

No. 1522/S.12/27

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE

ACCRA

28th June, 1941.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to inform you with regret that Captain Gordon Woodruff of the Royal Army Medical Corps who was an American national was accidentally drowned while bathing at Accra on the 2nd of June, 1941.

2. Reports on the accident by the Officer Commanding the 37th General Hospital to which Capt. Woodruff had been posted, and by Capt. B. G. Hill, who was also bathing at the time, are enclosed. Capt. Woodruff's passport is also enclosed.

3. At the subsequent inquest the Coroner found that the death of Capt. Woodruff was due to accidental drowning. A copy of the inquest proceedings will be forwarded to you at an early date.

4. The death of Capt. Woodruff was reported, immediately on its occurrence, to the War Office which is the authority responsible for notifying the relatives of the deceased.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

?

for ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

THE AMERICAN CONSUL,
LAGOS,
NIGERIA.

ECOT.

A true copy of
the signed Original.





Officers' Mess
No. 2 Training Battn. R.E.,
Newark, Notts.

Oct 7-1940

Dear Mother,

Have just come home from seeing a film in the village with three other chaps. It was the 'Earl of Chicago' with Robert Montgomery, of all things. We thought it rather good. It was particularly apt for us, being the story of an American gangster as an English lad. Afterward we walked home through the blackout to the camp. There was a moon tonight and it was quite nice walking along the lanes but ordinarily it is dreadfully dark when there are no lights at all. One does get a sort of 'blackout sense' though, I think. I am always impressed on coming into a camp at night to be challenged by the sentry with fixed bayonet and loaded rifle. 'Halt! Who goes there?' is a very peremptory sound in the dark particularly when you know it is an inexperienced lad with

the gun. Living in a military camp has a fascination that grows on one, I think. I shall miss the bugle calls, the marching feet on the barrack square and the uniforms when I go back into 'civvy street' as they say. Life in the army has lots of drawbacks, but it is very pleasant too in many ways. The officers here are an unusually nice lot of men. Probably the most decent lot I have lived with yet and I have lived with several now. The subalterns in particular are good lads. I often think there is no one in the world nicer than young Englishmen of this particular class. They have their faults, of course, but for pure niceness and good companionship they are hard to beat. I doubt whether they develop into politicians capable of dealing with the type of international bandit who is in the world today, but for straightforward jobs, as leaders of men they are hard to beat.

I was very interested in your last letter and as you can imagine I was particularly interested in the news of Francis and Sally's coming baby.



No. 2 Training Battn. R.E.,
Newark, Notts.

I have been wondering for a long time now when you would write saying that they had a baby on the way. I personally am very glad that they are starting a family now and was hoping they would not put it off. Please congratulate them for me. I will also write to them. Does it make you feel rather ancient being a prospective grandmother? Mamma must be rather excited too at the idea of being a great grandmother. I must say it even makes me feel the passage of time when my younger brother is having children. I suppose even Betty will feel rather senescent at the idea of being an aunt.

How is Dad? I wrote him about two weeks ago and would very much like to hear from him. Seeing so many Shorthorn cattle and Lincoln sheep about here makes me think of the farm quite often. I am sorry to hear that Louise is

Not completely satisfied with her job and that she is tired after the summer. I wish she would write to me sometime.

From the air raid point of view it remains quiet up here, though London seems to be still getting an awful pounding. In my short acquaintance with London I grew to like it very much and I hate to think of the old landmarks being so uselessly destroyed. When I lived in Lambeth across from St. Thomas' hospital I used to walk each morning across Westminster Bridge, by the House of Parliament, through St. James Park to the bank and up Regent Street to Picadilly Circus. I was so depressed then at the idea of my money vanishing and no job certain that this daily pilgrimage to look at the mail sort of fixed those places in my mind indelibly. And now to think that so much of that area has been bombed is dreadful.



No. 2 Training Batta. R.E.,
Newark, Notts.

Just as a life this is a pleasant, monotonous job and the days slip one into another very quickly but from a professional point of view it isn't of much value. I think one acquires considerable ability in judging people and in rapid diagnosis, both of which are valuable, but that is as far as it goes. However I am still only 'temporary' here and am still permanently attached to No. 3 Gen. Hospital which will one day reorganize and I think go East. The war is yet young and I shall see enough wounds before it is over, I suppose.

We are all very interested in the election, and mostly think that Roosevelt will win. That and whether the 'States will come in' are our main topics of discussion politically at the moment. Most people here think the winter fighting will be in the Near East and Balkans with probably continued raids over England and further attempts at blockading England from the Sea.

Also I personally think that the final phase
for better or worse will be grand scale land
fighting in France and Belgium again, probably
with the A.E.F. there too. What are the prospects
of American war with Japan? I suppose
they are rather imminent. If the last was
called a world war this should be called
an universal war I think.

