The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004197

1918
11

AMERICAN RED CROSS
CROCE ROSSA AMERICANA

TELEGRAMMI: " AMCROSS "
TELEPHONE: 31-342

ROMA December 11.
166, VIA SICILIA

Dear Mrs. Straight

I know how little any word at all can mean and don't want to trouble you with mine, but I can't help sending a line to tell you how I feel for you from the very bottom of my heart.

It is a help and stimulus to have known him, to know him now, and to feel that courage and vigor and energy still alive and helping. To know too how you are meeting this, to know how you have met everything. These are things one is really grateful for. Thank God for him and for you!

With all my sympathy and my thankfulness, I am

Faithfully your freind,
Chester Aldrich.

The Rectory of Trinity Church
Roslyn, Long Island

December 11 1918

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

Mrs. Brewer has already written you, but I want you to know more personally of my deep sympathy in your

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004598

1215 N. Nevada Avenue
Colorado Springs
December 11

Dear Mrs. Straight,

I hope you will not think it presuming, and an intrusion, if I venture to send a line to express my deep sympathy in your great loss.

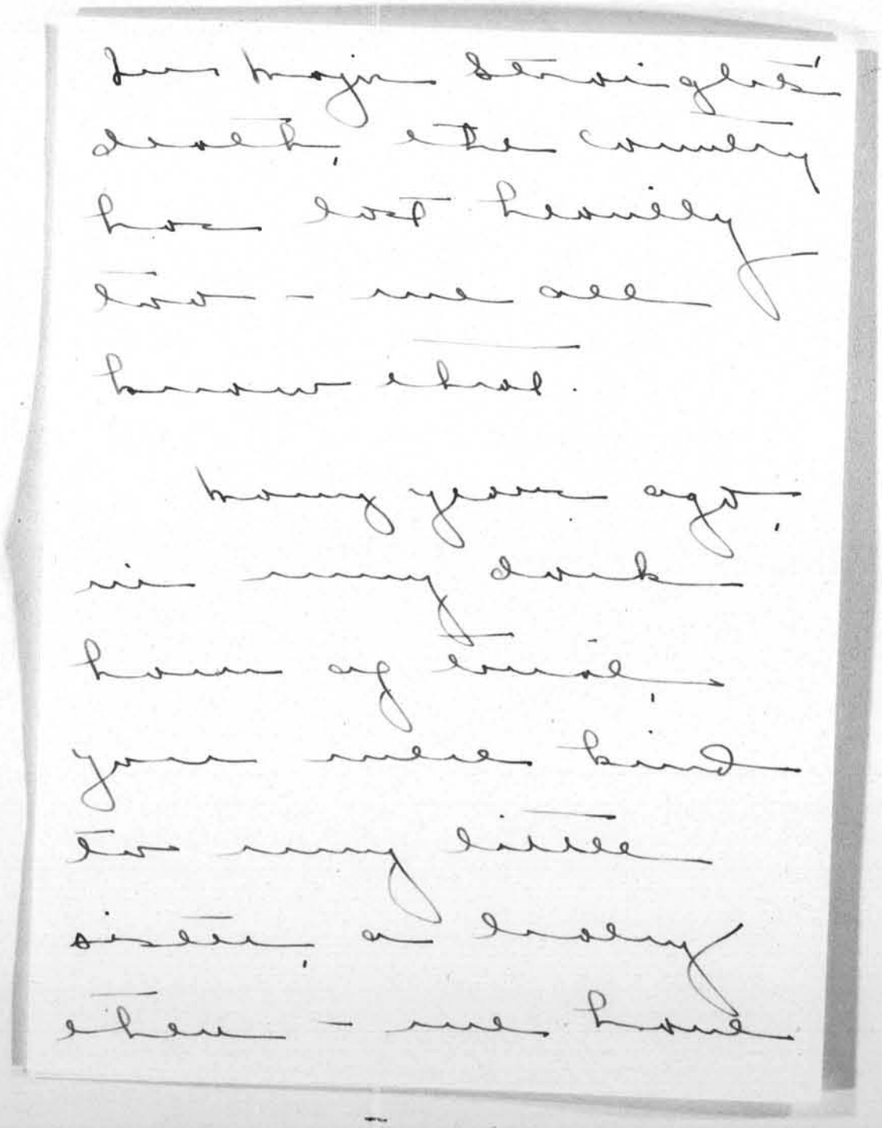
time of great bereavement. I know you need all the comfort you can get, and if there can be any consolation in my sympathy, then, be assured, you have it.

May God bless and keep you is the prayerful wish of

Very faithfully Yours
Clifton H. Brewer

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004599


Dear Major Straight
Dorothy, the country
has lost heavily
too - we all
know that.

Among your effects
in my desk
home of mine,
you will find
for my little
sister a ring
that - we had

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004600

not forgotten that.
With sincere
and deepest sym-
pathy.
Sincerely yours
Julia B. Bournwell

Willard was both loved
& feared: he was there always
in the crowd but not of it,
& I know of no one who
responded so quickly to
every high principle. We
used to think of him as
a sort of Knight-Errant &
his name was almost
never mentioned amongst
his friends except in
association with some effort
of his to benefit others than
himself. I feel that we
have all lost from amongst
us the best personal

Boston, 11th Decbr. 1918
No. 4 West Hill Place

My dear Dorothy:

The news of Willard's
death came as an awful
shock & I wish that it lay
within my power to
express to you the measure
of my deep sympathy at
your terrible loss.

Here is no man with
whom I have ever come
in contact for whose
qualities of character I
have such admiration.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004601

Example that we had
to follow: the world
is not so good a place
without him. Even for us
and how your heart is
torn I can perhaps
appreciate.

He has a man's full
accomplishment behind
him and a future lay
before him that would
have taken him further
than that of any of those
who stood near him.

With that we in
Boston had known of
the service last week
in New York as I should
have gone on.

Yours very sincerely
D. de Menocal

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004602

# Our Savior's Norwegian Lutheran Church

237 EAST 123rd STREET
NEW YORK

J. C. GRAM,
PASTOR

NEW YORK, Dec. 11th 1918

Mrs Willard D. Straight,
1130 Fifth Av.
New York City.

Dear Madam:-

Although we, the membus of this church, do not know you pursonally, still we do know you, and you have a large place in our hearts and in our thoughts. Never shall we forget, that it was due, in so large a measure, to your kindness and generosity that we were enabled to build our church and that we now can carry on our work for the kingdom in a far more efficient manner than otherwise would be possible. For this we shall always be thankful.

And now in the hour of your great sorrow, we offer our word of sympathy and consolation. May our Lord Jesus christ himself, our God, even our Father, which hath loved us and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, strengthen and comfort your and breath into your soul peace and resignation.

On behalf of our Savior church,
Sincerely yours,
J. C. Gram.

[12-11-18]

11 East 89th St.
Wednesday.

Dear Dorothy

My heart goes out to you, in your great loss and I want you to know how deeply I feel for you. There is no one who can

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004603

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004604

Dec 11th

BROAD HOLLOW FARM,
WESTBURY STATION, L.I.

Dear Dorothy

You have been so constantly in my thoughts and I would have gone right to you and have been hoping

Little Tom was saying yesterday how very kind Willard had always been to him, thinks of the number of people who must be saying just that. God bless you dear Dorothy and may your beautiful affection for your husband remain

like a kind hand that is laid on one's shoulder in sympathy. Poor dearest boy has had days and days of pain, but I know that your thoughts have been a help and strength to him, often during those long hours of anxiety

004604

[2]

BROAD HOLLOW FARM,
WESTBURY STATION, L.I.

with you to sustain
you in this earthly
loss - Aff yours
Julia Hitchcock

to get to town
every day but
have for laid up
weeks been
with a bad cold
and tomorrow start
for Aiken - Dear
child I have always
admired Williams so
much and thought

have happy your dear Father
have often at first
husband and
a
of the could have
help - he love and
him - by
are with you
little children
and - to children also
their Tenderest Love,
Send

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004605

11 Decembre

18, PLACE DES ETATS-UNIS

Chère Mrs Straight

Que vous dire si non que nous voeunes bouleversés de votre malheur - nous ne pensons qu'à vous, nous pleurons avec vous, en éprouvant le douloureux récent et si cher de votre charmant mari pour lequel nous avions autant destime et d'admiration, pu de profonde amitié.

Je prie Dieu pour Lui sur vous, si sublime à vous même, si courageuse, et si sensible, pour l'aider à cicatriser votre déchirement. Mon mari pleurait en m'annonçant la nouvelle et nous en sommes tous accablés. Je vous en prie, pensez à nous comme à des amis Qui vous aiment profondément et qui voudraient penser que leur sympathie peut vous être douce. J'ai le cœur navré

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004606

Il y a quelque semaines de
peine, il était venu me
voir, une fois après-midi
nous avions parlé de vous, de
ses petits enfants. Et combien
je l'admirais de servir
la France en s'oubliant
lui-même, d'avoir fait
courageusement le sacrifice
de sa vie, pour venir ici, ~~souffrir~~
Contribuer de toutes ses forces
à la magnifique Victoire à
laquelle il n'avait jamais
cessé de croire.
Vous étiez tous deux de
grands amis d'Amérique,
Depuis de fois nous avons
croqué avec reconnaissance
votre hospitalité de Long Island
où il semblait que nous
nous avions toujours connus.
Et combien nous nous
réjouissions d'avance, après
la paix d'aller vous y servir
chez Mrs Straight, la plus

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004607

18, PLACE DES ETATS-UNIS

Je vous écrivais en vigne.
Je prie Dieu qu'il vous donne
la force de supporter votre
malheur et de vous attacher
davantage à vos petits, qu'il
fasura alors et auprès
Son Cœur vous aime un bel héritage
de gloire. Car c'est en faisant
tout son devoir et plus que
son devoir, qu'il est donné.
Laissez-moi vous embrasser
de tout mon cœur, et vous
le dire combien je me sens à
vous

Jeanne Loubey

Catholic Church Rectory

Westbury, N. Y., Dec. 11, '18

My dear Mrs Straight: Now that the first days of your grief are over perhaps I may take a moment of your time to appear in my own name and in the name of the people of our parish our sincere sympathy for you in the death of your husband. His life was an inspiration, he endeared himself to all, and was a splendid exemplar of our best American manhood; while you who suffer by his death are dear to us because of your kindness to all.

I pray that God may give you strength to carry the cross and that in your little ones He may give you so far as possible a substitute for the dear father He has called to Himself.

