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**Maurice Pate's 1916-1917 Diary [PART 1 of 3 for PDF] -- of his first year of relief work (Commission for Relief of Belgium). Note by Mrs. Pate --Remarkable record of Maurice Pate's Relief War Work, World War I. [page 1 - 40 + a cover page and note]**

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MAURICE PATE ' S 1916-1917 D I A R Y -- of

his first year of relief work (Commission for Relief of Belgium)

NOTE BY Mrs. Pate: Because Maurice wrote this journal shortly after he graduated from Princeton -- and because it gives some interesting details of his early work in International Relief, You Fifteeners (Princeton Class of 1915) might enjoy having it. As this is the only manuscript I can find, I hope a copy can be made -- for M.B.L.P.'s distribution to libraries.

-- Remarkable record of Maurice Pate's Relief War Work, World War I.

UNICEF

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

JOHN RYAN - 17 days

Two first year of Kelly are  
Completely gone since the President  
because

Shortly after he graduated from

Princeton — and because it gives

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to libraries, etc.

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DEPT. OF NAUTICE PATR.  
SERVICE WITH COMPTON I.N.  
FOR BELGIAN IN BELGIUM  
1916-1917

Left Denver Sunday May 14, 1916. En route to New York City stopped at Baltimore and Philadelphia. Visited Princeton with Harry. Arrived New York May 19th. On May 20th saw Mr. Healey, Secretary of the Commission's New York office and afterwards, Mr. Mali, the examiner in French.

Awaiting decision of the Commission, I started to study French with Mr. Jettour. May 24th, again visited the Commission's office and had an interview with Captain Lucey, the director.

Moved to 23 W. 125th Street, and continued to study French for three weeks. Received appointment from the Commission Wednesday June 13. Secured passport for England, Holland, Belgium. Sailed from New York on the "Ryndam", Holland-America Line, Saturday June 17 at noon. Harry came to New York to start me off.

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While in New York stayed with Miss M. De Louis, 125th Street. Spent most of time studying French with M.J. We visited different places together - Palisades Park, Bronx Park, Battery, Coney Island etc. - talking only French. Saw Sam, Dwight, Forrestal at different times. Saw several plays. Visited Princeton Saturday and Sunday June 9 and 10 during the Reunion and stayed at Mrs. Stout's. June 17th - left New York at 1 p.m., waving good-bye to Harry on the Hoboken pier till we were out of sight. My room-mate is Wm. C. Hall, Harvard '14, also going over to enter the service of the Commission. W.C. Gwynn, and H.L. Dunn of California aboard, going into the same work. June 17-26. Had a day of fairly rough weather after leaving New York. A number sea-sick, but everyone was on their feet after the second day. About 150 in first class on board, of which 60 are bound for Rotterdam.

With the exception of an occasional fog or rain had very pleasant weather all the way across, and a very pleasant crowd of people on board. The Hollanders are especially good-natured and also friendly toward the Americans. Have one friend, Mr. Joan J. Wubbe of Amsterdam, who is on his way from Mexico. He speaks fluently Dutch, English, French, German, Spanish.

Service on the boat is excellent. Meals are excellent, but a hard fore-runner for European "war bread". We have a fine orchestra on board.

I get up at 6.30 a.m., take a bath and cold shower - and spend an hour on deck before breakfast. Read French and play different games during the day. Have read two French books so far.

Saturday the 24th, we had a big sports carnival - sack - potato - cigarette - three-legged and other races. Was on the final winning team in tug-of-war, composed of three men and three women. Also went in the "spar fight" against a "heavyweight" but was soon put out of commission.

/Sunday

Sunday morning the 25th the life-boats were all swung out for emergency use. 10 o'clock Monday we had the first glimpse of land. Passed a beautiful coast - green-covered hills dotted occasionally with small castles.

Nearing Falmouth harbour we took a pilot aboard. On entering the harbour we were met by another boat carrying the English inspectors, and on this occasion saw the first English soldiers. The "Ryndam" anchored in the harbour (Falmouth) at 3 p.m. Monday. The English and Rotterdam passengers all left the boat at 6 o'clock.

Wednesday, June 28 - we have been waiting in the Falmouth harbour two days for the return of the ship's papers from London. Life in a stationary boat is pretty slow. We have a little excitement now and then, such as the arrival of the newspapers (London Daily Sketch) yesterday morning - and the departure of three English "destroyers" from the harbour this morning. We are anchored in a beautiful bay - the town of Falmouth at one end built on the side of hill. On all other sides are hills covered with woods, fields and hedges with several fine chateaux at different points.

At noon we received our release papers from London and immediately started on our way. A fine, sunny day - and the winding harbour as we pulled out was a beautiful sight. The ship was followed by thousands of gulls, which are always with us when land is 15 miles or nearer - thus making good indicators of our location. As we pass up around the western side of Ireland many rocky islands and picturesque bits of mainland are seen.

This morning before the ship left Falmouth, I made a tour through the bottom of the boat - visiting kitchens, quarters of stokers etc.

Mr. Liefeldt, on board, is going to Brussels as German translator and interpreter for the Commission. Mrs. Kellogg, the wife of the Belgium Director left us at Falmouth, but will reach Brussels (via Flushing) after having seen Mr. Hoover, the chief-director, almost as soon as we do.

Thursday June 29.

We now have only one service in dining-room. Meals at 8; 1; 6.30. Beef tea at 11; tea at 4, tea at 9. One meal after another almost, and we have to spend all the time in between walking and exercising in order to muster up courage and appetite for the next one. Played games all afternoon: Matador (dominoes), Shuffle-Board and Deck Tennis. And in the evening played checkers and Pig Mill with Mr. Liefeldt.

Friday June 30 - Passed the Hebrides this morning, many jagged little islands which look like mountain peaks projecting from the water. Played "Matador" and Shuffle-Board in the morning. Read all afternoon - also read some stories to Alice and Helen Winterhain, two little girls going to Holland. Rolled in early in the evening. Precautions taken by the ship to make its identity clear - along the side of the ship extending full length of the boat on both sides are large letters (about 6ft high) reading RIJNDAM - ROTTERDAM. The Dutch flag is painted on each side at the bow of

/the boat

the boat. At night, a large electric sign is lit up on each side of the boat. Letters each 1ft. high, read "RIJNDAM". While in British waters, our wireless is under seal - to be used only in case of accident to the ship. This is to furnish a safeguard against revealing the location or movement of any English vessels.

Time system on board boat - The day is divided into six watches of four hours each. There are four mates (first assistants to the captain), and they are on duty on the bridge two at a time during alternate watches. The watches run 12 noon - 4 p.m.; 4-8; 8-12 m; 12-4; 4-8; 8-12 n. A bell in the bow of the boat marks every half hour. One stroke indicates the first half hour of a watch. Two strokes the first hour; three an hour and a half etc. For example, 3 in the afternoon would be "six bells". 8 p.m. would be "eight bells". 9 p.m. would be "2 bells" and so on.

One of the finest things about the northern trip are the late and beautiful sunsets. For example, at the top of Scotland where we are now, the sun sets at 10 p.m. One can read at 11 and by 2 or 2.30 a.m. it is quite light again.

July 1st - Started the day right by all the passengers on board rising at 6.30 a.m. with one accord. I was just about to get up at this - my regular - time when I heard a deep crunching noise; the boat began to jerk and then came to a dead stop. Looking out the window, I saw the bow of the steamer resting quietly against a low flat island. Great scurrying for the upper deck; one man with an armful of clothes, another guarding his camera as the most valuable thing to preserve, another thoughtfully included two cakes of soap in his outfit. A number were carrying life-preservers, as first presumption was that we had struck a mine. Dressed and went upstairs, meeting the pyjama parade on its return trip. With rising tide and a strong back pull of the propellers the boat drew off the rocks in half an hour. We ran aground in a very thick fog, but because of the fact that the boat had been proceeding very slowly she was not seriously damaged.

Once free, the Captain (W. Krol) ordered the boat anchored until the fog should rise. About 11 o'clock two three-funnel English destroyers passed near us at full speed. We were under way again at noon and in an hour and half sighted Hirtwall, the northern headquarters of the British fleet. Entering the harbour was a most interesting sight. We were guided by a small tug which indicated the unmined path. Across the entrance to the harbour was a long "net" - a mile or more in length - with mine connections. This is to guard the harbour from submarines or other enemy ships. There is a narrow break in the net, through which we passed - but this break is kept closed at night. The supporting buoys of the net indicated its path across the bay.

In the harbour we found a number of large neutral ships, including the "United States" of the Scand-American Line, and the Stockholm (formerly the Potsdam, a sister to our boat the Ryndam)

Played deck tennis and "Water" all afternoon. It is now 3.30,

/with little

with little prospect of leaving tonight as we have not yet received our release papers. Now on our 15th day: our hope is to reach Rotterdam by the 14th of July.

July 2nd - Sunday - Left Kirkwall late last night. Spent a quiet Sunday writing letters. Attended a very simple and earnest service in the morning led by an old Dutch minister.

July 3rd, Monday - saw our first submarine this morning - probably German, as we were near their waters at that time. It came within a short distance of us and followed the boat until we were out of sight. Being aboard a neutral ship, however, we were not thrilled as much as we might have been. Sighted Holland this afternoon at 6 p.m. - and will reach Rotterdam tomorrow morning. Land will feel good after 18 days of sea. Clock is set ahead tonight 80 minutes: 20 minutes on account advance of Holland time over Greenwich: 60 minutes account European daylight-saving plan.

Tuesday - July 4th. Arose at 5 a.m. to see the sights as the "Ryndam" ascended the Huse to Rotterdam. Passed fields, cottages, windmills - and, nearer Rotterdam, shipworks, factories etc. Left boat at 8 a.m., and after having baggage inspected went to office of Commission, 98 Haringoliet. Met Mr. Brown, the Rotterdam director who told us to report to Mr. Richards the next day. Gwynn, Dunn and I visited the Hague and the Peace Palace. Had a time getting lunch at the Hague, but finally found a French restaurant where the bill of fare was not printed in Dutch. In the evening I met Mr. Leifeldt (going over as German interpreter for the Commission) and we went to the Groote Kerk (Great Church). Heard a very impressive Minister but he talked in Dutch; we enjoyed the fine organ.

Wednesday - July 6th. Reported at the Commission Office at 9 a.m. There we met the directors, and attended the weekly meeting of the Board, which lasted from 10.30 till noon. Learned a number of interesting details of the Commission's work, and also gained an idea of its enormous proportions. In the afternoon went through the park in Rotterdam (the only beautiful spot in the city) and also visited Boyman's Museum.

Had a very interesting talk in the evening with a gentleman (American) on his way to the U.S. from Turkey. He had come via Vienna and Berlin, and reported conditions very bad in Turkey.

(Atrocities)

Prices three times normal. The Army had used everything in the country; and, flooded with paper money, the country is on the point of financial collapse. The head censor and a prominent Turkish general - both his friends - had said the war must be over as far as Turkey is concerned by October 1st. In Germany the food shortage was serious; he noted particularly the patience and resignation everywhere. Every available man was at the front, or had been returned wounded - and then taken up some civilian occupation. Transient guests at hotels were required to use bread-cards. At present in Holland, also in England, food is advanced an average of 50%. Holland has about 400,000 soldiers in training - we see them everywhere. Times are very hard except for a small number of exporters who are making large profits on shipments to Germany. There

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are very few visitors from outside the country - in this large hotel (the Maas) there were only a half dozen for dinner this evening.

Thursday July 7th - while waiting for the Rotterdam office to complete arrangements for German passports etc. we spend the time to good advantage in visiting places of interest. Went to Amsterdam this morning - visited Ryk's Museum, where I saw the famous Rembrandt "Night Watch" a second time. Also went to the diamond cutters and polishing establishment. Visited the Jewish ghetto and an old Jewish Synagogue.

Returning to Rotterdam we stopped off an hour at Haarlem (the flower town of Holland). The trips through the country are the most enjoyable in Holland. From Haarlem to Rotterdam we passed fields of flowers, of vegetables (economically cultivated right up to the railroad tracks), pastures richer than any other in the world, picturesque little cottages, windmills, canals on which barges of all sizes are plying. Originally half of Holland was under water - and the country is now a labyrinth of drainage canals. The fields are cut about every 200 ft. by a drainage ditch; these flow into larger ditches; the water in turn is pumped into canals and then into the sea, as practically the whole country is below sea-level.

Friday July 8th. Mrs. Kellogg arrived from England. We all spent the morning at the Commission office. Passports into Belgium not yet secured and we will be obliged to wait until next week. In the afternoon Dunn and I went to a Dutch movie - the titles were all "Hollandische" and the pictures even less clear and interesting so we pulled out after a couple of reels. In the evening went to a Variete; the Hollanders bring their families to these places and leisurely drink their beer while watching a sort of vaudeville performance - heard that "Ryndam" on account of her accident would be drydocked 5 weeks.