It is late and I must close. I am living
very quietly now and eleven o'clock seems late.
I am invited to spend a weekend next
month in Hertfordshire and think I will
probably go. Also I am due for leave now
and think I shall probably take it in
December, though where I shall go I don't know.
I think I shall get married next year, if I
am still in England, if for no other reason
than to have somewhere to go on leave.

I hope you are all well. Give my love
to everyone. As ever

Your devoted son
Jordan

July 14-1940

Dear Mother,

Having not heard from you since a letter dated May 15, I don't know what is happening to you all and am a bit uneasy, particularly in view of Mamma's age. I wrote her about these days ago. I think when I finally get settled all or most of your letters will reach me. My life for the past two months now has been one of continual movement, even here in England this is the fourth place that I have been on duty since the 20th of June. And that doesn't count three days' leave in London.

I wrote Mamma most of the details of our evacuation from France so won't go into that again. Suffice it to say that at no time can I say that I was in any great personal danger but the constant threat of danger and in particular the constant need to abandon valuable equipment made things a bit nerve wracking. I was on my own at the last with some men in my charge which was in itself a bit of a worry and we had to abandon our passport which made things rather difficult. I don't think that

I wrote you all that Dorothy was in St. Malo the last few days I was there. She was evacuated from Château Thierry where she had been driving an ambulance for the M.T.C. (Motor Transport Corps) she had a very lucky escape, was bombed, machine gunned and all the rest of it. Two of the five girls she was with were captured apparently. The M.T.C. has been quite a sensation here as of all the women's things they saw the most fire. It was an amazing coincidence my running into her in St. Malo. She had arrived the night before and was having dinner with some officers when I went into the Hôtel de l'Unions with the town major for a bit. I had been out with him all morning inspecting camps and it was very hot. I almost did not go with him as I did not like him very much but did go at the last moment. We were sitting outside with some naval chaps having our beer when I spied another M.T.C. girl whom I knew and she told me that Dorothy was there. You can imagine my amazement and relief as I had been very worried about

Leeds for ten days and now I am down
here as R.M.O. (regimental medical officer)
for temporary duty. Mansfield is one of
the dozens of awful Midland mining
cities with pits all over the place.
Interestingly enough it is in the middle of
what was once Sherwood Forest and if
one gets about three miles out of town
he is in the midst of the remains of
the forest which are still large and
very fine. I went a long walk with
some chaps there this afternoon. Nottingham
which is a fine city is a short bus ride
away and I expect to get in there fairly
often. It is famous for lace making, pretty
girls and Robin Hood's arch enemy. We
also get some rather decent golf and
tennis here and as I expect to be busy I hope
time will fly. In the evenings I study.
I am billeted here in a very comfortable
house with a very decent woman and
we have a reasonable mess here with good
food. New messes are a bit sticky at
first always but I am getting used to
moving about and don't mind these
things any more.

I wish when you write me you would

the little rascal. So then we had about
three days together. There at a time when
things were quiet and I saw her
safely off on the weekly packet to
Southampton. The racket started the next
day and I was awfully glad that
brother had gone as everyone left just
two days later and France was fini
as far as we were concerned. There is
a magnificent beach at St. Malo and
a very quaint old walled town. There
the town is completely walled and the
view from the ramparts at sunset is
gorgeous by moonlight. Dinard, across
the estuary is very posh and swank
and had excellent eating places where
they gave you a very good lobster.
We then went to Bournemouth and had
four wonderful days there resting up. I
was very tired, having got no sleep for
several days and eating largely from
tins of bully beef in our camp outside
St. Malo and on the ship, which was
packed like a sardine tin with troops,
some of them wounded in the show at
Rennes that I wrote you about. From Bournemouth
we went to Winterbourne Gunner on
Salisbury plain for another few days, then

tell me what everyone thinks about the war and whether America will come in. I suppose you must be having a bit of war time prosperity now. What does Dad think of Wendell Willkie? We are all immensely interested in American politics at the moment and particularly in Mr. Roosevelt and what he is going to do.

I have felt rather ~~sad~~^{sad} today on Bastille Day as I became very fond of France. I was so dreadfully uncomfortable last winter and then the Spring was so lovely and we had such a pleasant time until the war started. I shall never forget as long as I live the beautiful long rides we took in the afternoons and evenings in Normandy and the marvellous countryside, old farms and chateaux and the charming French people who had us to tea and for dinner. Or the little Country restaurants where the food was so good and so cheap. Then the hour of war on top of all that peacefulness, the bombings of towns that I knew and the dreadful endless columns of miserable

refugees. And now the whole thing gone
and France making all haste to become
as Nazi as she possibly can. It is almost
impossible to believe that a French government
could do the things that Petain, Bonnet,
Laval & Co. are doing. What do Americans
think of it?

