

Pvt. W.H. Bloomingburg  
D.M.D. – Bks. 27  
O'Reilly General Hospital  
Springfield, Mo.

Springfield  
Nov 9  
11:30 AM  
1943  
MO.

Miss Sallie Loving  
5817 – N. Washington Blvd.  
Arlington, Va.

Monday

Dear Sallie,

We haven't been able to get much writing done the last couple of weeks so I'm hoping to get partially caught up today. Today everybody is cutting up, yet we're all kind of blue because its shipping day. Our class has finished its 2 months course so we're all being shipped out. However W. & I and 5 others are staying for a 3 months nursing course. They kept the 7 highest in the class. Not that I'm bragging but I thought you might like to know that I was first in the class with a 99 average and W. had a 97. I like it here in Springfield and am glad we're getting to stay, yet I'd kind of like to be moving on. Our class isn't scattering out quite as much as the last one did but there are not more than 5 or 6 in a group. Mostly they'll be training in 2's & 3's. Some are going to hospitals, some to field outfits, 2 to a hospital ship, and 3 on a hospital train. Some are getting pretty good deals and some aren't. When we leave here we'll go to Denver Col. (illegible away all the time) to be assigned. Right now I'm eating a peanut bar made out of Va. peanuts.

We got a letter from Orville a few days ago. He writes just like he used to talk. He told us a lot of stuff, then said "I don't know why I'm telling you guys all this." That's the way he always did. He'd tell us a lot of stuff then wonder why he told it all.

We got a letter from George Watt too. I guess he's home on a furlough now, or at least will be soon. I wouldn't mind getting a furlough pretty soon but there's no use hoping for one until after we're assigned and that's at least 4 months off now.

We're having a real winter day today. We've had a good deal of changeful weather lately but yesterday it started turning cold and now its really cold. There have been several snow flurries this morning and a nice nippy north wind is whistling around. Its very comfortable lying there in the barracks writing. I hope they'll let us alone all day. This afternoon we'll have to move all of our stuff up on the hill to a barracks at the hospital. I wish we could stay in this barracks because its really nice.

We got a letter from Laura Ann the other day. She sent a couple of pictures of her little girl and is she cute! I feel sorry for Earl way down in Tex. And not able to get home. I'd believe I would go AWOL myself. They named her Joyce Lynn. She is slightly over 6 wks. old and weighs about 9 ½ lbs. They are staying down at Earl's folks now.

We just finished working 2 weeks on the wards and it wasn't so bad. On my ward all the patients were up and around so so far as they were concerned it didn't take any work. I cleaned the ward up every morning and the rest of the time I was usually walking all over the hospital carrying reports and messages etc. So far as learning anything, it was time wasted. I hope it isn't like that for the next 3 months because I really want to learn something. These last 2 months have been okay and really worthwhile, I hope the next 3 are.

Its nearly lunch time so I'm going to make the supreme sacrifice of going outside and walking to the mess hall.

Tues. morning – We finally got moved yesterday and this morning we're just sitting around waiting to be told what to do. I really wouldn't mind it if they'd forget us today. Its still cold but its not snowing today. Now we have what they call "Class A" pass and can stay out till 6 in the morning used to we had to be in at 10:45. I don't plan to stay out that late though. Notice the change of address. There may be a change in rank later I hope.

Love,

Wendell