Saturday - July 9th. Rose at 6.30. Mr. Liefeldt and I started off on a day's trip through northern Holland. Leaving Rotterdam at 8 we passed through Leiden (the University town) and went on to Haarlem stopping there an hour. Thence to Deventer, Alkmaar, Enghond a/see. This last was an especially interesting town, situated on the North Sea. It has a fine beach and immediately behind the beach stretch miles of sand-dunes which protect the interior from wind and water. The "professor" wanted to walk along shore to the next town, so while he was doing this I had a fine visit in Enghond. The Dutch are very courteous and hospitable; I took a number of pictures of them here, and there was no lack of subjects. Every time I would take my camera out, a crowd came running from all directions - to get in the picture". Enghond o.d/boef is a beautiful little farming village near the sea. Spent an hour here, taking a walk out in the country. The most enjoyable thing is to see the life and customs of the people - though the "professor" would have us take in every church-steeple, monument and battlefield.

Met Mr. Liefeldt at Alkmaar and we went on to Enkhuizen (north Zuider Zee) through beautiful farming country. Enkhuizen is one of the most picturesque towns in Holland. It is not frequented by tourists and we had an opportunity to stay overnight at a genuine Dutch hotel room and an excellent breakfast, 80 cents. The hotel had been in the hands of the

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the same family over a hundred years. Inkhuisen's chief church has the most beautiful set of chimes I have ever heard. They play for several minutes on each hour.

Sunday - July 9. After an early breakfast we started out on another walk through and around the town. At the church we met the clock-man, who took us up in the steeple (excellent view of the surrounding country) and showed us all the machinery connected with the clock and chimes (having in all 80 keys). We went on to Hoorn (where the founder and name of Cape Horn was born) and there attended Church. In Church the men and women are separated. The women come with their picturesque head-dresses. The Hollanders are very strict about the observance of Sunday and do only the work which is absolutely necessary, not a thing stirs on the canals this day. We did see a very lively soccer game going on at Hoorn, however. Proceeding to Edam we spent two hours in this quaint little town, whose district produces the famous Edam cheese. The people were all dressed in their Sunday best and I secured several interesting pictures. From Edam we took the steam train to Amsterdam via Monnikendam and the recently flooded district. Continuing to Bussum, 20 miles south-east of Amsterdam we passed through beautiful country. We reached here at 8.30 p.m. and after our two strenuous days I was satisfied to go on to Rotterdam, but the "professor" in spite of the fact that he had carried a 'round cheese' all the way from Inkhuisen (8 a.m.) wanted to stop and visit a friend we had met on board ship. Various odds have been offered as to whether Mr. Liefeldt will get his cheese into Belgium: it is a toss-up whether the Dutch soldiers or the German soldiers will get it at the frontier. I reached Rotterdam at 11 p.m. - and Mr. Liefeldt followed about 2 hours later.

Monday - July 10. The "family" reported at the Commission office 9 a.m. where we were given a heart-to-heart talk by Mr. Brown (Director) and Mr. Richards (Secy.) on "neutrality" and what it meant to the Commission's work. We were informed that both English and Germans knew every move we had made since leaving New York - not to say all that we had said, and even thought - and that any wrong move by any of the 40 American members of the Commission might endanger the lives of seven million people who depended on the Commission. By all of which we were so deeply impressed, that since then we have imagined every waiter, hotel porter, friendly stranger etc. as an English or German secret service agent. Last night Cwynn, Dunn and I had dinner with Hall, and were served by such an intelligent-looking waiter who 'spoke no English' that I almost believe he was one of our English "shadows". Rotterdam, according to reports is the present spydom centre of Europe. Fortunately the four of us are all neutral - at least broad enough to understand the principles for which the opposed nations are fighting, and to know that our function is to serve - not to judge.

In the afternoon we had a very interesting trip with Captain Vries of the Commission through the C.R.B. Warehouse grain elevators etc. At the time three large ships were unloading. The four suction grain elevators can unload a ship of 8,000 tons of grain in 24 hours. This grain (and other supplies) is placed in big barges - and taken by canal into Belgium. To date

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over 2,000,000 tons has gone in this way.

Tuesday, July 11th - Cwynn and Hall and Mrs. Kellog left for Belgium this morning. Our passes - for Mr. Liefeldt, Dunn and I - are due this afternoon and we will probably go in Thursday. Had an interesting talk this noon with Mr. Hamilton, a Commissioner who has just come out of Belgium. Spent the afternoon writing and in the evening went to a Dutch "mare". Thought I was cured before, but now I am now.

Wednesday July 12 - Spent a quiet day waiting news of our German passes, but they have not come. Belgium is the hardest place in the world to get into at present it seems. At least 8 days seems a long wait to us. The new offensive and present heavy fighting is probably one reason for the delay. Met Loren Listoe, the American Consul this afternoon and we all had our passports visaed by the American office preparatory to entering Belgium.

Thursday - July 13 Received my first American letter - from Bohner - yesterday. Spent the day in bed with a bad cold.

Friday July 14 - Our German passes into Belgium arrived today. Had our passports re-visaed at the German Consulate. Spent a quiet day recovering from cold. Visited exchange. Leave for Brussels 9 a.m. tomorrow.

In the evening saw a very interesting and humorous Dutch play - Halte Hier! Eljven! (Stop! Lock! Listen!). It was like a performance of the N.Y. Hippodrome on a 1/100 scale - filled with Charley C. stunts. One scene and song - "President Wilson and His Hundredth Note."

Saturday - July 15. Up early. Made a monetary adieu to the employees of Hotel Haas. Harry Dun, Mr. Richards, Mr. Liefeldt and I left the Rotterdam station at 9.20; reached Rosendaal about 11. Were conveyed from here to the Belgian frontier (4 ms.) by auto. The dutch customs officers passed us without examination - and the professor's famous cheese, as well as rice, several packages of Zu Zu's etc. all got through safely. At the dividing line we had to get out of the machine and walk across. The German and Dutch soldiers on opposite sides of the line were talking in a friendly way.

We were given a very easy and courteous examination by the German sergeant in charge at the frontier. Everything passed through - of course we had not one written word of any kind in our luggage or on ourselves. I brought in 10 cakes of soap and 6 tennic balls as these are quite rare in Belgium - i.e. soap 50¢ per cake. The sergeant conversed with "us" - or rather Mr. Liefeldt - in a very agreeable way. He wished to see a U.S. coin and I gave him a Buffalo nickel which pleased him very much.

The machine which was to take us to Brussels had a broken

/spring

spring and we had to wait two hours at Eschden (the frontier town) while this was being repaired. Though most of the people were still there, the town seemed dead - no traffic, grass growing between the cobblestones on the main street.

Left Eschden at 2 and had a very instructive ride to Brussels (2 1/2 hrs) through Antwerp, Malines, and other towns which have been playing important roles. Passed the forts of Antwerp, several lines of trenches, several little villages that had been completely cleaned up during the bombardment. 7 km. from the Belgian frontier we saw the charged system of electric wires which surround Belgium.

In Brussels we visited the Commission office a few moments and then went to the English Pension. Met Hall and several other delegates there, including a Mr. Williams, F.D.H.S. '10. Took a walk after supper to the Palais de Justice. It was a most impressive sight to see this great building which we had visited in times of peace 3 years ago, now in the hands of and patrolled by German sentries.

July 16 - Sunday. Went to Ste. Gudule, largest church in Brussels in the morning. Took it easy at the Pension the rest of the day. In the afternoon there was to have been a big C.F.B. ball-game - "Belgium vs. France", but it was called off by rain.

July 17 - Visited the Commission Office. I have been assigned to the provinces of Hainaut. In the morning Dunn and I visited one of the free distributing stations which was furnishing soup and bread once a day to 2,200 people. Everyone here - rich and poor alike - eats brown 'war' bread. At 12.30 we had lunch in the Commission offices - the daily gathering of the delegates. The Commission has a very fine group of young men: it is the opportunity of a life-time to be associated with them in such a great undertaking. Every member becomes ex-officio a member of several Brussels athletic and social clubs. We are treated too well in proportion to the sacrifice really made.

In the afternoon Harry Dunn and I rode around town. Saw a "movie" - pictures all very poor now - in the evening.

July 18 - Tuesday. Tried to look up Mrs. Hall in the morning but without success. In the afternoon Dunn and I wandered through different interesting parts of the town. Evening went to the Gayety Theatre, leaving at the end of the first act.

July 19 - Wed. Missed train for Mons in the morning, on account of getting twisted as to the right station. Spent the a.m. visiting interesting points - Church of Victories, Park (with 40 little statues), Town Hall etc. Saw a wedding ceremony performed by the Mayor of Brussels at the Hotel de Ville. Departed for Mons at 2.30, making the train on the run. At Mons Williams met me at the station and took me to the office where I met Messrs. Tuck (Princeton, 13), Glenn, and Midol (Inspector for the Hainaut). Stayed at the home of Mr. Masson. After dinner in the evening we had an interesting talk with Mrs. M. regarding the courteousness and fairness of

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the military officers at the time of the invasion.  
M. Hanson, the foremost statesman of southern Belgium.

Thursday - July 20. Inspected Mons warehouse and shipping equipment with Mrs. Hall, Mrs. and I had lunch with M., Mrs & Miss. Heptgen - a very nice family. Hall left for Brussels in the afternoon. Mrs. and I went through the beautiful Mons Cathedral.

Friday - July 21. Took a trip to Maubeuge, France, in the morning, with Tuck, Glenn and Mrs. Passed the shattered French forts. Dinner Hotel de la Poste. Returned to Mons with Mrs. by train in the afternoon - we were given a polite examination by two German S.S. men on the train. Secured some interesting war relics at Bergdoll's. Today Belgium's national holiday, but things are comparatively quiet owing to regulations of authorities.

Saturday, July 22 - Took the early train from Mons to Tournai. Passed Jemappes, Antoing, and other interesting towns. Passed several freight cars filled with English and French prisoners en route for Germany from the front - also a long train of wounded. All P.O.'s now in hands of military authorities. On reaching Tournai, went to C.R.P. office and met the Belgian Secy. Mr. Wilmart. Afterwards met Mr. Castaigne with whom I am to stay. Attended meeting of hundred members of Committee Regional (Belgian) and was introduced as new American delegate. Attended a dinner afterwards where I met the presidents of the four local committees. Went through the two large Tournai Mills in the afternoon. Dinner in the evening with Mr. Castaigne at Mr. Moura's.

Sunday - July 23. Took a walk with Mr. Castaigne in the morning. He is a bachelor (50) who has lived with his mother until her death, several years ago. A fine character, and one of the most interesting men I ever met. I am comfortably situated in a beautiful room in Mr. Castaigne's home. The C.R.P. office is located across the street - in the home of a Belgian officer now at the front. Office very nicely and comfortably furnished. In fact one could not be more fortunately located. Mr. C. left for Mons and Brussels in the afternoon. I walked out to Mt. S. Aubert, 5 km. from Tournai. Gives a wonderful view of all the surrounding country. French line 15 km. away. Fighting front 25-40 km. (22 miles). Hear cannonading daily, though it has been light of late.

Monday - 7/24/16 - Studied past office records and arranged papers during the day. Visited the famous Cathedral in the afternoon. Mr. Castaigne starts his English lessons - is going to learn English and visit the U.S. after the war.

Tuesday - July 25. Tuck, Glenn, Mrs. Jackson, Wellington, accompanied by Mr. Watts, U.S. Consul Gen'l at Brussels reached Tournai at 7.30. The folks took a trip to the mountain - tea afterwards in honour of the Consul at Mr. C's. Glenn and I went over office matters in the afternoon. In the evening took a very interesting walk with Mr. C. - Tournai is the oldest and one of the most interesting towns in Belgium.

Wednesday - July 26. Glenn and I talked over things at the office in the morning. In the afternoon Potter, Director of the Valenciennes district came to Tournai in his German motor car accompanied by his military officer - Captain Hauptman Lahr. We met them at the hotel, and Glenn and I were invited for a ride to the mountain, in the Captain's luxurious Benz - and passed a very interesting afternoon. In the evening Glenn and I went to the cinema with Mr. C.

