

**HEADQUARTERS PORT OF EMBARKATION**  
NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA

Room 16, Schenley Bldg.  
2516 Washington Ave., Newport News, Va.

Dear Margaret:

Behold my new address! We moved yesterday I have room 16, and an interest in the ~~same~~ rooms 18, 20,  
22, which will be occupied by Lt. Edwin Smith, Miss  
Alice Brown and other law enforcement people.  
The ~~full~~ ~~one~~ rent is paid by the Am. Hyg. Assn.  
The army has issued me furniture for my room  
and an army phone. We are renting a  
second phone in the city central. I expect  
it to be quite comfortable, although the building  
is rather dilapidated in spots. It needs more  
cleaning, like most of the buildings in town.

The army will give me a Field Clerk  
in uniform and I shall have the ~~same~~ services  
of Mr. Embree's private secretary for the next  
two months while he is in Europe. Mr. Cubree  
is secretary of the Rockefeller Foundation, so I  
take it ~~she~~ his Secretary, Miss Stoughton, will  
be a "hunderger". Miss Wells is down here  
temporarily. She is ~~an~~ one of the stenographers  
of the Am. Soc. Hyg. Assn. She is very rapid  
(in shorthand & typing and also in tatting) and rather

lightning, but she is very faithful and enthusiastic. She just bubbles with excitement over the work of the law enforcement squad and is almost overcome with awe and admiration for Mr. Stockdale, a low-brow ~~but~~ but experienced detective, who is head of the squad. Mr. Stockdale was in a few minutes ago to show her a large revolver which he took from a colored man last night. ~~The~~ Miss Wells is getting all the thrills of a dime novel. She seems to like the work down here. She insists on working, Sundays, holidays, and evenings.

Speaking of thrills & then I wrote several in your last letter. It always does me lots of good to hear from you and to learn again that you love me. Of course it will be nice if we have been able to put Gertrude into a career which she will regard as more her own than the one she has followed as a pot-boiler. I am so anxious to hear that she has fitted into the game and feels that she is making good and will enjoy the work. I am so glad that she is having a preliminary period of observation as

study. Wouldn't it be a joke on her if they should send her here for some experience. She'd have to listen to her little brother in law then.

Miss Cecilia Brown is the new Social Worker here. They have sent her an ex-school teacher about 50 years old from North Carolina to train in casework. Gertrude is one hundred times as smart and her mind is about 100 years younger than that of this temporary addition to the staff. Miss Brown almost fell over when the news arrived ~~said~~ told her that she never realized that there were such awful things happened in the world till three weeks ago. She also asked her how she learned about such things and had she ever talked about them with men. Of course the news come is hopeless, but we shall have to give her a trial. I believe she was a next door neighbor to Mrs. Daniels and she may have been recommended by her. Don't spread this gossip.

I am sending Peggy some coral beads right from the glass factory via Woolworth's Emporium and Gertrude can have the blue ones from the same

force to match his eyes.

I just love your precious comment on "heads." When you speak of having been "just the scared" it reminds me of a time when we were sleeping together on the far side (from home) of a roaring mountain stream, and you woke me to tell me that we were all going to be drowned. But we weren't. And the chances are a hundred to one that our precious association will survive this war, and that our country and our children will again enjoy peace. And above all I wish for a prolongation of mental youth and physical vigor for us both. It seems as though the risk of being killed or wounded is much less than that of getting seriously sick in a chronic state of fatigue.

In my present work I am quite serene, perhaps a little laggy. I haven't begun to write articles or latrino reports. Without writing and with enough sleep, I seem to be able to do a vast amount of routine without losing ground, especially if the weather is not too dr.

So I am feeling fine!<sup>3</sup> See you? I could only feel fine if I could be with you. Another thing helps my state of mind, and that is the memory of how nice you were in Chicago & Edyhalde, and the prospect of seeing you again somewhere and somehow and soon.

