The girls sell an enormous amount of things to the peasants, who seem to have more money than they know what to do with. One of them took out a 1000 franc note the other day to pay for a few seeds, and they think nothing of paying 100 francs. for a wool mattress. The farm dept. sells every variety of small farm implement and the store sells house hold necessities, furniture, clothes etc. Then Frances Valentine is doing wonders with the farm department. Last night she and Ellen came in after a two days shopping expedition in the western part of France with the farm car just loaded solid to the top with cases of rabbits chickens hens ducks and geese. They, the animals, were the cutest sight you have ever seen when we got them all unpacked and in their new homes. I did so wish that Shirley and the boys could have seen them. Most every thing was sold out today. You should have seen the line of peasants that were waiting this morning with baskets or sacks over their arms to carry home their precious possessions.

I am sitting now on our front verandah if you can call it that, it is level with the ground and is floored with duck boards and surrounded with a railing and a seat. The trees form a sheltering circle around the barracks. In fact you hardly realize that you are in a war ridden country because so many trees are in blossom, hawthorn, horse chestnut, lilac bushes etc. although you know that every village as far as you can see and miles beyond is a mere gaping skeleton along the road, and the fields many of which are under cultivation have been pocked with shell holes and riddled with trenches and are frequently even now littered

with unexploded shells and bombs. Many of the children in these regions have been severely wounded by the explosion of these obus.

The Bosh prisoners are thick in this part of the world repairing and cleaning up the mess they have made. And they are still so full of their dirty work that they recently, near here, in filling up a trench just placed some boards across a few inches below the surface and covered it with earth leaving a dangerous emptiness below. When the French started the tractor on the field of course it broke through. Fortunately the driver was not killed, but it took a half day of work for many men to haul the tractor out. The prisoners were not punished because the French did not know just who was responsible for it. Another incident here was--the prisoners had placed a layer of unexploded shell just a few inches below the surface in a field so that when the farmer started to plow both he and his horse were blown to bits. You see the Germans are really not changed at heart at all and are still decidedly unconquered. I wish to heaven that Wilson would get a little different idea of them than he seems to have.

I certainly got an impression of what they have done on our trip Sun. that I shall never forget. The Unit let four of us go by auto to St. Quentin which was one of the strong hinges of the Hindenburg line for years. We went up across country to Vermand through country that was much fought over and shows great destruction. We took a side trip from V, to a small town charming in spite of its destruction where once was the chateau of the Dukes of Caulaincourt. Some Eng. Tommies steered us there telling us that there was a large ancestral mortuary tomb which had contained all the family for generations back but that most of the caskets had been opened and robbed by the Bosh. We found the place after much difficulty and it was just as the boys had said. (Details told in diary).

We wended our way along the Vermand St. Quentin road to the Holnon Woods that you have read of so often in the accounts of the fighting. We went quite a distance into the woods. (Details in diary).

Then we drove on to within a mile or so of St. Quentin to the Hindenburg trenches. We followed along the line of dugouts and trenches which were placed on the side of quite a rise of ground in a sort of valley that gave them protection on both sides. Some of the entrances of the dugouts were so deep that it seemed like looking down into a slanting well of almost bottomless depth. Most of the entrances had caved in so we could not go down them but we did go into some that were communicating and had electric light attachments and globes placed over the bunks and showed as much comfort as one could get in a hill of dripping mud like that. I am going to try to bring home a helmet that I picked up in one of these trenches. The ground was pocked with shell holes and badly torn up. It was intensely interesting to prow around on top of the

entrenched rise of ground and see the thick mass of the barbed wire entanglements and the interlacing trenches and deep communicating passages that went down, it seemed interminably and connected with the dugouts in the depths of the earth.

We rode into the city then and passed continually through nothing but ruins. (Diary tells of the hospital). The nurse in the hospital said that they were short of water in the town that the hospital could never get anything washed and that they were continually working under terrible difficulties. The wounded children were a sad aftermath of the war.

We started back by way of Savy and Vaux and discovered that the only road in that direction led through the worst shelled district we had seen. There was not a spot of the road for over a mile that had not been bombed, mined and so completely ruined that they could not repair it at all. They had built a temporary plank causeway over the mess of holes that was any thing but good for the machine to go over. The whole country on this side of the city was just the same. It looked more or less like the waves of the worst day of the storm coming over only there was nothing in such even line as a wave. It was just one huge pit overlapping another. I guess there won't be any top soil there for many years to come. It was right in this region that we came to some of the most interesting dugouts that we had seen. They were small only one room but the location was apparently important because so many telephone wires seemed to run into them. (Described in diary).

This letter has been continued for days so I don't know how much continuity there is in it.

Last night we went to Nesle to a French army entertainment. It had some of the same elements as the shows of our boys but much less entertaining. The French are so simple and so easily amused. It was interesting to see the audience and the type of show.

Today Decoration Day we celebrated by putting many beautiful flowers on the graves of the three American boys who were buried in this part of the country. It seemed so pathetic because they were all such young chaps about 21 and 22, two of them were with the Esquadron. In the same grave yard they have some British graves with the propellers of their machines nailed onto the head stones. It made the graves look almost as fantastic as some of the queer Indian graves in Alaska.

I must go to bed as I am a lot behind on sleep. I must admit too that I am a bit homesick for my boys and Nantes and my other work. But I suppose I will get over it when I get into the run of things here.

May 29th. D--Went with Mary to two towns in the morning and amused five boys in the afternoon for two hours not an easy job.

May 30th. D--Decoration Day --decorated cars with flags and took large baskets of flowers to graves of three Amer. boys in our villages. Had two classes in the afternoon.

May 31st. D--Spent morning looking over game material and afternoon sitting in my room waiting for German prisoner to put up a shelf--took him all day just to make the top,-- slower than molasses. Evening had fare well party for Ruo and Dot.--cute songs --much punch and many jokes--later collected on the steps of the chateau and sang all the evening---the same old peppy Smith spirit.

June 1st. Sun. D-- Worked like a trooper all day to get room in order, made curtains, fixed closet, unpacked etc. --feeling more like a human being, now that I have some place to put my clothes.

June 2nd. D-- Took over all of Marys classes --spent the morning in going to all of the near by towns on bicycle to give out copies of cantiques for a vesper service. Afternoon enjoyed the E. H. school immensely.

June 3rd. D--Hombreux and Bouverchy girls at Grecourt for sewing and games. Work at Brouchy very wearing because group not having class make so much disturbance for the class.

June. 4th. D--Offoy in the morning --boys cute with sewing,--hard to get games going because such different ages. Small class here in the afternoon--not much worth while.