Thursday - July 27. Took 6.20 train to Brussels in the morning with Glenn. First letter from home. In the morning attended a meeting of the Comité National Belge - a gathering of the most prominent men in Belgium. Had lunch at the C.R.B. office. In the afternoon I attended the general delegates meeting. Mr. Hoover just arrived from London, gave a short talk. He is a man of very few words. Perhaps no man at the present time has more on his mind than Mr. Hoover - and he shows it, giving the impression of one near a breakdown. At 4.30 the American delegates were received at the magnificent Hotel de Ville (City Hall) by the mayor and other high officials and their wives. Mr. and Mrs. Whittock were present. The Mayor gave us a very appreciative little speech and then conducted us through the beautiful rooms of the building (which has been closed to the public since the beginning of the war.) Afterwards tea and ice-cream. In the evening went to a dinner given by Green - Princeton '12. Heard a number of new and interesting theories about the war and its causes.

Friday - July 28. Took train to Mons and there attended the weekly reunion of the C.P. of the Fainaut. Farewell dinner to Tuck. Bombarding of station of Mons. Aerial contest between German and allied planes. Returning to Tournai by auto in the afternoon, I called on Mr. Crunelle - director of one of the local schools - to make arrangements for French lessons. The only condition under which he will give them is that there be no payment. This is only one of many examples of the different ways in which the Belgians endeavour to show their appreciation. I am to take a two-hour lesson daily from 5 to 7. In the evening Mrs. C. and I dined at Mr. & Mrs. Gaillerie - a procurer of the King (and held in prison five months by the occupying authorities). Mons. C. very stentoriously - "Nous dînons ce soir chez le procureur du roi."

Saturday - July 29. Mr. Jansen, delegate national is visiting Mr. Castaigne - a very fine man (destined to become Minister after the war) - "Parlez haut". Spent the day at the office. Lunch at Feruzdz with Mons. Boni. Beautiful homes and garden - trout lake, etc. Afternoon took my first lesson with Mr. Crunelle. Mr. Jansen, Cast. and I went up to Mt. St. Hubert in the evening. Visited M. (a Mrs) Tonnelier, pianiste to the King. Then we went to M. & Mrs. Le Seynot's who have a beautiful summer home on the side of the mountain. The cannonading was so heavy that the windows rattled all evening. Saw burning of station at Courtrai from top of mountain. By 10 allied planes.

Sunday - No protestant church here at present, so I improve the

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morning by spending 2 hours on French with M. Crunelle. In the afternoon went with Julian the chauffeur to get 10 hens for Potter at Valenciennes. Evening walked to Mt. St. Aubert and returned from De Geynst's on foot with Mons. C. & Mme. - C.R.B. auto broken down again.

Monday - July 31. Spent the day at the office. Took my regular daily French lesson in the afternoon. This is the best place in Belgium to learn French - one must read, speak, and understand it - or else be helpless. The only time I hear English is during visits to Brussels. Gave Mr. Castaigne his first regular English lesson (Berlitz method) in the evening. He is very quick to understand and has an extraordinary memory. Several aeroplanes passed during the day. They (chiefly German) come over the town daily, becoming a common sight.

Tuesday - August 1st. Made round of inspection at mills in the morning. Spent most of the day at the office. Meeting of Controllers - Florquin, Jaquet, Triefry, Defosses - the incomparable four at 10.30. Spent the evening with Mr. C. at De Geynst's.

Wednesday. Up early. Our regular hour is 7 a.m. - Mr. C. being a busy man and an early riser. The farmer (M. Francois) from whom I had ordered the chickens for Potter brought in the 10 "poules" - which in these times are worth \$12 to \$15 - and would not take a cent. Said the farmers had all chipped in to make it a gift to the American delegate. These are the things that make life more than an existence. Left for Feruzelz with Mr. C. by train - and had lunch with Mr. Doni, Glen and Williams. Returning in the afternoon I found Potter and Captain Bahr at the office waiting to take their valuable hens to Valenciennes, where butter is \$2. a pound, eggs 25¢ a piece.

At 4 o'clock I went to the Demon's on an invitation to play tennis. Met several nice young ladies, but did not have time to play a/c dinner in the evening; at 5.30 Mons. C. and I set out for Mme. Brocque who has a chateau and beautiful grounds 5 miles from here. Had dinner and spent the evening there. Mme Brocque has the most beautiful and varied garden of roses I have seen here yet. After reaching home worked a while at the office - rolling in at 11.30. A pretty full day.

Thursday - August 3. Arose at 5.30. and took the 6.20 to Brussels. Had photo taken for C.R.B. Rogue's Gallery. Lunch at C.R.B. office. Rec'd 3 letters - mother, Harry, Wrl. In the afternoon called on U.S. Minister Whitlock with Williams and had tea there. Late in the afternoon Mrs. and I went out to Louvain (20 miles from Brussels). The ruins of 800 homes and buildings in the district near the station was an extraordinary and horror-inspiring sight. We saw the ruins of the University library, and spent half an hour in the great Church, half destroyed by fire. The sacristan - quite surprised to find we were Americans (of whom there are very few here now) and as a token of recognition - gave us a special remembrance, a piece of fused bronze which had melted and fallen from the Church bell during the fire. We heard first-hand from several people

/stories

of how the trouble at Louvain started - but no two agreed. There was no such thing as the "atrocities" (mutilations) we have heard so much of in America. There are criminals in every army, and it would hardly be fair to hold the whole German army to account for the acts of individuals during the war. The present occupation of Belgium by Germany is the mildest on record in all history. The horrors of the first month of the war must not be forgotten but they came at a time when men lost their heads completely. At Louvain German fired on German - the first few weeks of the war for Belgium and for Germans alike was a period of bewilderment. We spent the night at a hotel in Louvain.

Friday - Mrs. and I rose at 3.45 a.m. in order to reach Mons at 8.30. Called on Mrs. Masson at Mons. Attended meeting of C.R. After lunch I took a walk out into the country near some of the coal mines - Mons being the centre of an important mining district. Mons is on the main line to the German front; the road is a continuous chain of supply and hospital trains - trains filled with horses, automobiles, cannon, food, wagons, etc. It is an interesting sight to see the trains filled with soldiers going through. They have big open army stoves on flat cars; at meal times the train stops and everyone makes for the flat car - kitchen with cup and plate. The railroads are all patrolled every foot by soldiers. At night the stations and immediate neighbourhood are entirely darkened to prevent allied air raids. The Mons station was attacked a week ago when I was here - have a piece of the bomb which fell in the coal-yards. Returned to Tournai from Mons by auto in the afternoon. M. Janson is spending the week-end with Mons. C.

Saturday August 5. Made round of Mills and magasin, and spent the morning at office. At 11.30 we had the regular bi-weekly meeting of local Ravitaillement Presidents of the Tournai district. In the afternoon I went with Mons. C to the headquarters of the German Krieschief. Met Lieut. Dienst - the German representative with whom we - C.R.B. - carry on our negotiations. On the return trip we stopped to watch the training of the police dogs. In the evening I walked to De Ceynst's (Mont. St. Aubert) returning by carriage with Messieurs Castaigne and Janson.

Sunday - August 6. Spent the morning at Crunelle's. Heard a very good violinist there. In the afternoon Torrey (Secy.) and Gray (Vice-Director) with Glenn came from Brussels. After taking a ride through the town we had supper on Mt. St. Aubert at the Inn of Madame Pottiau. From the top of the mount we descended along the side of the hill to see the German trenches, with wire entanglements etc. which have been constructed. It was a very clear day - we could see a long captive balloon in the air near Mille. The cannonading toward night-fall always becomes very heavy, and after dark (when it is clear) one can see the flash of the canons. It seems impossible to realize the devastation going on 20 miles away - The country around here on every side is so green and fertile and peaceful. The other boys departed for Brussels, and I descended to De Ceynst's home where I found Mr. Castaigne. Mrs. De Ceynst is typical of Belgian hospitality. After a second and enforced supper, Mr. C., two other ladies and I descended the mountain and returned to Tournai on foot.

The Belgian people are very fond of nature - but they have reason

/to show

to show ecstasy over the panorama at the foot of the mount. Yellow patches of ripened grain set off against green pastures and woods, and groups of red-roofed houses make an inspiring picture.

Monday - August 7. Spent the morning at the office. French lesson 11-1.

Afternoon, a trip to the mills. Played tennis at Mme. Durnon's from 4 to 7 - the first time for 1916.

Tuesday. Made a trip to the Chemist's (Harchman). Weekly meeting of controllers in the morning. Glenn and Mr. Midol arrived from Mons in the afternoon. After supper I gave Mr. Castaigne a lesson in English, and rolled in early.

Wednesday. Now have the auto in good running shape. Visited six communes today. Also called on a Mons St. George at Froyennes who speaks English very well, having been raised in England. French lesson in the afternoon. Spent the evening quietly, reading and writing.

This afternoon went down with Mr. Castaigne as far as the French frontier 12 miles from the front. Entry barred beyond by line d'etap and by sentries.

Thursday - Spent the morning visiting communes. At each place I see the secretary, inspect the local food-distributing station and examine the account-books. The spirit of self-sacrifice shown by the workers in many communes is laudable - out of 82 communes in this district we pay no rent for the stores; in the majority of the communes the farmers haul the food without charge and volunteers do the distributing and keep records. This has been going on for two years, and yet the original interest and sacrifice is shown. We have two chemists working at Tournai (P.R. men temporarily out of work) who spend 10 hrs. per day at the laboratory - examining specimens of grain, flour, break, milk - without remuneration. In many places the books are kept by young ladies. Following are prices of commodities at present:

			Per head
Flour	4 £ pound	-	3/4 lb. per day
Rice	5 1/2 £ "	-	2 1/4 lb. per mo.
Lard	18 £ "	- )	2 1/4 lb. per month
Bacon	21 £ "	- )	
Salt	1/2 £ "		
Bread	3 3/4 £ "	-	by bakers selected
Peas	8 1/2 £ "		
Lentils	8 1/2 £ "	-	2 1/4 lb. per month

This afternoon with Mr. Castaigne I visited several more communes. The communes are small farming villages of about 500 each, an average of 3 km. apart, and surrounded by rich intensively cultivated country. It is impossible to describe the beauty of the country here. The highways are lined on both sides with great trees which completely shade the road.

/Everywhere

Everywhere as we pass along in the villages the people come out of their homes and line the streets at the rare sight of an auto - and it is touching to see the way they greet the "C.F.R." flag flown by the machine. This afternoon we passed by an immense regular-shaped stone - one cannot imagine how it could have been transported - an ancient Druid shrine near Bruyelles. At Bruyelles we saw an interesting sight - a communal oven - All the women of the village come with their bread made into loaves, and it is baked in a single oven. - In taking my French lesson today, Mr. Crunelles, René and I took a walk. Along one street which we passed, marks of August 24th were on every door - bayonet holes, cartridge holes, dents and breakage caused by forcing doors with gun-butts. Gave Mr. C. an English lesson this evening - he is learning rapidly.

Friday - August 11. Time - days filled with interest and education - is going rapidly. This morning I accompanied Mr. Castaigne to the Palace of Justice to hear him plead a case. Proceedings here are much shorter than in the U.S. - the court officers and lawyers all wear robes and special hats.

Visited five communes today. The spirit of affection and appreciation toward America everywhere one can hardly describe.

Made several return-calls this afternoon; took my lesson with Mr. Crunelles. Mr. C. departed for Brussels for a week's vacation, this afternoon. Spent the evening reading French.

Saturday - August 12. Started for Mons and Brussels by auto at 9.30. Held up by two German soldiers as we were about to leave town, and taken to authorities headquarters at Tournai. The auto was thoroughly searched. All tires were taken off; cushions, engine, and all carefully gone over in a two hour examination. The authorities were very courteous but thorough. I was asked to present everything in my pockets and the chauffeur was searched down to his shoes. We were released at 11.30 and made a flying trip to Mons. Lunched at Haeptgen's - and then continued to Brussels.

In Brussels visited Potter at hospital (my predecessor who was injured by having his machine collide with a cow), and saw the ball-game. Met Mrs. Whitlock. Received 9 letters from the U.S. Evening went to a good play - "Le Bons Villageois".

Sunday Wrote several letters in the morning. Left Brussels in machine (Julien Van Kuhl, chauffeur) at 1.30 o'clock. Reached Tournai two hours later, a beautiful ride of 90 km.

Spent the evening quietly, reading and writing.

Monday, August 13. In the morning visited seven communes - inspecting distributing stations and account-books. Returned to Tournai at 1.30. Played tennis at Mrs. Dison's 3-5. Their place - with lake and gardens and great trees - is one of the finest I have seen here.

/visited

Visited on invitation the Commissaire Civil, the German Governor of the Tournai district. A very straight-forward man - offered his help in co-operating with us at any time. One of the biggest hardships now - and a matter which affects the food distribution is the requisition of horses. Most of the good horses were taken up long ago - but now all are being pressed into service. At Grandglise, Saturday, I saw the square filled with horses which had been requisitioned from the country; very good prices are paid, \$200 to \$250 for a medium horse.

