

**DR. BROWN WRITES NEW YEAR'S LETTER FROM PARIS**

Paris, France.,  
January 1, 1920.

My dear \_\_\_\_\_:  
Many days have passed since I wrote you from the steamer. Little did we realize when we were being tossed about on the Atlantic that it was one of the worst storms for forty years. The steamers going west suffered most. We have heard many terrible stories concerning that voyage. As I wrote you we were detained in New York four days waiting for coal and when we reached Havre we had to wait for sufficient water to dock, it was low tide. The "Lorraine" had to go to the Azores for coal and only reached Havre yesterday morning, taking three weeks for the trip instead of eight days.

I spent Christmas at Chavaniac with all the dear boys; Miss Lambert and Miss Perkins went with me, we arrived in Paulhaguet Wednesday morning and spent the day there with M. Julien reaching the chateau in the evening. I wish you could have heard the reception those boys gave me—a joyous welcome, the villagers wondered what had happened at the chateau. They all seemed so happy to have me with them I was surrounded and kissed by each one of them, almost carried into the chateau.

Mme. Le Verrier came for us in the new Cadillac which has some advantages over "Henriette", we had such a good visit during the drive from Paulhaguet to the chateau, she recounted the changes that had taken place since my departure in August. I was grieved to learn that the Commission had closed the work at Le Puy and Chadrae and sent the boys, some to their homes and some to other organizations. They are concentrating the work at Chavaniac, the school and the preventorium. I went to mass Christmas morning but I fear I was a disturbing element as the children would turn round and smile at me. The day was clear and cold without snow. At 3 o'clock was the Christmas tree celebration at the school where each child received a small bag containing a toy, some candy and nuts. It was a happy day for all of us. An interesting program was arranged and given by the children, a monologue and some songs.

The next day, Friday, Miss Perkins and Miss Lambert went to Le Puy while I visited as many of my old friends as I could and in the evening I met the girls on the train and we returned to Paris. The weather here has been cloudy most of the time and the Seine today is rising so rapidly that they are fearing its overflow.

Four of our party went to Blerancourt Saturday afternoon. B\_\_\_\_\_ is not far from Noyon where the American Women's Hospital association have maintained a hospital for more than a year. The contract expired at the end of the year so it was decided to equip a 25-bed hospital completely and leave it for and to be run by the Committee for Devastated regions. In this region there are enough French physicians who have been de-mobilized, to take care of their own sick now. All of our American doctors will be withdrawn and either return to the States or go to Serbia.

If you could see these homes—some of them have been restored meagerly, but not enough to make the people comfortable. They patch up their furniture if possible and begin life again. Not only a few families but thousands are living in this manner; no window glass—rarely is one seen in a home—only oiled paper as a substitute. I visited Dr. Fournier at Blerancourt, on entering he apologized for his barren quarters and lack of furniture; he said he could not buy much, all of his had been destroyed, yet he was cheerfully adjusting himself to such conditions. All through the devastated regions it is the same; they need furniture,

clothing, and help to re-build their homes. It was an interesting trip through all the villages that had been destroyed; Campiegnie, Seules, and many smaller towns. By the wayside were many graves of fallen heroes, French, Belgian, German, and one American aviator. Plans are progressing to send all American boys who have died from disease or accident back to the front, home unless requested by their families to let them remain. Those who fell on the battlefields are being placed in a cemetery near by. In the Argonne there are 23,000 American boys buried. A request from the family of the aviator who fell on the road to Compiegne to let him rest there has been granted; these scattered graves will receive attention and always be reminders.

Traveling in France from now on becomes more complicated, railroad rates have increased hundred percent and so has nearly everything else. We are leaving for Serbia by the Oriental express on January 7, the delay was on account of our uniforms which were not ready when we left and had to follow on the "Lorraine". I shall breathe more freely when we reach our destination it is some responsibility to look after five young women, but we are a happy family. I hear conflicting reports about conditions in Serbia and as usual am prepared to take them with a grain of salt though we are prepared to find conditions worse than in France.

We have been very comfortable here in the Hotel Petrograd run by the Y. W. C. A. It is interesting to meet the women coming from everywhere on the globe tell of their work and experiences; today there is a reception for all Americans working under different organizations. Mrs. Wallace, the ambassador's wife is hostess.

Mail takes three weeks by post from Serbia to Paris, if sent by Red Cross courier, only about a week. Address mail for me, care of American Women's Hospital, American Red Cross, Belgrade, Serbia.

Yours ever,  
Alice Barlow-Brown.  
Happy New Year to you.

**Send Out Big Army Recruiting Party**

**Camp Grant Officers Make Arrangements for Largest Recruiting Party**

Arrangements are being perfected at Camp Grant to send out one of the largest Recruiting parties that has ever been put on the road from any army camp in the United States. Eighty officers and over two hundred and fifty men have been selected for the work. For the past ten days they have been attending a special school, arranged by Major Leroy H. Watson, thoroughly learning the full scope of the War Department's new Vocational and Educational plans, now in operation at the Camp Grant schools. They have also made a tour of inspection of the schools, and are conversant with the actual work being done in same. Officers from the General Recruiting service at Indianapolis, Chicago, Minneapolis, Peoria and Davenport, Iowa, representing the districts in which the parties will work, have attended these sessions, explaining the policy of their respective districts.

The entire recruiting campaign is being carried on with a National Campaign extending over the period from January 19 to March 31, of bringing the Army and the work it is doing, more fully before the general public. Special parties are touring the country with display or ordinance, etc., to fully explain the work. Few people realize the excellent work that is being done in the Vocational schools of the army, or the opportunities offered in them.

A large increase in the ranks of

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the Sixth Division, at Camp Grant, is expected as a result of the campaign. Definite territory has been assigned to each organization of the Sixth to work in, and a good natured rivalry has already developed as to results that they will attain.

Read The Want Ads On Page 7



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