



WAR WORK COUNCIL

ARMY AND NAVY
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION



"WITH THE COLORS"

July 29. 1917

Dear Sir,

Well, Sir, were off at last. We leave camp at one o'clock today ~~to~~ board the ship and I guess we will drop out tonight. I don't imagine that this mail will go out for four or five days so by that time we will be always there. I am enclosing my permanent address to you and you want to be sure and write us often as you can, for you know it will be mighty fine to have word from folks in God's country. You want to address it as I give it to you. It is a rather



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"WITH THE COLORS"

1917

long one but, it is the official
one so I guess you had best
send it exactly as it is. How
is Eda and everybody? Give my
best regards to all. Well good-by
old lil, take care of yourself and
Eda and when I have time I'll
drop you a line from "Somewhere in
France" when I have time

Yours in the Bonds
Pi-an

Name

American Expeditionary Forces

American Embassy

France

Paris

U. S. Army Base/Hospital

France

No. 8.

From Sergeant Elmer G. Bracher,

July 1917.

We have finally arrived in France. The voyage over was calm and uneventful until the last day out, which was Monday. Then we had just sighted land when we heard six short blasts from the whistle. That meant a sub attack. It was a quarter to nine, and the next hour was the most exciting I have ever had. We were on the (censored) which was the largest and most important in the fleet, and they all tried to get her. There was quite a gang of subs, for it was officially reported that we sank five. Believe me, it certainly was great to hear the guns going off and to see the shells hit the water. We didn't see any of the submarines, but we were able to see the white water where the periscopes were. I also saw the wake of a torpedo which passed about fifty yards from our stern.

We lay in the harbor for two days, and on Wednesday started out with full equipment for (censored) where we now are. We left at half-past nine and arrived at half past three. We had five stops and were walking the rest of the time. The distance was eighteen miles, and I never walked so far in all my life. There was quite a bunch that had to fall out. We are situated about four hundred miles from the front, and I think that it will be permanent.



AUMONIER—ARMÉE BELGE *Par A. Bastien.*



Handwritten signature/initials.

Handwritten signature/initials.

CARTE POSTALE.



Côté réservé à l'adresse



Mr. E. R. Silvers
Railway
N. J.

AMERICAN



On Active Service

WITH THE AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

Sept. 4, 1917

Dear Sir:

It will probably take me quite a time to compose this letter, with your being a critic and it having to pass the censor. So you know it's pretty hard to write without putting something in that shouldn't be in, so make some allowances. How are you and Cda and everyone else? Are you still running the college? What's Pete doing now? For the Lord's sake write to a person once in a while and tell me some news. You ought to be with me if you want to save money. I'm working on the night shift and have spent about twelve francs in the last week. Four of that going for laundry and two for some towels. My gosh! if that had been all the money I spent a week while at college I'd have been a rich man. We work in twelve hour shifts and one certainly is glad when the twelve hours are up. I go on at six P.M. and am off at six A.M. We eat breakfast at seven and then generally sleep from eight until four. Who do you think is in town? Old Lumber Janeway. It certainly was a mighty pleasant surprise to see him. Had dinner with him the first night and that meal certainly did taste good after the food we had been having aboard ship. We certainly had a peach of a voyage over. Only had one rough night and that wasn't enough to make one seasick. Believe me, I certainly was glad that I wasn't seasick. I'm stationed in a new addition to the hospital and there are no electric lights in it. Have to see by candlelight, that accounts for my spilling some on this paper. It certainly is a mighty fine night here tonight. There's a most wonderful moon out and it almost makes one wish he were home again. Well, Pro, don't forget to write as often as you can and if you publish any books, send me one. Give my best regards to Cda and everyone else. Hoping I'll see you soon I am

censored by 126 17. L. B. K. There is no censor in the Bonds

AMERICAN

Y. M. C. A.

On Active Service

WITH THE AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

Sept. 14, 1917

Dear Sil:

Received your letter on the 12th and certainly was most glad to hear from you. I had a gala day on the 12th. Received six letters and a post card. You can imagine ^{that} it made me feel pretty good. It certainly is too bad about Dad, isn't it? I certainly ~~do~~ hope that he will be exempted for it certainly seems that he is needed at home. I'm mighty glad that Pete received his commissions. One of the fellows had a list of the Fort Meyer appointments and I saw that practically all the fellows from college received their commissions. I sure do hope that the football teams turn out to be a good. I certainly am going to miss playing this year. Send me accounts of the games anyway, will you, Sil for that will help a little. I think it was Joe that told me that Luther Martin was married, is that true? This night work is going fine, now. I am about used to it now and like it quite well. There's nothing new that has happened that I can tell you about. A great many of the patients here are from a southern regiment and quite a few of them are college men and I had some mighty interesting talks with them. The great majority of the men are fine fellows and it's a pleasure to help them and they do all they can to help out. I just wrote a letter to Mild and if she gets it, get her to tell you some of the interesting parts. Give my best regards to Eda

Yours in the Bonds
Pi-an.