While at Zwilkomissar (Mon. Hammacher) I notice an interesting thing: the garden in the rear of the beautiful home consisted of a field of potatoes surrounded by a border of flowers. In the casernes (mil. headquarters) and other German-occupied premises this same plan is carried out. Every inch of ground utilised - this spirit is the foundation of German power and efficiency.

The cannonading today was particularly heavy - the local inhabitants look for the arrival of the English any day, but I cannot see any change in affairs for a long time to come. Took my French lessons this afternoon. Spent the evening at the office, reading and writing.

Tuesday. - August 15. A holiday - Fete of the Assumption. Worked at the office from 5 to 10.30. Took a French lesson from Mr. Crunella 10.30 - 12.30. He is very patient and thorough with me. Mrs. Crunella is hospitable and interesting - always insists on giving milk instead of water, and brings in a dish of some delectable fruit out of her garden each time. She cannot understand how Americans drink water - and keep well - but I think it is harder to see how people who drink everything except water, keep well.

In the afternoon I took a walk, visiting the Cathedral, and the Church of St. Quentin, and the prohibited Watch Tower. Went out to a stone quarry near Tournai by machine, which has been transformed into a great outdoor Church. There are many quarries of immense size in this district - producing lime and cement. Since the war all this work is practically stopped and the quarries are inundated. Spent the evening reading back reports, writing and outlining work for the coming week.

Wednesday - August 16. Went to Controller's meeting at Mons in the morning. Saw Haniel, Governor of the Hainaut, with regard to passport for carrying mail. Came home via Peruwelz on a flying trip - 60 kilometres in as many minutes. Spent the afternoon visiting communes. At Humillies I had an interesting visit with the Prince de Croy. Many of the presidents of our communal committees are of royal heritage; they are extremely liberal in backing the ravitaillement with their money and services. Covered over 200 km. (120 m.) in the machine today. The country is so indescribably beautiful that one does not like to look forward to winter. Spent the evening at Mr. Crunella's. Mr. Castaigne returned from his vacation.

Thursday - Spent morning and afternoon at the office and visiting

communes. In the evening walked to the Mount and returned home from De Ceynst's with Mr. Castaigne. Cannonading heavy this afternoon

Friday - August 19. Left for Mons 8.30 a.m. Attended Provincial Com. Meeting in the morning. Found a Colo. flour sack which a young lady of Mons is going to embroider. Lunched with Williams and Glenn at Hueptgen's. Returned to Tournai in the afternoon - a blow-out en route. This is tire number 4 in the last two weeks - but not surprising with 500 miles per week on cobblestone roads. The route from Mons to Tournai takes in beautiful country - including a magnificent trip through the woods. En route we pass many curious sights - shrines and estaminets which line the road and vehicles drawn by odd combinations. Horses here are very scarce - the larger part having been requisitioned. Wagons are drawn by cows; sometimes by a cow and a broken-down horse; others by little burros; and smaller wagons by dogs. The fields here are very thoroughly cultivated and almost entirely by hand - even the ploughing is often done by hand with hoe and fork. The peasants work from sun-rise to sunset. An interesting sight in the country now is the gleaners at work in the fields. The very few farmers who have machine-binders allow the poor to follow the binder and gather the occasional blades of oats or wheat which the machine misses. In one field last week I saw nearly two hundred gleaners, scrambling for every straw. It makes one appreciate Millet's picture "The Gleaners".

About 40% of the men regularly employed in Belgium are out of work; railway, telegraph, telephone employees have all been replaced by German operatives. The public cannot use the 'phone at all, but the occupying authority has a very well-connected system between all of its posts and departments. As a matter of patriotism, Belgians in general (a few exceptions) refuse to work on the railroads or for any other purpose which would serve the occupying army. The C.R.B. secretary here, Mr. Wilmar - a capable man - was the station agent at Tournai before the war. The larger part of the executive force of the ravitaillement are former R.R. employees.

Travelling by rail is quite high at present - about 2 1/2 or 3 times the ordinary rate. All Belgians travel 3rd class. Every voyager must prove his identity on entering and on leaving a station. The German R.R. officials - conductors, ticket-agents - are soldiers in blue uniform.

The present occupation of Belgium - in spite of stories we have heard in the U.S. is undoubtedly the lightest military occupation in the world's history. At the beginning of the war many cities and communities were heavily assessed, and now Belgium pays \$40,000,000 per month. Except for the fact that many men are out of employment and living on the average is 75% higher, things are somewhat near normal.

Naturally when one party is in power, without opportunity of repeal, injustices exist. There are many Belgians - a number probably innocent, and a number too patriotic to perform some mission favourable to the occupying authority - now imprisoned in Germany. On the whole, however,

/the military

the military government is fairly lenient - movement of Belgians within the country is now unrestricted, and "first-hand" stories of clear German injustice are rare. There have probably been invented and "expanded" more stories about the occupation of Belgium than any other event in history. The fundamental mistake was the occupation itself - but the after-events should be judged fairly.

The German soldiers doing sentinel and police-duty are in general serious and honestly-ignorant. They lack the French alertness, comprehension and courtesy. They are trained for long, grinding work - but lack esprit. En route in auto we are held up several times a day, and have some interesting encounters.

This afternoon Mr. Castaigne and I reached Tournai from Mons and made a visit to Mr. Carbonelle's chateau near Kain - he is the wealthiest man in the district with a fortune of thirty million francs. Mr. Vansen arrived from Brussels in the evening. We had supper together, and afterwards I took my French lesson with Mr. Crumelle.

Saturday August 19. Spent the morning at the office, and in visiting mills and chemist. Bi-weekly meeting of the regional committee, about 100 members, at 11.30 Mr. Castaigne gave a very stirring address. Afterwards a small dinner at Mr. C's. In the afternoon Glenn and I played tennis at Mme. Dumon's.

Having decided to make a tour of the province (Hainaut), including the southern section of Belgium and northern France, Mr. C. and I set out from Tournai with Julian and the Overland at 6.20 p.m. - hoping to gain Charleroi (120 km) by 9. A beautiful evening - and a wonderful, constantly changing panorama of farms, woods, villages. Our route was by Ath, Soignes, Bain-le-Compte. Four kilometres from Nivelles a piece in the rear axle of the machine broke. We were obliged to place the auto in a nearby shed and continued to Nivelles on foot. Put up for the night at a Belgian country-hotel, the "Mouton blanc" (white sheep).

Sunday - August 20. The chauffeur rose early to go to Brussels for the necessary repair. Mr. C. and I breakfasted at Nivelles, took a tour around the town (old and interesting church) and then departed for Charleroi. This town is the centre of the big industrial (iron and coal) region of Belgium. We went to the home of Mr. Devreux, burgomestre (mayor) of Charleroi, and a friend of Mr. Castaigne's. Mr. D., who is president of the local ravitaillement, conducted us through the C.R.B. magasins at Charleroi and explained their method. We afterwards went to his home, where he had displayed the separate and autographed photos of each member of the royal family - sent to him in 1914 just before the war broke out.

Julian, having repaired the car, met us at Charleroi in the afternoon - and we continued on our interrupted journey. Going south via Beaumont and Rance we reached Chimay. All this is rolling country, heavily timbered in parts, and cut up into large farms (unlike most of the other sections of the country). At Chimay we visited the grounds and chateau of the Prince de Chimay - which are now transformed into German headquarters.

From Limay we went to Sobre Chateau (France) via Sivry. Sivry, as well as many other villages we have passed today, show the result of fire and bombardment. The small church here has nothing but its side - walls standing - the rest destroyed by fire. From Sobre Chateau to Mauberge (France) we passed through beautiful dairy country. With butter at 60 ¢ per lb. - this is one of the most prosperous occupations in Belgium. Mauberge is an old French town principally interesting for its fortifications. The result of fire and bombardment in certain sections of Mauberge - notably the school and temporary French hospital - is awesome.

Leaving Mauberge for the Belgian frontier we reached the great fort facing toward Mons. For complete destruction it would be hard to imagine a more striking sight. Leaving the machine we took a side path which led into the fort. The fortifications consist of several lines or parallel corridors, a complex construction of earth, brick, cement and steel which one would say was impenetrable. Below is a system of underground chambers for food, ammunition and so forth. Much of this part was caved in - one could pick the spots where the enemy's L2's had struck, blasting each time an immense hole. The original condition of the fort since the abandonment by its French regiment had been little disturbed. The French blue-coats, soldiers "csmets" (record books), and all rested as they had been scattered at the time of the bombardment. The gun-cupolas, of steel-enforced cement, were blasted beyond recognition of their original form. The whole scene was one of appalling destruction, bringing home the real signification of the war with all its horror.

After leaving the fort we were told later that it was strictly "defendu" to enter the fortifications - which explains their preservation in the original state. Plans are now under way for clearing the forts and rescuing the bodies beneath the wreckage - Opposite the fort (in the rear) is a German cemetery for those lost in the assault on the fort.

Continuing on our way to Bavai (7 p.m.) troubles began. A wrenched tire valve and two blow-outs within 15 kilometres. The present tires (made in England) are of poor quality. Reaching Bavai (a town of 1500) we found the village entirely dead at 8.30 in the evening - not a soul in the streets, not a visible light. We finally ran across the German barracks, where a soldier explained to us that certain inhabitants of the town who had been working at the station had gone on strike the day before. The burgomestre has been taken as prisoner to Douai and the townspeople cannot enter the streets after 6 o'clock in the evening - until the French employees go back to work. In a combination of French and German the soldier explained - "nix work, nix promenade".

It was entirely dark when we set out from Bavai, with 90 km. ahead of us before reaching Tournai - not to mention a drizzling rain and wet roads. Our blow-outs ("pans") had upset the schedule. We reached here - via Mons, Leuze - at 12.35, having been stopped and identified six

times en route - at each railroad crossing. The town of Bavai is very interesting because of its Roman origin - being the original centre of the seven Roman roads from Tournai, Amiens, etc. A column marks this centre, and the ancient routes to the several towns still branch in the seven directions.

Monday August 20. Rose early, in spite of our late arrival the night before. Spent the morning at the office and in visiting the local magasin of miscellaneous food-stuffs. At 11.30, went with Mr. Crunelle and René to the "Soupe Scolaire" at the Grand Place. Mr. Marcelle Carbonelle is in charge of this important work which was started in March. At noon each day all the needy children of the town - 2,000 in all - are given a free meal. This consists of vegetable soup, rice with sugar, bread, and a glass of beer - or some similar combination. This plan is carried out now throughout nearly all Belgium. The women of the town offer their help voluntarily in serving the children. The children are given all they can eat - and it certainly is a sight to see them. One boy we watched finished two plates of soup and three large plates of rice - in some cases this is practically the only real meal the children receive during the day. The cost per repast is 4 ¢ and the work is supported by donations. On each table of the large dining-room is an American flag. It is touching to see how the children, particularly seem to worship America.

Yesterday a group of 500 coming in from the country - where they are taken once or twice each week for a meal and an afternoon of play - all stopped and saluted the C.R.B. machine as it passed.

An aeroplane flying south toward the front just passed overhead - we recognize them each time by the "purring" noise. Spent afternoon at the office. Mr. Wilmart told a number of interesting incidents which took place at the beginning of the war.

Tuesday August 22. I inspected magasins (stores) and looks of twelve communes today. Clona and M. Midol dropped in for a few minutes on their weekly tour. Spent part of the evening at Crunelle's and spent the later part in giving Mr. C. an English lesson. He is making rapid progress.

Wednesday August 23. Spent the morning at the office: visited mills and magasin. Had luncheon with Mr. Castaigne at the chateau of the Count d'Anvaing. The baroness speaks English, French and German - all fluently - so we got along all right. The grounds and garden of the chateau are beautiful - laid out in a most complicated fashion. Later in the afternoon played tennis at Mme. Dumon's. Spent the evening at the office.

Thursday August 24. Departed in auto for Brussels at 7 a.m. - Mr. Castaigne accompanying us as far as Louze. At Brussels I found several letters from home, attended the weekly meeting of the Comité Nationale, lunched at Mr. Kellogg's home, went to the representative's meeting in the afternoon. Afterward took a ride out to Tervueren, a beautiful

suburb of Brussels. The avenues of grand trees and the bordering forests are magnificent.

Left Brussels at 6.30., arriving Louvain at 7.30. Spent the evening until dark, looking over the ruined section of the town again. Eight hundred houses and stores, including the Univ. Library and Church (partly) were lost. Here and there among the ruins one finds a little shop, temporarily constructed of wood. The proprietaire of one little store like this that I visited had formerly had a building costing f. 32,000 with a f.100,000 stock in jewellery, he is now obliged to commence anew. A large part of the population of Louvain and neighbouring places is Flemish-speaking, as I found several times on asking for directions. Spent the night at Hotel Britannique, a very plain but comfortable place - the only one of Eedecker's five hotels to escape the conflagration.