The reason I didn't write or send
any pictures while on leave in France
is that it was a court martial
offence to post letters by any route
except the Army post office and there
was none where I was in France, on
leave. Nor could one send pictures at
all. I am sending you some recent
photos of myself when I get them. They
have been taken and I have seen the
proofs but they haven't come from
Leeds yet. I have also got a rather
decent Zeiss camera and will send
you snaps from time to time. Cameras
were awfully cheap in France. I have grown
a moustache and would like to know
what you think of it. I thinned it
down a bit for the picture.

I am very anxious to hear from
you all and to hear how you all
~~are~~ are. I am glad that Dad got over
his operation so well and hope he has
no further trouble. How is Mamma?
I was terribly sorry to hear she was
not so well and have been especially
worried about her. I would like awfully
to have a full length snap of Betty
some time as I am sure I would not
know her now. It is just two years since
I last saw you all. Would also like to
have a picture of you if you have a
recent one. How are Francis and Sally
getting on? Happily I hope. Mamma
wrote that Louise is a bit thin but I
think Mamma always thinks that. I
hope Louise likes her job and is happy.
How are Uncle Billy & his family and
Aunt Grace and hers. I havent got around
to writing Jack Smith yet.

As for me I am very well and
quite brown and fit after my long
year outdoors, much better condition really

than I have been in a long time. One tends
to lead an outdoor life here in England one
way and another. And of course in France
I lived entirely in the outdoors. In many
ways I wouldn't be doing anything else.
Army life suits me and I like England
and the people and of course war
is exciting. But in other ways I should
like to be able to look forward to being
married soon or in a year or two to
and having a home and family. All of
which seems out of the question at the
moment. I don't think people should
marry during a war, do you? Particularly
in my case as I shall still have the
F.R.C.S. to do and some further training
before going into practice. And then
our future here is to say the least
precarious. I shall be getting a captaincy
in about three months now with a
rather substantial rise in pay and
allowances and it is sometimes a temptation
to get married and let the future take
care of itself for a bit. Also I could
probably always stay in the army if I
wanted to, which I don't particularly, but it

Nally wouldn't be so bad. The chaps are
all very nice and good fun to pal
around with but one does get a bit
lonely at times.

When you write please tell me all
about yourself and how you are
and what you feel about things. Don't
think that I ever forget you or forget
that if it weren't for you it would
be impossible for me to be doing what
I am doing. All my love,
your devoted son
Godwin

How on Wooduff
July 14, 1940

July - 1940

Written from England

Lieut J. Woodruff R.A.M.C.
OFFICERS' MESS

NO 3 GENERAL HOSPITAL

B. E. F.

March 12 - 1940

Dear Mother,

I am afraid that there is again rather a large hiatus in my letters but I have been moving about a bit the past month and time passes so rapidly when you are doing that that I did not realize it was so long since I had last written. But I am back at No. 3 again

now for a week until I go on leave next Monday. I think I shall go to Nice for ten days and get in some bathing in the Mediterranean. Have you ever been to Nice? I am taking a 'Cycle with me and will do a bit of cycling on the Côte d'Azur also, I think. It should be rather good I think. All my travelling is free, of course, and I am hoping not to spend more than about £15. Also I shall be able to wear civilian clothes again which will be a great relief.

The weather is lovely here now, warm and sunny most of the time. We have done quite

a lot of exploring in the neighborhood here and find it a very lovely place - very quaint and picturesque and utterly different from anything at home. We have found a lot of extraordinarily good places to dine within either walking or easy driving distance. Last Sunday four of us, three Medical Officers and one Royal Engineer went to dine at an old Priory which has been converted into a restaurant and where all the cooking is done by the proprietor, a fat white haired and white mustached old gentleman. We had trout and chicken and one or two small dishes. It was the best cooked meal I have ever tasted, I think, and under such very pleasant surroundings. We usually go out for two or three meals each week to some such inn in the neighborhood. I have got to know quite a few French people who live here and often go to tea with them on Sunday afternoons. Some of them have marvelous places in the country here. The remarkable thing is that one sees no French men except in uniform, absolutely

OFFICERS' MESS

No 3 GENERAL HOSPITAL

B. E. F.

now except old people. I know some of the young French officers quite well and they are a pleasant lot on the whole.

I think I wrote you that Herb Fidler is a Major now and stationed at another hospital quite close by. I am expecting promotion soon, too. Dorothy Ogilvie is at Biarritz, I think I wrote you but she is going to the Riviera next week to visit and I shall see her there. Also I have been toying with the idea of marriage but not immediately. I feel that my future is too uncertain to think of it very seriously now. But I like the British Army and have been rather thinking of staying in it after the war is over, if ever.