Enclosed
Proulx
At Lieut Moore

Sept. 27, 1917.

Dear Sir: Received your letter of Sept. 8, yesterday and it sure was fine to hear from you. We hadn't received any mail since Sept. 11 until yesterday when a big batch came in for us. You can imagine how it made us feel. Whom do you think I run into the other day? Old Johnny Morrison. He is a first lieutenant in the Dental Corps. He is a casual here at the hospital awaiting orders. See it sure was fine to see him. Did you know he was engaged? He said he was mighty sorry he wasn't at your wedding, but, he got the dates mixed. He sends his best regards. I also saw Young, Molineux the Queens Club man. He is on one of

the gun crew on a transport.
Believe ^{me} ~~you~~ you don't know how
good it is to meet someone from
God's Country whom you know.
That is good news about Edda, Sil.
You know I wish her the best and
best of luck in her hour of trial.
If washing will do any good she
won't have a bit of pain or hurt.
I sure hope it is a boy so we'll
have another left in the Silvers family.
Say Pro, tell the "Voice" to write more
often. I've only heard from her once
since I've been here. Also tell her
not to forget to send me an
announcement. All the fellows
wanted to be remembered to
you. They are all well and
making out very nicely. Wok
seems to agree with us all. I can
hardly imagine that college has
opened and that I won't be
able to go back. It certainly ^{would}
be great if all the old gang could
get together again. When we

all get back we'll have to have
a grand old reunion. That's fine
news about Pete. Tell him to let me
know his address. Dad surely did
a mighty fine thing. I know that
I would never have done it if
I had been in his position. If
everybody has his spirit we sure
would have a mighty fine army.
I guess I'll stop rambling now.
Pro. Give my best regards to every
one. So long

Yours in the Bonds

Pi-an

P.S. Change my address to
U. S. Army Hospital #6.

ESB.

Censored
J.E. Dandap
M. L. L. L.
mom.

Dec. 6, 1917

Dear Lil:

Congratulations! I am
mighty glad that the baby is
a future Lilt. I sure do hope that
Cda is up and well. By the time
you get this I guess the baby
will be almost two months old.
The length of time reminds me that
I must apologize for not writing
sooner. I sure am sorry but, I
to tell the I have neglected my
correspondence entirely for the
last three weeks or a month, and
haven't written a single letter.
I have reformed however and
I am working hard now
to get caught up with it.

You say you wanted the names
of all the men to send them
the weekly letter. All the men
in our unit seem to be getting
them so I won't bother to give
you their names. You might
send one to Luther Janeway
and to Johnny Morrison tho.
Luther's address is Base Section
101, (A.P.O. 101) A.C.F. while Johnny's
is 1st Lt. J. D. Morrison, D.O. R.C.

Ambulance Co #1, 26th Division
A.C.F. (A.P.O. 709). I know that
they surely would like to hear
the news from college. We

had a pretty successful foot-
ball team didn't we? I certainly
was mighty glad to hear when
we won. It was too bad that
we lost to Syracuse. After my
congratulations to Sandy and
to King for the first team they
turned out, when you see
them. It must have been
great to watch them play and
practice and I sure do wish
that I could have seen them.
I hope I have better luck next
year, tho, of course there's no
telling. How is the House getting
along. I suppose it has the same
old trouble collecting dues and
paying bills. How is Duke making
as head? I understand that
after the fellows had obtained
four men that they stopped
rushing and let the Chi Phis
get some good men that we
should have had. I guess it
the same old story of self-satis-
faction is it. The chapter
sure will die of dry rot if
some one doesn't put some
pep into it. Why don't you
try and stir them up? Say,
Pro, what is the matter with
"the Voice" has she become en-
gaged and not allowed to

write or did she cut her
hand off. I have written four
or five letters to her and only
received one from her. That
one was received shortly
after, I landed. I am going
to write one more and
then give it up as a hope-
less job. This is great living
on twenty eight dollars
a month. Sil. Live very
nicely for the first two weeks
but, after that oh my! It's
worse than college used to
be. Every body is about broke
at the same time so it is
even hard to borrow money
so you can see how eagerly
we look forward to pay day.
When the second Liberty Loan
came out, I decided to be ex-
travagant so I subscribed for
a bond, so that takes five
dollars a month away, otherwise
I would be getting thirty three
a month and probably wouldn't
be broke so soon. What are you
doing now, Pro? Are you
still assistant to Dehmy or
have you gone up a petty
higher? Have you written any
books or stories lately? If you
have send them to me, can

you? I sure would like to read
them. I sure is hard to write
Pro, and not put in something
that might be objectionable to
the censor. I sure wish I could
write more interestingly but,
guess I can't. Don't mind
this paper. It's all I have at
present. Give my best regards
to every one and I sure do
wish you a most merry
Christmas and Happy New
Year.