Friday. Left Louvain for Liege at 7 o'clock, via Tirlmont and Landen - a beautiful and interesting trip by P.R. At Ans 4 km. from Liege one has a fine view of the town situated in the beautiful valley of the Meuse below. Having put up at the Hotel de l'Europe, I made a tour of the ville - Parc d'Avroy. Cathedrals of St. Jacques and St. Paul. Place du Theatre, Place St. Lambert, Palais de Justice (now occupied by mil. authorities, a walk along the Meuse past the former canon and rifle works.

Witnessed an interesting proceeding in the morning - the purchase of horses by German officers. All the "requisitioned" horses (a line a quarter of a mile long) pass before the officers one by one, and the satisfactory ones (1 out of 3) are purchased. The Germans fixing the price, which is extremely high. There were several interesting incidents connected with the procedure. In the case of one very fine horse, a woman in the crowd cut through the line, went before the officers and put up a very earnest plea to save the horse. The officers all smiled and sent her on her way rejoicing, with the horse.

Went out to Fort Loncin, 5 km. from Liege, and after reaching there (a mile walk) found I would have to return to town for a pass from the Commandantur. Went to the Palais de Justice; was at first turned down when the officer in charge knew I was an American; afterwards on establishing proof of connection with the Ravitaillement I was given the pass. Fort Loncin was the last of the forts to give in at Liege - but it finally fell under shell of the 42 cm. German cannons placed at the square of Liege. The havoc created by the shells in the fort is indescribable - the huge steel and cement turrets are crumbled like paper. The Belgians lost 325 men here, many beneath the wreckage. Nearby is a small cemetery for those who gave up their lives here. While visiting the fort (about 7 p.m.) two big Zeppelins headed for the coast passed directly over us. One was not over 200 yards away and every detail was perfectly clear. On leaving the fort I fell into a "conversation" with a German soldier who knew no English and about a dozen words in French. He expressed his happiness as do all the Germans over the safe-arrival of the Deutschland today. He had left the front recently and said he earnestly wished the

war was over - that after two years he had come to realize the futility and wrong of white fighting against white. "Alles blanches - alles nemes." The Germans believe, he says, that it would have been finished long ago but for America's exportation of arms. That England, if she wins the war, will next conquer the U.S. That the soldiers' food at present (contrary to what we hear in many cases) is good and also plentiful, each man receives 2/3 pound of meat and cheese per day, 6 eggs every two weeks, and an abundance of the other things (coming from Belgium). He had assisted in the capture of several American Wright aeroplanes which had been brought down behind the German lines.

Returning to town about 8 o'clock I saw a play at the theatre, and rolled in early.

Saturday, Aug. 26. Made a second tour of Liege in the morning, visiting the interiors of St. Paul and St. Jacques, the two most important cathedrals. In both churches the interiors are richly decorated in colours - the ceilings, columns, etc. - a deviation from the general rule. Bombardment from Place. Burning of houses of Russian students. Visited the office of the C.R.B. at Liege, looked over their various systems, and lunched with Simpson the American delegate. Left Liege at 1 o'clock for Namur, on train. The train passes through the manufacturing district (Liege is noted for its steel works, and arms factories), and then follows along the Meuse. The trip through the valley of the Meuse is very beautiful - a panorama of cliffs, ruined castles, rich pastures, and thriving villages.

Reaching Namur at 3 o'clock, went to the C.R.B. offices which, together with the home of the delegates, is installed in the most imposing house in town (the temporary gift of a Belgian lady now at Paris). Met by Harry Dunn, the delegate (with Jackson) in charge of Namur. Studied the office system and visited different departments - milling, control etc. during the afternoon. Later took a walk through the town which shows the effect of fire - the city hall and a number of other buildings were lost at the beginning of the war. Mr. Gwynn arrived from Brussels at 7 p.m. We (Dunn, Gwynn and I) had dinner together, and then took a walk. Passed the statue of Leopold I, struck, at the base, at one of the first shells sent into the city. All of the forts at Namur surrendered without cannonading, that is, were captured by infantry charge. All the bridges at Namur were blown up in part to prevent, or retard, the crossing of the Germans. At Liege only one bridge curiously was blown up, whereas the other five were left standing. At present the forts of Namur and Liege are occupied and held ready for defense by the Germans. Two weeks ago Harry D. wandered too near one of the forts, was arrested, but later released.

Sunday, August 27. After an early breakfast, Gwynn, Dunn and I ascended the high citadel overlooking Namur and at the confluence of the Sambre and the Meuse. At the top there is a plateau with a sports stadium, park, and a magnificent hotel (which was burned because it was owned by English capital). The view of the valleys of the Meuse and Sambre is very fine from the citadel.

Having descended we took the steamer at Namur, which ascends the river to Dinant. The scenery en route - castles, beautiful country,

/cultivated

cultivated hills, red-roofed villages - is much like that along the Rhine. Here and there it is disfigured by bombarded or buried homes and buildings; a section of each bridge over the river had been blown up in 1914. At one point we passed a pontoon bridge built on requisitioned barges. Before reaching Dinant we were obliged to go through six locks. At Dinant we had lunch and then ascended the ancient citadel which gives a magnificent view of the town and of the valley. Below lay the ruins of a thousand homes (now replaced by temporary wooden shelters of the Belgian Relief Committee) - and on all other sides the most fertile and peaceful valley imaginable. We were conducted through the citadel - a fort which has figured prominently in history since 1450 - by a guide who, for scarcity of Americans and English, had forgotten all his English in the last two years. By now though we are as well accustomed to French as to English. The ancient relics in the citadel were plundered by soldiers at the beginning of the war. When the fort fell the 15th of August 1914, there were 60 French who held out to the end. Of this number 55 lost their lives and they, together with the Germans who fell at the same time, are buried just outside of the citadel, in the same tomb.

Descending the hill, we went through one of the interesting grottes for which Dinant is famous, and there found many curious forms of stalactite and stalagmite. The young boy who guided us lost his father and a number of other relatives in the shooting at Dinant in which it is reported 700 perished.

Afterwards we took a walk through the town, and at a patisserie tried some of the famous Couques de Dinant (cakes in forma of fish, men, etc.) Two bites convinced that we were eating the product made before the war - and our visions of Dinant cakes vanished. At present there are no tourists - except German officers on leave from the front. In April our guide of the citadel said he had conducted the Kaiser through the ancient fort, - Von Bissing in July, and "us" in August.

We took the train back to Namur, descending the valley of the Meuse. Had supper at Dunn's "palece". At 9 o'clock Gwynn departed for Brussels and I left for Tamines. My train reached Tamines, a town of 6,000 at 9.30. There the streets were dead; not a person stirring, not a light to be seen. I finally located the hotel and after knocking loudly enough to awaken the town, a head appeared from a second-story window and announced that the hotel was "full". Knowing that it was more nearly empty, I took this to mean no suspicious characters - espions, etc. wanted, and had unhappy premonitions of a night spent in the open air.

I set out for the house of the burgomastre, but not a soul in sight to direct the way. Coming upon the German headquarters I enquired the route and was obligingly conducted by a German soldier - after first undergoing an examination by the local officer. The burgomastre - M. Ducolot was still up, gave me a warm welcome, and would not hear of my spending

/the night.

the night anywhere but with him. After establishing mutual confidence he told me the story of the events at Tamines from beginning to end - in a quiet unprejudiced way. As a result of the massacre of the 22nd in this small village (2,500 in the town proper) 356 killed, 11 more unidentified; 20 missing; 80 wounded. The "Place" and the newly made cemetery nearby bears witness to the exactness of these figures. There were 600 houses burned in the town. By chance the burgomestre's home escaped, though it is scorched and surrounded by ruins. On the entrance of the occupying soldiers August 21st 1914, there was much indiscriminate shooting on all sides.

In my bedroom I noticed five or six holes made in the ceiling and walls.

Monday. Aug. 28. After breakfast, and having thanked the burgomestre for his hospitality, I set off from Tamines by auto at 7.30 - Julian met me at this point en route from Brussels. Passing Charleroi and Mons we reached Tournai at 11.30. Dined with Mr. Castaigne and Mr. Janson at Mr. Jauret's of Flobecq. And what a dinner! Even in the prosperous U.S. I never approached this. Returned to Tournai to the office; visited "Enfance Mobile" (food service for weak children); and later took my French lesson. Spent the evening at the office.

Tuesday. Aug. 29. Visited two communes in the morning, cleaned up correspondence, and completed weekly report to Mons. Dinner at Mr. Duchatelet's (Estainbourg), with Mr. C. and Mr. Janson - and a dinner that makes our Thanksgiving repast small in proportion. These occasions are few and far between, however, in each family. At present the well-to-do realize their duty to live simply - in order to permit the workers to have those foods necessary to supply their bodily energy.

Mrs. Duchatelet has two sons, her only children, now at the Belgian front. After dinner we spent an interesting half hour in the wonderful garden. Mr. D. cultivates the finest peaches and grapes in the country in glass-covered houses - this being a hobby aside from his regular profession as lawyer. Spent the balance of the afternoon and the evening at the office.

Wednesday: August 30. Spent nearly the whole day visiting communes - 12 in all - inspecting stores and books. It is very interesting work, and many interesting characters are met en route.

Rained steadily all afternoon but the "overland" is on the job rain or shine. Gave Mr. Castaigne an English lesson in the evening. Saw Monument at Fontenoy - commemorating Irish stand against English there

Thursday. August 31. Spent a very interesting day visiting the communes. Started out in the machine at 9.00; a beautiful day, after the heavy rain yesterday. At noon we reached Montreuil, and the president of the committee, M. Callez asked us to dine with him - which we did in

/regular

regular peasant fashion. The inspection work gives an opportunity to study the life and customs of the people - and the country between the villages is very beautiful and picturesque. Was asked and had to refuse at each visit to "prendre quelque chose"; at one stop in the afternoon I had at a farm some delicious waffles (gouffres). Inspected in all eighteen communes, reaching home at 8 p.m. French lesson in evening.

Friday Sept. 1. Went to Mons in the morning with Mr. Castaigne for weekly provincial meeting. Lunched at Hueptgen's. Spent the afternoon at Mons office, studying records and letter-files. Took a walk to the boat-discharging station on the canal with Clem. On the way back we passed a hospital train en route from the front - 30 cars filled with wounded. The equipment was complete - kitchen cars and operating compartments. A number of the cars decorated with climbing vines and flowers.

The auto, sent to Brussels for gasoline, failed to return so Mr. C. and I returned to Tournai by train.

Saturday Sept. 2 Rose early; spent the morning at the office. At 11 o'clock I visited the "Enfance Debile" (Sickly Children), where 150 children are supplied daily with milk, eggs, meat and other strengthening foods. It is a sight to see the way they enjoy their meal; they are more quiet and of better manners than the same age in the U.S. though of the poorer class here.

At 11.30, the bi-weekly reunion of the Regional Committee (125 present). Met a number of friends, made during the visits to the communes. Dinner at M. Castaigne's - M. Janson, De Geynst, Duchatelet, present. Meeting of Controleurs in the afternoon. The new American card-index system installed; information on communes now classified.

Gwynn arrived from Brussels at 5 o'clock. After supper, Gwynn, Mr. C. and I took an interesting walk.

Sunday. Sept. 3. Great demonstration over the fact that Roumania has entered the war; that the King of Greece has abdicated, leaving Venizelos in power.

Great events are predicted for the next two months. All the German wounded have been removed inland from Tournai hospitals to make room for new wounded from the "great offense". It is generally understood that Tournai will be in the *étap* after Oct. 1st. Gwynn, Mr. C. and I started out after an early breakfast for a walk through the town. Gwynn, heard cannons (very strong today) and saw a German aeroplane for the first time.

We visited a number of interesting old houses - the interiors and inside courts too. Afterward Mr. C. took us to the Asylum for Mental Defectives where we spent 2 hours on a tour of observation (Mr. Castaigne is inspector of the institution). One straight corridor in the building is 1600 ft. long; there are 1100 inmates. Met two southern darkies, an American

/who had

who had been in Denver in 1912, and several other English-speaking persons. The devotion of the Catholic priests who give up their lives in taking care of the inmates without pecuniary recompense is touching. One "frère" had been working in the institution 18 years.

Continuing on our way we visited the rest of the town, had dinner and then spent half an hour at the Cathedral. At 3.30 we set out for M<sup>r</sup>. De Coynst's on the Mount; from there we took a long walk, visiting the trenches at the foot of the mountain. On the way back to De Coynst's we were caught twice in heavy rains and had to take shelter in farmers' cottages - which we found interesting and comfortable. Returned home in auto at 9.30. (Rose early this - Sunday - morning, to visit the milk distribution at the Bureaux des Bien Faisances).

