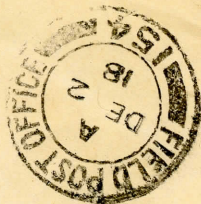


O.A.S.

Nov. 18.



Mrs. John Wagner,
Dobbinston,
Ontario,
Canada.

1082.

ON

Jemeppe, Belgium
Nov. 26/18.

Dear Folk at Home;

This is forenoon and we are waiting for breakfast, about nine o'clock, our rations have not come up yet - so I guess dinner & breakfast will be together. The people we are living with came to the rescue however, gave us a loaf of bread, some potatoes & cabbage. so I guess we can wait now till the rations do come.

If you cannot find this insignificant place on the map, it is one days march from Namur. That will likely be our next stopping place. We are having a couple of days rest today & tomorrow. We marched yesterday & the day before, stayed the night before last in Ransart. It is some long hike but I guess we will hit the Rhine by Christmas - anyhow.

I received your letter of Oct. 30th also a box, but I didn't notice any date in it. I didn't just think I got it at the time so probably I missed it anyhow you will know.

The people we are with here are very poor and as we say 'they don't know they are living'. The old man can read anyhow because he got a paper this morning and ever since he has sat there and read aloud to himself. He is like George Monkman in that respect. A great many of the people thro' this district are miners.

The last couple of baths we have had have been in the mine baths. They have the bath right at the top of the mines for the miners and it is sure good, plenty of hot water from sprays just like a U.S. Navy shower.

I was down visiting wire this morning. he is billeted with the first. The first goes them good, is quite a live wire alright. A few days ago we were marching and stopped for dinner in Louviere. It halted just in front of a convent school and those people there gave us their whole dinner I think. They gave plenty of soup and potatoes, and a bunch went in and had roast beef etc. About a hundred of us went into a room in the front where there was a piano, they played the national anthems etc. so we had quite a nice rest there.

He are being paid this afternoon, getting seventy francs for a Xmas day. That will sure buy us some eats, I was nearly broke this time but still kept a little & it sure came in handy just lately, we could buy meat at butcher shops and cooking sometimes.

The people of this country are great for crucifixes in France as well, of course most of the people are R.C. In France especially they have large ones up at cross roads and here and there along the road, and in all the houses here they have them setting up with

a glass over them on all their cupboards.
 I haven't seen any of the boys in either
 Batt^{ies} lately we seem to always be by our-
 selves now. Lewis & I are the only two from
 around home together now. We often see
 Ed. Martin, he is in another Co. of the
 Batt^{ies}. Ed. is looking quite well, about as
 fat as ever.

Well I guess I will close for this time
 Love to All Russell