

Thursday, Nov. 1st., 1917.

Dear Mother;

There is plenty of news to tell you even if you cannot return it. Today received a letter from Aunt Ethel, Grandma and Ets. I am sending the two answers, as requested in the same letter hence, saving of stamps.

Things are going a humming is that word spelt right or with one m. Tonight we are going to have night drill with bombing parties, scouting, and sorties, using blank cartridges. They are building trenches, those used by the French. This morning I was practicing throwing into a trench, using a two lb. bomb and it landed in the entrenchments two out of every three, sometimes 100 % good. Dutch and myself will be connected with the Lieutenants and I with the Captain as messengers and signalers.

Tuesday they gave us an extra, blanket also issued stoves (tent stoves). These take the chill off at night so as they are more tenantable. Today I spent two hours chopping wood and put up a clothes line in our street. Even though it is real cold to day I am going to take a shower. I seldom miss ~~xxx~~ one, every day even if it is cold.

Friday evening we go on Guard and on Saturday the Sargents whose tent I am quartered in have invited me to go with them to town for supper. Believe me I am going to get a good meal as I have not been in town for two weeks.

One of the sargents had a large box of cake, chocolate layer cake, and believe me it was good I had a good share of it.

In a few minutes I am going out for squad Mount. Just got finished kicking a foot ball around. I am going to close and hope to hear(from you) soon. By the way, Sargent Wallace in the tent came from the Water Gap I told him that was where you spent your honeymoon 25 years ago. Tomorrow I start in practice with the drum it is just like the one Dad bought me a long time ago.

Give my love to Ma and kiss Pinkie for me
With love,

Howard.

Friday 2.30 P. M.

Received your other letter today and contents noted.
Night drill was thrilling and great, longer account next letter.

Am glad the mirror is coming. Have not heard from Blanche.