June 5th. D--Not very successful morning because threatened rain and too short time to accomplish much in two places. Canizy--had fine game with the boys--children very cunning and full of life.

June 6th. D--Morning at E.H. --fine class--good response. Afternoon Sancourt and Douilly--short session at S. because of puncture en route. Getting some experience in car repairs. Very tired went to bed early.

June 7th. D--Great fun at Brouchy--school classes did well--have a good place to play. Sat in shade after class and waited long time for Fan. Afternoon had rehearsal of cantiques for the near by villages and games for the children. Evening had "crise" in the farm dept,--many crates of chickens arrived,--had to be watered, fed --we all turned in and opened crates and took care of the animals---sold animals to the peasants the same evening. I was much amused at the array of figures that I saw on the peasant women. Terribly hot.

June 8th Sun. D--Spent morning in bed writing and sewing etc. accomplished a lot. Afternoon cut out garments for my sewing classes and later had a fine swim in the Somme canal with Ellen, Ida, Frances and Dot. Terribly hot during the day but fine change at night.

L---I find it is rather harder to write here than in my old job. There are so many small things to be done at odd moments.

Mary Stevenson who had the childrens work has been turned over to the library and I am given all of her work. The first thing I did was to double up on her schedule

so that I am really busy every morning and afternoon. Also I am learning to run a Ford which will help me in my business.

You needn't feel sad that I haven't a camera. We were absolutely forbidden to bring them over but some seem to have filtered through and I have bought quite a number of pictures from the girls at the hospital and there are loads of them here. -----

Have you heard anything more about Aunt Fannies plans? Tell her that if she comes over any time before the first week in Sept. that I can meet her in Calais or Boulogne or Paris and go to Etaple where Uncle Will is buried.-----

I asked yesterday how long they would expect me to stay here and it is settled that I go back in Sept. Some time. -----

Ruo left here the other day and will be home soon. She can give you a real first hand report on my well being. -----

This week has been terribly hot. The peasants have needed rain for ages but it persists in being hot and humid. It is rather hard to give much in the way of games to the children this weather. I hope to heaven that it does not stay hot this way all summer.

I have some darling children and they do love to play even though the French are so darned individualistic that it is almost impossible for them to do anything under organization. One small child reminds me so much of Shirley in her quaint ways and independent spirit.

Frances Valentine is a wonder in the work she is doing. She seems to know the question of farming well and she certainly knows how to manage the peasants. Last night they had a late shipment of 300 chickens. So the whole bunch of us pitched in, opened crates fed and watered the beasts and sold them to the peasants who came over after supper in perfect drove to get the beasts. If you ever want to see a choice collection of beautiful specimens of the human form you should see our peasants. I have never seen anything to beat them.

Unfortunately my French is not adequate to understand the Picardy dialect when it is uttered by a toothless old hag who in her best of days must have mumbled her words.

The fields and road side now are beautiful with flowers. The poppies of the brightest red grow in profusion everywhere and the daisies and butter cups and the large bachelor buttons make a handsome combination in the green fields. I wish I could have been near enough to Uncle Wills grave to decorate it with these flowers on the 30th. of May.

June 9th. D-- Had fine class at Douilly but too late for Sancourt again---sat in the broiling sun for an hour and waited for the car. It is Whitsuntide so holiday in the schools. Spent evening talking to Dr. Gove about my orthopedic work.

June 10th. D--Weather so hot that it is rather diffic-

ult to carry my kind of work--hope to heaven it cools--had good games with girls and a fine class at Brouchy. Enjoy school work but realize that teaching children not suited to my temperament.

June 11th. D--Offoy class went better more pep--one very difficult child. Getting a little practice in running a car--great sport. Wrote to Mme. Eicou.

June 12 th. D--Hard but profitable day because children had good time--hot but games went splendidly--children full of giggles and pep. Am getting so that I can understand them better.

June 13th. D--Very hard day four classes in different villages. Childrens Fete continually on my mind. Had fortune told with cards--should come true on the 13th. Fri.

June 14th. D--Work quite discouraging because such mixed ages--awfully hard to have them all in the same games. Sewing class large in anticipation of the Fete Sun. Children have lovely time correcting my French. Took my classes out in the fields to gather flowers for the church decorations--sun and shadows sweet in the daisy fields.

June 15th. D--Sunday Childrens Fete--Spent the morning getting sewing ready for the week. Afternoon the much anticipated fête--had every thing ready ahead of time--children arrived at 2P.M. for a 3.30 party--there were mobs of them dressed in Sunday best--girls were so toggged up that they could not play--children from many towns not ours and not invited, very difficult to manange in the games.

Had two large circles of girls and two of boys going at the same time,--tried relay races but no luck because one howling mob that would not stay put. Awful job feeding and dealing out presents. All marched to church singing cantiques. Service rather impressive in little shot to pieces church--singing fine--Children all happy I guess. About 140 children and mobs offgrown ups there. Went to bed early decidedly tired---am some what depressed these days,--still wondering if I have made a mistake in leaving other work.

June 16th. D--Very very hot --four classes and hard trip--not very satisfactory in the morning. Two French detectives arrived late P.M. to find out who had been stealing the Unit things. Some one took my leather coat --damn it all.

L--I really feel a bit like a human being tonight due to a good rest and a bath and a general clean up after work today. We have had some terribly hot days lately and I must admit that I find it rather hard both for myself and the children, and I don't know how much I will be able to do with them along educational lines.

I have such funny times in my classes. In some there seem to be all ages from the mothers to the newest babies, and knowing that they can not all get all of the games that I would like to give them and think that the different ages need I have to strike a balance. It means that I run sewing, the victrola, picture books for the smallest and games for the boys all at the same instant. I have really have no

idea whether I can accomplish any thing worth while or not. However I will try until Sept. My school classes go very well but they are going to close the end of July.

Yesterday was rather a grand event here,, the Unit gave a Fête des Enfants followed by a Vepre in our small and partly destroyed church in Greccourt. I planned a very simple program of games and we had small prizes and refreshments for each of the kids.

The surprise element was on us because the children began to collect two hours ahead of time and came from all villages that had not been invited at all and were not expected or wanted. It was hard to recognize some of our own children they were so dressed up and looked so stiff in their Sunday clothes. Many of the girls were dressed all in black with heavy black crêpe veils, hats set most uncomfortably on their heads and large pocket books clutched in their hands. The boys played the games well but the girls were so hampered by their "style" that it was a bit difficult. I tried at the end to run off a relay race with the girls and my! it was funny. All of our girls knew how to run a relay but the uninvited ones didn't. We got them lined up and counted over and over again but they never would stay put for the signal to race. I don't know what some of them thought was going to happen but when I gave the signal to start and the first had started to run I looked around and discovered that each line had partly vanished so that the race was entirely spoiled. However no one felt badly about it because there was a violent rush for refreshments at that moment.