The Finnish thing is an awful business, isn't it? What do you think of Kermit Roosevelt? I was very interested in your account of the Babcock-Roosevelt wedding and your clippings. Was Louisville very gay this past winter? I

suppose that Louise went out a lot but that Francis, being an old married man is leading rather a staid life. I am glad to hear that Francis is getting along so well in his business. How is Sally? Betty must be quite grown up now and I am sure I shan't recognise her when I come home. I was delighted to hear that Dad's operation went off so smoothly and that his recovery has been so smooth. It must be quite all right by now.

Remarkable thing what a difference weather makes when one is living in a tent. Last winter when this place was so terribly cold it didn't seem at all a desirable place to be. But now we take a very good view of it and think it isn't too bad at all. Of course we sort of half expect hostilities now but this is such a peculiar war that one doesn't know at all. What do you and the people at home think of the war?

I hope mammy is well and that the rest of you are all well. I enjoy your letters and mammy's letters very much and hope you will continue to write frequently. Give my love to all and my best love to yourself.
Gordon.

P.S. Congratulations on being 5!

Vale University

Jan 12

Dear Dad,

I have been back not quite a week now and it seems as though I had never been away. You settle down to the routine awfully fast. I enjoyed the holidays an awful lot, especially seeing you all, but it is pretty good to get back here. Exams begin the twenty-third and everyone has begun to work pretty hard in anticipation of them already. After they are over we get nearly a week off, which will be pretty fine, but I wish they would

save that week until the spring
recess.

The weather was pretty and
warm until yesterday when it turned
cold and last night it sleeted. So
this morning it is pretty sloppy
out.

Dick was in the swimming meet
last night and won his event
against some pretty good swimmers.
The freshmen won the meet.

There isn't much news to tell,
I am feeling fine and studying
pretty hard. Hoping you are all well
and with love to everyone, I am
your devoted son
Gordon

about the food. I like it very much. It is simple but good.

I am going to start trig this week. I have been taking some Latin, Vergil, from Dara Kelly, but I am going to stop.

I have been doing an awful lot of riding here and would like to be permitted to take extra rides. All boys are divided in three classes, A, B, and C.

I am an "A" class rider!

I played baseball this afternoon. Our team won 10 to 1.

Monday, July 16

Dear Mother:

I am writing to answer your last letter. I got the bathing suit all right. It fits fine; at least it did the only time I have worn it, over at Granite Lake. In our own lake we don't wear anything. I told Dad in my last letter about my tent master and master. When you get this letter you will have gotten one from Uncle Fritz Kahl my master about me. You wanted to know

My schedule is as follows:

6:50 rising bell (cold shower)
7:20 breakfast
8:20 inspection
8:40 chapel
9:10 1st period (tennis M.W.S., boxing Tue, Thur)
10:10 2nd " (nothing)
11:10 calisthenics
11:30 3rd period (Latin)
12:30 lunch
1:30 rest
2:30 free period
3:45 swim
6:30 supper
8:00 bed.

With lots of love to all,
Gordon.

August 8, 1928

Dear Mother,

I am merely writing you to say that I am well, happy and leaving tomorrow for a week in the White Mountains. The weather is awfully bad here now. Everybody is losing his tan; the sun has not been out for so long. However I hope we will have better weather on the trip.

Affectionately yours,
Gordon.

CAMP MARIENFELD
CHESHAM
NEW HAMPSHIRE

and I went out on permit
to the Palmer house. I think
he enjoyed it a lot.

Francis has gotten
his bronze "C" and I am ash-
amed to say that I haven't
gotten my bronze Tuxis. I
have it nearly finished. It
is awful hard I think.

The troop have gone on
their hike and the band is
away which helps to make
everything gentt. On the
whole I think I'll be glad to
get home.

Please write soon and tell
me all the news. Love from

Francis and I

Devotedly,

Gordoy.

(above 8/8/26

Dear Mammy:

This is Sunday aft-
ernoon and I am writing
after dinner before I have
to get dressed to row on
the chippy crew.

Not intending to I mis-
informed you about the
time we leave here. We leave
here Tuesday the 24th at
eleven o'clock and we get home
at six-twenty five Tuesday
night.

Things have been awful
dead around here lately, nothing
doing and the routine gets
so monotonous. We had our
regular weekly dance and
picture shows and Francis

of the surrounding country
from the summit. In fact on
a clear day the Boston
State-house dome can be seen

Concerning the long trip,
I think I shall remain in
camp. Because of my cold I
haven't gone in swimming
much, ^{entirely} and haven't had time
to pass many tests. Also I
have just started Trig and
I would rather stay here and
study, since there are only
four weeks left.

Outside of the time I have
been laid ~~up~~ with a cold, I

CAMP MARIENFELD
CHESHAM
NEW HAMPSHIRE

August 2, 1928

Dear Mother,

I haven't written you recently
as I have had a cold and did
not want to distress you.