Monday. September 4. Rose at 5 a.m. Saw Gaynn off on the 6.20 train to Brussels. Took Mr. C. in auto to Arc-Minieres to attend memorial service for his brother. From there made the tour of Peruwelz, Ath, Mons, Tournai to secure the monthly inventories of the regional warehouses. Spent the afternoon at office. Went to the quay at 5 o'clock to take samples of boat of wheat in improper condition. Evening at office.

Tuesday. Sept. 5. Rained all day today. Spent the entire time at the office, writing letters and reports for Mons.

Wednesday. Visited Pottes, Kolembsix, Mt. St. Aubert. "Requisitioned" en route 14 lbs. of butter, 5 1/2 dozen eggs, 67 lbs. of potatoes, and a duck. All these supplies go into France - partly for the American delegates, and partly for a friend of Mr. C's at Lille where present prices are: potatoes \$12 per 100 lbs, butter \$2 a lb., meat \$1.70 a lb. Stockton and Captain Ehr here for an hour. Bowden, Glenn, Wms. visited us in the afternoon and we had supper together at Mt. St. Aubert.. Returning, I went with Mr. Wilmart to inspect some prospective C.R.B. boats. The owner, Mr. Deschamps, treated us to a bottle of wine, aged 33 years, while I listened to the interesting discourse that resulted therefrom. In the evening wrote a report on charity work in Journal district for Mrs. Kellogg.

Thursday. Started for Brussels at 7 a.m. On reaching the capital, went to Green's where I am now staying while in Brussels, with three other Princeton men (Brown, Osborne, Green) and Jackson of Nazur; - A very fine and nicely furnished home (18 Ave. Varnix). Lunched at C.R.B. offices. Meeting of delegates in afternoon. Wrote letters and cleaned up various matters at the office until 8 o'clock. After a hasty supper, went to the Theatre "Moliere", where I saw a good French drama.

Friday. Set out for Mons from Brussels in auto at 8 o'clock, passing by the place where the aerial "obus" of Wednesday night's aeroplane raid had done so much damage. At one point there was a large hole in the street - the scattering schrapnel had pierced neighbouring doors, windows, walls. One young lady mortally wounded. The most daring aerial raid at Brussels since the beginning of the war - plane flew down the Ave. Louise at a height of 50 metres - rockets and bombs bursting on every side. In route the aviator dropped printed messages of encouragement.

/interesting

Interesting meeting of Provincial Committee at Mons. Afterwards lunch at Hueptgen's. Afternoon spent at Mons office. At 5 o'clock Mr. C. Glenn, Wms. and I set out for Tournai. We had supper and spent the evening at Mrs. Potiau's - Mont St. Aubert. A beautiful moonlight night, showing off the country below us to splendid advantage. At sunset the cannonading commenced very heavily toward the south, and we could gradually hear it extend north - until it became a steady roar, like the beating of the ocean's waves. Because of a light fog we could not see the illumination at the front.

Saturday, Sept. 9 Left for Brussels with Mr. Wilmart and Mr. Deschamps on the 6.20 a.m. train. Spent the morning at C.R.B. Brussels office making arrangements for the Tournai-Lille transportation service. Showed Mr. Wilmart, our sec'y, through the different depts. of the Brussels office. After lunch, drove out to Leopold Club. There we had a ball game "France vs. Belgium" (American delegates in northern France against the delegates in Belgium). In spite of the fact that I was on the same side, Belgium won 21 to 16. Made 2 runs, 3 hits, out of 4 a,b; first game for 5 years.

Had supper at Mrs. Hearst's. In the evening I went to a performance of "Mrs. Butterfly" with Cwynn, Dunn, De Gruchy.

Sunday. In the morning Dunn, Cwynn, De Gruchy and I took a long ride through the "Eois de la Cambre" forest of Loignes and fine residential district ending at Tervuerhen. The beauty of the parks and of the massive forests is unsurpassed. We encountered thousands of cyclists enjoying their last days of wheeling - for all tires are requisitioned Sept. 20th. At Tervuerhen we spent an hour in the Congo Museum.

On the return trip I met Mr. C. at the Prince d'Orange - a restaurant picturesquely situated in the woods. Then we had dinner with M. Branfaut, his two daughters and two other young ladies. In the afternoon I went to the German exposition of "Prevoyance Social" (Social Safeguards), showing all the different ways to improve living and working conditions. Saw here the first moving pictures of the arrival of the "Deutschland", Aug. 25th. Spent the latter part of the afternoon writing at the C.R.B. offices.

Had supper at Mr. Branfaut's with Mr. Castaigne and his five nieces". The young ladies - in demonstrating an electrostatic experiment after supper - slipped a surprise on me. Mr. Branfaut is a cousin of Mr. C., a Member of Parliament, and decorated by the King - but a very plain, hospitable man.

Monday. Sept. 11 Returned from Brussels with Mr. C. reaching Tournai at 10 o'clock. Called on the Commissaire civil. Spent the afternoon at the office, where we had the interesting (and warm) weekly meeting of the regional inspectors. In the evening took a walk with Mr. De Ceynst and Mr. C. An English lesson with Mr. C. afterwards.

Tuesday. Spent the day visiting communes with Mr. W. - 13 in all. The remarkable improvements everywhere since the first visit were very

/satisfactory

satisfactory. The people in charge of the ravitaillement in the small villages are so willing, that a word or hint for improvement of any details in the stores or book-keeping is at once carried out. French lesson with Mr. Crunelle in the evening.

Wednesday. Spent morning at office writing report for Mons and finishing up other work. Went to Feruwelz at noon, where I met Glenn and Williams. We lunched together at Mr. Baugines, a weekly institution. This day Mr. B. always presents us with a cake holding the flags of all the allied nations, with America occupying the position of honour in the centre. Visited the mill at Feruwelz. This district has just been annexed to the region of the C.R.B. delegate at Tournai.

Heard definitely today that Tournai is to be placed in the étap (restricted) zone. We are to have 20,000 troupes here; and in each village one soldier is being lodged per each two inhabitants. In the evening Mr. Castaigne and I went to the Mount, had supper, and took an English lesson afterward.

Thursday. September 14. Took the 6.20 a.m. train to Brussels to discuss étap question with Dr. Kellogg. Attended meeting of National Belgian Committee. Received three letters from home. After lunch at the C.R.B. offices I attended a meeting of the head delegates. Afterward a reception by C.R.B. men was given to Mr. & Mrs. Whitlock. Mrs. W. was presented by Mr. Hoover a picture of her husband - made by one of the foremost Belgian artists.

After the reception I had a talk with Dr. Kellogg and Mr. Hoover. Mr. H. rarely speaks. On the trip from England to Holland with other delegates and on inspections in Belgium he passes the entire trip often without a word. When he does speak it is usually a brief question. His depth and devotion are admired by all - English, Germans, Belgians. Was happy to hear him remark at the close of our conversation on the étap that that he was glad to hear such good reports (from Mr. & Mrs. K) on the work in the Tournai region.

Had supper at the "Prince D'Orange with Mr. C., Mr. Branfaut and the "five nieces". Returned to Tournai by train at 9 o'clock.

The station is filled with supplies for the newly-arriving troupes. On the way home to Mr. C's I passed two companies (regiments) on the march singing and forging through the rain under their heavy knapsacks. The men returned from the trenches show the effects of the hard regime. One cannot help but pity these men who have been through the fire for two years. Even with the evidence of the war all around us, supply and hospital trains, the cannonading and illumination from the front - it sometimes seems as the whole were a dream, a terrible nightmare. White against white, soldiers of each side inspired with the highest ideals mowing each other down - and behind and responsible for it all, the wrong motives of their governments.

/Friday

Friday, Sept. 15. Spent the morning at Peruwelz - visiting offices and magasin of Comité Régional. At noon two allied planes flew over the town and dropped a bomb at Froyennes. It fell in a field and did no damage. During the afternoon the German planes patrolled the surrounding district.

Afternoon visited newly founded "Home for Children of Tubercular Parents". Rearranged furnishings of office. Evening, my French lesson at Mr. Crunelle's.

The troupes continue to arrive at Tournai, and the air is surcharged with rumours - that the commandant at Lille is retiring to Tournai, that the Prince of Bavaria is to displace the Ericshief, that a retreat is in preparation, etc.

Saturday, Sept. 16. Spent the morning at the office. Bi-weekly meeting of Regional delegates at the "Excelsior". Mr. C. gave for Glenn a parting address on the occasion of the last visit before his departure to England. Information brought from Mons that Tournai is to be placed in the étap at midnight.

At 2 o'clock in the afternoon Captain Barr came to the house and announced that his headquarters for ravitaillement would be moved from Lille to Tournai next week. The general headquarters of the army at Lille are to be transferred to Tournai.

Afternoon, meeting of controllers. Evening, dinner at M<sup>rs</sup>. Dumon's.

Sunday, Sept. 17 Took a walk with Mr. C. in the morning. Activity everywhere; a part of each house in town is being requisitioned for the accommodation of the staff from Lille. About 11 o'clock in the morning several allied planes flew over the town in the direction of Mons. They were out of sight above the clouds but we could hear the motors plainly. Spent the latter part of the morning at Mr. Crunelle's.

Lunch at Mr. C's with Miss Branfaut. M. & M<sup>rs</sup>. After lunch we all walked to Le Coynst's. The cannonading as it reached us on the side of the mountain showed terrific action towards Lille. Continuing to the top of the Mount we had supper at M<sup>rs</sup>. Fottiau's. Despite a fog we were able to see plainly the illumination at the front.

Returned home on foot, having made about 12 miles during the afternoon.

Monday, Sept. 18. Attended meeting of Provincial Crops Committee at Mons. Made the trip from Tournai in a disagreeable rain. From Mons Mr. C. and I went to Brussels. Had lunch at the "Royale Taverne", and afterwards went to the C.R.B. offices where Mr. C. met Mr. Kellogg and other members of the force. Left Brussels in the machine at 6 o'clock

/and reached

and reached Tournai at 9. Brussels is under punishment this week for applauding the aviator Wed. before last. Everyone in homes by 8.30; theatres and cafes closed.

Tuesday, Sept. 19 Spent the morning at the office. Sperry (of Sperry Mills) and Glenn were here for luncheon and in the afternoon went to the Mount. Meeting of C.R. in the afternoon. Took supper at Mt. St. Aubert with Mr. Castaigne. Saw the signal lights clearly at the front along a line of 40 km. - and an occasional glare of bursting shrapnel. The front has been much quieter the last few days. Spent the evening in conference with Tournai Steamboat Co., and later worked at office till 11.30.

Wednesday, Sept. 20. Arose early to make preparations for tour of Mrs. Kellogg who is to visit us today. Mrs. E. arrived from Brussels at 9.30. After meeting Mr. Castaigne and inspecting the offices, we visited in succession the Dispensary of the Coute de Lait, the Infance Fébile, Soupe Scolaire of Bruyelles. We had a real American lunch: Campbell's soup, Oregon salmon, bread from American wheat, sugar corn, ice-cream and coffee with Wisconsin condensed milk. Visited the "Home for Children of Tubercular Parents" in the afternoon at Froyennes, the Cathedral, and the town. Afterwards a waffle-supper at Mrs. Potiau's on the Mount. Mrs. E. departed at 6.30, describing the day as one of the most interesting and enjoyable during her stay in Belgium.

Thursday, Sept. 21. Spent the morning at the office and the latter part of the forenoon in visiting three communes. En route to Flandain in machine, we passed a line of the gray German provision wagons, over a mile long. At present there is considerable movement of troops and supplies in the vicinity of Tournai - the big gray military trucks (propelled by a special German "essence") are on the roads everywhere.

Lunch with Marcelle Carbonelle at Mr. C's. Spent the afternoon at office; visited chemist; took care of the affair of a C.R.B. bread store which had been requisitioned. The Germans are requisitioning the whole or a large part of all the houses in town, including several schools. Spent evening at office, writing.

Friday, September 22. Spent the morning at the office and made the round of the mills. Started for Brussels in the machine at 1.30. Met Green (Princeton '08), chief of inspection and control, on the route 15 miles from Tournai - and ret'd. to town with him. Explained our office system and talked over matters for an hour. Captain Bahr dropped in, on his way to Valenciennes; he announced that Tournai would go in the Flanders etap. Green and I had supper at the Mount; four allied aviators passed high overhead, but veered away just before reaching Tournai. In the morning an aerial engagement between three English and two German planes took place near town; no serious results.

Set out again for Brussels at 5, arriving 66 Rue des Colonies at 7. Spent the evening at the offices - found the usual welcome mail from home.

/At

At 10 o'clock I took the train for Antwerp and there spent the night at the "Grand Weber" Hotel.