Yours in the Bonds
Pian

P.S. I sent home a ring which they
will send to you, I hope. It is
supposedly made from a German
shell with a German button in
it. I think it is true.

ESB.

OK
L. S. Macey

AMERICAN



ON ACTIVE SERVICE

WITH THE

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

Feb 2 1918

Dear Eda:

Received your letter and surely was mighty glad to hear from you. It certainly did contain startling news, but, I sort of expected something along that line. I sure did pull a bone ~~can~~ send ~~say~~ that ring, didn't I? Well, such is life. I don't dare write now to congratulate them, but, you express my heartiest congratulations and best wishes for me, won't you? Say, it must be awful to have a jealous husband. You know I won't say anything about the engagement, but, you'll let me know ahead of time when the wedding is coming off. It takes quite a time for anything to reach here and then get back again. If I received

an announcement of the wedding
I don't think I would have time
to send anything in time for it.
So don't forget to let me know
ahead. How does Milt like teaching?
It's just like her to have spent
her salary in advance. Remember
how you used to do it? I sure
am glad the baby is getting on
so well. I certainly would like to
see him. I think you're right in
keeping Sil at home. Don't let
him go off. He is doing his
bit in providing for you and
the baby. Speaking of finances
tho, I think we get paid in a
day or so. Have signed the pay roll
and will appreciate being paid.
Things pretty well fixed now tho? -
Have a Liberty Bond and a rather
flourishing (that is for me) bank
account. Thanks very much, Eda
for writing. Best to Sil & the baby.
As ever
P. an.

W. H. C. 124-1A

AMERICAN



ON ACTIVE SERVICE

WITH THE

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

Feb 21 1918

Dear Lil:

Received your letter the other day and I sure was glad to hear from you. I certainly had looked for it for a long time but, I suppose you are pretty busy and don't have much time to write. I have been receiving the letters from college but, they aren't near as good as personal ones. Received #10 yesterday and saw the notice about the ring. I sure wish you wouldn't make public the things I write you or send you. I just sent it to you as a memento. The thing is not of much value and I guess

that there is millions of them
in France, so you see it isn't
any thing to make a fuss
about. That sure is funny about
Mil isn't it? I sent her one of
those rings, too. Don't know what
she thought or rather it started
a scorp or not. Ye, it must be
hell to be in love. I sure would
like to see the Voice to see how
she acts. I'll bet two bits she
won't live the life of Peilly. Far
be it from me to knock but,
I wouldn't be a bit surprised
if my opinion of the affair, ~~didn't~~
coincides with yours. That's
great news about the basket-
ball team. Hope they keep it
up. Had a letter from Mike
and he told me about it too.
I don't believe anybody knows

much about Del. The poor boob writes about once
a month. Last time I heard from him, he was
waiting around for an appointment to an Ensign
school. He was rather optimistic about it, and I
sure hope he gets it. Have you heard about Joe?
I don't know if I have told you or not. Anyway
he has been isolated for the past five weeks with
scarlet fever. The poor miss had quite a time with
it and isn't on duty yet. He is out of the isolation
tent tho and in one of the convalescent wards.
That helps a bit tho for the time passed very
slowly for him in the tent. His eyes are bothering
him now and so is his heart, but, I think
they will come around all right. He is pretty
lucky to have no more serious complications
than he has, for he had a pretty severe attack. That's
pretty fine, your having the offer of that commission
and it's rather hard luck you aren't in a position to
accept it. It's just as well tho that you stay at
home. I've been leading the same life as usual.
Haven't seen any excitement yet, but, there's a chance
for those sending operating teams to the front, I don't
hope I'll be able to get there. We may be doing our
bit here, but, I'll be out of luck if this is as
far as I ever go. Write when you have time
Del, for it is certainly good to hear from you
In the Bonds
Pi-an.



Bracher

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

WITH THE

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

Apr 15 1918

Dear Sir:

Do you know I haven't heard from you in a dence of a while? I thought I would drop you a line to see if you would answer it to let me know whether you're still alive or not. I've been receiving the college letters regularly as have all of the other fellows here. These are mighty good to read, but I'd much rather hear from you personally. I certainly have heard some surprising news lately. Shrimp Whites and Bone's Brownings engagements and the Louse's mat-

riage. They certainly are things
I never did expect to hear
at least not for some time
to come. How are Edda and
the baby? I sure hope they
are well and that you have
nothing to worry about.

