San Francisco Overland Limited

Chicago and North Western Ry.
Union Pacific Railroad
Southern Pacific

Leaving Omaha
on the minute, March 18, 1946

Dear Margaret,

So far so good!

Our train reached Chicago about on time, and this 16-coach Overland Limited is on time so far. I had eleven mortal hours to fritter away in Chicago. So I had a haircut, three movies and as much walking as seemed attractive in the Windy City. For awhile it was necessary to hang onto ones hat with determination and to turn ones face leeward to avoid swallowing dust and dirt or a flying newspaper. At dinner I had the company of Lt. Col. Long of the Surgeon General's office, and saved one

PS Please ask Gertrude Henderson to let us know the latest on the NY legislatures action on income tax lump deduction. Whereupon write

letter by thanking him really for his contribution to the Friendship Calendar. He just happened to walk into the sky restaurant before I was through. When I first got in I phoned Dr Taliaferro's office at the U. of Chicago, but he was out of town. So I didn't visit the University.

I have just had a good breakfast and was told that there would be no luncheon. People are giving much thought to their Christmas breakfast, and I substituted baked and cream for orange juice. The dining-car conductor also hinted that it was possible to get a second breakfast before 12 o'clock.

It certainly pays to get up by 7:30 or 8 a.m., for you have plenty of room to shave (a small private dressing compartment on this

car of mind, plenty of room in the diner, and even a seat in the observation car, where I am writing this letter. ~~Last evening~~ The first evening we lined up ~~along~~ for an hour to get into the diner, in uncomfortable seat, and were dusted full of cinders from the open door in the platform things which the line extended.

Your berth, the lower in my section, is still vacant, malheureusement, ~~is still vacant~~, and I suppose it is one of those late releases. I wish you were along. It would have given us a glorious time to visit, - twice ~~across~~ across the continent. Nevertheless there are

signs everywhere asking as whether the trip is necessary for winning the war. It would be hard to explain mine, I am afraid. Imagine telling the officials that I had been summoned to come for an LLD when ~~they~~ arguing to keep my place if demanded by some ~~low~~ low-priority individual. Well I think the empty berth below me is some insurance against being ousted now. About half the people on the train are in uniform. One marine engineer on the train to Chicago wore corduroy trousers and a blue shirt on which he had a couple of lines of ribbons displayed just as though in uniform.

My letter address will be St. Francis during my stay on the coast.

Much love to all the household. Tell Margaret that the windows in Chicago are full of my rabbits.

With love,

Milton.