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Trier, Germany
Feb. 16, 1919

Dear Folks,

Its quite a long time ago that I wrote to you last and told you how everything was getting along. I guess I got one of my old spells and just couldn't sit down and write. Well today I think that that spell has left me so I am going to try and write you a letter in which I will tell you all the news to date.

First of all I hope this letter will find you all well and in the best of health. For myself I can say that I am feeling fairly well except for a bad cold.

The last time I wrote I was in a hospital in Coblenz, but now I am in a hospital at Trier. Almost everybody in the hospital at Coblenz was shipped to Trier. I think we left Coblenz the 26th of Jan. We got on a Red Cross Hospital train in the morning and in the evening we arrived in Trier. I am now at Evacuation Hospital No. 12. The hospital is located in what was formerly known as the Hinderburg "Coserne" or barracks it is a pretty nice place and is all closed in. On one side is a small mountain that goes almost straight up in the air from the foot. On the other three sides the place is walled in. In this place the German had their troops stationed and also had a Lazarett or hospital. There are two big mess halls where not so many months ago German troops ate but are now being used by the Americans. Also there are the barracks big brick buildings, with baths and toilets. A good many of the boys are now sleeping in beds that Germans use to occupy. Life is very dull around here and also very monotonous. We can go to town only on pass. Here in camp, that is the hospital grounds we have a big Red Cross Hut no Y.M.C.A. Better off with out I think. Almost every day they serve out Hot Chocolate or coffee with cookies or sandwiches, which the boys surely appreciate. Also there are lots of magazines and newspapers to read. Just about every evening there is a show or moving pictures. There have been some pretty good shows up to date. The pictures are German and nobody cares for them because they are so different from ours. Also lots of the fellows say they are too deep to understand but I think they are too complicated to understand. Well from tonight on we are going to have American pictures. Tonight we are going to have Charlie Chaplin with us. There is going to be an early show for patients starting at 6P.M. Last night we had lectures on the History of France.

I have been to town several times but there is nothing worth while there. They have several picture shows and an opera house. There maybe more for all I know. Trier is a very old city and has a Roman Road and several arches. If you remember I wrote a letter telling you of hiking through Trier in the early part of December. To be exact it was the 2nd of Dec. I haven't seen the ruins of the old Castles and places yet because I haven't being able to get to town before 7P.M.

In town the Red Cross, K.C. and Y.M.C.A. have some fine places for the boys. They have shows and dances at the Red Cross and the Y.M.C.A. Its fun to watch when they have dances. For instance in the Red Cross the other night they had a dance. There were about two hundred boys who wanted to dance and only four or five Red Cross Women. You know as



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well as I do that the boys don't like to dance together. Well whats the use of dancing anyways if you haven't got a girl to dance with So what they done to overcome the shortage of women was, about every minute a whistle would blow and that would be a signal for changing partners. The reason for changing partners was so as to give the fellows a chance to dance with the women and not let certain fellows hog the women the whole dance. Here's where the fun comes in. When the whistle blew the fellows would make a mad rush out on the floor and try to grab one of the women. Almost everytime the whistle blew, half a dozen fellows would almost smother one of the women trying to get a dance. One would grab her by the right arm, another by her left, some would get her by the shoulders, and some poor boob who was to far back in the crowd to grab hold of her would smile at her thinking she would dance with him because of his smile. I don't know what I would do if I was in the girls place I think I would go wild. Well so much for the dances. I think I will go out and get my supper now so as to get strength enough to finish this letter.

Feb 17, 1919

I meant to finish this letter last night after supper but couldn't get the chance. When I came back to the Red Cross the moving pictures were going on so I couldn't get ink and pen to write with so I let the letter go until today. The morn-ing pictures are good and especially old Charlie. He sure made the bunch laugh. He played in "The Cure.

This morning I went on light duty. I swept about eight flights of stairs. Day before yesterday I was transferred from the hospital proper to the Convalescence Building so it is only a matter of a few days before I will be going back to the outfit. Well I think I have had a long enough rest anyway.

Tonight or maybe this afternoon I will go to town and try to see the ruins and Roman archways. I believe every afternoon a bunch from the Convalescence Building go sightseeing so I will try to go with them today. If I go I will have something to write about.

Well this is about all the news up to the present time so I am going to ask a few questions.

How is everything at home coming along? I hope things are O.K. Have you been getting my letters. How about the letters wrote on the hike. Did you get them all? What's the news of the troops coming home? Are many of the boys back yet? I suppose are just those that are sick or wounded. I thought for a while that I was coming back but no such luck. By the looks of things and the rumors floating around it seems as though the Regular Army will be the last to leave, so I am figur-ing that if I will be home to celebrate the 4th of July I will be lucky. Just the same I am not paying much attention to the rumors as no one can tell when the rumors are likely to change.

How are Rose and Marcus getting along? Are they writing to me? Tell Rose I have a pretty Souvenir for her. It is a Braclet made out of a Rotating Band of a German seventy-seven. It was made by a Dutchman up in the lines and all the Nurses say it is a nice little souvenir.

Well up to the present time I have had no mail from you since I left the outfit so there ought to be quite a bit there for me. I suppose when I get there they will have sent it to the hospital so I will have to wait until it gets back and then maybe most of it will be lost. The mail



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they sent to me the last time I was in the hospital must have gone lost because I haven't got it yet. I haven't only a couple of letters from June and July and I am quite sure that I have some from August and September and only a few from Oct. and November.

How is the weather around home? Has the ice in the lakes started to break yet? Weather here was very cold, but for the last three days it has been raining almost continuously and sure is muddy all around. In the morning it is so foggy a person can hardly see. If it keeps on raining this afternoon I don't think we will have a sightseeing party so I will have to go some other time.

Well this is all I have to write for this time so I will close with love and kisses to all, I remain as ever your loving

and affectionate Son

Max

Headquarters Co. 18th Inf. 1st Div.

Signal Section American E.F.

Mogendorf, Ger.

NAME



Trier, Ger. Feb. 16 1919

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