

THE BUTTERICK PUBLISHING COMPANY

BUTTERICK BUILDING

NEW YORK

Enroute: Virginia.

Saturday 4/28/17.

Dear Lloyd:

I was glad to get your letter last Wednesday at Parkersburg, W. Va., and your promotion is a matter that pleases me immensely. Go to it and before long I hope to have a new Sister also. Without a doubt a man is far happier if he marries a good girl and it gives him a certain ballast that enables him to do better work and be better satisfied. I never have been in really fighting trim until here recently.

Of course you know that the U.S. is at war and the matter of conscription is expected to pass Congress today. When they want me I am ready but owing to family responsibilities I do not feel that I can volunteer at this time. There are very few real men in this country who do not approve conscription. In traveling I find that every man I meet is in favor of it. To me it not only seems a very fair method but I don't believe any country can wage a big war without it. The country is solidly behind the President and first class cooperation is being effected with England and France who have commissions in Washington, now. Gen. Joffre, who is with the French commission has received great demonstrations here and without a doubt the work of the commissions will save us from many mistakes as our plans can be formulated on their experience.

I hope you can come home for a vacation in September and will expect to see you. I have put off building until I can get the right slant on this war business, yet I am inclined to believe that materials will be higher just after the War than they are now. If things look right I may tackle the job during my vacation in August. Labor is high and getting higher all the time. Mobilization will probably make it go higher yet. I have a very fine set of plans drawn by an architect but estimates come to so much more than I can put in the house that I am inclined toward getting the material from the Aladdin Co., ready cut, which will give me first class material and save labor in erecting.

I have been very fortunate in getting home nearly every Sunday even tho I sometimes go 1000 miles during the week. Mildred has been very good about my being away and helps me all she can in every way. She is proving to be a far better little wife than I expected. Looking back over my experiences I can see where I have escaped some very bad matches in the matrimonial line. When you get ready to choose a wife be sure to get one that is physically strong and then conduct things so as to keep her that way. If she is healthy, has brains and loves you and you love her, the matter of being beautiful isn't essential and you are that much better off if she isn't. Mildred is not beautiful and