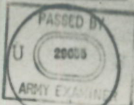


No.

39270918



MRS. C. L. GALLUP

MRS. GLETON L. GALLUP
SENDER'S NAME

343 GRANT STREET

MAIL MACHINE RECORDS UNIT
SENDER'S ADDRESS

REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA

APO 871, c/o POSTMASTER

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.,
DATE14 *K. S. ...*
CENSORS STAMP

Dearest Shirley & Laura,

ENGLAND.

Hello again, and how are you? I am fine, in fair health, not too busy but keeping myself occupied so that time does not drag.

While walking to and from work during the past week or so, especially in the evenings going back to camp, we pass big groups of children. There seem to be whole gangs of children playing in the neighborhood that come running when they see the U.S. soldiers going by. Immediately they want to know if we have any chewing gum or candy and they will say, "Any chaw, Any chaw, Mister." They say it so fast that if one hadn't heard it so many times already he might not know what they were talking about.

It is quite hard for us to believe that all of these children cannot remember when the lights were on in the streets and down town. And you cannot imagine how dark a town can be with no street lights other than a few scattered small lights high up that are completely shaded. There is no light to be seen in any of the shops because there is none. The pubs, cafes, and fish & chip joints sometimes have a small ray of light showing around the door or window and sometimes the cafes have a sign in the window that can be seen for a half a block but which gives out practically no light.

As we are walking to work we pass quite a few English people going to work either walking or riding bicycles and they nearly always greet us with "Good Morning". They are a very friendly people. Whenever we are down in town and want directions to some store or theatre or such, they are always willing to oblige and will give one very hazy directions. They quite often say, "Just go over that way or straight down this street--you can't miss it," and invariably their directions are either wrong or misleading and you will miss it everytime, but still they are very willing to try to help.

The English are all either very fair skinned or very ruddy complexioned. There are no tanned, bronze skinned, or even medium complexioned English here. I guess that they do not get enough sunshine and it shows up in the fair skinned race that prevails. Also, it seems that most of the English are rather small people, but if not small they seem to go to the other extreme and are either quite tall or quite fat. There just does not seem to be any medium build here as we know in the States.

The English people walk down the streets in town whistling and singing in little groups. When one goes to the show he finds that the people all hum or sing when music is played before the show or during the picture. Everywhere one sees an Englishman, or for that matter even the women and girls, on the street or at work the Englishman will be smoking. They smoke even in the theatres and anyplace in the theatre. Some of the women who work at the same camp where I work look very peculiar to me with a cigarette poked right in the center of their mouths and working or talking while they smoke.

There are a lot of things over here that are different, and a lot of things that are very interesting. I know that I will learn a lot that will be of value and interest to me the rest of my life.

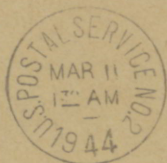
Write soon--lots of love,
Mama

WRITE SOON--LOTS OF LOVE,
MAMA

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