It was nothing to worry about.
I rode over to Monadnock on
a horse the other night with
two masters and about twenty
boys. We slept at the Halfway
House and climbed the mountain
for the sunrise next morning.
It is very beautiful. One can
command a wonderful view

have been having a fine time riding, swimming, playing tennis and baseball. You wished to know if an instructor went along on the rides. Yes, always. Besides these things I have been doing a good deal of canoeing.

The blueberries are ripe here now. There are an awful lot of them and we have had several blueberry pies.

When you write next I wish you would tell me your opinion of my showing on the college boards. It was, to me, better than I had expected.

Please give my love to all.
Devotedly,
Gordon

(ulver 7/30/26

Dear Mamma;

I must apologize
for not writing sooner —
it escaped my mind en-
tirely. We leave here on
Wednesday, August 24th. I
think in the morning about
eleven is when school ends
and our special train
leaves at twelve.

We are well. I saw
Francis this afternoon when
I was out on the boat pier
waiting to pass some tests.
He was returning from
boat-ride across the
lake where he had spent

The night. His foot is well
and he seems to be having
a fine time - I am.

Hoping you are well
and that my carelessness
did not spoil your plans
- I am your devoted grandson,
Gordon.

Alber, July 19, 1926

Dear Mamma;

This morning the courts were too wet ~~to~~ for a tennis lesson, so, as I have a little free time I am writing you.

I got your letter Saturday and took them over to Francis but he was not there.

We are having some hot muggy weather. I haven't been feeling so well, but it's just the weather. We had full dress parade last night and I pretty

I have twinges of it. I've
been having a fine time
and outside of the heat I
have been feeling fine.

I was sorry to hear
Grandpa was sick and
hope he will be well soon.

With lots of love,

Devotely yours,

Gordon.

near fainting, standing
at attention in the heat
so long. There was a very
large crowd there to
watch and a regular
jam of machines. It seems
like the whole state turns
out for our parades. I
imagine they are a fine sight.

Friday, Walter Hagen,
famous golf pro was here
to play an exhibition match
and the whole school
walked around the course
with him.

I am completely over
homesickness except for
a little while before I get
up in the morning when

a regular range with a cliff behind the targets ~~to~~ to stop the bullets. The range is two and three hundred yards.

I won a competition dull the other day in the manual of arms. That gives me another point on my silver Tuxis. I don't think I will get my silver Tuxis but I am going to get my bronze.

as to your question about whether we sail or row in boat drill - we do both. If the wind is good we sail, otherwise we row. The heavy navy cutters we use are pretty hard rowing but I guess that is good for us. They are two and boats, one boy to an oar. We also have catboats, dinghies and bateaux that we can sail in recreation.

I must close now as it is nearly time for

(Alver 8/11/26

Dear Grandpa;

I got your letter yesterday and am replying this morning. Francis and I are both well and having a very good time. The weather has been rather cool here lately and we have had a little rain.

I am sorry I forgot to tell you about our Chapel services. We have them in the open-air theatre every Sunday at eleven. We march in in a body as there would be considerable confusion if so many marched in singly. I got the highest medal that is given in target practice, "Expert Rifleman." We shoot a regular army ~~the~~ .50. They kick an awful lot and my chin and shoulder are sore right now. We have

shoe-drill and I have to put on
my leggins and shoes and belt for it.

With much love from Francis and
myself.

Devotedly your grandson,
Gordon.

We have had a very quiet time here except for the shows dances etc. we have every week. Last night we had a dance at the tennis courts and with the fack-o-lantern fights it was real pretty. We also had a boat ride across the lake which was pretty good.

This last week has been father's week and there has been a very large crowd here. The idea is that the fathers do the same things as their sons.

The western tennis

8/7/26

Dear mother;

I sent you a letter last week but for some reason or other it was returned to me. I received a letter from you yesterday and was very much interested to hear what you had been doing.

I have nearly finished my bronze Tuxis and my seaman qualifications and I am starting on my quartermaster and silver Tuxis. They are pretty hard.

tournament starts tomorrow. There is a large crowd here for it. I am going down to watch it every day during my tennis class. I got pretty far in the school tournament but some of the old fellows were too good for me and I was kayoed.

I have been playing a lot of baseball altho I didn't make the team. However I made the chipper crew. With love from Francis and myself

Devotedly,
Gordon.

Jack broke both bones in his left wrist last Monday high-jumping at Scout camp. Now he is laid up for the summer. He sounded rather despondent in his letter as he thinks now that he won't grow any this summer.

I have been passing a lot of tests recently for my naval ratings and Bronze Turps. I have passed this week spelling, marksmanship, signals, and, rudiments of sailing.

In reference to the question in your letter about whether I see much of Louisville I say no.

Sloyd Davidson is in my tennis class and outside of the little I see of him and Ashton Harcourt I see nothing of

Culver 7/25/26

Dear Mother,

I have just come in from Garrison parade and I am pretty tired. I have a lot to tell you in the way of news.

