

EDINBURGH

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POSTAL
POST OCT. 1917



Mrs. John Wagner,
R.R. #1, Dobbinton,
Ontario
Canada

DOOR
OCT 17
1934

Withey Camp, Surrey
June 4th 1777.

Dear People at Home:

Rec'd Leslie's letter last Fri.,
no other letters from home tho' there must
be a couple more somewhere.

All cattle will be out now so chores
will be less I suppose and garden parties
will be coming on.

How does Jack stopper think the war
is going? Does he think he can spare his
boys to go in this bunch from Bruce? If he
wants to be here and down at Folkestone where
that are raiding. I think he would realize
there was a war on.

Do you know when Les talks about
the horses I have to stop for awhile and
think just what they will like. That is the
colts. How does poor blind Ned work
these days?

I was sorry to hear that George
had been taken down with aff. I have not
heard further.

Dinner up to London on weekend got
in at 1.45 M. last night. (L151)

It was a short fass but nevertheless I enjoyed it, a change is as good as a rest. I got to London about 8 pm Saturday afternoon and spent the rest of the afternoon sight seeing, going to the theatre in the evening.

We were up to the tower of London and had a look all through it. Mabel will be able to tell you where it is & what it looks like, from History. Used to read about the tower that stands ~~for~~ square to ~~for~~ to all the winds that blow".

I am going to send a bunch of cards purchased there. The Kings jewels are one of the most interesting things to be seen, they are certainly well gaurded and of course are worth gaurding.

The Beauchamp Tower is where prisoners were put, years ago and there are inscriptions there quite interesting. All kinds of rifles, swords, lances, cannon and all manner of weapons are there since fighting began I think.

One thing I missed that I might have attended if I had not been misinformed was the decoration of all these soldiers and sailors. I suppose probably you read it in the paper.

I got wind of it when I went up but a fellow up there told me it would be over at half past two so we didn't go up. Later I found out it was at 4.30, so I missed seeing the Dog that time. As far as going the dog goes I don't care if never saw him but it's just to be able to say you saw him.

I am instructing on Anti Gas measures now in the 164th & 208th the two new Batt^{ns} in our Brigade. Their N.C.O.s & officers are nearly all taking courses and the N.C.O.s & officers from the 166th & 134th have full swing and may be those fellows are not getting it put at them as we never did. They have a fresh bunch of Instructors about every hour and each new instructor expects them to know right to it so that they are nearly dogged out.

The 5th Division now might as well be called a Reserve, there are men coming in now to fill up where the drafts used to be drafted by the N.C.O.s & officers here so what is the difference.

Since last Wednesday I have been at this job and it is fine! I have from 13 to 14 in the forenoon and from 3 to 4 in the afternoon. How is that for hours? It is a dandy chance to write letters.

I had about 30 in a class this afternoon, of the 20th and then were Fusiliers and Drabs & all kinds of men. One fellow says "You have a heart for us we are human we have been at it all day?" Thank goodness it was only helmet duty that I had.

I was talking to a fellow of the 110th who hasn't gone across yet and he says that Scugley is still in this country.

I havent heard from Gil now for quite a long time. I guess he is kept busy now.

The fellows were away out today on the ~~co~~ commons again, packs included. They have to carry packs all the time now, they soon won't need any pack mules.

Rec'd a letter from Mr Peacock just now, poor Tom is terribly upset.

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If Up in London every where you go
there are big posters "Eat less Bread" and
then in windows of private houses "In
Honour bound we pledge ourselves to
adopt the National System of Rations" or
something to that effect. You also see
some long line-ups in London for sugar rations.

Harry Simmed is moving out of our
hut now, he is taken on at the Divisional
Lewis Gun School and is going to different
quarters up main headquarter. I am the
only N.C.O. left in the hut now, so general
~~overseeing~~ of the hut falls to a certain extent
on my shoulders, responsible for order &
equipment, cleanliness & report of hut at
lights-out, all present or no?

Well I think will close for this time.
Hope to get some more mail soon.

Love to all
Russel