Sincerely yours,

Wm F. McGinnis

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004608

never had the pleasure and
privilege of knowing him.
But my brother Lt-Col. Richard
Cholmeley-Jones, and my other
two brothers who went to
France with Major Straight,
just a year ago, knew him
well, and admired him
beyond words. He must
have been a wonderful
man to have been loved,
and esteemed as he was,
and now to be mourned
as he is by hundreds of

100 EAST SEVENTEENTH ST.

December 11th - 1918

My dear Mrs Straight:

Although I
am a stranger to you, I
cannot refrain from telling
you how terribly I feel
at the loss of your
husband. I do not believe
that any man's death was
ever felt more; even by
people like myself, who

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004609

people. I hope that you will forgive my boldness in writing to you, but my sympathy for you is so deep, that I just could not help writing!

Very sincerely yours

Jeannette Litchfield

NEW YORK HERALD

Dec 11/1918.

Dear Mrs. Straight: I hope you will not hesitate to call upon me if at any time, in any way, I can be of assistance to you. You will understand I am sure, the sincerity which underlies this suggestion and the friendship which prompts it.

Yours Very Sincerely

D. K. Ohl

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004610

Princeton N.J.
Dec 11, 1918

Dear Mrs. Straight,

May I venture to express to you (however tardily, owing to ill health) my heartfelt sympathy in the overwhelming grief which has come to you? When on that Sunday morning I called to enquire as to the health of your gallant husband, having only a few hours previously heard of his illness, my very heart went out to you as your butler told me of the terrible news. I know only too well how useless are words at a time like this: I know also, if I may venture to say so, upon what a firm and unshakeable rock your faith rests at this supreme hour – but I felt, nevertheless, that so sore as I was all, I must write, to tell you how much your anguish has been in my heart and in my prayers. Great as has been my own own sorrow in the loss of my first-born Son, it pales almost into insignificance

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004611

beside the death of one's
Mate, one's Comrade! But
through the horror of it
all, there comes to us who
have tried to believe and
follow our Lord, the sure
and certain knowledge
that they are at peace, and
in His unveiled presence
are with Him forevermore.
How often I picture them
— my Boy, your Husband, and
that great host who, like
them, have also undergone
their Baptism of fire. One can
almost see them, as now, for
the first time, they enter
that world of pure spirit
about which they have so
often dreamed. And as
they pass within those heavenly
Halls, I can almost hear
the cry, "Who are these, and
whence come they"? And the
glad answer rings out, "These
are they which have come out
of great tribulation, and have
washed their robes and made
them white in the Blood of
the Lamb." And in His
presence we must leave them,
until there comes that
happy day when for all
Eternity we shall be
reunited.

May our loving Lord
bless and comfort you.

Most sincerely yours,

Stuart K. Tyson

[Tyson]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004612

DEC. 12 1911

Woodside.
Syosset,
Long Island.

Thursday.

Dearest Dorothy -

I haven't time to tell you these dogs because my old girl is much worse & finally today the doctor came & has ordered me down here for these dogs & complete rest.

I was on my way up to see you on Tuesday & then decided I would be a little

use.

I saw Admiral Glass the other day & he told me he had lunched at India House a day or two before Willard sailed last year & he was immensely impressed with the regard & high esteem that Willard held in everyone's opinion. This year he lunched them the day - Monday - that the news had come about Willard. He said there wasn't a soul in the place who wasn't talking about Willard & his

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004613

said again he was immensely impressed
at the position Willard had made for himself
in such a short time. I thought you would
like to hear this so it comes from an outsider.

I hope we'll work that I will be able
to see you then. Sincerely Adele [Mrs. J. A. Burden]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004614

[1918]

AMERICAN ASIATIC ASSOCIATION
627 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK

December 12

Dear Mrs Straight

The directors of Asia have addressed to you this expression of their feeling for the Mayor. All were sorry that neither Robert Patchin nor Martin Egan were here to join and Lloyd Griscom, the remaining director,

is also away, in service in France. Though most of us signing are little known to you, I cannot tell you the depth of feeling of personal loss that moved each man. It will probably be many weeks before we can get the signatures of the men for away for the memorial, so I send you this copy now.

Most Sincerely
Louis D Froelick

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004-15

[12-12-18]

TO MRS. WILLARD STRAIGHT

IN MEMORY OF MAJOR WILLARD STRAIGHT

We who sign this communication have had exceptional opportunities to appreciate the great, no less than the lovable qualities that were combined in the personality of Willard Straight. Some of us have lived with him for years on a footing of personal intimacy, and all of us have had the advantage of knowing him both as a friend and as a business associate. To the exceptional range and variety of his mental gifts, his whole career bears witness; to the richness of his spiritual endowment, his steadfast elevation of purpose, his warmth of heart and his enthusiasm for all that was beneficent and ennobling in human endeavor, only those who knew him best can sympathetically testify. There was in his nature no trace of selfishness or self-seeking; sacrifice in the service of his kind he accepted eagerly and devotedly; a pure and exalted sentiment of patriotism was of the very essence of his being.

"Asia" is one embodiment of the dreams of his youth - a concrete expression of his devotion to unrealized ideals of reconcilement and interpretation as between two

[12-12-18]



strongly contrasted civilizations, and mutually uncomprehending divisions of the human family. In founding "Asia" his only thought was that of doing a needful service to the cause of our common humanity, and all that he asked of its conductors was fullness of sympathy with the far-reaching ends to which the magazine was dedicated.

The undersigned cherish with a warmth which time cannot impair, the remembrance of your husband's admirable frankness, his receptive intelligence and his unfailing personal thoughtfulness. The absolute loyalty of his friendship was proof against any trial, and to have worked with him will remain to our latest breath one of the most stimulating experiences of our life. We are partly able to gauge by the standard of our own irreparable deprivation what has been lost to the world by his passing away. For, it was not only in the special field of our labors that the essential nobility of his character, the versatility of his powers and the wealth of his intellectual endowment found expression. Nor did even the wider area of effort that he had already made his own seem destined to be the final measure of his influence on his generation. He was already

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004616

[12-12-18]

#3

facing the responsibilities of a career that promised to leave an enduring impression on the world's future, when the thread of his life was prematurely severed.

We are profoundly sensible that we address one who has never lacked a comprehending consciousness of all these things, and in trying fitly to characterize the career and character of Willard Straight we can only hope to offer you such solace as may come from the knowledge that his most intimate associates had a clear perception of the qualities that made him great. We may be permitted to express the feeling that if a sorrow so profound and overwhelming as yours could be lightened by being shared, the poignant sense of bereavement experienced by the members of our Board might serve to assuage the pain of your grief. But, alas! the heart knoweth its own bitterness, and we cannot but be painfully aware that its deepest anguish transcends alike condolence and participation.

John Ford
Joseph Readdatterson
Geo. C. Seak
Thos. Watchin
A. W. Diedler
Louis D. Froelick

Dec. 12/1918 56

260, MADISON AVENUE

Thursday

Dear Dorothy.

I want you to know that I sympathize with you so much in your very deep sorrow. I was dreadfully sorry to hear of it and I only wish there was something to be done to help you, who are always so generous and kind to Everyone, but I know that there is nothing. Unfortunately words are poor things at best but sometimes they are all we have to offer.

With a great deal of sympathy from both George & myself

Affectionately
Lois B. Baker.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004617

Headquarters 3rd Army Corps, A.E.F.
Dec. 12, 1918.

My dear Mrs. Straight,

I have just received the sad news about your husband and am deeply shocked. He and I were together at the General Staff College and then on the 3rd Corps staff and I became greatly attached to him. His constant cheerfulness and devotion to duty endeared him to all of us. I feel that I have lost a dear friend and offer you and his children my deep sympathy in your sorrow. His love and pride in his family were very great and a treat to those of us he permitted to see it.

It isn't much comfort to say it yet he gave his life to his country and those of us left will always greatly honor his memory. Your loss is also ours.

Sincerely yours
Francis W. Clark
Lieut. Col. Gen. Staff

1918
9.2

9, rue de la Grande Chaumière
Paris.
December 12.

Dearest Mrs Straight.

I wish so much I might say something at this moment to tell you how very, very sorry I am. That wonderful little visit Doctor Corbett and I had with you, the happiness we feel in our friendship with you, makes us wish that as friends we might now be of help to you.

My father died when I was Thirteen, and at first I thought it was not going to be possible to get along without him. Then I began thinking how lucky I was to have had at least as many years as I did have. with him and then finally I knew that I would not have

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004618

wanted to be spared
the sorrow of losing
him at the price of
never having had
him, for anything in
the world.

We love you very
much and hope that
perhaps, a little later,
you will join us over
here in France, where
so many brave men
have died for the highest
ideals of humanity.

Affectionately

Hope Butler.

December 12th

4. AVENUE MALAKOFF
TÉL: PASSY 13-65

Dear Dorothy

My most loving and
tender sympathy are with you.
your husband gave himself for
the great cause, never stopping
to think of himself in his eager-
ness to help and you can be
truly proud of him in your
sorrow. What I most regret
is that you cannot hear the
high tribute which all unite
in giving him. He was in-
valuable to the Allies and
what will we do to replace him.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004619

and gratefulness towards them.

Thank God that you have three darling little ones to continue the work you two have begun. I know you must begin to find much joy in your oldest child. I hope mine may be friends with them some day and that it will not be long before we may meet. In the meantime my love and prayers are with you.

Ever yours devotedly

Annah [Castel]

1918

WILLIAM SLOANE, CHAIRMAN  CLEVELAND H. DODGE, TREASURER  JOHN R. MOTT, GENERAL SECRETARY

ASSOCIATE GENERAL SECRETARIES: F. S. BROCKMAN, J. S. TICHENOR, CHAS. R. TOWSON, C. V. HIBBARD

# NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL

OF THE

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES

WAR PERSONNEL BOARD

WOMEN'S DIVISION

MRS. F. LOUIS SLADE, CHAIRMAN

MRS. WINTHROP AMES

YMCA

HEADQUARTERS: ~~347 MADISON AVENUE~~

NEW YORK

December twelfth.

Grice de la Grande Chaumiere

Vieme. Paris.

My very dear Mrs. Straights:

This little room in the Latin Quarter is very quiet to-night. "Jeenie" is asleep at my feet tired out with his long journey; and O how I wish you were here so I might try to tell you all that is in my heart to say, but that seems so impossible so far away!

You see, we had a wireless on the boat — and although they got the name wrong we knew that what we had all hoped and prayed so for could not be — for some wise reason than we could begin to understand. After we read the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004620

the message — nobody at our table could eat any dinner:

— — — — — — —

I walked alone down the Champs Elysees this evening between the rows and rows of German guns, between the great Liberty Poles on the Place de la Concorde — and stood a long time looking up at the windows in the Hotel Crillon — — O dear, don't let it make things too dark and impossible:

He belongs to that great Army that has died for Liberty, and whose spirits are alive and free in the folds of the great flags that wrap the statues of Strasbourg and Lille, and in the lights of all colors that shine in the streets of all these French cities to-night.