Then we lined them up in twos and marched them with the priest in the lead to the small church all singing lustily as they went. They certainly know their Catholic service well and I think both old and young enjoyed participating in it. Church events seem to be the only red letter days the people have in their lives.

The Unit is adding a few new members to it's number. we have now a very attractive Eng. nurse with us who is helping Fan Clement organize health clubs. She has been in France since before the war and for the last two years has been nursing for the Belgians. She has some fascinating tales to tell and yet they are so heart rending. We Amer. certainly got the barest touch of the war in comparison to what the others have been through.

Letters are getting very hard to write because every day is so exactly like the day before and we have absolutely no diversions in the evening. Frances with the farm dept. is still a wonder and I hope for her sake and the sake of the rest that are working with her, that they will get the peasants supplied soon for they are about at the end of their rope. It is a continual fight to keep the distribution of animals and not have one peasant get more than his share. We have lovely sun sets and cool nights but oh! such hot d days.

June 17th. D--Hotter than ever but thank heaven for the cool nights. Morning without pep but good classes at Brouchy. Evening Ellen and Frances came in with another truck load of animals from Gournay--spent entire evening unloading and feeding the beasts.--Sadie and Dot who made the trip with them had not come in by ten o'clock so Frances and Ellen went out to look for them--all returned at 10 P.M. absolutely all in.--strenuous life for some of the Unit. Detectives still at work on stealing problem.

June 18th. D--Found much excitement when I came in at noon--all of our servants were being arraigned. Mme Nogent confessed to having connived with Henry La Prue, our French soldier lent us by the gov't, and Celine and Bert the kitchen staff in robbing the Unit stores. Ellen told us the whole story at dinner in her inimitable way. De Maison and all of Hombieux knew that goods stolen from us were being sold there in H. They put on a guard Sat. night to try to find the culprits--Ellen stayed in the tent--Eddie in the basement of the chateau etc.--girls watched all night. At 2 A.M. Eddie heard some one enter the basement where she was and remove a box of soap but she could not make out who it was. Detectives got confessions from all but Bert and they found great stores of stuff at the houses of Mme. Nogent and Celine. They knew Bert was implicated but could not get any thing on her. Girls inclined to be rather sympathetic with Bert and she, very tragic and melodramatic. Rather a blow to think that the French would connive with the German prisoner to do us Americans. All of us more disturbed about it than we will confess.

June 19th. D--More investigations about stealing--Bert still retained but the others discharged. Day rather good as far as my work went--took walk in the evening with Miss Griffin to look up Eng. graves in that vicinity.--enjoyed the lovely evening scenes.

June 20th. D--Children very responsive and lots of fun today--had to wait for ages for Ida and the car and then had another puncture.--and later got stalled by the road side. Very tired and not in happy state of mind. Rather concerned as to the Peace Treaty--will the Germans sign or no?--will we have war again and if so what will be my part again.

June 21st. D--Cooler--good fun at Brouchy and in the afternoon with my girls. Quite tired at the end of the week.

June 22nd. D--Sun. Expected to go on long drive to Soisson but so many hints from Mary that I had been there and others had not that I stayed home. Still very lonesome for my old work and my boys--can not seem to feel very happy here. Wrote letters most of day and started to read "Civilization" by Denis Thevenin--a wonderfully written book on the war.

(Wrote a long letter on this date which seems to be lost).

June 23rd. D--All the cars needed for hauling pigs from Nesles so we had a wild scramble to do a thousand and

(100)

one errands in our car in addition to my regular run,--had to give up class at Sancourt---and then the pigs never arrived. Stormy day but had classes just the same,--a bit bored with the evenings rien a faire.

June. 24th. D--Good morning with sewing class--nothing different.

June 25th. D--Rain and colder weather--stayed home and cut aprons and chimeses for sewing classes all day long--seemed rather good to be out of my routine for one day.

June 26th. D--Cold and rain again but had classes just the same. Not at all satisfied with what I am able to do with the children in Verlaine--difficult difference in ages and quite a number of them not normal mentally.

June 27th. D--Hard day but very successful--Marie went to E.H. to see my classes and she thought they were wonderful especially taking into consideration that those children had been the hardest problem of any of the villages--made me a bit encouraged.

June 28th. D--Good results in the morning school class but so weary and lazy in the afternoon could do nothing with the class. Four R.C. guests for dinner. Biddle came back from Paris with tales of the signing of the Peace,--Paris phlegmatic about it--no confidence that the Germans will live up to the terms--much depression every where. In the evening we heard the distant guns announcing peace. It seems like a sad and dark future for France.

(Many blank pages in the diary from now on because my work so unvaried, and many of my letters seem gone).

Note 7

July 4th. D--French schools given a holiday to celebrate our Fourth of July.--but I held as many of the classes as I could. We were all too tired to get up any celebration.

July 5th. Marie and Frances started off in the farm car for Belgium--Liege etc. Marie wished to visit her Aunts there and the counsel in Paris would not give her a pas-port. She went any way.

July 11th. D--Marie expected home from Belgium and every one anticipating fare well dinner from her--hope to heaven that she blows in in time after all our elaborate preparations. She did arrive at 7.30 P.M. and we had a delicious dinner and many good songs and cute play written by Mary. Marie sailing for U.S.A. in two days.

Trip to Paris for the Peace Parade.

July 12th. D--Started bag and baggage for Paris via Soisson Reims Chateau Thierry--early start. Fine day and no trouble in either car in spite of the load of ten girls and baggage. Went through Noyon-Blérancourt to Coucy-le-Chateau--this place surprisingly interesting--very imposing feudal castle and town on top of high hill--it was captured by the Germans and dynamited into ruins just out of spite. Went on to Soissons which is remarkably built up since my visit in Feb.--place busy, many stores open,--saw cathedral which was terribly smashed.