Morgan developed kidney trouble and has gone home this afternoon. Francis and myself went to the Palmer House to dinner today with Morgan & Mr. Sewman and they left at five-fifty. Just about ruined Morgan's summer. I am glad now that I didn't get to room with him as it would be rather lonesome now.

any Louisville boys except Bob Etheaton
who comes from Louisville and is the
junior lieutenant of the 5th - my company.
He gave me a lot of introductions at
our dances and that helps a lot. By
the way I have gone to all the dances
and have had a fine time at them, altho
the girls range in age from seventeen
to about thirty as I think I told you
before.

My roommate and I get along
fine together and we go around a lot
together - Palmer House and so forth.

~~Enclosed you will find a
Vedette which I think you will en-
joy reading.~~

With best love from Francis
and myself,

Devotedly your son,

P.S. I found out Gordon!

That I cannot send
the Vedette by mail.

off here and the weather has been real pleasant. We had garrison parade tonight and I don't think anybody in the whole school fainted. You should have seen the crowd to watch it.

Please write soon and tell me all the news. With love from Francis & myself,

Devotedly yours,
Gretchen

(about 7/25/26)

Dear Mamma,

How are you? I have been well and having a fine time.

Francis and myself went to eat dinner at the Palmer House today with Morgan & Mr. Swoman to see them off. I guess Morgan's summer is just about wined.

I got a letter from Jack the other day saying that he had broken both bones in his left wrist and is now layed

up. I have been swimming, passing tea etc. and having a general good time. I had a couple

The weather has been cold for July. We have had a lot of rain, almost every day.

I have an awful lot to tell you. We had ~~after~~ Fourth of July celebration last Monday. We had a novelty track and field meet in the morning and an address in the afternoon. We had a salute of forty-eight guns (cannons) to the U. S. Each boy fired one for his state; I fired the one for Kentucky.

Mammy sent me a watch and a charge account for

July 11, 1926

Dear Mother & Dad;

How are you all? I hope you are having a fine time. Please write me and tell about your trip and all about England. I have been awful homesick but I am beginning to like it fine now. Of course I miss you all, especially in the morning when I have to get out of bed and classes haven't started.

I in Louisville it has been awfully hot, but up here

Ten dollars, both of which were badly needed. I was desperate before the charge account was sent (voluntarily) we have to buy our own text-books and equipment all of which is very expensive.

This is sure a finely run camp for the size (1134). Of course with a number like that the discipline has to be awfully strict. Everything is done ~~in~~ by company formation. Squad columns to mess, and all other things that are done by everybody such as laundry drawing and taking and drills etc. The food is awfully good for the kind that they have, anything that can be fixed comparatively fast in the way of meats and vegetables. I told Manning that she ought to come up and see us mess and parade etc. I know she would like it.

The first week here we had four shows and this week we had four shows and a dance.

the night we had supper there.

I have been over ~~to~~ to see Francis often, but very seldom have I found him. I saw him this morning in church and he looked real well and happy.

I have seen a good deal of Ashton Harcourt and Floyd Davidson. Also Morgan, who is in my company and on the same floor as I am

~~at~~
I haven't taken a bath since I have been here. They don't have ~~baths~~ ^{of course} ~~bath tickets~~

I went to all of them. I had a fine time at the dance, although I don't believe that there was a girl under sixteen there and many of them were in the twenties. I danced about ten dances.

I have already started on my Tuxis. I have gotten two points on it swimming and social. I think it will be pretty easy.

After supper my roommate and I generally walk down to the Palmer House with some other boys and sit around for a while. The

I have taken showers with soap
and along with swimming that's
nearly as good as bathing.

The only thing that I ~~need~~ need is
money. You have no idea how
expensive this is up here. Haircuts
frequently at four bits, twenty-five
cent tips to the waiter (compulsory) text-
books, baseballs, tennis balls etc.
about ~~to~~ all of my allowance.

I must close here as tattoo has
blown and I must get this in.
With much love and hoping that
I have given you a good impression
of the camp,

Devotedly,
Gordon

P.S. Notice any improvement in
my writing after ten days of penmanship?

G.W.

shows up here. Pretty near all of them have been to Louisville and mostly they are first class ones. I had a fine time at the dance which was real pretty. Most of the girls were from about seventeen to thirty but they could all dance. Margou didn't go but Owen Cumm-packer, my roommate, went with me. I don't think that our rooms will ever be changed, but I don't care.

as time goes on I get more and more homesick.

July 10, 1926

Dear Mummy;

I got your letter and one from Grandpa and one from Jack and they all cheered me up a lot. I also got the watch you sent me, thanks ever so much for it. I have gone over to find Francis a lot but he has been away generally.

We have had three shows and a dance this week and I attended all of them. We have good

I wish that you would write oftener because I love to hear anything about home. I sure wish that you and Grandpa would come up here. I know that you would enjoy seeing us drill and watching mess. Also Francis and I could eat dinner with you at the Palmer House. I ate over there Wednesday night.