I looked from the twinkling windows of the Crillon (where so many discouraged, puzzled councils of war have been held

WILLIAM SLOANE, CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND H. DODGE, TREASURER JOHN R. MOTT, GENERAL SECRETARY
ASSOCIATE GENERAL SECRETARIES: F. S. BROCKMAN, J. S. TICHENOR, CHAS. R. TOWSON, C. V. HIBBARD

NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL
OF THE
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES

WAR PERSONNEL BOARD
WOMEN'S DIVISION
MRS. F. LOUIS SLADE, CHAIRMAN
MRS. WINTHROP AMES

YMCA

HEADQUARTERS: ~~347 MADISON AVENUE~~
NEW YORK

these four years — so many battles fought — and thought of the Major's last battle of all — and then I turned around and saw the wet streets shining with the reflection of the new lights — so recently lighted — of Peace and Safety and Freedom! O, you know they are to be envied — our men who have gone with a great Duty accomplished and the world free!

Only you one thinks of with sorrow — and you are a soldier's wife with the task of bringing up his children to be like him.

Do you remember the end of

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004621

that little prayer before battle?
"I'll be unashamed when my
name is named
And I'll find a Soldier's rest!"

We send our dearest love
to you, Hope Butler and
I.

Couldn't you come over
now? And is there anything
I can do ever for you who
have been so sweet to us?

Do tell me if there might
be!

Marguerite S. Cockett.

It isn't the same here without
my chief — tell her we miss
her terribly.

14th
CAVALRY

Dear Mrs Straight.

I have heard of your great
loss and beg you will accept my
profound sympathy.

I knew of Willard's goodness &
kindness and I feel as if I had lost
a friend who I shall miss very much.

I can realize how hard a blow
it is you are asked to bear. With
deepest sympathy, Yours sincerely
J.C. Cooley.

Fort Sam Houston. Texas.
Dec'r. 12. 1918.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004622

The New
REPUBLIC
421 West 21st Street
New York City

December 12, 1918

Mrs. Willard Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dorothy:

I enclose a letter which you may like to put with the rest of the letters which you have received from people who knew Willard and understood the value of his personality and work.

Faithfully yours,
H. C.

HC/B
(Enc)

[encl. 12-12-18

To Editors of the New Republic.

Gentlemen:

WAR is destruction out of which another life may be born, better or worse, the life lost can hardly be replaced to those who have been sharinh it every day. To them sympathy is extended. At this moment while such a loss as one thru war moves us feel more abnormally and think hard, I cannot but think of the late Major Willard D. Straight in particular. His death, I regard, is a great and unexpected misfortune to this country, to his many-fold company and family. In view of his connection with the New Republic, I wish to express to you and the bereaved my own sympathy. And I hope that each of us will pay him a just tribute.

Strong in physique, handsome in appearance, rich in energy, chivalrous in conduct, daring in the attempt to achieve something spectacular, dynamic in character, quick in action, charming, ambitious, honest, uncompromising, hard at work, selfish and yet surprisingly ultruistic, he often reminded me of one whom I found in a mature American story as the hero and in the American history as a man of magnitude. It was his adventurous spirit, I believe, that led him to China soon after he left Cornell University which certified his intellect and effeciency, his Rapid achievement that earned him the commissionership in the international loan negotiations with the Pekin Government, his unbounded brilliancy that aroused the admiration of such a man as the late J. P. Morgan, his decided chivalry that prompted him to explain, without reservation, his attitude toward the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004623

[12-12-18] [2]

Chinese struggle for democracy. It was his economic ideal, I believe too, that made him a power in the development of American interest in world finance. Conservative and yet almost prophetic, he was a most promising asset to that force in Wall Street which works for a new imperialism. Diplomatic and sincere, he believed in international economic cooperation. He favored the practice of making profit and yet he endorsed the principle of service. Unlike the late J. P. Morgan, he stood for the principle of discussion. He placed good government above self-government, and yet for self-government, methinks, he would fight. Were he with us longer, undoubtedly he would soon become leader of the new school of American financiers as he was resourceful in capital, in knowledge, in ability and vision.

Who, among his friends, will forget him? And who does not regret his departure? Men are mortals; we know we must die. Man is immortal; we know we shall live. There is no despair because of death. But it creates an atmosphere of sorrow in our heart now that one of us, so good, has passed away so suddenly and early. May he be remembered as an American of promise and succeeded by one who will accomplish what seems to have been his task in the business world---to bring about an enlightened international capitalism with U. S. as its leader.

Sincerely yours,

(Dupont National Bank,
Washington, D. C.
December 11, 1918.

J. Harry Cochran

Confidential

[12-12-18 PM]

My dear Mrs Straight

Although I have seen Mr Straight but seldom I have a feeling of a real loss to the best things of the world caused by his passing on. Every once in a while I there heard of something of fundamental social importance

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004624

that he and you were
quietly helping —
I met Mr Straight first
at Mukden and became
his debtor for much
helpfulness — and got a
glimpse of those fine
qualities that have endeared
him to men. If at any
time it lies in my power
to help his or Yours
work please command
me. With great sympathy
Yours sincerely
Edward A Filene

JOSEPH B. GILDER
52 WILLIAM STREET
NEW YORK

12 Dec r. 1918

Dear Mrs. Straight:

In the enclosed letter to The Evening Post I tried to express somewhat of my admiration for your husband, with whom I became acquainted (on Lloyd Griscom's introduction) so long ago as 1903; but ~~my~~ I seem to have left everything unsaid.

I did not attempt to express the warm personal regard, amounting to affection, which I felt for him, for that would have been out of place.

He came into the Morris Plan undertaking at my request, & was one of its most helpful supporters. I saw much of him in this connection, & the more I saw of him, the more highly I thought of him.

In your great bereavement you have my deepest sympathy.

Faithfully Yours,
J. B. Gilder.

**Willard Straight's Personality.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EVENING POST:

SIR: The newspapers have given generously of their space in chronicling the activities of the late Major Willard Straight, but one or two points of interest have been overlooked. That he served for a while as a correspondent at the time of the Russo-Japanese War has been noted; but I have seen no mention of the fact that, on its return to America (after brief service at the American Legation at Seul, Korea, which followed that experience) he engaged for a while in magazine writing, illustrating his articles with very clever pen-and-ink drawings. In fact, he seriously considered making that sort of work his vocation before deciding to remain longer in the diplomatic service.

Major Straight's most distinctive trait was one that made his name peculiarly fitting. A soldierly directness marked his mental habits and business methods, long before his brief military career began. He was always quickly responsive to new ideas, and prompt to act where action was called for. Where interests clashed, his chosen rôle was that of peacemaker. Without deliberately cultivating the good will of people with whom he came in contact, he invariably won it by his geniality, energy, intelligence, and unselfish enthusiasm. For a man under forty, he had gone far when the end came so suddenly. Had he lived longer, he would undoubtedly have gone much farther.

JOSEPH B. GILDER.

New York, December 5.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004625

[12-12-18]

ROOM 3100
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

Thursday.

Dear Mrs. Straight—

I am overwhelmed with a sense of terrible inadequacy in attempting to offer you my sympathy on account of the death of Willard. I would have written you before but I have been ill, and now that I am about again

my sense of loss is only intensified. Willard meant many things to those who loved him; in life it was enthusiasm and effort and ideals like stars, in death it shall be those same things with something more added of the pure and sacred, so that we will remember always even when we grow tired and old and full of sleep. He would not have wished

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004626

many words said so
I send you only three
few but they are from
the very bottom of my heart.

Yours sincerely.

Frederick Dearing

[Dearing]

P.S. I enclose a telegram
which I telephoned
to Mr. Fiedler.

[12-12-18]

Dear Mrs Straight

My own personal
loss is so great
that I can perhaps
in some way
measure yours.
But I cannot yet
bring myself to
realize what has
happened -

I owe so much
to Willard in so
many ways. If real

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004627

help and inspiration
and the recollection
of his strong spirit
so so keen that
I think of him
just as he was
the last time we
met, -
on the corner stone
of Barnes Tavern
on Penn St is
this inscription -

= To live in hearts
we leave behind
is not to die =

and Willard lives
in so many hearts
you must be
happy.

Please know how
deeply and sincerely
I sympathize with
you and yours

Will Gray Jr.

Thursday.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004628

BRANCHES:
BATAVIA
BOMBAY
CALCUTTA
CANTON
CEBU
COLON
HANKOW
HONG KONG
KOBE
LONDON
MANILA
MEDELLIN
(COLOMBIA, S.A.)
PANAMA
PEKING
SAN FRANCISCO
SHANGHAI
SINGAPORE
TIENTSIN
YOKOHAMA
PUERTO PLATA
S.P. DE MACORIS
SANTO DOMINGO
SANTIAGO D.R.
SOERABAYA

# International Banking Corporation

55 WALL STREET

CABLE ADDRESS
INBANCOR
NEW YORK

NEW YORK December 12, 1918

Dear Mrs. Straight :

I have been requested to forward to you the following Resolution which was adopted today by our Board of Directors, and in doing so I wish to add my sincere personal sympathy, feeling as I do the loss of a true friend:

"The Board have to record with profound regret the death of Major Willard D. Straight, a former Director during the years of 1916-1917.

"His cheering and strong presence endeared him to his fellow Directors and his knowledge of the Orient was of great value to the Corporation. When his connection with this Board was severed because of his entry into the service of his country, his resignation was felt to be a loss. We lament the closing of an honorable career.

"We tender our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Straight and her family in their bereavement."

Sincerely yours,

F. H. Russell

President

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
New York.

[12-12-18]

Dear Mrs. Straight:

I cannot tell you how deeply I appreciate your thoughtfulness in providing in every way for our meeting last Thursday evening. In the face of your

Dear Mrs. Straight:-

I cannot tell you how deeply I appreciate your thoughtfulness in providing in every way for our meeting last Thursday evening. In the face of your

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004629

but my recently lost a dear sister and I know only too well how much courage it takes to go on with life as usual.

Most sincerely yours

Natalie Stanton Kennedy.

Brooklyn Junior League.

Dear Mrs Straight.

It is very difficult ever to convey words of sympathy which bring comfort to those we wish to comfort - or even express the depth of our feeling for them. Still I cannot let this time pass without one

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004630

You and your husband close, even if he be in another world.

You are feeling very close also these days, I know, with the many wives and Mothers whose lands and hearts are touching across the world in a common bond. Mutual sacrifice and understanding; and you are happy with them that he who is dearest to you wanted to take his part in this great experience.

With many affectionate messages always — and the hope of seeing you some time soon.

Sincerely Yours

Frances Crane Rachesbee [Leatherbee]

December 12. 1918.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004631

would to you of my love and sympathy - These days I know, are very hard - and yet I feel the beauty and strength of your personality must be very sustaining - and that the warmth of the great affection and loyalty of your many friends means more than words can tell - as well as those precious little souls which look

December 12/18

My dear Dorothy:

None of us could leave here last Friday so I phoned Ben Strong and he represented us. Wont you send us for the house a copy of what was said about Willard at the service, if you have one ?