Went on over the famous Soisson Reims Road--all destroyed--

towns blown up--trench lines--dump heaps etc. all possible war mess. Rhimes also wonderfully built up and buisy. Sexton showed us around the Cathedral on the inside--he an interesting character, stayed in the Cathedral during the entire war--told us story of the continual bombarding, of the great fire etc.--In spite of fact that it was used as a hospital for German wounded the Bosh shelled it without ceasing from three directions at once---there is small hole in roof near the entrance and great deal of destruction in nave,--all the windows are smashed except the Rose Window which they removed and saved. Shelling so intense that they could not dismantle the inside except in bad weather when it was impossible for the Bosh to shoot, so it took 18 months to remove the Rose Window and two men were killed in the process. Sexton told us that the reason there is so much of inside undestroyed was because the two roofs were so remarkably built that the shells could not penetrate. All the top roof was destroyed and they found, on the inner roof 218 shells of huge caliber and thousands of smaller caliber that had hit but failed to explode and out of the whole huge number that must have exploded on this inner roof only two penetrated. The inside is to be repaired and used and the outside is to be kept as it is. Of the 22 famous bells in the tower only two remain, one of which is the famous Charlotte which the sexton rang at the Armistice at Easter time and when the Bishop returned to the town. He refused to ring it at the time of the signing of the Peace because the French were so dissatisfied in the peace terms. Cathedral pillars magnificent with beautiful carved capitals. Fire burned out magnificent old wood carvings and some of the tapestries. Loved the feeling of beauty and peace inside and the Cathedral-beautiful beyond words in the fading evening light. Spent night at the Hotel Savoy.

July 13th. D-- Got up de bonne heure and started for Chateau-Thierry--it was a glorious ride down the valley of the Marne and fine weather. Visited all the places in C.-T. where the Unit had lived in the summer of 1918. Town quite attractive with large Chateau etc. Drove out to Belleau Woods--most impressive thing there is the grave yard for over 3000 American dead. Woods are much destroyed--saw vestage of the German occupation --saw some old Ger. graves with parts of the uniforms and the bones still in them. Had lunch on an attractive ridge overlooking the Valley and then drove on into Paris. Arrived at 5 P.M. Lucky to find rooms at the Petrograd. Dr Gove, Alice Ober, and I walked over to the Place-de-la-Concorde and then took the Metro to the Etoile to see the decorations,---got caught in a frightful crowd around the Arch de Triomphe--thousands and thousands of people there to see the Cenotaph which was not very visible over the crowd for such shorties as we. Decorations were thick down the Champs Elysee--nothing very impressive except the two piles of heaped up German cannon strung with the gold laurel and mounted by the eagle of victory,--Place de la Concorde more patchy and gaudy than beautiful. Saw the guard for the Cenotaph march up the C.E.

in a hollow square bearing torches and the huge floral offering of the City of Paris to the Dead soldiers--view later at a distance of the circle of lights around the base of the Cenotaph and the evening clouds and sky in the background was the loveliest thing of all. We got caught in ~~in~~ a terrible tide of people in the P.de la C. and had real trouble getting home. There was no sleep that night in Paris as the streets were one seething mob of noisy people and autos the entire night.

The Peace Parade. Paris July 14th. 1919.

D--Got up at 5 A.M. after a sleepless night, dressed ate a cold sandwich and dashed off to R.C.H.Q. per order only to be told when we got there that there were no reserved places and to go back to the P.de la C. and take our chances with the rest on the curb. Crowds were thick--the French had been there all the night. We stood in a jam while the sun rose over the horizon and the cool breezes played over our heads--thank heavens for that cool air---after three hours of this the parade began to arrive. A good natured French soldier gave me a place in front of him and then he held me up ^{on his} by the elbows ^{while} for the entire parade passed, two and a half hours.

Every minute was thrilling--three French Poilus led the whole, then the Guard de Paris in it's marvelous costume of Napoleons time, then Foch and Joffre all alone--my how the crowd cheered, then a small section of French and then Pershing sitting his horse as straight as a rod and our fine tall boys very military--eyes to the front and marching in marvelous rhythm and ease,, then Belgian English&Scotch with Sir Douglas Haig in lead, the navy, and representatives of all the colonies, then the Italians and colonies etc., then representatives of all the army corps of the French and all their colonies followed by artillery and small tanks. Flags of every regiment that fought in the war were carrier massed in companies and stunning as they swept along,--some were tattered to pieces and black with use and many were decorated --some of them brought tears to your eyes at the thought of what they meant. The American flags looked almost out of place they were so new and so clean.

The crowd was more or less entertaining but oh how hard it was to make my knees and hips work after five hours of standing in one spot.

Started for Greecourt right after lunch and had a splendid trip home--country beautiful. Went through Senlis and charming old city of Compiègne--hope to go there again. Such a three days.

July 16th. L--I feel quite rich in letters since I have had one from you and Edith and Ruth. It pays to send them presents once in a while.-----.

We have just come back from the most wonderful three days trip. The whole unit with the exception of four went to Paris for the July 14th. celebration. We went by auto and took in many of the famous battle fronts along the way.

You would perhaps enjoy following it on the map. (Given in D-) Coucy le Chateau which is a marvelous old ruin of a feudal castle is situated with its village on top of a high hill that dominates the whole country side and so of course was used by the Germans. They say it was a fairly whole ruin before now but the Germans mined the whole place before they left it. I think there has been some long article on it in one of the New York papers. It was a perfectly fascinating place.

From there we went to Soisson which is like a dead city come to life again since I saw it in Feb. It was swarming with people many stores were doing business and many places seemed enough reconstructed to house the inhabitants. It was amazing the amount of work they had accomplished in the short time.

Then we swung on over the Reims Soisson Road to Reims which we also found a very busy place. We spent the night there in a small hotel that had been entirely repaired except for the electric lights. I loved the Cathedral even more than the first time I saw it especially as we found the concierge who took us inside and told us a great deal about about it's treatment during the war. (Details given in diary). It was empty of course but the bare walls and pillars were wonderfully inspiring.----- We asked him why the building was not more destroyed and he said that it was because the stone ceiling was too strong to be penetrated.----- He described to us the love the people had for the sound of their favorite bell Charlotte, and it was really a poem the way he expressed it. It was a wonderful thing to see that beautiful piece of fairy like architecture fade into the evening darkness.

We rose early the next morning and started for Chateau-Thierry. I could not take my eyes off of the Cathedral as we swung away from the city. It seemed almost mysterious the way the Cathedral seemed to rise higher and higher as we got further away and as the city grew less distinct and smaller it seemed to be crouching at the feet of it's beloved treasure which towered majestically above.----- (The rest of trip to Paris about the same as diary.)

Paris was as you know from the papers a wonderful sight, which I will not try to describe. It was beautiful, crowded to the limit absolutely, but every one quiet and orderly rather than gay. I could not seem to feel any rejoicing over victory except occasionally in a quiet way.