Thanks ever so much for the charge account. I could hardly see what I was going to do before it came. There are so many expensive text-books and things to buy. You spoke of sending a paper to me. I wish you would for it would cheer me up a lot to have news from home every day.

Yesterday we had a very impressive military funeral for a boy who had heart failure induced by a swimming race. He ate too much before the race in which he came third. He had been three years in

track meet in the morning,
Chapel exercises at noon and
a swimming meet in the
afternoon. We had a salute
of forty-eight cannon to the
U. S., one for each state. I
fired the one for Kentucky.

We have been drilling
hard lately for the parade
Sunday night. It has been
so cool that I don't mind
drill but I can look forward
to the hot days of August
when we have to drill every
day for an hour and
dress parade Sunday.

the Woodcraft and two in
the Navy. His name was
Bruce Higginbotham.

We have had rather
cool weather here. It has
rained pretty near every
day since school opened.
Yesterday when we had
boat drill the waves were
so high that we shipped
water through the rowlocks
every now and then.

Monday we had a big
fourth of July celebration.
We had a field and novelty

I am badly in the hole in
the way of money. I owe a dollar
for a Y. M. C. A. card, fifty cents for
a hair-cut and twenty-five ~~cents~~
cents for a tip for the waiter (every
Sunday each boy at a table give
twenty five cents to the waiter) and I
am perfectly penniless. It is all right
to send money for necessary things
like these and I sure need it badly.
Knowing that Dad furnished money
for expenses I wish you would
send me a little for these debts.

With love to all,

Devotedly,

Gordon.

P. S. I just saw Francis in the
Gym. I was going ^{into} the shooting gallery
and he was busy also so I didn't
stop. G.W.

the middle of July. We would be able to have dinner and supper with you while you were here and that would relieve the monotony a lot. Also I think that you would enjoy seeing the camp in full swing.

I haven't been able so far to get my room changed so he could ~~rent~~ ~~the~~ room with Morgan but I think it will be fixed next week.

My roommate's name is Crum-packer. He seems to be a pretty nice kid.

July 4, 1926.

Dear Mamma:

I am well and beginning to like the camp a little better. We have had no work since Friday and we won't have any tomorrow.

I saw Francis today and he seems to be having a real good time. I gave him Mother's letter.

I wish that you would visit us later on in the summer, say about

As to the matter of the watch
I think that I really need one
and a watch would make an
awful nice birthday-present.

When I sat down I didn't mean
to write such a long letter and
as I have to be getting it off I will
"sign off."

With much love from Francis and
myself,
I am,

Devotedly,

Gordon

P.S. Please address and send
the enclosed letter to Mother
and Dad. G.W.

best possible order and yet I can't help feeling homesick. I guess one reason is that I know so few here.

The water is fine and the lake is kept clean so it makes a fine place for swimming. The drinking and washing water is supplied by springs and because of the sulphur and iron in the water it tastes rather funny.

We get a recess of two and a half hours a day in afternoon when we can swim or do anything we

July 2, 1926
Culou Summer School

Dear Mother & Dad;

I arrived here safely and I am well but I am awful homesick and blue.

I saw Francis today and he seems to be having an awfully good time. I have seen him every day except one. I got your letter and one from Mamma yesterday and gave both of them to him.

We have fine eating and everything is in the

like.

When I got here I tried to room with Morgan and Col. Elliott, my tactical officer, promised Mammy to let me room with him but as yet the change has not been effected. In the meanwhile I room with a boy named Owen Crumpacker. He is a very nice quiet little boy.

Pol. This is my schedule:

I	Penmanship	Mr. Sherfy
II	Tennis	Capt. Slighton
III	Target Practice	Col. Middleton
IV	"	"
V	Rest	
VI	Seamanship	Ensign McQuinn

Reveille	6:20
Breakfast	6:40
Boat	
Shore drill	9:30
Dinner	1:00
Boat drill	2:10-3:30
Supper	6:00
Tap	9:30

We have had three shows already and I saw Francis at one of them. He only gets one a week while

I get two and a dance.

When I make my "C"
for swimming which won't
be long I am going ~~th~~ to
send you a lake permit
blank with an urgent request
that you sign it.

I haven't much more time
until taps and as I think
I have covered everything I
must close.

With love and best wishes
from Francis and myself for
a fine time abroad,

Your devoted son,
Gordon

Finished Sunday, July 4th

several others spoke. They gave Admiral Rodman a salute and hoisted the flag. We had dinner and afterward boat-drill.

This morning the regular schedule started and we reported for classes. They also issued our rifles.

This is my schedule with teachers

Reveille 6:20 A.M.

Breakfast 6:45 A.M.