I've been put on a new job
lately. Have charge of a new
kitchen ^{& mess hall} which we have just
started. It isn't finished yet
but when it is it's going to
be the best in the hospital.
I have to order the stores and
draw them, make out the menu
and see that the work around the
kitchen and hall is done right.
With the exception of one cook
all the work is done by con-
valescent patients, and I gen-

usually have quite a job to find them and
to do the work. Have three good men who
are detailed permanently and that helps a
lot. The worst part of it is that you gen-
erally get some good men broken in and
then they are sent back to duty again. -
Have to start all over again then. We still
lead the standard respectable life as if you
go to bed at a quarter to ten or before and
go to reveille at six in the morning.
"Oh its nice to get up in the morning," Sil
"but its nicer to stay in bed". I sure do
hate to get up in the morning. Joe has been
pretty sick lately so today he went off
on a seven day furlough for a rest. I guess
he'll be all right when he comes back at
least I hope so for he has had quite a
time of it. Well Sil, if you should think
to write I'd be mighty glad to hear from
you.

In the Bonds

Pi-an

P.S. Excuse the pencil. When I started to write with
my pen, I found it was dry and I had no ink handy

Capt. M. E. Perry
U. S. Army

Oct 3.

P.S. Did this letter reach
written for publication 9-16-18
so for Pete's sake don't think that it
is. ^{is} ^{is} ^{is}

Dear Sil;

Received your letter

yesterday and it surely was as
unexpected as it was welcome.
I had indeed thought you had
forgotten all about me, and had
given up all hope of hearing
from you. I have been receiving
the college letter right along and
of course receive all the college
news thru it, but, it isn't
near so good as hearing from
you directly. Things are going
along here about the same as
usual. Of course the hospital is
growing larger and expanding
all the while. Instead of one
hospital now it has become

a hospital center. Base 8 will be the center of the group, but there will be quite a few other units forming the component parts of the center. I believe that each unit is to have twenty five hundred beds and the center as a whole is planned for thirty or forty thousand. (I don't know whether that will be passed by the censor or not). At present I am at a new Convalescent Camp which has started up about two miles from B.H. 8. For the moment we only have three hundred beds but, it is planned for five thousand. I have charge of the QM. and Medical Storehouse and am acting as supply man in

General, Am practically my own
boss and take my orders from
the C.O. of the camp. He is a
first lieutenant in the Med.
Corps and surely is a fine
fellow. One doesn't mind
working for such a man as
he is and it is more of a
pleasure than work. At present
we are living in tents and
the storeroom is a room in
an old French house which
is on the grounds of the camp.
There is an open fireplace in
the room and it surely makes
it mighty cosy and comfortable
in the evening when we have
a fire going. The evenings

are generally pretty cool now
so I usually camp by the fire
and read or write or work as
the spirit moves me. Sil, I
don't believe you will receive
many letters from the fellows
in this unit, for there really
isn't a thing of interest to
write about. It seems to me
all that we should be up
at the front doing something
worth while, instead of being
stuck away back here. We're
just plain out of luck as
it is. I'm enclosing a little
poem which is mighty applicable
to the whole bunch here. With
the changing of a few words
it would fit us to a T.

I might be able to give you
a bit of news about some
of the fellows so I'll try.

Frank Broome has been promoted
to a sergeant and Johnny
Johnson to a corporal. Don
Storck and Mike Merritt started
back for the States, a couple of days
ago, with a convoy of patients, so
I expect that you may see them
shortly. Joe Herben has charge
of the mess in one of the kitchens.
Boss Miner was promoted to a
sergeant. The rest of the fellows
are plugging along and doing
their bit, I hope. Saw Bub
Durand about a month ago
but haven't seen or heard from

him since. The Lumber is still
striking to his old job. Have heard
from Clarence Ludlow, who is stationed
at Paris, several times. The last
time he wrote he mentioned seeing
Mouth Austin there. He was going
up to the front to do night
bombing. He is a lucky devil.
I sure wish that I were in his
boots. I surely would give my
last sons, to have been in aviation.
Have also heard from Doc Armstrong
several times. He seems to like
France pretty well, but is anxious
to get up to where one can
see and do something. Had
one letter from Roy. Acker
since he landed. He was
just going up there and

I haven't heard from ^{him} since so
I don't know what has happened
to him. Just had a letter from
Del over here. It was his first
trip across and he landed too
far away to make our town.
Hope he has better luck next
time. Cliff Ludlow was able to
come and see us on his
first trip across and it
sure was fine to see him. Guess
that is about all the news that
I know of the fellows over here,
Sil. It probably is stale news
at that, so if it bores you, just
skip it. Just that of it. Dave
Abt passed thru B.H.P. on his
way to the States. He said
war was worse than what