----- (See Diary).

We expected to have reserved places with the R.C. but due to fear of demonstration against us we and all other groups who had places reserved in the P. de la C, were required to give them up. We, with Wilson, are anything but popular now in France and especially in Paris.

We stood in the jam from six to nine before the parade arrived. We were so far back that we could just see the heads of the poilus by standing on tip toe. Fortunately I made friends with a good natured F. soldier who gave me the place in front of him and insisted on holding me up by both

elbows during the entire parade. how he stood it or saw any thing I don't know. I rewarded him with some chocolate that had entirely melted in my pocket but it was the best I had.

I can't tell you my thrills galore at seeing Joffre and Foch, Haig, Pershing etc. And then the flags that had been through the war, all dirty and some of them in ribbons and many of them decorated with the highest honors that France can give. And the boys! we yelled our heads off when our boys went by they were so big and fine looking and marched with such grace and rhythm and power. They were the best of all in their marching and the Eng. next but none of the rest could compare. My I was proud of them.

Wasn't I lucky to see the greatest parade that has ever been staged and to see it in a city like Paris. I would not have missed it for anything on earth.

We left Paris right after dinner and had a fine ride out here even if it did pour part of the time. We went through Senlis which was Haig's H.Q., and then through Compiègne which was a charming surprise to me. This was the seat of center of the military activity under Joan d' Arc. Please collect a copy of Mark Twains History of Jeanne d' Arc because I must read it this fall, when I am taking that promised rest. It makes me laugh to think of taking a rest because I am getting as fat as a pig right now.

I guess that you are with Marion now. -----.
I think you need not write me after the middle of Aug. as I expect to leave some time in Sept. My but I am looking forward to coming home now.

Marie Wolfs our Director has just gone home and we had a fine dinner and stunt party for her before we went on this trip. She and Frances drove into Belgium to Liege to take Marie to see her relatives. It was a wonderful trip for them. They said that Belgium was so different from France because there was no destruction of the cities or buildings there at all, only of the machinery and implements of economic necessity. Frances seemed impressed with the quantity of cattle and live stock that were there. She could not make out whether they had been left by the Germans or resupplied by the English. Any way it seemed very prosperous except for the lack of manufacturies. They both found food of every variety, very plentiful and less than half the cost of food in France. This is probably due to the open policy toward trade that Belgium has maintained since the Armistice. They have a wonderful King and a wise government. Here in France the gov't seems absolutely in cahoots with the closed corporations and the owners, and profiteers. The prices of things here is really ghastly.

It is long since time for bed but I seem to be wound up and find it good to get it out of my system.---I-----.
I bought among other things two small one pound anti-aircraft shell cases for Ruth that she can use for little vases.

July 20th. D--Had a talk with Ellen about my work--cut material for sewing classes,--went to a party at Lemairs for Gissells first communion, and had to drink coffee and wine to be polite.

July 22nd. D--Mme. Dryfus Barney, friend of Eddies visited the Unit--she has done a big piece of work in organizing work for and taking care of the French refugees and the repatriated--has done it for five years---had a very interesting conversation with her about children's work.

July 25th..D--Dr. Rosalie Slaughter Morton, friend of our Dr. Gove, visited us---has been in Serbia and is now taking a 500 bed hospital to Serbia as a gift. She gave a very unfavorable impression at first, large woman and covered with medals across her front but she gave us a wonderful talk on Serbia and got us interested in educating some Serbian girls at Smith. She asked me to chaperone a group of Serbian girls to the U.S.A. in Sept.--hope that it will be interesting if anything comes of it.

July 27th. D-- Had fare well dinner for Dr. Gove, Mary and Alice Ober--lots of fun--place cards of cutouts and much lively conversation about the A.O.H. and Orangemen,--cute grinds. Knitted and wrote letters later.

L---You are probably at the sea shore with Ruth enjoying the sunshine and relaxation. That is I hope that you are having sunshine. We had such hot weather in June but for the last month it has rained most of the time. I am wearing my heavy jersey dress and a sweater now and am just comfortable. It is much better than the hot weather for my work though so I won't complain a bit.

Today we had a farewell dinner for three of the Unit that are leaving soon. A fare well dinner here usually means rhymes stunts songs and lots of fun in the table talk. It makes me home sick to see the people actually going. I don't know what sailing date I will get but I will let you know as soon as I do. No more cabling as I think it is a needless expense.

I hope the money that you are going to send me for those purchases will be in American money. The rate of exchange is frightfully high now so I am going to spend some of what I have in francs of my own and use yours for traveling. Most of mine I got when money was down around 5.45 and now it is up to 7 fcs to the dollar and going higher. That means that my 1800 fcs. that used to be worth \$300 when I put it aside is now so decreased in value that it takes 2100 to make the \$300. I am losing about 300 fcs if I put it into Amer. money now, isn't that rotten. (In Jan. 1920 francs went over 15 to the dollar.) So I am going to get a hat and coat and waist or so rather than wait until I arrive in the U.S.A.

The Unit has had some interesting guests this week. One was Mme. Dryfus Barney an American woman who has done a huge piece of work in France for the refugees and repatriated.

She was certainly interesting. Then a Dr. Rosalie Slaughter Morton who is in charge of establishing the American Woman's Hospitals in various parts of Europe came and gave us a very interesting talk on Serbia and conditions there. She is wildly enthusiastic over the heroism and fine personality of the Serbian race and is trying among other things to get places in our colleges and universities to educate Serbian young men and women. She already has promises of places for a number this fall and she asked me when she knew that I was going home about the first of Sept. if I would take charge of a group of them for the trip over. Of course I offered and I may have an interesting time of it. She said that all of Serbia was as devastated as to land and buildings and machinery as this part of France. The one thing she emphasized was the extreme modesty of the Serbs in asking or accepting help and that was why so little has been heard about their real condition. The R.C. had planned all sorts of relief work there but suddenly called it all off. So there is now very little being done for them. I hope Smith College will be willing to take two Serbian girls this coming year. Mary Stevenson is going to stir up the question as soon as she gets home. She is sailing Aug. 2nd.

I am liking my work a bit better now as the children are more used to me and my ways and respond more quickly to what I want. I think I have had really good results in the public school work. But unfortunately although some of the schools have only been open a few weeks they close Aug. 2nd. for two months vacation. Doesn't that seem terrible when the children have had so little schooling the last five years. But that is Frances way of doing things.

I seem to have a good deal of extra time here even though my schedule is as full as it can be. So I am knitting a purple sweater. It fits me like paper on the wall but here is hoping that it will stretch.

