

NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL

ARMY AND NAVY

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

"WITH THE COLORS"



January 7, 1918. ~~1917~~

Dear Essie:

Tonight I received a letter from you, and while tickled to death to hear from you, was sorry to learn that you had misunderstood the meaning, conveyed in my recent letters. I wasn't kidding, honestly, I never meant a word, to that effect, and especially in a time like this. Gee! but you folks are surely getting a rub. Wonder if I could do anything to help? You can bet your best hat, that I send my pay home just as soon as I get my mits on it. I don't need money. Who said I did? If I did, well I must have been raving. As long as I can keep supplied with stamps, I'll be happy. I'll buy a dollar's worth, and what I actually need. Nothing else. Uncle Sam is very good to us, and is giving us a mighty good living. While you folks are suffering from cold and food conservation, we are having

it soft. Nice warm barracks, and you couldn't ask for a better shop than ours. Large, light, airy, and wonderfully warm. You'd never believe things could be run so nicely. If you hear anybody grumbly, or kicking against the weather conditions out that way, just tell them to join the Army, but to be sure to get into the A.S.S. Oh my! Essie, our cats are great, and they seem doubly so, on account of the Texas and traveling conditions. I don't believe you could have had a better dinner in a restaurant, than we had yesterday. Fresh roast pork, mashed potatoes, fresh bread, coffee, and more, honestly, but I've forgotten just what. Anyhow our supper was just as good. Cold boiled ham, hot biscuits, (some of Tracey's fresh butter) and some of the best canned peaches I ever tasted. I had "seconds" too. The cook is strong for your "war-cake". I gave him some of your chocolates, too. He's a good old scout. Used to cook in a lumber camp, down Maine.

My job is coming along fine, as far as I know. Mc Gowan + I, are to get a new deal



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desk, I think. (McLowan is the Timekeeper, and I am Clerk) Was in to see the Major this afternoon, Major Connolly, is his name. A good servant too. Somewhere in the house is a small dictionary, if you ever find it send it to me, will you? I think I could use it. I'm trying to improve my vocabulary, and penmanship. (This is not a sample, this is a quick note.) You see I'm over at the Y.M. tonight. The first night since I've been here, and they have a show of some kind here every night but one, Friday night I think that is, they reserve that for letter writing. Home night they call it. All my other nights I have spent in letter writing, with the exception of a very few. I ought to be home now washing an O.D. shirt, but that can wait. We have a laundry here, but I kind of thought, that you folk could use all I could send, so I'm trying my darndest

Essie, to keep expenses down.

If I wander off, kiddo, you want mind, when you realize that there ~~are~~ no less than 20 "hunks" up at the piano, which is somewhat overworked. But then, some of the boys have no one to write^t, so we won't complain, will we? Then there is a Victrola, going at a 2.10 clip, and everybody is happy. It's kind of hard for me to sit here and write this stuff, when I think of you dear people and all your trouble. It must sound like a wild man's raving, but then ???

I certainly hope that things unravel themselves, back "there". I'm sure they will. I've got about everything now that I ever prayed for, and I'm not through now. In short, I seem to be getting all the good luck, that you folks are missing.

Will you please tell all my friends to be patient, Essie? I'll write, yes, to every one who ever thought of me.

Never got any mail at Texas, but one letter, got both your boxes here, and several letters. Why did you go to all the trouble about that

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Christmas box? I appreciate your good heartedness and want to tell you, I have every thing now that I need, thank you.

The show is late tonight, but there has been a terrific snow storm out through the middle West, so traffi is all tied up.

Again wishing you luck and every blessing that can come, I remain,

Your own little brother
Rich.

Moovies are on.

You ought to hear the quartet here sing "Carry me Back to Old Virginia", It's great, Lieu't Winner, is leader. We also have a mandolin.

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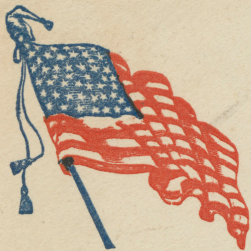
ARMY AND NAVY

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

WITH THE CROSS



1918



Miss Esther Mc Elligott
91 Fenwood Road
Boston
Massachusetts

If not delivered in Ten days return to

ERMcELLIGOTT

152 Aero Sqdn.

Chanute Field, Pantou
Illinois.

ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS
(IN THE FIELD)

GENERAL OFFICE

124 EAST 28TH STREET, NEW YORK, U. S. A.