

Oct. 16. 1918

My dearest Ruth, I must just write you a note this morning though there is nothing much to relate - to tell you chiefly that we've now been 4 days without a mail. However we feel certain of getting one to-day because we have now official information where to collect them. It has been a proper riddle.

Yesterday was very wet. I went to A in the morning to buy requisites with Rem & Wilson - and really I hardly know what else I did. I'm longing to know what you & for that matter what everyone at home thinks of the German Note. I had two French papers yesterday. The Echo says it is necessary to enter Germany in order to break up & dissolve the German state as far as such a thing is possible & prints the text of the French suggestion at Paris under the signatures of de Molle & de Wimpff presumably as a model of what we ought to get out of the Hun. The Petit Parisien said it was the end but didn't seem very happy about it. The Continental Mail has been merely blood thirsty & the only quotations I have seen from English papers, notably in the Sunday Times have been unsatisfactory.

The S.T. said that we ought to suspect trickery in the Note because the change of attitude is so sudden. The answer to that is that the change of situation has not been slow. It seems that these journalists completely misunderstand German, - particularly Prussian psychology - the military folk could tell them one thing about that; - that they always recognise & face the facts.

They never hesitate to give up ground when their military situation demands it for any political consideration & they always face the psychological situation at home with immediate propaganda. Compare that attitude with our ostentation of the press salient & the knock-out blow propaganda which was designed to keep up our spirits - had the opposite effect.

Please tell your father that I want very much to know what he is thinking about all this, & tell him what I think. I'm glad to know from Claire that Gage is 'quite well'. Kiss the infants from me.

I read your last letters again in bed this morning, & enjoyed them ever so much. I'm glad you're so happy about the war - no longer pessimistic.

I'm not feeling so completely stupid & bereft of ideas these last two days, which makes me happy. I'm finding G. Jung's Balkans amazingly good & I'm studying Otello

Dear your loving, George
Gis Helen you darling.