Aug. 3rd. Sun. D--Such a heavenly day--got all my cutting out done early in the day --washed my hair --read--wrote letters and relaxed most of the day--time is beginning for the first time to pass quickly. Finished my school work worse luck, will not enjoy the informal and indefinite work as much.

L---This has been one of the most peaceful and quiet and restful days that I have known in a long time. Some of the girls are away as usual on Sunday and those who are here have had the same idea of getting a hair wash and dry in our rain water and wonderful sun. I wish that we could have days like this more often only it is rather hard on the system to start relaxing. I hope that my last three Sun. here are as comfortable. I don't know what boat I am sailing on but Sadie Hackett and I have a written statement from the Amer. Express Co. of a promised sailing on Sept. 6 th. from Havre. We expect to go by a French line. That means that I will get home about the 15 th of Sept., that is if

the strike troubles are cleared up enough. Some of the girls who were going on Aug. 2nd. have to wait until SAug. 9th. because of these strikes. Things here are in a bad way as every one anticipated after the war. Heaven knows where the money is going to. It was up to 7.80 last report and is going higher.

Nothing has happened this week of enough interest to recount. The schools have closed now for two months vacation which the children don't want and certainly should not have as they have already had too much. This means some change in my program but about the same amount of work. I am feeling more encouraged as time goes on about what the children are getting from the work. But I can not say teaching children is either my fort or my pleasure even though I am exceedingly fond of them.

I am expecting to go to Paris some day this week or next to get my pass-port fixed and will certainly welcome the change. There is very little chance of change here for some of us and others have nothing but trotting and driving to do all of the time so that they envy us who stay at home. So it goes. Will let you know the name of the boat as soon as I can.

Aug. 4th. D--Just one year ago today I took my bath of office for war work. It has been one of the most wonderful years of my life but I always enjoyed my orthopedic work more than my work in the Somme with the children. Am burningly anxious to get home.

Aug. 8th. D--Started early in the morning in the farm buss with Dot for Paris--wonderful clear cold morning--wore our heaviest coats--but it got hotter in the morning. Had one puncture and barely made the hills with the crippled old buss. Had late but good dinner in Senlis and reached the garrage in Paris 3.30 P.M.--dashed to the Pet. changed clothes and then tore to the embassy. Had no trouble in getting temporary transport. Bought coat for winter at Burberrys--wonderful cloth--bought two lace waists at the Pet. Went to movies with Dr. Gove, Sarah, Dot and Fan.--poor show but fun.

Aug. 9th. D-- Did errands all the morning--gloves at Bon Marche-- sewing things for classes etc. Spent afternoon with Dot Ainsworth riding around Bois de Boulogne in taxi.-- Had a real human being for a driver who showed us all the sights--Chateau, Longchamps Race course etc. We sat on the bank of the big lake in the Bois for a long time and watched the French people enjoy life-- finally decided to have dinner in a small simple looking challet on the Island--the place looked "of the people" and about our price---the dinner was the most expensive one that I have had in France and very little to eat--5 frcs for one partly rotten peach etc. --good joke on us.

Aug 10th. D--Rode down from Paris in repaired farm buss with Fan.--had continual car troubles--broiling hot day--terrible dust,----went through Chantilly with it's interesting

chateau and government buildings--stopped just before Noyon and went through shot up section of the woods there--they were one solid mass of ~~shell~~ holes trenches and dugouts--went through underground cement rooms with two long and separate entrances with cemented walls--it's walls were 5 to 6 feet thick of solid cement and iron frame work. That part of the country very much shot to pieces. Found old French cemetery used to bury the Germans--old French tomb stones had inscriptions cut away and new ones added for the German dead. Terribly tired when we got home --~~from~~ ^{from} the heat and tire trouble.

Aug. 11th. D--Back at work --same old work but new spirit due to vacation and trip.

Aug. 13th. D--Broiling hot day --went swimming in the Somme at end of days work.

L---I am afraid that I am neglecting you in the letter writing end of things when I go on trips on Sundays because Sun. seems to be the only day I get around to letters.

My things are going about the same here except that I am doing a bit more with the sewing now because we are having very hot weather again.

In spite of my efforts in May to get my pass-port I could not get it entirely finished and so had to go back to Paris again last week end. I drove in with one of the girls in a car that had to be taken in for repairs and came back Sun. in the same car.

Paris was very hot but an adorable place as usual. Spent most of my time shopping for my classes and myself. Ordered a beautiful dark green Burberry coat for myself, very plain lines and comfortable and then I had luck to find a woman who makes beautiful waists. I fell so much in love with a net and fillet one that she had that I ordered one for myself and one for Ruth thinking that you would like to give it to her for Christmas. It is 65 francs, which you see at the present exchange is less than \$10. I also got some gloves that you asked for but I do not think they are very satisfactory because the good ones are about as expensive as at home and the inexpensive ones are of terrible leather.

Dot Ainsworth was bitten by a mad dog the other day and she has to stay in Paris 21 days for the Pasteur treatment. I had a fine bat with her Sat. afternoon. We were both crazy to do the Bois de Boulogne so we got a nice easy going taxi driver and ambled around the park, through the Chateau grounds around the Longchamp Race Course etc. for about two hours. We decided to have an inexpensive dinner in the chalet on the Island. (Details in diary.) But we enjoyed the afternoon immensely and had a wonderful talk about every thing here.

I don't know why Marion thinks I can get money for traveling from Ellen. I wouldn't ask it for the world.

We are having a regular pest of mosquitoes here now they are so thick in the evenings that we can not read or sew or write letters and they bother us terribly at night

which of course is not conducive to our peace or happiness. Even Fan Clement who spurns the habit of cigaret smoking has taken it up in self defense. It is our only means of escape.

I tried to find out what boat our sailing will be on but the Sept. sailings are not out yet but they assure us that it will be the 6 th. I have so much stuff to bring in that I fear you will have to pay duty on what I am bringing for you. My coat alone will take most of my \$100.

Aug. 19th. D--In the afternoon had an interesting trip to Etrécourt, north of Peronne--country around there more desolate and god forsaken than ours, practically none under cultivation. Ouvre Anglaise quite a good sized plant with many departments --talked with Miss. Thompson the Childrens worker and had the most inspiring talk with Mme. Raoul-Duval the French head of the Unit on the subject of starting the organization of the Boy Scouts for the Region Libere.-- Think that something may come of it--will do all I can to help boost it along

Aug. 23rd. D--Sat. very unexpectedly I turned over all my classes to Rosy for the day and went to Beauvais in the farm car with Frances and Ruth Gaines. It was a put up game on the part of the whole Unit to insist that I take the trip because they all wanted me to see it before I went home. We had a wonderful trip and I enjoyed especially hearing Franceses account of the retreat last year. Went through Nesle-Roys-Mondidier-St. Juste to Beauvais. Montdidier smashed to bits most of it done by the Amer. shell to dislodge th Germans. Fighting area dropped off very abruptly just outside of M.--enormous amount of barracks being built--looked like our suburbs.