It is only 48 days to September first! Don't think flying! Of course I can't say for sure when I shall return to Washington, but I am at leasting thinking of Sept. 1 as the probable date. I think Major Sager will come to New York ~~now~~ at the end of the week with Mr. Wickliffe also of the Rockefeller Foundation, and then I can get ~~a~~ <sup>an</sup> idea of future plans. If I am to stay here long, I shall most certainly want you all here.

(Notice the Virginia expression "you all": they use it in the south who even when addressing one person). Won't you write me about your works and plans? How long do you & Mother want to stay at the cottage?

Enclosed is a letter from Grace. John evidently sailed from China on June 29.

Lover,

Today is Sunday. I was planning to stay the morning writing this letter, but as I came up the street I met Miss Thom & her friend Miss Scott, a social worker visiting from Baltimore. They invited me to go with them to the Episcopal Church in Hampton and to see the grounds of Hampton Institute, so I went along. The church is made of stone and is surrounded by a cemetery, the نفس setting for an old church. The congregation is 300 years old, although most of the people looked considerably younger. Some people don't show their age in this era of camouflage. The building is not as old as the congregation. I suppose the original structure melted away or was torn down. The service was especially "high" church.

After the service we walked down to Hampton Institute, the colored institution founded by Booker Washington. They have extensive buildings and big grounds and many beautiful buildings doubtless financed by the friends of the Negroes in the north. There were expansive lawns and the buildings,

were mostly of reddish brick or brown stone, and they were decorated with ivy. Everything was spotlessly clean. Cleanliness was part of Barber Washington's philosophy. We stepped inside their large chapel. It is a handsome stone church with a tower. There are about 900 students in the regular sessions, but the war has cut the male attendance down. Next Wednesday Dr. Roman (colored) is to speak there to the Humpfey Roads Medical Association of (colored) and I shall go to hear him. He has been added to the Surgeon General's Office (Section on Venereal Diseases) for the purpose of giving lectures to the colored doctors.

The picture for Champion has not come yet, but I suppose it is on the way and will be here to-morrow (Monday). Did you ever get a letter asking for the status of my a/cit with the First M. & C. Church in D. C. I don't think I am being stingy in wanting to close up my affairs there. The delay means 50 cents a week because I shall not have the face note to pay up to the date.

in which I ask for my letter of membership.  
You registered letter containing the bank  
book and another nice little letter and  
two checks came this morning. I am still  
scratching my sparse scalp trying to  
make out just where things stand, and  
I shall soon have it figured out. Did you  
draw out the other savings' acct & put it all  
in the checking acct? I think I shall leave all  
of the Oakland B&S. Accts in Berkeley until I  
need to transfer it or use it. I certainly  
would not want to open a savings' acct  
here for only a couple of months. I'll just  
let the interest accumulate there. I suppose  
we'll leave the children's accts undisturbed  
in the same way. They can buy one savings' stamp  
for a while?

As I have figured it out, I am ahead  
in the payments to the Life Ins. Acct.  
owing to the payment for the recent premium  
to the Northwestern. The next bill will  
come in September and I shall just  
let the matter rest till then, keeping the  
bank book. There are four life ins. bills  
due in about March, July, Sept, & Oct. & also an  
accident ins. premium.

5.

I shall follow your advice & send only \$150 for a while, but you have more than that coming to you, old Sweetheart, out of our increased income. So let me know if you want money, as I have a balance in the bank now. Our expenses will be increased by \$10 a mo. storage in our furniture in Washington. Don't you need ~~Lester~~ an increased allowance? I hope you will write mother that we can let her have money if she needs it. How does she happen to be so flush?

Victor writes that Blythe has gone home but does not say whether he was successful in his business ventures. Meads is rooming with him. He arranged to have our furniture sent crated to the Security Storage Co., 1140 15th St. N.W. between L & M. The charge will be \$10 per mo for ~~—~~ 100<sup>2/3</sup> ft floor space piled 10 ft high.

Want it to be nice when we can pay rent on space we can use? Fortunately the rent will not begin until the freight arrives.

With lots of love, Dear Sweetheart.

Wilbur.