

afternoon. All nice. Miss LeMont and Miss Collamore have asked me to go to the same hotel they do in Paris. That's rather a relief to my mind. Of course the Y. M. has probably made some arrangements for us, but we don't have to go to any special place. If it seems best to go to one place as a unit, of course I shall, but otherwise, if I needn't go alone, I'd so much rather be in a really French hotel than in the American Petrograd run by the Y.W.

I've been playing quite hard with the six Y. W's for the last two days. Interesting, all of them, and we've had fun, but all but one chubby little round one are too intense. I'm glad I'm not working with them. Every morning now from 10 to 20 people called on the upper deck and do setting up exercises. My word, I'm stiff tonight! Yesterday we had a service, Dr. Odell conducted it & Dr. Coffin preceded. Just as we were starting I heard my name whispered. Mr. Sloan was sitting right behind me and he asked if I'd get another girl and take up the collection. I was shaky but he's the High Boss so when Dr. Odell said "The collection will now be taken" I shoved Mr. Sloan's hat in to Miss Cleveland's astonished hands, and told her hurriedly to take half the room while I took the other. She was utterly flabbergasted but in a second rose to the occasion as I knew she would, and we collected cash like the dourdest Scotch elders imaginable. It isn't such an easy job insquishy caps. You see, we've begun early to take part in prayer meetings like true Y.M's.

I expect that this is the longest letter you'll get from me, and yet this might be a lot longer if there weren't so many people to talk to. I'm trying to study some French and to write a few letters but I keep getting side tracked for a gossip all along the line. A beautiful blue aviator with lots of medals helped me with a French exercise this afternoon. Some teacher!

Wednesday - Racks on the tables today for the first time. It's not really rough, though we are rolling a good deal. We've had a mill-pond voyage - too smooth. I glory in the wind and white caps today. Incidentally I've forgotten to mention it. I'm feeling very fit. All rested and all over the indigestion I started with in spite of eating pounds of trash between all meals.

We had our first excitement today - we sighted 22 vessels on the horizon. Of course we were immediately sure we heard guns. I still think there was some sort of booming but it was probably the screw - and everyone rushed to the rail to watch. They were going in the opposite direction so soon passed but not before we had seen their camouflaged sides. Apparently it was a convoy of merchant vessels or empty transports by a few destroyers. We're zig-zagging now too, which levels interest to life - but there isn't any real excitement on deck. People are chatting and promenading as though we were just out of New York harbor instead of in the middle of the Danger Zone. I believe