Market day in Beauvais--city crowded with people--square full of booths for selling every conceivable thing--saw peasant wedding procession--the whole setting and activity just like grand opera. Visited cathedral of course--this quite impressive but a strange building because only one end of it was ever finished--had beautiful tapestries plus a collection that had been saved from the Reims Cathedral. Frances drove us out to the Forest of Beauvais for lunch--it was wonderful with it's peaceful gentle and yet majestic woods with no under brush but carpeted completely with ivy and brown leaves and all so magnificently taken care of--I loved it beyond words and wanted to stay for hours but no such luck, we had to get the farm animals home.. We did some more shopping and sight seeing while Frances tended to the load--met her later with pigs and birds and a baby goat that had no place behind so I held it, all the way back, in my lap. Goat so tame when we arrived home that she cried like a baby when we left her for a moment and she did not seem to know how to feed herself--so we did it with a nursing bottle--every body adored the goat (later it became the pet of the Unit). Such a relief to get away for the day.

Note 4

Aug. 24th. D--Sun. Had heck of a day getting things straightened out for packing and getting things cut for the week's classes.--anything but a peaceful day. The whole Unit has adopted the goat and made a real pet of it.--never saw anything so cute as that goat when it jumps.

Aug. 25th. D-- Wonderful clear weather crisp like fall. Had a fine time with my classes in Sancourt and Douilly--nearly went crazy with the E.H. classes of the boys and girls together terrible problem. Thais, the goat, too cute for words, follows me and comes to my whistle like a dog.

Aug. 26th. D--Had terribly hard day and surprised the Unit by going to bed before supper because so tired--so tired that I could not help crying. Had visits from the whole Unit in the evening. Biddle came back from Paris with the statement that the American Express had no passage for us although we had their written promise--names put in the R.C.

Aug. 27th. D--Last class at Offoy--took victrola and gave them all a ride in the auto--children so happy. Began to feel sad at leaving them. Had conference in the afternoon with Mme. Raoul- Duval of Etricourt on organizing the Boy Scouts--she is a charmer and a woman with wonderful vision. We hope to put through some sort of an organization for these boys in the devastated region.

Aug. 28th. D--Ellen came back from Paris with the word that Sadie and I had passage to sail on Sept. 4 th. and must leave for Paris Monday--to get papers straightened out in time for sailing.--spent evening packing--some job for the final trip.

Aug. 29th. D--In the middle of the morning had word that we must report in Paris tomorrow morning Sat. because Mon. was Labor Day and all the Amer. offices would be closed. Was decidedly excited. Had to wind up all my work in a hurry. Started right after lunch for Brouchy Sancourt and Douilly to take the unfinished sewing and give all the kids a ride for the last class. Had a terrible rush to finish packing and get off at 6 P.M. in the White truck with Sadie, Katie and Eddie for Paris. Terrible cloud burst before we left and marvelous sunset and cloud effects on the trip. Reached Senlis in good time--had good dinner and spent the night in Hotel de Grand Cerf,--had fine bed and good room except for the windows that persisted in banging all night,--got up six times to fix them during the night. All of our mussettsbags soaked with the precious wine that busted from cases that Eddie was taking to Paris--soaked all of our night clothes and every thing we had. Said wine was very old 148 bottles of it was buried during the war and dug up safely after the Armistice and delivered to the owner in Paris by us--dont know how much we spilled but it smelled as though the whole thing must be on our clothes.

Aug. 30th. D--Woke up early and was charmed with the sight of the Cathedral spire near by against the morning sky with flocks and flocks of birds circling around it. Made early run to Paris--had only one puncture. Went immediately to the councils for my pass- port,--had to wait there ages

and finally had to take it to the Embassy my self because it had not been touched. Got to the R.C. just in time to finish my business before closing time 1 P.M. Spent afternoon shopping and had dinner with Dot and a friend at a small Italian restaurant, wonderful cheese omelette--also interesting conversation with friend who had been doing woman police work.

Aug. 31st. Sun. D--Made trip to Uncle Wills grave--took early train to Etaples--long but interesting journey, partly due perhaps to a conversation with an Irishman in Scotch uniform who spoke such a violent brogue that I only got about a tenth of it. Had dinner at Inn and walked through town toward Eng. grave yard. River there very wide and filled with fishing fleet--beach crowded with fisher folk--shore line and Paris Plage across the river beautiful. Walked on long way through group of hospital bases--must have been 150 wards at least--prison camp etc. Passed many Eng. officers and men and W.A.A.C.s--walked along sand dunes to cemetery--this beautifully located in hollow between pine covered sand dunes with harbor and fishing boats in the distance. Found Uncle Wills grave and took many pictures. Walked back and took the car to Paris Plage one of the stylish resorts of France,--had no time there. Trip home very annoying because in the same compartment with two French officers and two awful French soubrettes--I nearly died of sleepiness and the sitting in a bolt upright position. Arrived in Paris at midnight.

Sept. 1st. D--Went to Burbury's for coat fitting--bought hat, some lace etc. some Quimper china near Notre Dame. Had lunch with two women, friends of Dr. Mortons to talk over the possibilities of chaperoning the Serbian girls to the U.S. Plan impossible to carry out because they can not get passage on same boat with us. Went to the R.C. in the afternoon--had hair wash--gosh how tired one gets just shopping and trotting around.

Sept. 2nd. D--Spent whole morning and part of the after. interviewing man after man about the Boy Scouts---did more shopping--went to the R.C. again but still no tickets. Took to bed as soon as finished packing.

Sept. 3rd. D--Finished all arrangements at the R.C. for tickets--got trunks to station in a hack and then took Sadie on a sight seeing tour, Napoleon's tomb, St. Chapelle, Louvre and Notre Dame--got concierge to take us up into the organ loft in N.D. and along side balconys out onto the roof under the flying buttresses. Thrilling to stand there in that old historic spot overlooking the city. Workmen are beginning to replace the Rose Windows in both N.D. and St. Chapelle.

