



YMCA

2nd

1st
Dec. 20 117.

Mr. John Wagner
W.R.D. #1 Dobbinton
Ontario
Canada



OBSEVATION
ON CLOUDS

1860

Stanley Camp Surrey
Dec. 30/17.

Dear Folks at Home:

This is Sunday evening & I have settled down to answer a few of the letters I received on today's mail.

I sometimes go to Godalming to church on Sunday evening to a splendid Methodist church they have there but it is too muddy to walk three miles tonight. It has turned quite mild today, the frost is nearly all out of the ground, the little there was in it.

The mail we got today is ahead of time, that is ahead of some other mail that should be here. The last mail we received was written before Nov. 14th, & what we got today was written after Nov. 30th to 5th Dec. so there is considerable mail held up somewhere. You said that Mrs. Lad written a letter, it has not come yet.

So Stanley Haven is not getting an exemption. I don't blame him for trying to get it when he tried to escape under voluntary enlistment. The boys are all quite interested in the

list of fellows who have been called up and the exemptions. It seems funny that a bunch of fellows one would like to see come have squeezed out fits, Oldwives - Henry's & Hoppers.

So Old Shakespeare is thinking of buying out Ed. Smith. I think the state they go, so nearly keeps them busy, that farm of old Ed's would come in handy for our ranch if the help was only there.

Father would be surprised when he got the cable from Supt to put the extra \$10 in the War loan. I thought likely he would be putting money into it without me bothering but I guess it will be all right. He capped all the bats & that suited Major M. just fitti^g good, every little thing like that self at Headquarters too & Major knows it.

The book has not come yet. Thanks in advance. We have all kinds of reading here, a good library & plenty of magazines in our recreation room here just for the taking & signing so don't worry about the repaying matter.

So they are looking into the matter of raising more pork. Wall bacon

and pork is pretty dear here. We get plenty of meat to eat but no pork. We get sausages Thursday noon & Sunday breakfast. They are real good. Saturday dinner we get ham which is good also, Friday noon fish, the rest of the meat beef, either roasted or in stew.

When we go out for a meal here & have a good meal just like what we would have at home it cost about 2. 4 or 6^d so you can see the way money slips away.

We have splendid concerts every Saturday night at our Y.M.C.A. / 13th Brigade No. 2. Mrs. Hey dell Boweslie brings a concert party from London every Sat, night & they are all good artists, every time. Last night they made a little presentation to her. Her husband is a Col. has been to France & won a decoration. They are certainly fine people, have a keen interest in the Canadians & it is her ~~tin~~ ^{money} that is at the back of this Y. They have quite a large estate not far from Godalming & sometimes the fellows of the 134th go out there to work a while. They are used very well.

Mr. Bowring George belongs to the
Highlands. While in France the 48th put
Highlands got him out & a nasty hole
it seems so that they are very lenient
to the 184th Highlanders & are here now.

We have about as good a leader
in our Y. as I know of. Laird Lawson
& he is a prince. He told us last night
of some Lady who had entertained 57 of
the Can's from Wethly on Xmas & she wrote
a note saying that Royalty had been
entertained there but no company had
given her more pleasure than this
Company of Canadians.

I am sending a little snap
taken George of the fellows of 6 platoon
while out on their scouting expedition
to Coates castle. You will recognize some of
the boys, don't try to find out because I
am not there. That is Big Bill my only
The platoon officer with the Sam Brown belt
on.

Mentioned in last letter that I wanted
some money for a pass as soon as I
can get it, I think I can pull a pass as
soon as it comes if we are still here.

Just close for this time.

P.S. Love to all Russel.

Hope Uncle Robert soon gets over his
relapse, Grandma will have an awful time
with two down in the house. (over)

what amuses all these big guns
here is that the fellows just think as
much of a servant girl as Lady so & so.
I know for they go to some place
where there are some good looking
maids waiting on tables etc. the
fellows are just a bunch at home
talking to them as to the Lady of
the house. Of course a servant to
them is some one belonging to another
clan altogether but as a can. They
are all the same & like as not
they will work at her the first time
she come to the table -

P.W. G.

water s I could get
middle for servants in
I am given to you as a can. This is
the most best of all kinds yes its
as good as it can be but not as
well made as it now is. It is well
made and it now is a good gift

D

servants had and had no servants
as soon as any one come more
as and as fast as he could,
and the more so much as more
and the more so much as more
and the more so much as more
and the more so much as more

19

2.9

it was for now things went up
and things went down and more
and more and more and more but now