



Tom P. Walker  
2nd St. Sig.R.C.  
A.P.O. 703.

Officer's Mail.

1-20-18



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% J. J. J. J.



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2nd St. Sig.R.C.  
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ARMY AND NAVY  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

"WITH THE COLORS"

Sunday Jan 20 1917

Hello Kiddie -

Waiting at the Y.M. for the Sunday afternoon concert to start. Someone said Miss Wilson is to sing. Fancy a crowd of homesick youngsters sitting in a rough hut in an out of the way village of France listening to one of the worlds operatic stars. War is funny, isn't it?

Made some more purchases yesterday, and now I'm ready for any contingency. I don't like rubber boots so I bought trench shoes from the Q.M. They're the heaviest most practical shoe

I ever saw and they cost  
\$281, a half dozen wooden  
sox weighed about two lbs.  
and they cost 1.50 francs (27¢)  
a pair. Can you beat it? Then too  
I got the new forage cap we  
must wear. After taboosing the  
dress cap and allowing only the  
service hat, now comes an  
order doing away with the  
service hat all together, and  
bringing back the dress cap,  
and giving us a forage cap.

Quite a socky affair too - per-  
haps you've seen one. Looks like  
this on the side and  
this in front



etc.

Picture we rigged  
in one of these.

Nothing doing here on Sun-  
day except scrape mud, clean up  
in general write letters and



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study. with nothing but candle light we can't study much at night.

"Friend of mine" - Sanderson.  
Baritone solo - great - first no. on program. Encore "Her Rose" - we know that eh? But that friend of mine is good. Some day will get it.

"By the waters of Minnetakka"  
Lawrence. Soprano solo not Alice Nelson tho'. Somebody lied. Encore "Until"  
Sanderson. Pretty good - now "My Laddie"

Had some of Service's "Rhymes of a Red Cross man". They're good

The baritone sang an English war song - (no name) and it was good - Encore "Meet me by moonlight"  
a 16<sup>th</sup> Century song - O.K.

Some of these officers have

been here six months and they're  
homesick -

"About Song" Harriet Ware.

All right. Encore "Cymbeline" - weird -

Again "Yesterday & Today" Sprouss

very good. Again "My Little Grey

Hone in the West" - Sniff! Sniff!

Then she made us all sing the  
chorus of "Long, long, Trail"

now the reader gives

"Mandalay" - Great. This is sure  
some treat. Tell all the folks who  
subscribed to Y.M.C.A. that they're  
owe some more. Encore by request

"In Son' 'ome to Blighty" and  
it's a jewel - look it up. Then some  
good late stories and "Carry On" -  
another great war poem - "That Spangled  
Banner" and they're filing out.

Have some work to do so good bye.

I'm having a great time, Sweetheart, only awful  
homesick. The best days are coming for you + me.  
x x x Loves Tom x x x x