We think of you constantly and I am not forgetting that you said some time before long you would come see us. Please do; we perhaps could make you feel at home where Willard's touch meets you at every step. Indeed the atmosphere of the place is charged with the personality which gave it so much of its pleasure for all of us.

I know you will let us see what was said at the service if you can.

Faithfully,

[Miles]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004632

12/17/18

H 17 18

My dear Dorothy

It will be a labor of love to do the few small things you ask & I start tomorrow. I am writing Mary Howe tonight. We have been collecting a few things about Willard and I think you would like to see the letter Mary Howe wrote me quite spontaneously. We want to keep it, so you must send it back. Ja

2

see, she sensed quite clearly how much he stood for, to leave us & you must have a share of pride that it shd be so widely recognized however well you knew his extraordinary qualities. And certainly no other man's tributes paid could have sprung so largely from a source of personal affection as well as admiration.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004633

3/

We think you too are a wonderful person to see so clearly through a mist of tears, so it bore = Straight to did all things on a large scale & paces in advance of what his contemporaries were thinking about = that he did is there now finds typical of all his efforts =

If Ira Patchin turns up & any of us can be of any use, he knows he need only ask =

So I will say good night = I prize your letter.

BC

[Miles]

150 EAST THIRTY-FIFTH STREET

Dec. 12 N.

My dear Mrs. Straight -

My heart has been so much and so deeply with you in your great sorrow - that I must tell you - even though I am practically a stranger to you.

Faithfully

Blair Niles

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004634

Camp Bowie

Texas.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I cannot express to you how deeply I feel the loss of your dear husband and my my dear friend Willard. I saw him several times in France while I was at the Staff College and at Headquarters at Ligny.

You may recall that I

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004635

promotes him from private to Sergeant
to 2d Lieutenant while he was in my
Plattsburg Company. He won this by
his qualities of leadership and his
command of his fellows, which was
very apparent to me at all times.

While at the Staff College, as
a Student, he, as a Graduate, lectures
to us, and we renewed the happy
acquaintance of Plattsburg and
planned other meetings for the future.

I have his photograph & hope
to. I write this to tell you how
much I appreciated his friendship

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004636

Please always think of
Mrs. Reed and afree as of
Jour most devoted friend.
God bless and cheer yu-

Very loyally Jours-

William Lewis Reed-

Colonel U.S. Army.
Camp Bowie. Texas.

Dec. 12. 1918

Dec 12.

136 EAST NINETEENTH STREET

Dear Mrs. Knight.

I have been thinking of you
constantly since Hamish went, and with
a great desire to have you feel my
sympathy. I know you will know to
whom and that you had so strong

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004637

[12-12-18]

Thursday.

50 CHURCH STREET

My dear Dorothy:

A few Sundays ago Captain Carpenter spoke at Old Friends. As you know he commanded Sinclair's at Zeebrugge and won the Victoria Cross.

With true British modesty he touched briefly on this chapter in that glorious and immortal event. He told us how his life long pal at last friend fell at the first fire, and how when he got back to Dover that night he went at once to the wife and two little boys to tell her the sad news. When she heard it

provision in your husband's death. Pitfalls and death in this time of study, that your Spirit would enable you to know Christ Crucified. But I pray that God may keep you, that His face Lord may shine upon you and keep you.

Yours faithfully, Mary Willcox Glenn.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004638

she drew herself up and said
"Captain I am the proudest
woman in England tonight."

Since I heard that story I
have so often thought of you
as being one example of that
splendid Spirit, which makes
life worth living and death
worth dying. As ever.

Alan. A. Potter.

Benjamin H. Searing, M.D.
297 Liberty Street
Newburgh, N. Y.

DEC. 12, 1918.

Mrs. Willard D. Straight:-
New York City: Undoubtedly you
will be surprised to receive this
note from an absolute stranger.
However will you accept it in the
spirit it is sent. It is kindly
I assure you and loaded with
good will for you and yours.

I am a classmate of your
husband. I have followed his
career with interest and was duply
interested in his progress. The
notice in the N.Y. Times a few days

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004639

ago saddened me as nothing has during our war. I simply couldnt believe it. There are some things which are beyond our expression.

I knew Willard Straight as a classmate in college. We were in the rush together and it seems strange to think of the difference. A country doctor in a small town +

Will you accept my kind thoughts and the wish that goes with it and may your grief be relieved by the thought that others too realize the loss.

I saw him last in N.Y. when we met on the street by accident and had lunch together. He was then on his way East.

Believe me
Very Sincerely
B. H. Searing[illegible]

Cornell-A.B.-1901.

1827 S St. N.W.
Washington D.C.
Dec 12th 1918

Dear Mrs Straight,

This is a little line which requires no answer & which I've hesitated to write as there are so many so much closer to you than I am. But as the days go by you are so constantly in my thoughts that I feel I

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004640

the memory of it has been a void me. And I have admired you to [illegible], it seems to me you have filled your place in life so graciously, so beautifully, & when your husband went overseas I knew just how hard it was for you. how dear he gave his life for his country just as much as though he had fallen at the front, & what a wonderful heritage this is for his children. The poem is beautiful and I cried a little as it came to me. And the letter from Mr [illegible] very touching & sympathetic. I can so plead Eliot's cause with you, & dear little Gloria — from little girl — the best friend God has ever given me. Lucke.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004641

must write to you & tell
you of my loving sympathy
for you in your great
sorrow. I think of you
& often that evening
at the Speyers when you
were just engaged, &
it was announced, &
I had an idea of it from
something Dick had
said — you were so
very lovely that evening
& radiantly happy that

H.L. 1741 K St.
Washington, 13 Dec. '16

my dear Mrs. Straight: I have just received the heartbreaking news of your husband's death upon my return here from a trip into the west. I did not accept it as true for a long time because it was quite unbelievable. Unhappily it seems to be confirmed beyond peradventure and I am compelled to accept it. I cannot tell you how unhappy it makes me; Willard and I were together a great deal in the dear old days in China and I saw much of him last year in Europe, where an affection of many years' standing was been more strongly cemented. My admiration of him was as great as my affection for him and the world has through his departure, not only lost a most useful and valuable life but one

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004642

which shed sunshine and kindness where ever it went. My own feeling of loss & my dear friend is merged in my great sympathy for you and your little children.

I am going to take the liberty of coming in to see you when next I am in New York. May I?

If at any time there is anything I can do please let me serve you.

Very Sincerely.

Henry Leonard

THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BRANCHES
CENTRAL, 610 LEXINGTON AVENUE
HARLEM, 240 LENOX AVENUE
WEST SIDE, 501 WEST 50TH STREET
BRONX, 329 EAST 176TH STREET
FRENCH, 124 WEST 16TH STREET
COLORED WOMEN'S, 121 WEST 132ND STREET
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE, 108 EAST 30TH STREET
CENTRAL CLUB FOR NURSES, 132 EAST 45TH STREET
STUDIO CLUB, 35 EAST 62ND STREET
THE MARGARET LOUISA, 14 EAST 16TH STREET

CENTERS
TATHAM HOUSE, 138 EAST 38TH STREET
APARTMENTS, 159 EAST 104TH STREET

WAR CENTERS
HOSTESS HOUSE, 30 EAST 52ND STREET
COLORED WOMEN'S WAR SERVICE CENTER, 127 WEST 136TH STREET

OFFICE OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
600 LEXINGTON AVENUE

TELEPHONE PLAZA 6638

MRS. JAMES STEWART CUSHMAN, PRESIDENT
MRS. WILLIAM FELLOWES MORGAN, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
MRS. WILLIAM W. ROSSITER, SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
MRS. FREDERICK H. OSBORN, SECRETARY
MRS. HENRY P. DAVISON, TREASURER
MISS FANNY COOK GATES, GENERAL SECRETARY
MISS JESSIE I. MILLS, BUSINESS SECRETARY

December
12th,
1918.

My dear Mrs. Straight,

The members of the Board of Directors of the Young Women's Christian Association of the City of New York have asked me to express to you our deepest heartfelt sympathy. We wish you to know that we feel with all our hearts for you, and that we realize the great cause for which your husband so nobly gave his life. We don't want this letter to be sad and yet we want it to convey to you our deep affection and high esteem.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Osborn
Secretary.

MO/JRM

Mrs. Willard Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004643

DEC. 13 1918

Friday

264 LEXINGTON AVENUE

Dearest Dorothy:-

You will never know how many times my pen has leaped to stop & my spirit refuse expression to the overwhelming thoughts & affection tenderness & sympathy that have gone out to you. - I have tried to understand why. - Two things seem to answer. - first that I feel your grief to be a sacred thing, - & that no written word could say truly what I feel. - & second that your own wonderful spirit was so inspiring to me that what could I say for you. - Look

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004644

Dec 13/98
12

(2)

264 LEXINGTON AVENUE

must be you! Willard will always seem to me like a force for good, for better things, for progress. I every kind that cannot be stopped. I cannot feel that his strength is withdrawn from all that he gave his heart & brain to foster. - I always think of him during the early days. When I first knew him, when he was at Elizabeth so much with his father, - the impetuousness & energy & enthusiasm, & a sort of indomitable spirit of adventure & accomplishment. With so much appreciation of what was beautiful & brief in its value in the scheme of things. It was a wonderful service. Chas Dudley

on Friday. - It was remarkable for not only did we all want to pay to him the last tribute we could but to show you too how deeply we love you. - but each person that was there I feel must have carried away a solemn pledge to himself or herself to do better & to live harder & heal the world's aching wounds & to work together in this true spirit for one another. -

Goodnight my dear friend & may God bless you & give you each day strength & courage & faith in greater & greater measure. -

Your very loving

Dors

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004645

and so full of charm. I shall always remember the day she started for Japan to carry scientific method in physical science to the teachers of that country. That was the last time I saw your dear husband although I have followed his career during recent years with exceeding interest. The country could ill afford to lose him just at this time when great constructive power is so needed in

214 Riverside Drive
December 13, 1918.

Dear Mrs. Straight—

My heart goes out to you in such love and sympathy in your great sorrow that I am led to write to you. Though I have never met you I knew your late husband's mother and father, having been associated

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004646

to know more about them than any of the seniors in the class. He and his little sister Hazel had an extraordinary educational environment in those early years, both their mother and their father being very unusual people.

It was so wonderful to see Mrs. Straight take up his work and carry it forward after her husband's death, so calm, so courageous, so masterful and with it all so womanly with them in the Todd County Normal School, Chicago, first as a pupil and later as an associate member of the Dr. Parker's faculty.

