

Newport News, July 11, 1918.

Dearest:

Haven't I been reforming? I've sent not more than ~~one~~ letter in two days on the average for a week.

I am enclosing my last letter from Gertrude. In a few days Mrs. Falconer will be back and then ~~she~~ ^{Gertrude} will know what ~~can~~ ~~be done~~ she will do.

Enclosed is a wrist watch for Peg and a pin for Gertrude. Last time Peg got a pin and Gertrude a wrist watch. I can't think of anything nice enough for you, Margaret.

By the way, a bill for about four million dollars has just gone through Congress like a land slide and is before Pres. Wilson. It creates a Division of Venereal Diseases in the U.S. Public Health Service, provides a subsidy for the states, gives some ^{extra} money to the ~~country~~ ^{Secretary of War + Navy for U.S. control,} and appropriates for research work in V. D. I don't know what more we could do to make the V. D. program permanent. The bill was looked after by Mr. Moore of Portland Oregon;

over

but all of us had a chance to criticize
& amend. I stood out for calling it a Bureau
of Venereal Disease & the the Division in the
P. H. S., a Division of Venereal Disease, and
the bill probably went through that way.

So the action of the Calif. State Board of Health
in changing the name of the Bureau there
to "Social Hygiene" is no longer serious, although
somewhat embarrassing. I have ~~never~~
not heard who was responsible and why, but
I have written Dr. Watters for particulars:

This change happened after many other
states had followed suit and had
adopted ^{partially} without exception the term you & I
had decided on. I think the term has
its disadvantages, but it certainly ~~is~~
is straightforward and ~~plain~~ clear.

Yesterday I had an hour's conference
with Mr. Homer Ferguson of the Newport News
Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co. He is much
interested in our work and I expect
to interest his chief surgeon in establishing
a venereal disease clinic and for the
men and doing educational work among
them.

To-day I went over to ~~Newport News~~
 Norfolk with Col & Mrs Lynch & Lt Col
 & Mrs. Cumming. Col Lynch & I visited
 the Naval Base and I saw the
 medical aide to the Commandant about
 the U. S. work. I also saw Surgeon
 Young (formerly of Chicago) U.S.P.H.S. and
 Dr. Converse (U.S.P.H.S) recently of S. F.
 It was a nice trip, but a dreadful
 little tub of a boat. In California
 we would drag it into the estuary at
 Alameda and let it rot in the
 clam flats. Here it is the regular
 ferry between two cities of over 100,000
 population each.

The Naval base is on the
 site of the former Jamestown Exposition.
 The buildings are permanent and handsome,
 in contrast to the temporary structures
 being thrown up everywhere by the army.
 While crossing the Hampton Roads I
 saw a ~~dirigible~~ captive balloon
 way off ~~in the~~ near the ocean. There

were balloons and aeroplanes in ~~the~~
and near the hangars at the naval
base.

Mrs. Cumming asked whether you
would come to Newport News.

I received several communications
about the freight, which is on the way.
The bill of lading was announced in a
letter from the quartermaster in Washington.
I wrote to Victor & Mead, advising that
one of them designate a warehouse
to ~~send~~ which the furniture can be delivered.

I received also letters from the S.F. Quartermaster
and from the students express. The
S.F. asked questions which I cannot
very well answer, because the express
company did not tell ~~how~~ how many pounds
were books & how many ^{were} other personal effects.
So we shall have to pay for ~~so~~ a
larger share of the crating, etc., than
otherwise. I shall study the whole
thing further and may have to carry
on ~~so~~ correspondence with the company

before I can decide about the amount of freight I shall ~~only~~ get only the freight allowance of captain because my notice of promotion went via Calif. and reached me one day after my orders to active duty. However it will not mean very much money ^{and} it looks as if ~~to~~ most of the freightage, ~~will~~ if not all, will be paid by the Army.

It is nice and cool. Last night I woke up + pulled a blanket over me. So you see the weather is fine for summer.

We move into our new quarters to-morrow and things ought to begin to move.

I expect a letter from you about to-morrow, and it will be very welcome.

I miss you very much,
 Wilbur.