Sherman said it was. So
the Voice has announced her
engagement. Since I have
been dropped from her corres-
pondence list, I don't dare
write to congratulate her. I
wish you would convey to
them both my heartiest con-
gratulations and well-wishes. Sil.
I sure wish them the best luck
in the world and privately I
think that they will need it.
You surely have quite a kid,
there in Mike. I'm mighty
glad that you sent that
picture of him. I only wish
that I could see him
in action. Start early Sil
and train him in the

right way. When he grows up
and wants to play football, I
imagine you will hear an
awful yowl from Edd. Gosh,
I was kicking a football
around tonight, for the first
time in many moons
and it surely did feel good
to have the old pegskin in
my hands again. Just at
present it looks pretty black
for my ever playing again.
You surely are out of luck
with your ear, aren't you?
How do you blame it on smoking?
I think that I agree with you
about rather smoking than
hear people talk. I sure hope
the deafness passes away

altogether. I think I have
just about written myself out
sit, so it is about time to knock
off. I had a hunch that I would
be able to write quite a lot of stuff
when I started so that is the
reason why I used a pencil.
I never would have finished
it with a pen. I tell you, this
is just about the longest letter
that I have written since I have
been over here. Give my best to
Eda and Mike and all the rest,
and for Pete's sake live up to
what you said you were going
to ~~do~~ in regards to writing.
But, never expect such a long
letter in answer again. Be
good.

As ever
Al the Boyde
Pi-an.

Al the Boyde

8-29-18

Bracken
Dear Sil,

Just received your letter dated Aug 25. Wrought and it certainly was very welcome. You know I answered your last letter with pencil and that sort of started me in to write altogether that way. Have written several others, and I find that it is so much easier that I think that I shall continue it. My Lord is everybody getting married now a days. The old world certainly will seem strange with everybody married and grown up. You know, Sil I don't think that I have changed a bit since I left. Haven't any more sense than I did have

and I guess I am as much
of a kid as I ever was. My Lord
I'm twenty five now, and
I sure never am able to realize
it. Such is life, without a wife.
I suppose if I had a wife I'd soon
find out how old I was
and also how to be serious.
Howsoever I guess that will
be a long time to come. How
does the Voice like her new
job. From the way you wrote
it must be a rather important
position and highly remunerative.
Wouldn't be a bit surprised if
it would be able to keep her
in happiness. Poor Voice we
too surely have rather panned

her, haven't we. What does it
matter to us anyway if she is
happy. That is about the most
important thing for her at
present. How are Mr & Mrs
Perrill? I sure would like to
see them for they are a couple
of peaches. Give them my best
regards the next time you see
them. I'm glad that Mike
likes his duck. But then look
who the duck is named after
why shouldn't he like it? He sure
must be quite a youngster by
now. How are Eda and your
mother. Certainly hope that they are
well. By the time they must be
playing football, aren't they? Give my
best regards and well wishes
for a successful season. To

Sandy. Another bunch of fellows
went back to the States tonight
with a convoy of ^{men} patients. I may
surprise you sometime by
dropping in when you least
expect me. Jell Jackson was
the only fellow from college
to go this time. He'll probably
surprise you by appearing
~~unexpectedly~~ upon the scene.
Haven't seen Joe lately so I
don't know how he is. Haven't
any news til, so I'll have to
close.

In the Bonds
Pian

J. K. AMT
J. C. AMT
info Mac. vs.

10-17-18

Dear Sil:

Have a care as to how you address me next time. I might become sore and report you for familiarity, ~~mais~~, ~~mais~~, je n'ai rien dit. But, joking aside, Sil, I meant to answer your letter before this but, haven't had the time or the inclination. Been busy as the deuce lately. Just received about six hundred additional patients and have had to do some tall hustling to get accommodations for them. To make matters worse it has been raining for about the last two weeks and the roads are something awful around the camp. Generally get stuck two or three times a day and either

have to get another truck to pull
mine out or else dig it out. Was
mighty lucky today, only was stuck
once. They building a good rock
road now and when that is finished
it sure will help a lot. There's
no telling when it will be finished
tho, that is where the rub comes in.
So Hank is going to a training
school. I sure am glad to hear
it, and the lucky beggar surely will
make good. Wasn't he a mint about
that Ford. It surely was like him
to sell it that way. Should have
thot that he would have given
you first chance at it for the
one hundred tho. Next time you
write to Shrimp White, tell him
that he owes me a letter.
The poor boob, write to me once