I first knew Willard as a handsome boy of old boy who used sometimes to come with the Talbots when our class was at work. I especially remember one evening to study trees where he found

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
D 0 4 6 4 7

December 19[illegible]

142 EAST SIXTY-FIFTH STREET

Dear Dorothy Straight:

I have thought often of you, and wished very much that it were possible to help in any way. Nearly all that most of us can do is to tell each other that we are really bound very close together by ties of mutual understanding and great sympathy. You must know full an intense sense of fellowship with all the people who have suffered in this way, and I am sure

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004648

There is a comfort in it. We all believe that life is measured by its content and I'm sure that is true. although it is - it is very hard to feel that when one has lost - some one you love very much. I came across this sonnet about a year ago.

"When they shall come to tell me you are dead.
I will be very quiet - I shall know instantly then the place where I must go
The thing that I must do. The words you said I must ponder on in my very deepest heart.
I must remember all you ever did of loveliness, and the deep honor hid in your whole life, and all the little joys-
we shared together, both of sorrow, laughter.

(2)

DEC 13 1918

142 EAST SIXTY-FIFTH STREET

and age-old foolishness all unforgotten
I will tell over to myself all day
Your wonder and your beauty and
thereafter,
With peace of you from my long
day letter.
Quietly, strong with you, go on my
way."

Faithfully yours.
Frances Hand.

DEC. 13, 1918.

37, GREAT CUMBERLAND PLACE.
W.I.

Dear Dorothy

I was so distressed to hear of the sorrow that has come to you and I am sending you these few lines to tell you how deeply I sympathise with you.

The war has brought so much utter misery that I can understand

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004649

When people say that Peace
but only seems to make one
realize more deeply the loss of so
many beloved people. I hope
however This will bring you Peace
& a realization that those we really
love can never die.

My husband wishes to send
along with mine his deepest
sympathies. Yrs. affly.
Phyllis Brand.

[12-13-18]

45 EAST SIXTY-SECOND STREET

My dear Mrs. Straight,

May Mr. Hatfield
and I express to you our
deepest sympathy in your
sorrow.

Mr. Hatfield admired
and <u>loved</u> Willard
Straight, as he always call-
ed him and we want
you to know that we
are sorrowing with

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004650

882 FIFTH AVENUE

Dear Mrs Straight:
Just this tiny
touch of flowers
to let you know
of my thoughts
& full wishes that
this sorrow should
come to you.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004651

The world needs
such men as
your husband
and he is a
loss to all who
know him. You
owe to me such
a real and dear

friend. — Then
I want you to
come with me
to Washington
and stay with me
during the winter
season. I will
write to Mrs
Thurston there
and tell her
of your coming
to be with me
for a while.
Please do not
refuse me this
favor. I want
you to do it
for your own
sake as well
as for mine.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004652

Always sincerely
Polly Jaeckel

Decem 13

Dec 13 1918

My dear friend —
You have had so
many who could express
to you their sympathy
better than I that I
hesitated to write you.
Inspite of rarely ever
seeing you your kind
deeds, and generous
spirits are often a guide
and encouragement to
me in my many efforts

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004653

to be of service to
mankind. I never forget
true kindness, and
if you feel you ever
care to see me, it
would give me rare
pleasure to see you;
and hearing of your
desire to continue in
the fight inspite of your
own great suffering,

I am sending you the notice
of Mrs Hawkins meeting
for the helpless Belgian
Yugo-Slavs, hoping you will
help me as your name as
patroness will inspire others
to do likewise.
Link work with
under renewed assurances
Sincere and
Cordial
Sylvia Hoffman

[12-13-15 PM]

Dear Mrs Straight

The Junior League of Albany
desires to express its sincere sym-
pathy to you because of the loss
of your husband. His death is the
nations great loss as well as your own
with very kindest personal regards
and heartfelt sympathy. I remain
Cordially Yours. Margaret Law Cass
Secretary.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004654

PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Memorial Resolution

for the late

MAJOR WILLARD D STRAIGHT

*******

The following resolution was passed at a Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of Pacific Development Corporation held at 80 Wall Street, New York, N Y, on December 13, 1918.

"The Secretary reported to the Board the death on active service at Paris on December 1, 1918 of Major Willard D Straight, a member of the Board of Directors of this Company from the date of its organization.

The Board by a rising vote unanimously adopted a resolution expressing its deepest sympathy with the family and its sorrow at the loss of a fellow director whom all had held in affectionate esteem."

*******

A true copy
Attest:

Louis Lanigan
Secretary
Pacific Development Corporation

[12-18-18]

FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY
PARK AVENUE

My dear Dorothy
I have sent
words to-day of
sympathy in your
great sorrow, if only
one could help in

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004655

Dec. 14, '18.

TELEPHONE
GREENWICH, EIGHT-TWO-SIX

GREYLEDGE
GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT

Dear Mrs. Straight:

In your own hour of sorrow, I wish that I might send as warm an expression of appreciation and sympathy, as you sent me last spring. I believe that the very warmth and quickness of your own feelings will enable you to understand the great wish to help which fills the hearts of all who can

all I could do
[illegible]
I felt for you, and
when you want a-
one a-church you
will always find me
my dear, Believe

Yours affectionately
Cary Grunthal

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004656

most remotely be called
your friends.

If I can as one
more bear witness to the
universal regret for your
husband's death and the
sorrow with which we
all feel your loss, my
letter will have served its
purpose.

Please do not trouble
to answer; only let me
some day come to see you.

Yours very sincerely
Anna P. Bolling.

HEADQUARTERS
CENTRAL OFFICERS' TRAINING SCHOOL
CAMP MACARTHUR
WACO, TEXAS

December 14th., 1918.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

Perhaps you will remember that wonderful evening at Camp Upton, a year or more ago, when, on one of the bitterest of nights, you and your party of ladies journeyed out to our Camp and donated a Y.M.C.A. building to the officers and men of my regiment, the 308th Infantry.

I recall, so vividly, your woddrous speech to my men; how they cheered you to the echo and how you won the love of every man there that night by your lovely womanhood and generous help.

It fell to my lot, beside you on the platform, to make the responding speech of acceptance and to tell my men much of your work and of the Y.M.C.A. I was only the Lieut-Colonel of the Regiment, but felt these men belonged to me and comprehended how they needed such a spirit as yours and that the building would add so greatly to their moral, spiritual and physical welfare.

Since then, as Colonel, it has been my marvellous good fortune to be selected to organize a cavalry regiment and to organize and command this school of some 5000 candidates, and such opportunity has enabled me to reach all these officers and men with what I regard as the "Standards of the Service", and with their great help I feel we have won beyond measure.

I go, within a day or two, to command the combined schools at Camp Pike, Arkansas, and shall try again there to build men and shall often think how your speech awakened in their hearts at Upton all that was fine and good.

All of this I tell you, dear Mrs. Straight, only to recall to you who I am and thus enable me, as one of the men who was there on that wonderful night and listened to you, to express to you not only my very deepest sympathy over your terrible loss, just read in our local papers, but to carry to you the very deepest sympathy of every man who was with us that evening and in whose hearts you hold your place always.

Pardon my letter, Mrs. Straight; just feel that I felt I must say this to you, and I know that all of my men would wish me to tell you, did they know that Major Straight had passed away, and that you were suffering.

Believe me, with deepest regard always,

Cordially Yours,

John T. Bonifacy

Colonel of Cavalry, U.S.A.,
Commandant.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004657

1918
Dec.

80 avenue du Bois de
Boulogne. Paris.
December 13th.

My dear Dorothy.

My heart goes out to you. and I want you to know how much I have thought of you in your terrible trial.

I saw Willard in Paris. the night of the armistice. he had seen Arnold Guild lately. & gave me news of him. & he was so cordial & sympathetic. it gave me real pleasure to see him. even for such a minute.

I am sure you have met this sorrow with the courage and hope that is in everything you do. You must be touched by the universal love & regret. everywhere. Here must we asked here. people were so afflicted. & even those who did not know him well. felt they had lost a friend. and all our hearts ached for you.

With love. & all my affectionate sympathy. dear Dorothy.

Janetta Whitridge.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004658

c. [Dec. 14, 1918]

Yolanda

7 East 91st Street.

Dearest Dorothy

This morning I had a letter from Billy Delano in which he says

"The first few days after my arrival in Paris were much saddened by Willard Straight's illness & death. He made such a strong fight for his life against odds which from the beginning were too much for him! Daisy Harriman was a tower of strength & devotion itself all during his long illness & I really believe everything was done from a human point

point of view which could be done. He had the best doctors & the best nurses. I think one of the worst features of it all was the thought of Dorothy & what she was suffering at home during all these anxious days. I have had her so much in mind & wonder how she has come through the dreadful ordeal. Have you seen much of her & Louis she?"

If you have any time just run over when you would like & how we can fix up when you will know & telephone me.

I am sure the resolutions passed by the A. I. C. P. Board of Managers were sent to you regarding Willard. After reading the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004659

resolutions of the last meeting. The members of the board unanimously approved this correct work when you were on the board. I said I did not think you right & he asked to undertake any more work for the future now that Willard's name is removed by your most serious illness on the board, & I was asked to see you to tell you his express wish each member of the committee was to obtain your consent. Neil Bliss would like you & you herself very much I persuaded him not to ask anyone ask anything of you for the moment. I want you to pay very much to come on the board for my own sake as well as for that of all the members. It seems to me most fitting that you should take Willard's place, & you know how much I will keep any action work from you for this while you. The board of managers met again last Wednesday & I was to bring your answer.

I then thought of after what Mrs Bird said to me the day after Willard died "His usefulness is more needed in wider spheres than he had been." God bless you, dear Dorothy, devotedly

Adele

Mr Willard Straight.—
Buy hunt Lace
buy in Paris
and to your
Great Grandmother Willard in 1805
to have him.
Return to Grandmother
Grandmother Straight his
Cousin to Mary Elmira
a twin with me Jan 31
Elmira — 31 June always

Jellamanick his correct
Name embroidered.
Mary the glorious
Memories give to
Him by all of us
Congratulations to you

Very sincerely Yours
George Cary

Dec 14th 1915
Buffalo N.Y

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004660

# Willard Dickerman Straight

The Board of Trustees of Cornell University records with sorrow the death of Willard Dickerman Straight. Mr. Straight came to this Board three years ago as one of the ten Trustees who are chosen by the Alumni of the University. The election of a person to one of these Trusteeships is an emphatic expression by his fellow alumni of confidence in his integrity, trust in his judgment, and faith in his loyalty. It is a tribute that has scarcely ever in the University's history been paid to so young a man as Mr. Straight was when he took his seat at this Board at the age of thirty-five. ¶ The high place that Willard Straight won in the trust and affection of his countrymen was, to us who had watched the growth of his character, a natural consequence of the rare qualities we had observed in him from the time when he became a student here. It was not surprising to us, who had felt the attraction of his personality since his early youth, that he made so wide a circle of friends among the men who were brought into association with him in the transaction of large affairs. ¶ Great as were his practical powers, it is Willard Straight's radiant warmth of heart that will be longest remembered. Cornell is fortunate in possessing, in the Memorial to Henry Schoellkopf, a lasting symbol of that element of his character. The two men had become close friends while they were students here, and the building which the one erected to the memory of the other will signify to generations of Cornellians the permanence of those friendships which are formed by young men drawn together in a common love of high ideals. ¶ When Europe became involved in war in 1914, Mr. Straight was among the first in America to recognize this country's peril from Prussian ambition, and he was a leader in the movement to prepare the United States for defense. The success of the Plattsburg training system, which helped to win the war for human freedom, is a debtor to his ardent patriotism and his practical foresight. The Cornell Department of Military Science and Tactics was powerfully stimulated and helped in its work of preparing thousands of young men for effective service in the war by Mr. Straight's generous gift for its better equipment in 1915. And when the country was drawn into the conflict he gave himself to its service without reserve, even to the sacrifice of his life. ¶ The Trustees beg Mrs. Straight to accept from them the assurance of their heartfelt sympathy.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY ON THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER 1918.