Sept. 4th. D-- Took early train for Havre but heard rumor that boat would not sail until Sat. Had fine trip with Lucy Mather and Sadie. Arrived at La Havre in the early afternoon did all the business of the shipboard and then went out to see Ethel Slack Mathews. She was not home but came to the boat in the evening and took me home with her. We went to bridge party at Eng. friends--every one played for money. All the family spent the night at house of a

friend who was afraid to stay alone because of a burglar scare--we gossiped until 4 A.M. Billy E's husband spent the whole evening teasing.

Sept. 5th. D--Slept late, very dopy --went down to the boat to get the girls but no one there. We took beautiful ride in the afternoon to Etritat--passed through small and historic town and stopped at quaint old Inn where many famous artists have lived and painted the wooden pannels in the rooms--filled with collection of all sorts of things like a museum --slows of old china and copper things. It is one of the three Inns in the story "Three Normandy Inns". Etritat is combination of simple fishing village and stylish resort with big gambling casino etc.--Used as hospital and orphans home during the war. Continued ride through beautiful small villages --fascinated by farm houses surrounded by double rows of tall trees on high embankment of earth--loved the thatched roofs and stucco and beamed farm huts --quite the most attractive villages we have seen, these typical Normandy farms. Moon light gorgeous going home --had fine talk with Ethel who seems just the same,--like old times.

Sept. 6th. D--Late breakfast and went to boat for Miss Mather and Sadie--took them for ride out in the country--all had lunch at Ethel's and then to the boat. Spent the afternoon getting deck chair, place at table etc. Sailed right after dinner--docks thronged with people--passengers threw coins as we passed through the locks and the boys in the docks fought for them. Ethel signaled with lights from her house on the bluffs--beautiful sunset and moon rise as our last view of dear France. Ship La France superb in size and equipment--this her first trip since before the war.

Sept. 7th. D--Sun. Bum sleep in our state room because little air--fun to see the crowd--lots of dressy people, one awful looking creature we, "The Vampire", she looked like the boys in college plays that take the woman's parts. Walked a little--got acquainted with Gannett one of Peace Conference reporters and an interesting chap--chatted with grand daughter of the French Countess Etc. Slept one whole evening on the top deck in the moonlight and wind--wonderful--slightly rough.

Sept. 8 th. D--A bit rough --every one dopy--spent most of day in chair sleeping. Discovered that the Vamp is a duchess or rather is traveling with an Eng. Duke. Read a little and wrote a little. Evening went to a grand concert every one in low neck but us--most of passengers, French civilians.

Sept. 9th. D--Another dopy day but feeling more like a human being even if the sea is a bit more disturbed. Still enjoy watching the dressy crowd file by--some clothes, many Burbury coats like mine. Played cards with Capt. Furlong of our table and watched the dancing again. One woman on board wears veil like the oriental woman covering all but eyes--she is an Amer.--also there is a small colored creature with fascinating head gear, probably a dancer name Myoto Nioka --Yvette Guilbert cats near us,--very homely but strong face.

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Sept. 10th. D-- Fine weather --more pep and walked considerable--meals not very good because no vegetables. Sadie feeling bum. Boat too big to get acquainted with any one. Miss. Mather showed us beautiful things that she had bought at Liberties--such gorgeous materials. Miss. M. the biggest peach ever--love her.

Sept. 11th. D--Rather disagreeable weather, rainy,-- getting much bored with the trip--nights in our state room terrible because no air--meals not good and service poor, but the boat rides well. Gifts handed in for auction for French War Fund--had a chance to see them during the day. Every one in grand clothes for the ships talent concert--such jewels. Had four shocks during the evening; 1 Countess de---de--great grand mother with hour glass figure and plastered with jewels sang or rather tried to sing two old chestnut love songs in a terrible voice, was so embarrassed for her that I did not dare to look up during the process; 2 saw the veiled lady with out her veil and she was shockingly homely; 3 Hindu girl danced rather uninterestingly with nothing on but jewels across breasts and very ugly shapped trousers--disgusting performance ; 4 woman dancing after the show with the most decollete dress I have ever seen--nothing in the back but a narrow strip of chiffon up the sides of the back from waist to shoulder showing practically all of her back. Yvette Guilbert gave powerful and beautiful recitation in French. She and two men auctioned off the gifts--she clever and fascinating.

Sept. 12th. D--Rather slow day, made out customs list --had very interesting talk on Germany with Mr. Gannett-- he gave me first note of optimism that I have felt for the future because he was sure that Germany will be a real republic and democracy and so would not land grab. He had just come from Germany and his description of the unrest in Ger. was vivid and terrible. He insisted that the German people felt very bitter against the Kaiser for abdicating and leaving them in the lurch as he did--but this impression may be more Ger. propaganda. Had long auction again in the evening followed by a dance at which Sarah, Miss. M. and I had a terrible fit of hysterics watching the Fat Y.M.C.A. boy try to dance with the French girls. All of us three in better spirits than at any time of the trip due to the good laugh. Had glass of champagne to celebrate our last dinner on board.

Sept. 13th. D--Every one watching the sailing record carefully--we hope to land today. Finished packing etc. --perfectly gorgeous day, most beautiful blue and white sea have ever seen, and fine breeze. Afternoon began to be interesting --passed many ships --pilot boarded our ship -- we began to see land and the light ship--entered the channel and eventually came in sight of New York sky line set against a gorgeous sunset and all of it's lights beginning to twinkle --decidedly thrilled to see the good old statue of Liberty-- felt just like the boys I guess. Docked at 8.30 P.M.--took two hours to collect baggage and

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finish with custom officer. Miss. Mather and I went to Hotel McAlpine for the night. First night in the home land in almost a year.

Sept. 14th. D--Lazy in the morning but too excited to sleep last night. Telephoned for about a half hour and then went on buss ride up good old Fifth Ave. with Miss Mather-- Great to see the business and the expanse. Thing that impressed me most was the vast railroad systems and the extreme rush. Life in the U.S.A. too tense and too complicated. Spent the afternoon and night with Aunt Minnie-- talker my arm off about Europe.

Sept. 15th. D--Had conference with Mr. Miller on the Boy Scout work for our villages,--very interesting and inspiring. Afternoon went to Rahway N.J. Base No. 3 Had great talk with Beulah Rader. Came away with no regrets at being out of the know because every body's attitude seems so casual and uninterested.

Sept. 16th. D--Met Mr. Miller again and we had fascinating conference with Mme. Cecile Sartoris Vice President of the French High Commission in N.Y. Discussed financing of the Boy Scouts for France. She much in sympathy.

This was the end of any work in connection with the war or the Unit.

Signed, Alice Evans.