

France
Aug. 26th

Dear Folk at Home;

Received your letter of July 23rd including the snaps. The box sent July 20th also arrived last Sat, it came in good shape. The snaps were very good, it brings back memories to see the faces of the people back there occasionally.

You mentioned Conns's & that bunch being up, are there any of them over here? If I knew the addresses of some of my former relations over here I might easily find them.

You mentioned that Earl Houston would be a small soldier. Well he has nothing on a bunch of Keins I saw going thro' here today. There were kids ~~as~~ between 16 & 18 lots of them and some pretty old fellows too, they were the hardest looking bunch I have seen yet. Not shaved for weeks, some of them, and such unhealthy, white faced some of them, you would think they had lived in a dugout all their life. I think our fellows, our artillery I mean keeps them in dugouts most of the time by the

amount of stuff they put over to him.

I was glad to hear that you got along so well with the haying, as long as Les stays you can manage alright and I think this war will end next summer at the latest. I am very optimistic now, I believe Foch is the right man at the top and the Yankee manpower will certainly tell. They seem to be able to bump things at almost any point they wish now.

I think that it was since I wrote last that I saw Phil. He happened to be taking the train at a town where he was billeted and he came to the station. We were talking to him for a couple of hours, he is standing it well, is in the transport section now so has a team to look after.

I did not go out with the section today, thru I stayed on a little job of our own we have here inspecting some bridges which are charged to go up if Henry should come over but he is going the other way at present.

We have a good billet a present five
 of us have large upstairs front room of a
 house, bunk table & all the hit good billets
 occasionally all right. We have a flayer friend
 here too. what do you know about that. I
 saw Dave Wark yesterday. He was hit on
 the knee in the last affair I told you of
 but not serious enough to go down the
 line. He is gone from our Battⁿ now & is
 with the Field Ambulance, was going up the
 line when I saw him.

We have a large outdoor swimming
 pool here so have a plunge every night
 almost. Imagine going for a swim
 with steel helmet & gas mask at the
 alert, well such as the case. I

Hear Stan Martin is up the line
 again. Poor Stan. can't seemingly get
 away from the line for long. I guess
 his wound was very slight.

Heiny comes over here bombing on
 bright nights and the night before last
 they brought down one of his planes
 in flames so that fellow will bomb
 no more.

Aug 6/17

These bombs are wretched things, when
Leiny is over Lead you havent the least
idea where one is coming, they are worse
than shells at least they seem to
bother you more.

Well I guess I will close again
it is just supper time.

Love to all

L Russell

