

France July 23 1918

Dear Bunch.

Received your most wonderful, a few days ago and can only describe it by saying that it was a magazine in condensed form so I have named it my literary digest never the less it contained more real home news than I had received in months.

I would judge from the list of names that you have given me that you must have a crack Dept- and I only wish that my name was on the list.

You spoke of the smelt running in the sandy river I can see old Zack leaving the fire house about 4 A.M on his day off loaded down with nets and sacks headed for Troutdale in his little old 448. IT really seems too bad that he can not include a quart of snake bite in his fishing out-fit for a man of his age really needs to take the greatest of precaution.

The liberty loan drive that was started in the States April 6th I understand was a great success but we started our little liberty drive July 4th and can assure you that is was a complete success and that is not all of it, it is still going, up to the present date there has been more than 25000 germans captured 23 towns and in-numerable guns and cannons but as I said before it has just started, the germans have played their hand and to my opinion it is just a matter of a short time untill they will lay down; there is no doubt in any ones mind but

that they realize that they are whipped, the fact that Austria is on the verge of a collapse is enough to bring the Kaiser to his senses and I don't believe that it will be necessary to drive them back on their own soil as they can be as thoroughly whiped on French soil as any where else besides they will have enough to do after this is over paying up their debts and they will not have the spare moments to spend fixing up their homes so I am firmly convinced that a few serious defeats will bring out peace proposals galore Austria says that she is willing to take the peace terms that the Allies will give her because she feels that we want to do what is right by her it is a shame that she did not think of that before she cast her lot with the Germans but possibly it is the best thing that it has been the way it is I believe that it will do away with the crowned heads and the common herds will have a chance for their lives as the Americans have, One never realizes what a good old place and how well governed the U.S. is untill he gets away from it you would be surprised to see the difference that a government can make in men over here they really seem to be afraid to say that their name is their own and this is a republic and supposed to be like ours can you imagine what people would be, living under an absolute monarch any way they are not like the good old Yanks that we know who would just as soon tell one Guy to go to---- as the other

and I will never feel that I am living until I get my feet back on American soil.

It is a shame that Eddie Boatright and Hyberg have had to lay around American Lake all this time as I am sure that they could have seen some very interesting ^{things} over here being in the Dept- that they are in

Of late I have also seen a few sights that I had never seen in the States. Aeroplane fights are a very common thing on this side of the water and you can believe me that it usually proves disastrous to some one, the Huns manage to get over the lines now and then but they have a H--- of a time getting back because the Allies have sure got the guns that can bring them down they do very little damage but cause us to use up lots of ammunition, but that is what the war is for I guess it seems as to the Krupp gun works of Germany had an over supply of war material and wanted to sell it, but at the present writing I believe they have sold out their stock pretty well and have calls for all they can make, if there was only some way that they could turn out a few more soldiers I believe they could hang on for some time yet.

They have their 19 class on the field all ready and with them added they can do nothing so can you figure out where they will get off at with the Americans coming over at the rate they are?

Who is this said Bod Bush I don't ever remember of hearing of him before not wishing Chief Holden any bad luck I hope Bob beats his man,

I don't know that I am very sorry because the two platoon lost as I was always in favor of one in three as it is, the raise of salary is not so bad and possiby in the near future we can have something that would put the two platoon to shame.

Boat launching seems to be a very common thing on the coast now a days what do you suppose they will do with so many Portland seems to be trying to flood the market I will claim that it will be going some if they can buuld boats faster than old Kaiser Bill can sink them.

There seems to be very little left for me to say but I send my best regards to all the boys and also wish the Steno-- the best of luck and I wish that I could spend a few minutes dictateing a letter to her but you know as at is I am compelled to write my own letters.

I have been getting the best of treatment and am very well satisfied with this Dept- I will say good by for now and hope to here from you all in a short time. I wonder if E.V.H. is still in the Auditors office Jemte-

es
L. C. J.

Oscar Jemtegard
Oscar Jemtegard
General Purchasing Agent
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A.E.F.