U. S. ARMY

Junior League House
Camp Upton, L. I.

My dear Mrs Straight

All the people in this house, even the maids, have expressed such keen sympathy with you during the last few weeks that I must tell you of it.

We realize that we are indebted to you chiefly for the comfort we have

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004661

had while working here,-
and we know also
that you and Major
Straight have carried
out in innumerable ways
and times and places
in just this quiet manner
plans for service for all
sorts of people.

altho I never saw
Major Straight I am
sure you stand together
still in the minds of
all your friends as you
do in the mind of the
public who think of you
both as people of big
minds, big hearts and
big energies.

Personally in this
last month of my
service here I wish again
to thank you for all
your kindness,- and I
trust your future with
your children will be
full of the happy pride

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004662

such children will
surely bring to you.

Yours sincerely

Mabel C. Gage

- December: 14 -

POUR OUVRIR, déchirer le pa
passé bien au centre de la lettre, t
serv. s. c. p. c. – sonst

Base Hospital No 45.
Am Ex F.

Dec 14.

France.

Dear Mrs Straight

I want to tell you how deeply
we - Willard's fellow officers -
feel the terrible shock of his
loss. I worked with him &
knew him well & all my
sympathy goes out to you in
this sad hour. He spent
himself in the service of
his country - a gallant
& fearless officer. He will
always remain beloved
by us all

Yours faithfully
Harry Hooker

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004663

[11-14-18]

900 PARK AVENUE

Dear Mrs Straight,

I have tried over & over to write & tell you of my love & sympathy, but just because my heart was full & I wanted to say so much, I have been utterly unable to put it into words!

I do want you to know that I have been thinking of you with love & prayer through all these days. The wonderful spirit and courage with which you have been able to "carry on" has been an inspiration to us all.

Hoping to see you soon

Affectionately yours

Ethel V.S. Hoyt.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004664

[12-14-18]

571 PARK AVENUE

My dear Dorothy

I must send you a line or two to say how much I have thought of you & how dreadfully sorry I am for you in this grief. One thinks so much these days & then the lines are

[illegible] time - I tried to [illegible] them here but I do [illegible] - [illegible] - & I am afraid it will make it seem [illegible] [illegible] consideration for me.

It seems so terrible that such a valuable & splendid life should [illegible] - the world, as well as his friends [illegible] the power.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004665

Cedarhurst L. I.
December 14th

Dear Dorothy

You have not been out of my thoughts since I heard of your sorrow but I have only just brought a sick child back from Louisville and could not write before.

I know your courage - your selflessness and that you have the vision that can make of sorrow a high adventure but I know too what your utter loneliness must be and how you must feel your children's loss although the beauty of the heritage their father leaves them will mean

Very thing that can be said seems so utterly inadequate - I can only send you my love & my deep sympathy.

Yours very faithfully
Bancel L. Walker

Saturday

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004666

Everything in the years to come.
"For all trouble there is sympathy
and for Love there is Memory"
and the Comfort of Memories must
be yours in great measure -

If you should feel like seeing
me please have someone telephone
Far Rockaway 2142 and I can
come at any time -

I am sending you a
poem of Stevenson that My
Mother loved and they
depict truest sympathy
for what you have to bear
With True Affectionately
Priscilla

[12-14-18] 1

1

Though he that ever kind and true
Kept strictly step by step with you
Your whole long quiet life thro' through
He gone awhile before
He has a moment gone before
Yet doth not, soon the seasons shall
restore

Your friend & you

2

He hath but turned a corner - Still
He pushes on with right good will
Through drift and marsh & length & hill
That self same arduous way
That self same upland hopeful way
That you and though many a day
Attempted still.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004667

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON
MOUNT WILSON SOLAR OBSERVATORY
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

Toshio Takamine
Dec. 14, 1918.

Mrs. W. D. Straight.
120 Bdway, N.Y.C.

Dear Mrs. Straight,

It was with profound regret that I came to know of the unexpected death of Maj. Straight in Paris. I cannot help expressing my deep sympathy thinking of your great sorrow which this sad news brought to you.

Only several days ago, I have written to Mr. Fiedler enclosing my letter to Maj. Straight. Even now, it is very difficult for me to realize that his letter, written on Nov. 7th in France, was indeed the first and the last letter I could receive from him.

Yours most sincerely.

Toshio Takamine

2 [12-14-18]

3.

He is not dead. this friend - Not dead
But in the path we mortals tread
Got some few trifling steps ahead
And nearer to the End
So that you, too, once past the bend
Shall meet again - as face to face.
This friend
You fancied dead.
4.

Push gayly on - Stout heart! The while
You travel forward mile by mile
He toilers with a backward smile.
Till you can overtake
And strains his eyes, to pierce his wake
Or - Whistling as he sees you through the break
Waits on a stile.

R. L. S.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004668

1914
Dec

Dec 17

Dear Dorothy:

I hesitate to intrude, and yet I feel warrant in saying just a word, some stereotyped phrase as a symbol of the devotion I bore Willard and the depth of feeling of love. My warrant is the experience of intimate years written two years — my father and my dearest friends. I know how this can be different, and yet, and yet — the world is rendered more different, and

Dear Dorothy and Dear Straight and Wisdom can bring Dwight — and Dorothy cherished friendship. Since memory is how much he — that a little one, for You and the children.

Affectionately,

the forces of his civic services and personal successes & the vitality of his energetic spirit and devotion of purpose.

I thought there was something significant in the Grace services — identifying Willard with all the homeless thousands who gave their lives to most precious in life — their noble life - storied life. I know he would have had it so. And saying this I have said what was the outstanding one in his — his buoyant, happy, unsentimental

stern stoic ones a communion between us that embraced me & wife.

I do not think of associating you even for a fleeting moment. Nothing can — the true price perspective which reveals the persistence of what seems loss. Death has a way of conquering — and so it will in Willard. His generosity of spirit, his acceptance of life, the ideals he did not indulge in much talk but fought ideals through visible actions, through action —

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004670

[12-15-18]

Dear Mrs. Straight:

The news of Willard's death has made me feel that I have lost a very dear friend. He was largely responsible for my joining the American International Company and when I did join that company it was a very great pleasure for me to be able to work with your husband. I admired him immensely and considered it a great privilege to have known him.

Please accept Mrs. Straight

Dec. 15. 1918

140 EAST 38TH STREET

Dear Mrs. Straight I know that nothing that I can say will be of right comfort to you in your great sorrow; but sometimes I feel that it would not be right not to tell you how much I admired your husband. From the first time I saw him — and I remember it as if it were yesterday — it might be more than twelve years ago — I felt the spell of his personality

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004671

my sincerest and deepest sympathy in these days of your great sorrow.

Sincerely yours,
Stedman Hanks.

Kelly Field
San Antonio, Texas
December 15th, 1918

And I remember do
well a delightful little
band of East side school
and church women that
we used together, one morn-
ing, reading with the Hon.
my Street Settlement and
a Socialistic bookshop.
I see nobody who
can take his place in
our work — to speak
big and vital, to unite
and encourage
Sincerely and sympathet-
ically yours
Charles C. Burlingham

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004672

Even before the News he represented in an especial degree all that made for goodwill and friendship between Americans & Britons in the Far East and had he been spared, he would, I feel sure, have exercised a great and good influence.

My wife is at home but I am sure she would like to join me in this expression of our feeling for you in your great sorrow.

Believe me

Yours very sincerely

L. M. Jordan.

Peking,

15 Dec., 1918.

My dear Mrs. Straight,

May I assure you how deeply I sympathize with you in your terrible loss. I have known Mr. Straight ever since he first came to China and there is no one for whom I had greater

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004673

respect and liking. I remember
him so well in Corea and the
very pleasant relations we had
there together during the Russo-
-Japan War. and afterwards when
you came here with him, we
always appreciated very highly
the warmth of your friendship.
This War has brought sorrow
to the homes of many and I
am truly grieved that the common
lot has fallen so heavily upon
you. It may be some slight
consolation to you to know that you
have the heartfelt sympathy of a
very large circle of British friends.
Your Husband has a sacrifice to the
great cause for which we have
both been fighting in common and
which has united us in bonds
that can never again be broken.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004674

Sunday. December 15th 1918

12, WASHINGTON SQUARE, NORTH

Dear Mrs. Straight:

I cannot refrain from sending you my sympathy in the grief that you are suffering.

It is inexplicable why a person who does as much as you do for the happiness of others should be given such a trial to bear. I can't help believing that it is only because it is certain that from what you suffer you will gain additional power to help.

I have thought of you many times remembering so well your thoughtfulness when my little son died. That is not a thing I shall ever forget.

I only wish I could help you now.

Very sincerely yours
Susan Delano McKelway

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004675

December 13/18

FIVE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIVE
PARK AVENUE

Dear Mrs Straight:

I have tried more than once to write to you, and always the words that came to mind were so futile - so inadequate to express what was in my heart, that I could not complete the letter.

To me, you and your husband have stood for what was best and finest in your generation - and you have, believe me, my warmest sympathy in your supreme sorrow.

The country cannot afford to lose at this time a man so full of inspiration, vigor, manliness, ability, & while he died in the service of his country, would that he had lived to serve her in the coming period of reconstruction.

My husband joins with me in all that words cannot say of sorrow for your grief,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004676

and for the loss of so many noble undertakings of which your husband was so vital a part.

With affection

Helen C. Wanamaker

80 Federal St. Salem, Mass.
Dec. 15th 1918

Dear Cousin Dorothy

To-day as I am writing to you, I hope I am not intruding on your unspeakable sorrow, of the depth of which I do not even dare to think.

When the blow first fell, I thought that silence on our part would speak more truly of our deep sympathy than speech and that you would wish to be alone with your grief.

May I not venture now to tell you of the great personal sorrow that has come to Charlotte and me in the death of dear Cousin Willard?

Words fail me to express our affection, and our appreciation and admiration of his noble qualities.