and I answered him but haven't
heard a pup out of him since. Paul
him out for me. That is fine
news about Pete. He always will
make good at anything he tries.
Had a letter from Bruce McIlWhining
the other day. He thought I was
with B. H. #6 and passed right thru
our town and never knew we
were there. That is what I call pretty
stupid. He is up near the front
and seeing something, the lucky
cuss. Gosh Sil, many is the times
that I have cursed myself for joining
this outfit and being marooned
way back here. Doesn't do any good
tho and I'm almost reconciled
to my fate. Also heard from Van
Ludlow today. He is still in Paris
but says it is becoming rather

tiresome. He is pulling strings for
a commission or at least to get
to a training school. Says it looks
pretty prosperous for him. The old
college must be quite changed
nowadays. Received the last college
letter, which explained about the
Army training school. Sure must
seem strange to see everybody
in uniform. You certainly must
have had quite a job finding
rooms for them all. How are the
Deltas making out? Have we any
freshmen pledged yet. Don't the
patronities have a rather hard
time to make both ends meet.
Give my best regards to all the
brothers, Also to Mike and Edda and
the rest. No more news so I'll
have to close. Always in the Bonds
your friend

11-5
11-3-18

Dear Sir;

Received your letter dated
Oct 4th on the 31st. and certainly
was glad to hear from you. By
the way have you received any
of my letters since I started writing
again? You surely must have your
hands full with college work now.
Don Stock is back from the States
now and he said that he visited
N.B. but didn't see a soul, whom
he knew. The old place certainly
must seem strange. You say
that there are 42 men in the
Delt house? Where the deuce are
they all sleeping? Is the Madam
still keeping house? If she is she
certainly must have her hands
full. Remember me to her the next
time you see her. That is news

about Newall Chase and Jones
being Dells. I didn't know that
they were in college, even. What
the deuce has become of all
the fellows Sil, that were there
when we were? I know about
Hank and Ed and Bud and Eddy
but, of the rest I don't know
a thing. Where are Stevie Snuffers
and Boock and Bud Citzen. What
is Al Perkins doing? Is he married
to Mary or drafted or what? I
imagine that Jimmie Louse is
just like the old "Louse" isn't he?
Things are looking mighty promising
for the war to be over soon aren't
they? With Turkey out of it and
Austria on her last legs it cer-
tainly looks as if the Hun
won't be able to hold out
much longer. It looks to me
as if the war will be over by

Christmas. But if the Huns decide
to fight to the bitter end it will
last at least a year longer. They
would be mighty foolish tho if
they did that, so altogether the
prospects are rather prosperous.
So Mike is a year old. Does he
walk yet, or don't babies walk
at that age? By the time I see
him he I guess he will be a
pretty big youngster. Have you
all been free from the influenza?
It certainly must be pretty bad
in the States. There's quite a
lot of it over here too. How has
Eda been? By the way, Sil, Eda must
be quite a cook now, isn't she?
Remember how she used to fuss
around when you were first
married? I'll bet she is mighty
business like about it now.

Has anything happened to
the football team? I heard that
we trimmed Uxeniis 67-0 or
something like that. Is Sandy
still on the job? Sid, do you know
Shrimp White's address? I had
a letter from him a couple
of weeks ago and I lost it
and his address with it. If
you know it I sure wish you
would let me have it. Met a
fellow at the hospital who ^{knows}
him very well and he would
like to have it also. Going to
do a little work now so I
have to quit.

In the Bonds

P. A.

November 15, 1918

Sergeant Elmer G. Bracher,
Base Hospital # 8
Am. E.F.

Dear Pian:-

How in the world do you expect me to know that you are a sergeant unless you tell me. In one of your letters you gave notice of the promotion of everyone else except yourself, and although I imagined that your great ability would not go long unrewarded I did not dare start addressing you as sergeant until the definite word did come. I am mighty glad to hear that you have been promoted.

Practically every one else in your gang has come back to the U.S. except you and we are rooting very much for your return shortly. It sure will be good to see you again.

This is only a short letter to fill in until I have time to write a longer one. Captain Ralph White blew in from the South yesterday and spent the afternoon talking over old times. He is going to write to you just as soon as he goes back, so he says. His address is 48th Infantry, Camp Sevier, S.C.

Take good care of yourself and try to be among the first of the soldiers to return to this country.

Good luck to you and all good wishes.

Cordially,

Convalescent Camp,
Hospital Center, Savenay.
November 29, 1918.