Saturday. Rolled out at 7 a.m. (Belge). We have three different hours here now. First, hour of the country as in force before the war. Second, Belgian time one hour in advance of regular time. Third, German time two hours in advance. All clocks in public, all schools, trains, etc. are run on German time. The entire population, however, goes by Belgian time - wherefore one has to always figure for the two kinds of time. The farmers and simple villageois keep ancient time.

The Hotel Weber proved to be strictly German - as is a large part of Amsterdam. I got my revenge on the head-waiter, who completely forgot a simple U.S. civilian in his scramble to take care of the officers present, by tipping him 10 centimes (2 cents) - which fact pained him deeply.

Spent the morning visiting the wonderful zoo (all wild animals killed just before the bombardment of Antwerp), the Cathedral, the docks, Lloyd's promenoir, the C.R.P. offices and the shipping dept. of the C.R.B. Took care of some business with Mr. Ficq. Had lunch with Richardson, the American delegate who lives in the home of Mr. Bunge. In spite of the war, Mr. B. has a present annual income of 60,000 fr. Left on the 2 o'clock train for Brussels. After a few minutes wait here I continued on to Liege (60 miles) via Louvain. As our train was arriving at Liege three large Zeppelins passed overhead - the L22, L30 and one of the new Grant models.

Continuing from Liege to Pepinster, a beautiful hilly country, I had dinner in the German dining-car. It was packed with officers - and in fact is no longer open to civilians (except Germans). The conductor, however, who spoke English took me to a table - and I was well taken care of for 3 1/2 marks - 80 cents - the regular dinner. The dining-car service was all done by women - who replace the men everywhere now. Changing at Pepinster at 7:10 p.m., I took the evening train to Spa. Put up there at the Hotel Chaine d'Or.

Sunday. After an early - and a very good - breakfast, I started out to look over the town. It has been taken over completely by the German Red Cross. All the big hotels, the Baths, the Kursaal, the Park are occupied by convalescent soldiers. At the beginning of the war Spa was a headquarters of the Belgian Red Cross - Germans, French, Belgians wounded on the field were cared for equally well.

During the morning I made the tour of the four springs (Périsseret, Céronstere, Sauveniere, Tonnelet) and of Lake Harfaaz - a seven mile walk through beautiful timbered country cut by numerous streams.

Each spring has a different kind of water - iron, sulphur, calcium. On returning to town I visited the Rhing Establishment - and by the employment of a little bluff managed to get through the park. Walking to the top of one of the high hills surrounding Spa I got a fine view of the town and valley.

/Leaving

Leaving Spa at 6 p.m. the train passed through beautiful country until Trois Ponts ("Three Bridges") was reached at dark. Stayed overnight here at a small country hotel.

Monday. Arising at 5 a.m. I had a breakfast of eggs and "potato bread" - a rather bitter article - and took the 6 o'clock train to Couvy. Having reached Couvy I tried to persuade the German officers in charge at the station to let me go through to Luxembourg in the Grand Duchy - but in vain. Took a 2 hour walk between trains, through the picturesque but not very rich country which surrounded Couvy. Continuing, went via Libramont to Arlon.

At Arlon I had expected to meet Osborne - the delegate for the Luxembourg - and pass a quiet day. Instead at a Mr. Hubert's I found Stockton, Sperry, Osborne and the three Misses Hubert. After a walk which Stockton and I took through the town with the girls, we played tennis the rest of the afternoon. The young ladies were all fine players - the weather and the court could not have been more perfect. Osborne had to leave for home early in the afternoon. After a cold shower and supper, we danced a little and afterwards took a long walk.

Having reached a high point we had a fine command of the horizon at Verdun (35 miles away). The big searchlights at the front raked the sky steadily for enemy aeroplanes. Shrapnel - with a lightning flash each time - was bursting in the air. We saw the occasional flash of a heavy field-piece. To illuminate the space between the trenches, strings of slowly rising fire-balloons were liberated from time to time. The whole gave a wonderfully picturesque effect - but surrounded by peace and tranquility as we are, it seems terrible to imagine the fearful events taking place within such a short distance. At midnight Stockton, Sperry and I bade good-bye to the Huberts - to take the night train to Brussels. It was a wonderfully interesting day - the three Hubert girls, all under 20 are very active and good-hearted.

Tuesday. Sept. 26. After a fairly comfortable ride in 2nd class, we reached Brussels at 5.30 a.m. In an accident which smashed the door off our car just as it was leaving the Brussels-Luxembourg station, we were almost pulled into a disagreeable incident.

Went to the house at Brussels. Had breakfast with Brown and Jackson; spent an hour at the office (Mr. Liefeldt just returned from Germany); and then started for Tournai in the machine. Heard at Bruxelles that two of the balloons which had passed over Liege Sat. night on their way to England, had fallen on English soil.

Reached Tournai at 12.30 - after my three days' vacation. Trouble now with the authorities requisitioning the canteen where meals are served to the poor children. Spent the afternoon at the offices cleaning up work; visited the mills; just before supper, went out in the country and secured a hundred lbs. of potatoes for Mr. C. Spent the

/evening

evening at office, finishing journal for the past four days.

Wednesday. Sept. 27 Morning at the office writing reports. Lunch at Peruwels with Tuck at Mr. Baugines. In the afternoon Tuck came over to Tournai with me. Stockton and Potter dropped in with Captain Koyeburg. The Captain gave us all the details of the étap which is to be declared Oct. 1st. Spent the evening at Crunelle's.

Thursday. Sept. 28. Started for Brussels in the machine at 7.30. Arrived at 10; attended meeting of Comite National; found several letters from home; lunched at the C.R.B. offices; attended meeting of Head Delegates in the afternoon. Had a talk with Mr. Kellogg on conditions in the étap; he is doing his best to establish an étap post at Tournai for this district and the Flanders section of Courtrai.

Late in the afternoon took a ride out to Laeken and visited the section which had been so badly damaged by the German obus lanced against the Allied aviators Tuesday. Afterwards played three sets of tennis with De Gruchy and two Belgians at the Leopold Club. Spent the evening walking through the active part of town. At Brussels one cannot imagine the war. Theatres, cafes, and all are running as in normal times.

Friday. Returned to Mons via the field of Waterloo (where I saw the Belgian, French, English, German monuments, and the Great Lion of Waterloo). Meeting of C.P. at Mons fairly uninteresting. In the afternoon we had a special meeting to discuss relations between Tournai and Mons after we go in the étaps.

On the way back to Tournai we stopped off to see the biggest horse - "Kouton" - in Belgium. Weighs 2,300 lbs. Price \$10,000. Spent a quiet evening at the office.

Saturday. Spent early part of the morning at the office. Left for Peruwels at 9 o'clock. There arranged affairs with Mr. Baugines, learned further news on the boundary of étap, and was present at the meeting of the Regional Committee.

Tears almost shed over the parting of 10 of Mr. B's communes into the étap.

Reached Tournai in time for the Reunion of the Regional Committee. A large attendance present and considerable excitement over coming events. Tuck reached here with Wms. and the new delegate just as the meeting was over. They went on to Brussels, Williams staying here to visit the Cathedral. Wms. went up in the Tournai machine at 5 o'clock which was despatched to save being caught in the étape. Tuck returned from Brussels at 9 o'clock to spend the night here.

Sunday. October 1st. Wake up to find ourselves in the new étape region. We hear that travel will be unrestricted within the region, which is a big advantage to the Ravitaillement. Tuck and I took a walk in the morning, had dinner with Mr. Castaigne and Mr. Janson. In the

/afternoon

afternoon the four of us walked to the Mount with Mr. & Mrs. De Ceynst and the two boys (Guy and Pierrot). Took the picturesque path along the Escout. En route we stopped off at a farmer's cottage - at Mr. C's fiancée (aged 69 years) - and had some fine milk. At the mount I gave supper for eight - and M<sup>me</sup>. Pottiau furnished it in the regular plain but appetizing way. Returned home on foot at 9 o'clock.

Monday. Tuck and I spent the day visiting stores, warehouses, and talking at the office. Tried to help out several skippers whose boats were being requisitioned.

Visited Capt. Bahr late in the afternoon. He telephoned to Capt. Schroeder at Ghent to make an arrangement for a meeting. Tuck, Mr. Janson, Mr. De Ceynst and I spent the evening together - and a number of interesting card tricks were displayed.

Tuesday. October 3. Matter of Lille-Tournai boats settled. Tuck waited for Capt. Schroeder till 3; then, having procured a passport returned to Mons.

Had a busy day with skippers, meeting of controllers, and visits to the mills. Schroeder arrived at 6 o'clock from Ghent, and explained the new plan of ravitaillement. The American delegate for the region is to be accompanied by a German officer, circulation in the region will be slightly restricted, but otherwise the ravitaillement will have few changes.

Mr. Janson, following his line of duty as head of the Secours, has given up his residence at Brussels account étape and is staying here with Mr. C. Stockton (the American delegate for Lille) and Captain Bahr are now located at Tournai - Rec'd from the Editor of the Tournai paper all the numbers of the local journal which appeared from the beginning of the war till the occupation of Tournai.

Wednesday. At the office nearly all morning. Stockton lunched with us, and afterwards we took a walk. Visited a lady who had one of the first collections of China in Belgium - plates as high as \$1,000 a piece. Had a busy afternoon at the office.

Took my French lesson from Mr. Crunelle at 5.30. In the evening we played a game of Auction with Mr. & Mrs. De Ceynst at Mr. C's.

Thursday. October 5. A busy and interesting day - this is the typical schedule:

- 6.45 - Awake and read a chapter of my French New Testament.
- 7.00 - Cold Shower
- 7.20 - Breakfast. Take a short stroll afterwards arriving at office at 8.00 - Spend 15 minutes planning out work for the day.
- 8.15 - Return to Mr. Castaigne's for the daily conference with the accountant (Mr. Mouléron) of the distributing warehouse, the delegates from the two mills (Mr. Rolland and Mr. Patte) and Mr. Wilbart (Sec'y of the C.R.B. office). There current questions are discussed and decisions

made.

8.40 - Return to office. Talk over questions of the day with Mr. Wilmart, and give details of letters to be written.

9.00 - Visitors begin to arrive.

The President of a village committee comes in to see if he can obtain a supply of white flour for the "Soupe Scolaire" (Children's Lunch).

A boatman having a canal lighter under C.R.B. protection asks if we can save his boat from military requisition. This means a trip to the Hafnaut (or German office of Navigation - Control) to arrange matters.

A French woman of the working class, but refined and of fine character, explains that the canal boat belonging to herself, husband, and brother has been requisitioned by the German military authorities. Rather than transport German supplies, and thus work against their compatriots at the French front they have decided to abandon the boat (their entire fortune), and undergo the difficulty of living without means in Belgium.

The steam-train which brings the milk to Tournai daily for free distribution to babies of the working class has been held up the other side of the étape line. It is therefore necessary to organise a system of daily collection by wagons from one village to another, in which our friend Mr. Defontaine of Popnelles takes a vigorous hand.

The Count de Chastel drops in for some information, and we have a visit in English - as a variation from the regular French diet.

M. Carbonelle drops in rather excited to explain that a "Soupe Scolaire" with all its equipment has been requisitioned. (Letter of protest to be written and a trip to the Hotel de Ville). Followed by a working man who has been forced to assist in some work (such as the making of an aviation field) for the military authorities and seeks intervention. (the office becomes the headquarters of the Ministerial Protectorate of the United States and Spain; the arbiter for the enforcement of the International laws of the Hague; and a general cure for all evils.).

Stockton and his rather decent German, Capt. Bahr blow in. Bahr and I go to the Hafnaut to secure passes for the new boat which is to carry flour from Tournai to Lille.

Lady whose husband at last reports was working at "Detroit, Ohio" comes to see if we can locate him. (Details are transmitted to the U.S. Minister at Brussels).

Buzzing of aeroplanes is heard. We soon see an English plane followed several minutes later by a German plane. For some time the noise of pursuing shots and shrapnel is heard.

At 12.30 we stop for lunch. The chief meal of the day is eaten at this time (1 1/2 hrs. - 2 hrs. are usually taken at noon).

(After lunch visited the dentist to have a couple of small

cavities filled). This afternoon Doctor Leach the new delegate for Lille was in town for a few minutes, and left again with Stockton for Brussels.

The afternoon was spent at the office. M. Plaquet, President of Comité Local at Perennes informs us that the boats bound for Mons are held up at the étape line, because the "haleurs" (men who pull the boats) can not get permits to cross the line.

A letter is forwarded at once to the German Commandant at Antoing.

We are organizing a new book-keeping system to be used universally by all the communes. Visited a local flour station and a bread station with Mr. Wilmart to examine their books.