We read eagerly the fine tributes that are paid

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004677

t. him from all sides genuine sincere tributes which are richly deserved.
Charlatte received a note from Mr. Stephen M. Phillips of Salem, one of the committee of the Essex Institute for the purchase of our house, in which he writes "I was quite shocked to see in the paper this morning that our worst fears in regard to Mr. Straight were realized.
He was one of the most brilliant business men of his age in America and a real loss to the country.
To you, of course, the loss was a personal one. I shall never forget how splendidly he helped us out."
I feel that the loss is an international one, as his wise counsel would have been a power in the reconstruction period.
We look back to that beautiful day in the summer of 1913 when you both came to us with the gift of relationship. You brought sunshine into our lives that grew brighter as the years passed. The constant

-18-

[2]

kind thought, the sympathy in sorrow, the generosity the wish to help in any way will never be forgotten, and we are most grateful to our cousin Agnes Deane, for having sent you to us as cousins.
She, dear soul, is mourning deeply this great loss.
Nessa wrote to her sister Suza in Boston that her Mother had changed very much in the past two weeks although she tried to be brave. She has had

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004678

[12-15-18]

268 KNAPP STREET Milwaukee

My dear Mrs Straight:

The sad news of the death of your beloved husband has touched me most deeply. For in the many years of his friendship for my son, Rene Schrell Koff, I had learned to appreciate his splendid idealism.

a hard, sad life, but Cousin Willard brought such joy to her heart, it was happiness even to know he was alive.

With tendrest sympathy from Charlatte and me, believe me

Affectionately your cousin

Martha Nichols.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004679

I realize how great your
loss is and I therefore beg
you to accept my most
sincere and heartfelt sympathy.
It seems especially hard
to bear this loss, as with his
great ability, there was such
a wonderful future in
store for him.
May I also add that the strength
kindness and thoughtfulness
has been of the greatest
comfort to me.

Dr. Mrs. Straight has been taken
my constant thoughts, and
I will pray that God may make
friendship which you have made
and Willard remind me of
beautiful which has meant
beautiful. —

Believe me,
Very sincerely yours,
Lucius Manlius Sargent
Lucius Manlius Sargent
1918.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004680

[12-15-19]

THE COPLEY-PLAZA
BOSTON

My dear Mrs. Straight

Although I can hardly claim to be more than an acquaintance, since I knew your husband and something of his work, since I have long watched with high appreciation your own career of intelligent, high minded, sympathetic human service, and since you were so helpful and so generous in the recent campaign, I hope you will not regard as an intrusion this expression of my deep sympathy with you in the great sorrow which has come into your life.

How gladly would your hosts of true friends share this overwhelming grief with you if that were possible. While their tender thought is comforting, none but He who suffered on Calvary can fully enter into and understand what you have been passing through. May His grace be sufficient for you, and may you feel that underneath are the everlasting arms of the loving Father of us all, who wipeth away all tears from the eyes of his children.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004681

In deep sincerity
John D. Rockefeller Jr.

December 15, 1916.

121 EAST SEVENTIETH STREET

Dec 16th

Dear Mrs. Straight

I have thought
of you so much &
wish so much deep
sympathy that I
feel I must tell you

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004682

me who goes.
It is hard to be left
behind & not go with
realize now above all
what wonderful
happiness you had with
him and how rare such
a relationship is in
this world. Anyone who
has had it is very fortunate
Please do not suppose this
for one second

Edith Cushing

in your life with
him will perhaps
help you in
more than anything.
I don't think it
helps a little to feel
that it is the one who
is left that suffers
and not at all the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004683

I feel very sad that
you should have to
bear the sorrow and
desolation of life
without your husband.
I know what it
means to the Lord of
is to bear
Your great happiness

Ithaca, N. Y.
Dec 16, 1918.

My dear Mrs. Straight,

Beta Omicron of Delta
Tau Delta extends to you its heartfelt sym-
pathy in the loss of your husband and
its brother. While his loss is most keenly
felt not only by us but by the whole
nation it is with a slight degree of con-
dolence and sorrowful pride that we
realize he passed away while serving
both his country and his Maker.

Ewald J. Smith, secretary.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004684

[12-16-18]

2362 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE

Washington - Friday.

Dear Dorothy - I want you to know that every bit of sympathy, which I am capable of feeling, goes to you, now — There are a great many happy marriages, but few, I know are as happy as yours has been. At least, you have that knowledge to cling to — I wish there were more than I could say or do for you - Affectionately yours -

Madge Bathstall.

23 Wall Street.
New York.

December 16, 1918.

Mr. A. W. Fiedler,
120 Broadway.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Fiedler:

The following cable has been received from Mr. Martin Egan, London, addressed to Mr. Lamont, at whose request I am transmitting same to you:

("Before your cable received we had arranged to have Captain Rennick take Willard's personal baggage to America. I have Willard's more valuable articles, and am bringing them to Dorothy. Have arranged everything about Bennett and Joe. Sailing Saturday, due about December 24th.")

Yours very truly,

J. J. Sullivan.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004685

take me for granted,
as I want you to, I'd
like to say that I have
thought of you with
very deep feeling. My own
nightmare that still
stalks by me helps me
to understand.

I will be more than
glad to help set down

Dec. 16th/18 HOT SPRINGS VIRGINIA

Dear Mrs. Straight

I almost wrote
to you some time ago,
and then did n't feel I
should. But now that I
have a note from Basil
about the songs and
know that you will

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004686

your husband's music, and I am sure you & Basil & I can do it between us. I have just sent him a little sketch of "For to admire", from memory, to begin with. If it is not too long to wait, I will be in Washington the early part of January.

It is n't only that I would like to help you even in so small a thing, but it would be a great pleasure to me to keep with 1918 a memory full of good cheer.

Mary Carlisle Howe

North China Union Women's College
協和女學校
Peking Dec. 16. 1918.

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

You may not remember me, but I am sure that you remember Miss Corbett (Mrs. Harold Smith), and remember giving a thousand taels for our Straight-Whitney scholarship- I have often thought I would write you a letter telling you how many girls had been helped thro' the interest on your gift- How the sad tidings of Mr. Straight's supreme sacrifice for this great world cause impels me to write just a word of sympathy. China has lost a true friend — and she has none too many in this great crisis of her history, who truly understand

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004687

her and her needs. You have the
privilege of knowing that you have
given up your very best for this
great causes of humanity and
justice.

I have not time today to
write about individual fulfills,
but I enclose our last college
report and two pictures of our
new college home.

Yours cordially,
Lucile Kinne.

P.S. I have not your address, but
I saw your name in the "Survey"
in connection with this address,
so I am sending there, tho I
could probably get your new ad-
dress thro' friends in Peking —

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004688

[encl. 12-16-18]

Report of the North China Union Women's College for the Year ending June, 1918.
(As no report was prepared last year, the statistics are given for two years.)

The North China Union Women's College has completed its second year of work in the new college home. This "T'ungfu" (ducal residence of the T'ung clan) with small courts adjoining, covers about three English acres in a most desirable residence portion of Peking, centrally located in reference to the Missions, and near enough to the American Board Mission so that it is easy to attend church services there, though students are always permitted to attend their own Church services in other parts of the city if they so desire. It is about a mile from the Union Medical College for Women, over a mile from the Union University site, and very near the Young Women's Christian Association. The site seems desirable from every point of view, unless it would be better to have it located nearer the University in order to secure possible benefits in the use of library and laboratories and in hearing occasional lectures. These benefits might be more than offset by the disadvantages of being near a large university for men. The Women's Arts College has not yet been formally organized as a part of the University; the present status is shown by the following excerpt from the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University in New York,- "The ladies who are members of the Board of Trustees and who are connected with the Woman's Boards working in Peking have been made a Committee with Dr. Brown and Dr. North, to deal with woman's work in connection with the University. The first matter to come before us was that of the possible affiliation of the Women's Arts College of Peking with the University. The principle of such affiliation has already been approved by the Trustees at a meeting held May 14, 1917. At the present time no definite proposal upon which we can act was before us, but the matter was brought forward by Mrs. Avann in behalf of the Committee on Woman's Work, and the following resolution was adopted:- "That in furtherance of the plan of affiliation on the part of the Women's Institutions in Peking with the University the Trustees will welcome the participation of the Women's Boards as suggested, and that the Committee on Women's Work be requested to make a study of plans for such affiliation and report.'"

Meanwhile the affairs of the College are controlled by its Executive Committee, appointed by the Board of Managers of the North China Educational Union, its old governing body. It is imperative that the College should be reorganized.

The report of the sixth meeting of the China Continuation Committee contains a statement by the Dean of this College in regard to the relation of Women's Colleges to Union Universities, and a more specific statement of the organization which seems to her most suitable is given in a separate report.

One reason why the reorganization should be pushed is that the College ~~should~~ may be put on a better basis as to finances and College staff, and be made truly union. On the old "Basis of Union" the American Board with its auxiliary Women's Boards was responsible for providing the plant and equipment for the Arts College for Men and Women; according to the Union University plan, each cooperating board should share this responsibility. The American Board and an auxiliary Women's Board (The Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior) has invested about $40,000 local currency in the present plant and equipment, and



now calls on each cooperating board to furnish not less than the equivalent of $20,000 U.S.Gold, and in addition to make an appropriation of not less than $2000 annually, this sum to include the salaries of foreign teachers. It may not be possible to secure all of this before the end of the war, but half of this sum is a pressing necessity if the development of the College is not to be retarded. Land adjoining that already purchased is now on the market, and the opportunity to secure it may soon pass. The men's department calls for not less than 70 acres, Ginling College has ten acres and aims to get thirty, and the future of our College is endangered unless land is soon purchased. Moreover, the immediate needs of the College call for sites for a dormitory and for a science building. The rooms at present used for dormitories accomodate only 44, and will probably all be filled the coming autumn, leaving no room available for a Chinese woman teacher's residence. Some of the rooms now used as dormitories are much needed for lecture rooms and other purposes. Our only laboratory is one fitted for Chemistry, and used only as a makeshift for Physics, and we have no place available for a biological laboratory.

There are old Chinese buildings in adjoining courts which might be adapted to temporary use as laboratories or dormitories, but they are not suitable, and the cost of repairing them would be great. Since the Union Medical College for Women henceforth requires two years of premedical college work, it is most important that the scientific department be well equipped. The small amounts asked from the cooperating Boards will only provide for the immediate future. To make this school what the only college for women in the northern half of China should be, we must look to larger grants than are sent out from Mission headquarters. Lesser needs are a Household Science Department, quarters for our Music Department, musical instruments, scientific apparatus, seats for the Assembly Hall, books for the library and a central heating plant.

