

Somewhere in France  
Nov.6.1918.

Chief B.F.Dowell  
Portland Fire Bureau  
Portland Oregon.

Dear Friend Bid:::Havent written you in quite some time and have a few minutes to spare this afternoon so will try and write a few lines

I have just returned from a leave of absence of 14 Days during which time I visited many cities of southern France and also spent two days in the world renown city of Monte Carlo in the little Province of Monaco. which is owned and controlled by the Prince of Monaco

I spent one morning visiting thru the Casino or gambling hall as we would call it and believe me it sure was very interesting and very beautiful. There are 39 halls for gambling in and each one of them was designed by a different artist who is a peer at his work it seems as though each one of them tried to outdo the other in his work. Most all of the designs are done in relief appearing as though it were possible to go up to the picture and pick the figure right off of the wall. Also spent quite a bit of time in the two Museums which the Prince Also owns in these he has curios and souvenirs of the many hunting and fishing trips he has been a member of with many of the Crowned Heads of Europe and many prominent people of the U.S.

The Aquarium in which are many rare specimens of the deep is marvelous to say the least, the machinery with which these are caught at different depths of the Sea is all on exhibition and is quite interesting to look upon. The specimens are simply unbelievable a person would never believe that there is so much life existing at such enormous depths, all of these specimens are kept alive at the same pressure of depth corresponding to that of which they were taken from in the Sea



Bid I could spend many hours writing about this trip and then there still would be something more to write about but I can truthfully say that it is all wonderful and interesting and is well worth the time spent

Well I suppose all of the papers are full of news in regards to finish very soon it sure looks like it now with Austria and Turkey out of the running Really I dont think that it will be long now before it will all be over and then we can all return to the States.

Had quite a long letter from Ed Campbell the other day was quite surprized to hear of his making a change from the employ of the city Havent seen any of the old Portland gang lately . I think I told you about seeing Pat Keegan or rather hearing about his being here He was doing auto work with an engineer organization the number of which I am not allowed to mention as you already know.

Well Bid Give my regards to all the gang around the hall and the alarm office and engine one tell them all I hope to be back with them soon will write again soon

as ever

*Joe  
Engine One*

Sgt. Wm. J. Costello  
Motor Supply Train 406  
A.E.F.:::::A.P.O.701.

*W. J. Costello  
M.S.T. 406*