



Derindje, Asia Minor.
April 12, 1919.
~~Friday~~
Saturday

Dear Mother,

Hope this habit of writing letters so often(?) won't get too hard a hold on me. Seems to me I wrote one last Sunday from Constantinople, after receiving three from America, but there is always a little news to write about. Fridy and I came back to Derindje last Monday and were glad to get back to good American company and cooking again, and back to work. Since then I've been assembling sterilizers for various units, running farm tractors, putting sewing machines together, etc, etc. This is all to fill in time till I am sent out to a hospital. Dr. Richards told me yesterday that I was to go to Aleppo next week in place of Peltier, who died. He wants me to stop at Adana and set up their sterilizers first, then go on to Aleppo, where the central laboratory is to be located, & take their lab equipment along. I probably won't go till near the end of the month, as I want to learn the tractor & auto business first, & how to run the X-ray outfit. There is a terrible lot of work to be done that mechanics should be doing.

We have been having some fun & excitement in our spare time, too. This afternoon, being Saturday was declared a half holiday, so a crowd of us went down to I smid in a box car. It's a very old city, & was



once the capital of the Turks, they say, before Constantinople was taken. The women bought all kinds of souvenirs like old brass candlesticks & coffee grinders, while four of us went in search of submarines. We had heard there were two German subs in the harbour near a Russian battleship, so we got some Britishers to take us out in a launch. They landed us on the subs, which were not under guard, & we spent the afternoon investigating their internal organs, looking thru the periscopes & monkeying around the torpedoes. One of the two was the UB42, which sunk 32 ships & one submarine during the war. The other was a mine laying submarine. Then we went on board the Russian ship - the "Bolgo" & were all over it - climbed the masts, were in the gun turrets, & everywhere of course we collected a few souvenirs - machine gun bullets, etc. Later a sailor took us down in the submarine again and showed us how to fire torpedoes. There were four big ones still on board. Thru the periscope we could see the "Goeben", the big Turk battleship that was in so many scraps. One of the periscopes magnified so strongly that you could see the Turkish sailors on the Goeben.

Tonight before dark some of us walked up the Gulf to an old ruined palace that Abdul Hamid ~~used~~ used to use for a summer house. The country is beautiful here now. By the way, mistletoe grows on all the trees here, with berries as big as small cherries. There are loads of wild flowers - roses, poppies, lilac, etc.

Must close & write some more letters. Everything is going along well - most of the units are at their stations or on the way - Marsovan, Adana, Aleppo, Beirut, the Caucasus, & Smyrna with others preparing for Mardin, Caesarea & Sivas. Quite a little relief work is being done in this neighborhood too. Hope everyone at home is well & happy. I am feeling fine. Got my glasses fixed in Constant. Have a dash from here & am developing for the crowd in the evenings. Am enclosing a picture of the garbage collector in Baloukai. If the photo gets there all right I'll send more. Let me know. Loads of love & all from Stanley.