1st pd.	Penmanship	Mr. Shepfer
2nd "	Tennis	Capt. Lighton
3rd & 4th	Target practice	Col. Middleton
5th	Rest	
6th	Seamananship	Ensigns Shwin, Nixon

Lunch 1:00 P.M.

Boat Drill 2:30 P.M.

Recreation 3:45-6:00 P.M.

Supper 6:10 P.M.

Taps 9:30 P.M.

July 2-1926

Culver Summer Schools

Dear Mamma and Grandpa;

I have just finished my first lesson of target practice and I have already had my lessons in tennis and penmanship. I like everything fine so far.

I like all my instructors fine and I expect I will have a good time when I get over being home-sick.

Yesterday we had the formal opening of the summer school. Admiral Rodman and General Signilliat and

This morning it rained, so we didn't have tennis, but everything else went on as usual. The discipline here is awfully strict and everything goes on rain or shine. It is like being in school all day every day of the week.

I went over to see Francis yesterday but he was not to be found. Last night, however as I was out walking I saw him returning from Mess but I could not speak to him as he was marching. I will try to find him today. I imagine that he is having fine time.

Supper is in about ten minutes. I couldn't find Francis again today. There is another picture show to-night (the third this week).

We have real nice food and always have something for dessert. Before Mess the whole company forms in front of the barracks, and we march into the mess-hall together.

I suppose that I will have a good time after the first week or two but I am awfully homesick now.

With love to all,
Devotedly,
Gordon

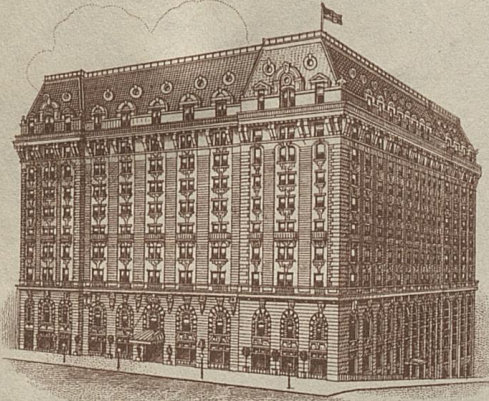
P.S. I miss having a charge account awfully for such things as textbooks and equipment have to be bought, and amount of funds.

"WHERE THE GUEST IS ALWAYS PLEASED"

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE
WE ENLARGED OUR FACILITIES

750 ROOMS

750 BATHS



MANAGEMENT, J. L. HORGAN

Hotel Stanton

FOURTH STREET AT VINE

CINCINNATI,

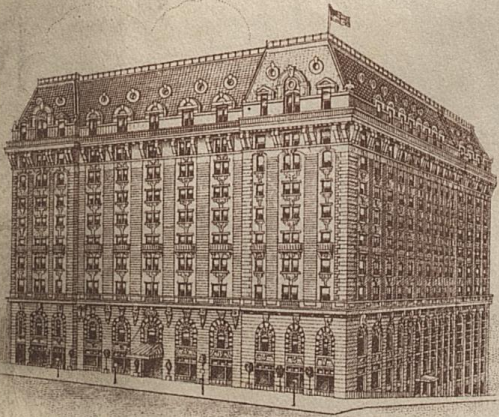
GEO. R. BALCH, PRESIDENT

Dear Daddy,
Mother

and I have had a nice
day in Cincinnati. We went
to see Dr. Rachford this afternoon.
He gave me a blood test and
examined me all over. He then
had Dr. Doughty take a blood
Ex-ray of my chest. I have to
stay over night to find out
about my Ex-ray and examination.
I am coming home Saturday
night. ^{will have}
Hoping you a nice trip to

Chicago

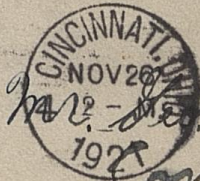
Your loving son,
Gordon E. Woodruff.



Hotel Sinton

CINCINNATI

MANAGEMENT, J. L. HORGAN



Mr. E. Woodruff,
Congress Hotel,
Chicago
Ill.

746

The Westmoreland -
Washington, D C -
March 12,
1919,

My dear little Gordon,
Your beautiful little
letter made your Grandma
very happy - Aunt Grace
was so delighted that she
has taken your letter for
herself, and put it away
to keep as your first
attempt at a letter to me.

Post Script - Write
again soon -
From Grandma -

You will both come to see
us soon again -

We were so sorry to hear
little Sister Louise was sick

and hope she is well now - as
well as Mary Sullivan - I was

so sorry she was sick - too -
We are well and send our love

to you - Francis - Sister Louise -
Sister Mother and Father - Your loving
Grandma
Francis G. Goodrich

I love little boys - and
I love you and Francis
more than any other little
boys - because you are
my Grandsons -

I found your Gun on
the window sill - and
suppose you left it on
purpose - as it is broken.

Auntie Grace and I feel
very lonely without you
and Francis - and hope