Dear Sil:

What the devil is the matter with you anyhow? You started off writing like a house a-fire and kerplunk you stopped. Is it because you havent received any mail from me? You threatened to stop writing if you didnt hear fromme but, if that is the reason it isnt my fault. I have answered every letter that I have received from you, so what more cen a man do? Anyway I'm giving you this last chance. Dont think that I'll write again until I hear from you. Steve White just came back from the States the other day and said that he had been down to the college and that he had seen you. He also said that we had trimmed Penn State and that we had a darn good team. You know I sure would like to see a good game of football again. Guess that I'd pretty nearly go crazy to see the old team play again. If this reaches you while Sandy is around give him my best regards. How is MIKE getting along? You all havent been hit with the "FLU" have you? Isure hope that you havent for I know that it is pretty bad. There has been a deuce of a lot of cases of it over here and quite a lot of it in Rahway. Do you know Elmer Hansen? He used to hang around with Herb Gehring and the Bachelor bunch. Just found out the other day that he is in the hospital with a machine gun bullet in his leg. He is the first R Rahway boy that has been at the hospital and it was rather nice to see him even if I didnt know him very well. Gosh I pretty nearly forgot to tell you that I had seen old Delamater. Harry Janeway called up and said that he was in port so I took a trip down to see him. First time I had seen him for pretty nearly a year and a half but, he was the same old Del. Dont think that he has changed a bit. He was on a freight ship and thought that his next trip would be to Belfast, Ireland and that he would return to St. Nazaire so I may see him again in a couple of weeks. I sure hope so for it certainly was fine to see him again. The peeper had another sick spell lately. Think that it was the diptheria that he had this time. He is over now and on a seven day leave in Paris. His Dad is at Paris doing Red Cross work so that is how he obtained his pass. It sure is pretty nice for him isnt it? Wish that I was in his boot s for the time being. He also was promoted awhile ago. Is a sergeant now. Guess that that is all the news that I know about the fellows. The rest of the Rutgers bunch are all in good health and crabbing about the same as usual. Let me have Shrimp White's address, will you Sil? Had a letter from him awhile ago and then lost it. Lost his address along with the letter and as I would like to answer it I wish that you would send it to me. What has ever become of Pete Ainsworth and Bub and Eddie and the rest of the gang. I know that they are over here but that is all that I do know about them. Heard from Ronald Acken a while ago. He was in a hospital with a slight dose of mustard gas. he was just about to be discharged then so I guess that he is all right. Must close now and try to write a couple of other letters. Give my best regards to Eda and tha rest of the family.

In the Bonds

Pi-am

Convalescent Camp,
Hospital Center, Savenay.
December 3, 1918/

Dear Sil;

Just received your letter dated November 2nd. the other day and as usual was very glad to hear from you. Had written to you on the twenty-ninth, giving you a bawling out for having stopped writing, but I guess that I'll have to take it all back. Wasnt that hard luck about Jill Jackson? He had all the chances in the world of connecting with a contagious disease during the months that he was over here~~xxx~~ and then to go home and catch the 'flu'. It certainly was too bad. It was news about "Dutch Elmer and Dick Barr "kicking in". So Walt is in England with a hole in his leg. All I can say is that he is lucky that it wasnt some where else. What ever became of "Duck" Farley? Did he ever come across or is he still in the States? Before I forget it, Sil, I want to tell you that I received the college letter of November 6th. in the same mail as your letter. The college letter was might interesting and contained a whole lot of news. What are they going to do about the college now that the war is over? Is it still to be a war college or will it go back to the old regime? Guess that I cant ask you any more questions, Sil, and as I havent any news I think that this note had better come to a close.

In the Bonds

Pi-ay

Bracher

Convalescent Camp,
Hospital Center, Savenay
December 14, 1918.

Dear Sil;

Received your short note the other day and was certainlt glad to hear from you. I suspect that this will be somewhat similar to ~~yours~~ yours, for unless a happy line of bull strikes me, I havent anything particular to say. I might make a few appropriate and forceful remarks about the weaether, but if I start in sussing about it the whole letter will be ~~ex~~ nothing but a line of swearing. Let it suffice that it has done nothing but rain for the last two weeks or more and that everything is aseas of mud. How are Eda and Mike? You didnt mention them so I take it that they are both in good health. You'll have a Christmas tree for Mike, wont you? I'll bet that he will be tickled to death with it and the presents which he will receive. Christmas sure will be here before one realizes it. I've been trying for the last month or so to buy something to send home and havent succeeded so I think that I wont send anything. Thank for the wish that I will be among the first home. The way it looks now, we'll be here for quite some time. There is really no telling tho at present. We may sail in a month ~~xxx~~ and then we may not sail for six months. It surely would be pleasant to be in the States again. I'm glad that you sent me Shrimp Whites address, for I had lost it and I owed him a letter. He is mighty sore that he wasnt able to come across, isnt he? Guess that he is just as well off tho. He might have been killed or have lost an arm or leg and then he sure would have been out off luck. It isnt so here where I am now, Sil. One of the greatest benefits is that I dont have to stand any formations. Get up when I please in the mornings and turn in when I please in the evenings. Generally arise at eight or eight-thirty or nine, and you know ~~that~~ how well that suits me. One little piece of news that I know is that Joe has been sent home as unfit for further duty. Had an attack of diptheria a while ago and it affected his heart. As a result he received a S.C.D. You will probably see him before this letter reaches you and learn all about it. He will probably give you a great line about how he fought the glorious battle of Savenay and how he is just recovering from a bad case of shell-shock. Had more bull than I thought that I would have so I think that I had better knock off now. Hope that you all have a most Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In the Bonds,