At 5 o'clock went to Capt. Bahr's offices. The passport for the steamer Tournai III is held up until next week on the arrival of the German military authorities - who are displacing the present German civil authorities.

Addressed a letter of convocation to each of the 10 new communes of the Peruwelz district placed in the étape, for a meeting of the presidents to take place at Fraffe next Monday. Read monthly reports of the Controllers (inspectors).

At 7 o'clock the day's work at the office is finished. Supper at 7.15. After supper, my host, Mr. Castaigne and I usually take a walk or I go to the office to write letters home and notes. From 9.30 to 10.15 Mr. Castaigne and I studied English (a daily routine), he is making rapid progress.

Roll in generally at 10.30.

Friday. October 7. An interesting, well-filled day. Persuaded Mr. Castaigne, after an investigation, to move the present Regional Depot into a larger, better-located warehouse.

Cannonading very heavy toward the evening. Rumour of evacuation of Lille by civilian population.

Saturday. Spent the day at the office, and on visits to mills and warehouses. Took my French lesson at Mr. Crunell's in the evening.

Sunday. Morning at the office writing letters. After lunch, took a walk to Antoing, and went to Church late in the afternoon. Spent the evening at De Ceyst's.

Monday. Arose at 5.30 a.m. Went to Fraffe with Mr. Wilmart, where we had a meeting of the presidents of the German Peruwelz communes. Took the train 3 miles too far, and had to walk back.

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Returning to Tournai at 10.30 went on commissions to Capt. Taubert and Captain Bahr. Mr. Leach arrived in the afternoon, replacing Stockton as the delegate for Lille.

Mr. Castaigne packs his grip, preparatory to a possible forced voyage into Germany. For several days the town has been quite excited over the requisition of Belgian workmen to make a German aviation field. The workmen will not present themselves voluntarily. The town, under a menace of a fine of 5,000 m. and the expedition of the town council into Germany, finally put up a poster inviting civilians to present themselves for the work. No labourers will reply, and the situation is serious.

Had dinner this evening with Mr. C. and Mr. Janson at Mrs. Bracquet's.

Tuesday. Oct. 10 Spent the morning with Leach visiting the mills, quails, etc. At the office all afternoon and on the go steadily. Phil. Potter dropped in about 5 on his way to Valenciennes. The French inhabitants are evacuating all the villages along the front near Péronnes. Potter's brother, a former delegate of the C.R.B. obliged to leave Belgium because of difficulties with the military authorities.

Took a walk with Leach before supper. Leach, Mr. C., Mr. Janson and I had supper together and afterwards played bridge with Mr. & Mrs. De Ceynst.

Today the men refusing to work for the mil. authorities are being arrested. A poster has been placed through the town announcing that no-one may leave their house between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., or be on the streets between these hours.

Wednesday. News arrives that our neighbour Lille, 16 miles away, was bombarded by the English last Friday. Considerable damage done, chiefly to the loss of the French inhabitants.

This morning 30 men from Tournai and Templeuve, who had refused to work on the aviation field, together with Mr. Wibaut (échevin of the town) were conducted as prisoners to the station and started on their way to Germany. A new poster placed today announces more serious penalties unless the necessary workmen are forthcoming.

Had a very busy day. Made a six page report to Mons. In the afternoon Captain Schroeder called; and later Capt. Schroeder and Capt. Bahr. Passports for Mons granted for Mr. Castaigne, Mr. Janson, Mr. Defontain. Capt. Schroeder expresses his willingness to co-operate with us in all ways; gave me a military passport to go to Brussels tomorrow.

Gave Mr. C. an English lesson in the evening.

Thursday - Left for Brussels at 6.20 a.m., the only civilian

/passenger

passenger on the train. On arriving at Brussels, made out a report for the work of the past week, visited different departments of the office. At the meeting of the National Belgian Committee at 10.30. I met the President, Mr. Francqui. Mr. Branfaut and a number of other friends were also there including the regular delegation of the C.R.B.

After the meeting De Munck, Cade, Tuck and I had a conference over the Tournai situation, and later communicated the facts to Mr. Kellogg.

In the afternoon it was announced at the head delegates' meeting that England had strictly refused to allow oil to come in for the Belgian mills - which makes a serious outlook for the flour situation.

Richardson, Tuck, Brown and I went to Mlle. Peret's for tea at 5 o'clock. There met Mlles. Piret, Braffe, Branfaut, Weiller. Tuck and I pulled off the mystery-trance card trick, and we later had an interesting game of "Brush" - entertaining and good exercise.

In the evening saw a simple well-acted play - "Le Fils Naturel" - by the Moliere players.

Friday. Oct. 13. Rose 6.30. Left for Mons on the 8 o'clock train. At Mons we were welcomed back from our exile in the étape with open arms. Present at the meeting of the C.P. Afterwards a conference with Mr. De Munck and Haniel, German Governor of the province.

Had lunch at Mr. Hueptgen's. During the hour I spent there at least 20 military trains must have passed the station nearby. This is the line of communication to the Papaume - Peronne front, where the heavy fighting is now going on. While we watched two very long hospital trains passed. Others bore trench-timbers, barbed wire, army wagons (loaded with food, etc. and on flat cars) coal, automobiles, open-air kitchens, munitions, etc.

Left Mons with Mr. C. in auto for Lth. From there with the aid of our special passes we reached Tournai by train. Spent the balance of the afternoon cleaning up matters at the Tournai office. After supper read a little and rolled in early. - Mr. Castaigne just received news of his nephew (19 yrs) fallen at the front.

Saturday Oct. 14th. Spent a busy morning at the office. The bi-weekly reunion of the district delegates - 150 present - was a very fiery and patriotic meeting. A general policy to be adopted by all the communes in answer to requisitions for workmen was adopted. In the afternoon at the office was held the regular meeting of the "Big L" controleurs (inspectors of book-keeping, food stations, etc., in the villages) - interesting as usual.

Went with Mr. C. to the Lefevre Mill to arrange for milling night and day in order to carry out a special plan now in hand.

Rollled in at 9 o'clock. Since the new regulation everybody

/leads

leads the simple life. A pharmacist told me several days ago that never was the general health of the people better and never was there so little sickness as since the beginning of, i.e. during, the German occupation in Belgium. The people are forced to a simple, quiet regime. No telephone, no high-speed express trains, half of the population in bed at the same time as the chickens (because of the scarcity of kerosene, candles etc. in the country), the other half in their homes before 9, 10, or 11 according to the local rules, and no over-eating - a regular Wagner's "Utopia."

With all suppression of fire-arms and weapons, the Belgian courts are about one half as busy during the last two years.

Sunday. Oct. 15th Passed the 22nd milestone yesterday. Arose early, and after breakfast went to see Mr. Wilkinson and his wonderful ivory plaque. It is the first specimen of detailed carving I have ever seen - held at 7000 fr. (\$1400).

Took a long walk ending at Mr. Crunelle's at 10 o'clock. There I took my French lesson - am now beginning to study the more difficult classic French literature.

Afterward we made a round of the garden, and I left with a package of fine pears.

After dinner Mr. C. and Mr. J. started off on a walk to Laxain. I spent the afternoon at the office, reading and writing. Was interrupted once by an aerial attack in which the shooting lasted for several minutes.

Had a quiet evening; Mr. DeG dropped in for a few minutes. Mr. C. and I studied English for an hour.

Monday. July 16. On the go steadily all the morning; saw the Bishop of Tournai about the exportation of church oils, went to the "Crop Offices" to secure the wheat liberation papers, to the German Commandant for a "carte d'identité" and to the two mills.

We had a beautiful aeroplane raid during the morning. The sky was perfectly clear except for a few very high white clouds. Three allied aeroplanes flying very high - above the clouds - surveyed the district of Troyennes - Templeuve. Several bombs were dropped, bursting with a deep intonation. These were answered by a steady fire from the German guns at Troyennes. The greater part of the time the planes were hidden by the white clouds - reappearing now and then at clear spaces, and thus giving a very picturesque effect.

In the afternoon Capt. Schroeder arrived with my new German officer, Lieutenant Willis. We spent an hour talking over things. After Nov. 1st it appears we shall be obliged to eat "black bread" - and there shall be no more meat whatever in the étapes C - except American bacon and lard.

Lieut. Willis went to look up a house for lodgment and offices.

I do not know yet whether I shall be obliged to live with the officer or not. Mr. & Mrs. De Geynst dropped in for an hour during the evening. Gave Mr. C. an English lesson - came back to the office and wrote for a while. Rolled in at 11 o'clock.

Tuesday. Oct. 17 Morning passed as rapidly as usual at the office. Capt. Bahr and Lieut. Willis stopped in for a while. Several companies of German troops, always singing rain or shine, passed during the day. To see them drill or make an "arms-at-rest" halt is a marvel. It is a perfect machine, lacking only in individuality. Potter and Leach arr'd p.m. "Auction" at De Geynst's.

Wednesday. Spent the morning showing Lieut. Willis the various kinds of food rations: regional warehouse, store of miscellaneous provisions, a bread store and a "cantine scolaire". Had lunch at the Cathedral Hotel with Leach and Capt. Fahr. Spent the afternoon at the office. Secured my "carte d'identit " for the  taps. More aeroplanes today; though at some distance, we heard three very heavy explosions.

After supper Mr. C. and I went to De Geynst's for a little while and returned for a lesson.

Thursday. Rose at 5.30, and took the 6.20 a.m. train to Brussels. Found several welcome letters from home - also from Trix, Harry, Jim H.. Attended the meeting of the Comit  National: Mr. Francqui, the president, in his general tyrannical mood. Met Mr. Janson afterward, who is now in Brussels having obtained a five day leave.

After lunch at the C.R.B. offices the 7 Princeton men connected with the Commission had their picture taken together at Bout 's. At the meeting of the head delegates in the afternoon it was announced that in the future the C.R.B. would furnish no fats - bacon or lard - to people of means, to farmers, or to the more fortunate class in general. To supply the serious demand of the flour mills for oil, the C.R.B. chemist has found a special method for extracting cylinder oil from corn. The part of the corn left over after this process is placed in the wheat flour of the C.R.B.

Attended a French lecture in Astronomy at 5 o'clock. Had supper at the "Flite" with Richardson and Sperry.

Left Brussels on the night train arriving Tournai an hour late at 1 a.m. - the only civilian passenger debarking here. On reaching the house found the night bolt barred; being unable to awake anyone I spent a more or less uncomfortable night at the office, across the street.

Friday. Slept soundly from 6.30 to 9 in my customary bed at Mr. Castaigne's - making up for a little lost time. Lieut. Willis arrived at the office at 10, and gave me a special German passport from the Army Headquarters at Charleville demanding assistance of all officers with whom I came in contact, and safe-conduct in case of danger. We are

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to replace the C.R.B. flags with cards printed in German, which protect all C.R.B. goods against requisition.

Had lunch at the "Cathedral" with Rittmeister Koyeberg, Capt. Bahr, Willis, Potter, Leach. Spent the afternoon at the office. Our biggest question now is the wholesale requisition of civilians for forced military work. None of the towns on the region, when first approached by the military authorities, would furnish the originally small number demanded.

The campaign was then started to arrest all "chomeurs" (men without employment) and has now spread until all young men fit for military service - even those with steady work, and married - are being taken. The gendarmes arrest the men on the streets or at their homes - and many sad scenes take place.

Each morning auto trucks, loaded with prisoners from the small villages, pass through town. The men are asked to work first on a nearby aviation field, and upon refusal - as is always the case - are conducted no-one knows where. It is thought that they are taken in France and there given a forced military labour.

Wednesday I successfully intervened in the case of a very devoted worker for the C.R.B. and his commune, the Secy - Treas. of Familles, with wife and three young children. He was released from requisition.

Spent the evening at Mr. Crunelle's. Returned at 9.30 and rolled in early to even up for the night before.

Saturday. At the office till 10 o'clock. Set out to visit the two mills. The Lefebvre Mill is working night and day - including Sundays - to build up as big a reserve of 82% flour as possible before the commencement of the new regime, Nov. 1st.

Started for Rangines - Chin on foot (a big difference since the departure of Sarah B) at 11 o'clock. There had a talk with Mr. Deschamps regarding the feeding of Belgian civil prisoners, and also saw the work being done on the aviation field by 50 French prisoners. Each prisoner has a red band around his arm, and also around his trousers-leg; for each attempted get-away an additional red-band is added. The men, though obliged to work, are well fed and do not complain. In addition to board they receive 10 cents per day's work.

Continuing on the same road I reached Templeuve, to find that my friend Judge Coppez had just left for Tournay. The same morning 60 men - the second lot requisitioned at Templeuve - had left the town under German guard. Visited the local offices and distributing station of the C.R.B., and found all in good running order.

From Templeuve I took the steam-train to La Festrinque. The