

March 28th

Dear Al:

We just had the surprise of our lives. We walked into the local Y. M. C. A. and encountered a real American girl. I came down to invest my last two francs and got so fussed that I squandered it on Lucky Strikes, when I had just sworn off them. The cheaper brand of cigarettes can be secured here, one package to a man, but as that is the average consumption, we have to rely on cigarettes from home. I am still receiving red and knitted stuff and wish I could trade it for good cigarettes. We were warned that we were toting around too much surplus stuff, so today wristlets, scarfs, etc., were not worth much on the stock market. We lined up a bunch of kids here and plastered them with knit wear. Adorned them with belly bands around the neck and body, wristlets on the arms and legs, and a couple of helmets, so that they were pretty effectively camouflaged. It certainly is a shame to throw away things that took so much effort on someones part, and for myself, I have kept all my stock (five sweaters, four helmets, etc.,) as far as possible. I wrapped up two sweaters with that pair of goolshes, to be indefinitely stored with the supplies. If the folks feel philanthropic, get them to send a box of 100 Murads or some kin smoke. I've burned Camels, Fats, and Lucky Strikes so long that I am pining for some real good cigarettes. Murads are my favorite smoke at present and I sponge on whoever I know happens to have any. I wrote a long letter to Mother yesterday and suppose she will forward it to you. Congratulations on making Proof and Copy. ~~When are the board elections come?~~ When are the 1921 editors picked? I just received a copy of the D which contained a bunch more of my letters. Seems to me I ought to realize a little "gelt" for filling so much space, but suppose you drew credit for the thing.

Write often, SHERM

Mac and I want to be remembered to the gang, etc.