Pi-an

Jan. 3, 1919

Dear Sil;

How the dence are you all
and why don't you write once
in a while? Of course I have
received the college letter, but I
sure would like to hear from you
personally. How is Eda and the baby?
I sure would like to see the little
fellow. I'll bet you are having
a fine time with him keeping
you awake at nights. Do you
have to get up and walk the
floor with him? Say, what the
dence has become of Mil?
It certainly is some long time
since I have heard a word
about her. Sil, that weekly
letter from the college sure is
a good thing. We all sure are
glad to keep in touch with
the old place and I hope you

keep on getting it out. Received
the Alumni Quarterly which you
sent and that was highly ap-
preciated. But of all the nerves for
Pete's sake what the deuce did you
ever publish that letter I wrote?
I sure never would have written
if I had ever thought you would
publish it. I sure will wallop
you for doing it when I get
back. I don't believe that there is
any chance of sending any ^{something}
of the war back as you asked for
in one of the letters. In the first place
I'm not in a position to get any
at present, and again, I don't
know whether it would be permitted
or not. I have acquired a few
things and hope to get more
later. What is doing at home
Sil? Where is Dud? What ~~is~~ ^{are} Father
Pete doing, and Bub? I could ask

a thousand questions, but, I guess
it would be too boring for you
to answer them. All the Rutgers
fussch are well and working
hard. A lot of them have been
in the hospital mostly with severe
colds. Joe and Doc Johnson have
been in twice with very bad colds.
I have been pretty lucky and have
managed to keep out. Joe is still
on night duty in the wards. Believe
me every available man is working
like the demer, for we have an aw-
ful amount of work to do. You know
Sil, I think that it would have
taken an awful inducement to
get me to enlist if I had known
how much work I would have
had to have done. But, now that
I'm in I don't mind it so
much for I'm used to it now.
Believe me, I sure do sleep soundly

after working all day and it sure
is mighty hard to get up at quarter
to six in the morning. We get
very good food tho, and that
helps a lot. We haven't had hardly
any snow but the weather sure
has been cold. The French people
say it is the coldest winter they
have had for years and I sure
do believe them. Wish I had more
news but, as I haven't I'll have
to close. Don't forget to write Give
my best regards to people I know.

Yours in the Bonds
Pi-an.

with
w. B. B.

Convalescent Camp,
Hospital Center, Savenay,
January 14, 1919.

Dear Sil:

Received your letter of December 20 last night and it was the first in a devil of a while. Dont know what has happened to your mail but it sure has gone astray some where. I may receive the letter that I have missed in a month or so. The mail system over here is pretty much balled up and we appreciate any that we do receive. I'll forgive you seeing as you have written and that it isnt your fault that I didnt get them. You sure told me a lot of news. I didnt know what had become of hardly any of the old gang. Yes the Searr family certainly wasin hard luck and I sure di feel sorry for them. You want to know why none of the fellows dont write, dont you? I8ve told them~~that~~ that you wished to hear from them but can hardly blame them for not writing. Hells bells dont you know by this time that there is nothing of interest to write about here. I thought that I had Impressed that upon your mind. If we had been up where there was something going on it would have been different. But down here where we have to get drunk for a little excitement it is a different matter. I think that that is the reason why none of the fellows have written. Did I tell you that I had received the receipt for the payment of the Quarterly? I dont know whom to thank for it but it was very kind of the ones who are responsible for it. Have a little bit of news for you Cope Herbert is at this center as a patient. He is at hospital # 214 which is a nut hospital. I havent seen him but I understand that he is suffering from Shell-shock. Will try to see him in a day or so. Dont think that there will be any more of us going home with patients. Expect to be home for good in a short time so dont be surprised if I should blow in on you some time in the near future. We know nothing definite for no one ever has any definite dope in the army, but things look very promising. Hard luck that the son had the "Flu" and sure am glad to hear that he has suffered no damage from it. It is half past one now and I'm getting sleepy as the devil so I think that I'll have to close this letter. Hope that I see you soon.

In the Bonds

Pian