Our Assembly Hall, the old throne room where Kang Hsi, the second Emperor of the Manchu Dynasty, sat when he visited his mother's childhood home, seats about three hundred, and with more money spent on seats and pictures will make a fine college chapel. Ed Even larger is the building which is called Field Library in honor of the mother of Mrs. Bashford, whose gift of a thousand dollars gold with the accrued interest of several years has furnished the three connecting rooms now used as a library, with a thousand taels left at interest to furnish each year a few new books for the library. Half of this building is designed for a museum, but the need for recitation rooms forbids our placing many exhibits here. With dormitories and dining room to accomodate a hundred students and buildings for science and music,- the latter not large, the probable necessities of the college for the next ten or twenty years would be met.

Turning to the history of the past two years, we find that 55 students of College grade have studied at least a semester, and nine others have taken part college work. In addition 26 students from the Women's Medical College have come to the Arts College for Chemistry, so that we have had 90 students in our halls. But the average attendance last year was 36 of full college grade, and 37 this year. Only three graduated this year, all from two year courses, but eleven graduated in June, 1917, eight of them from the full college course of four years, two others left to study in America, and some to teach, so that when school opened

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004689

last autumn more than half of our students were new, and there were only three who had studied more than a year. With our new foundations securely laid, and the advantage of a plant separated from the Middle School, we anticipate a steady growth. There will probably be about 50 students the coming autmn. Graduates of Government Normal and Middle Schools are coming to us in increasing numbers, and are usually their picked students. Government Schools in Peking, Tientsin, Moukden, Hsianfu and Wu Ch'ang have been represented this year. These students from Normal Schools have had one more year of preparation than those who come from our Mission Middle Schools, but as a rule they need nearly a year to bring them fully abreast with our Freshmen students, especially in Mathematics. Eleven different mission have sent to us their picked young women, and they come from just half the provinces of China. So, though our numbers are small, we draw from a large constituency,and with the increasing demand for higher education for women we must plan for enlargement in the near future.

Staff. During the past year only three foreigners have made teaching in the College their main work, the dean, Miss Crane and Miss Lum, and all of them have done some teaching in Bridgman Academy, while Miss Mead has taught one class in the College. Mrs. Frame taught Modern History through the year, and a class in Education in the spring; Miss Andrews had a class in Pauline Epistles; Miss Wood of the London Mission taught Methods of Teaching; Mrs. Hobart and Miss Hobart of the Methodist Mission taught calsses in Bible and English, and our students in the Kindergarten Training School joined with those from Bridgman Academy in classes taught by Mrs. Stelle, Miss Tenney and Miss Bessie Hobart. In addition, during the year seven ladies from the Language School have taught English or Physical Drill, and we desire to express our hearty thanks for this service to Miss Margaret Smith and Miss Alice Huggins of our own Mission, to Misses Halsey, Fraser and Grabill of the Young Women's Christian Association, also to Mrs. Poteat. A leader of chapel to whose coming we looked forward eagerly once a week was Mr. Frame, and when the fever claimed him as a victim, he had no more sincere group of mourners than the college girls whose lives had been broadened and uplifted through his influence. It is the silver lining to this black cloud that Mrs. Frame may now come back to us for more work in the College, where her teaching is so warmly appreciated by the students.

Another cloud has turned its silver lining toward us, for Miss Susan W. Orvis, compelled to leave the work she so much loves in Western Asia, has found her way to the East, and has been appointed to teach English in the College. Whether she makes this a lifework or developes the normal and school supervision work which is so much needed, and on which she has specialized, we give her a warm welcome to our number. So many of our teachers are young and inexperienced that her experience in Turkey will be a valuable asset.

Another great cause for joy is that the Women's Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church has now a representative on the faculty, Miss Ruth Stahl, a specialist in music, whom we welcome with the greater rejoicing because her residence of six months at her own Mission in Peking has given us the opportunity to know her. It seems strange that after calling in vain for five years for a teacher of music, two should come to us. Miss Maryette Lum has greatly endeared herself to teachers and students during her year with us, and we are



glad that during these years of language study she can still share the College music teaching with Miss Stahl, and that even when the Academy claims most of her time, we can still have her help and influence. The College is also to be congratulated on the appointment of Miss Anna M. Lane to teach Science. She sails in September, and while most of her time the first years must be given to language study, it gives us hope for the future. The Presbyterian is the only one of the cooperating boards which this past year has given no help in teaching, and we strongly urge that they appoint us two members of the faculty, suggesting the names of Mrs. Anna Hall and Miss Margaret Frame.

We mention the Chinese members of our staff last because it is they who have carried the heavy burden of teaching, especially Mr. Kuan, who as teacher of Science and Mathematics and head of the Chinese Department and Literary Scoeity, is simply invaluable. Mr. Wang Yueh Tung has given most of his time to the department of Chinese History and Literature, while the venerable Mr. Sun still teaches Classics a few hours each week. Efforts extending over three years have succeeded in getting five new men into the chair of Chinese Literature, none of thom has proved a success, and we hopefully continue experimenting the coming year with a Mr. Kao, who is a graduate of the Peking Government University. Our only Chinese woman teacher, Miss Ting, gives most of her time to the Young Women's Christian Association, whichis her regular work, but we are very grateful that she can continue her influence with our students by teaching two two-hour classes.

College Home Life. The separation of the College from the Middle School has made possible a larger exercise of the principle of self-government, and the fact that the time of the dean has been fully occupied with other duties has perhaps left the students too much freedom; still as a rule it has not been abused, and we are convinced that they are far better prepared to meet the responsibilities and temptations of life because of their experience. On the other hand, they would gain decidedly if teachers of wisdom and tact could be associated with them in the study and solution of problems. For instance, they need the advice of a dietician in the management of kitchen, and dining room, of an accountant, of one of artistic taste to cultivate their sense of neatness and beauty; in hygienic measures, in the care and use of the library, in their religious life and work; they are the losers for being left too much to themselves. Initiative and self-reliance are being developed to a degree which will bring embarrassment later, unles those whith whom they are associated in work understand that they have been trained for leadership.

Extra Curriculum Activities. In addition to their Self-Government Society the students have their own Literary Society, and Young Women's Christian Association, and through this latter organization they reach out in helpful community service. Most of their energies this past year were spent on the Refuge for Girls from flooded districts in Chihli. In the autumn they prepared an elaborate play, of a religious and musical nature, which the public were invited to attend, and contributions were then taken for this object. The students also contributed liberally themselves, with great ~~m~~ self-denial, and were very successful in soliciting contributions of money and clothing from friends. Mrs. Charles Young and other foreign friends aided greatly.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004690

[12-16-18]



so that, including the gifts of clothing, about a thousand dollars was raised during the year. Forty different girls were in the refuge, an average of thirty-three for seven months, just about one apiece for our boarders, and they were cared for in rooms near the college, and the college dining room and kitchen, without a cent being paid for service and teaching. The girls and the school cook taught them cooking, serving, sewing, games, songs, and reading, most of the children reading at least two books while with us. For all the children except two or three this was the first touch with Christianity, and it came to them in most winning form. To the college students it was a study in social evolution, and they were astonished at the rapid changes in the children. Many admitted that it was the beginning of their interest in child-life. It was also a valuable study in economics, and they showed great ability in running their large family on a small income. Still more it was a venture of faith, for they started with estimated funds for thirty children for four months only, and a large number were with us seven months. Though the Refuge is disbanded, the students themselves or their friends are pledged to support at least ten of these girls in boarding schools, which will man an annual expenditure of not less than five hundred dollars. The students still have in hand $50 raised last autumn for a half day school for poor children, which they will open next autumn in the rooms occupied this past year by the little refugees.

The Refuge monopolized the teaching and preaching energies of the students, so that less than usual was done in Sunday Schools and homes. The Young Woman's Christian Association held its usual meetings, and Bible Study classes, without any developments of unusual interest.

Religious Life. It is an alert, interested company which meets for chapel prayers six half hours every week, and attendance at church and Sunday School, the latter voluntary, has also been good. The weekly class prayermeetings and the weekly Bible Study groups under the direction of the Young Women's Christian Association have also been great helps in the religious life. Each class has in addition had not less than two hours a week of curriculum Bible study, and where additional hours have been offered as elective, they have been popular. Upon this framework of religious life much has grown of tone vitality and spirituality, and the social service and other expressional activities of the students have made religion a present reality. Of the 55 regular college students who have been in the college during the past two years, ten have been from non-Christian families, of whom 5 have come into the church; of the others two are earnest Christians, and all are interested, but because of family opposition they have taken no open stand.

We close with an appeal that this college, whose graduates, though few in number, are filling such a large place in the uplifting of the life of women in China, may have the place in the plans and prayers of the Christian Church which its potential importance demands.

(Signed) Luella Miner,

Dean.

* Dec-1918 - Report of these children are now being cared for in Girls' School.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004691

[12-16-18]

1823 DE LANCEY PLACE

Dear Mrs Straight—

I want to let you know how much I have been thinking of you in the awful sorrow that has come to you — Hoping that you may find comfort except the knowledge that mr's friends are grieving in mr's sorrow with you — I can

Sincerely yours
Eleanor Willing Patterson

Sunday—

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004692

1918
S.G.

DEC 16

1008 SIXTEENTH STREET

Dear Miss Straight—

Mrs is really my
little friend and
I want you to know
her very deeply.
Sympathetic, kind-
ly and helpful. Mrs

Mrs. Gales for you
in this capital
has that you can
rely on. Sometime
hope you will let
me come to see you.
in the Gales when
I am there.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004693

With deepest sympathy
Yours
Sincerely
Willard D. Straight

16 December 1918.

TELEPHONE
1372 CIRCLE

35 WEST FIFTY-THIRD STREET

Dear Dorothy -

I have felt with the overwhelming number of letters that must have reached you that it was almost wrong to bother you with one more but I do want to tell you how much Ogden and

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004694

I have been thinking of You.

In spite of the multitude of sacrifices during the war Your Husband's death stands out as one of the big tragedies and Even those who Knew You only slightly felt it beyond all normal proportions.

I hope there is Some comfort to You in Knowing what his ability meant to the work in Paris but of course there is nothing that Can Compensate for Separation.

A heart full of sympathy goes with this and please do not answer it. I shall be sorry I have written if You do.

Affectionately Yrs
Helen Rogers Reid

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004695

**Women's City Club of New York**
**22 Park Avenue**

December Sixteenth,
Nineteen Eighteen.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

The Board of Directors of the Women's City Club has asked me to express to you their sincere sympathy in your great loss.

Sincerely yours,

Ethel Sturgis

Secretary.

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
City.

ES/R

Dear Dorothy:-

Pardon my delay in writing, which was unavoidable. My heart has gone out to you through all these terrible days of grief which has come to you and want to assure you of my sincere and deep sympathy.

Willard was one of a thousand and his loss will be felt by all his friends and the country as well which needed him to help carry on his splendid life. His charming personality and fine character was known & felt by all who knew him.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004696

And yet, through that terrible
sorrow of your own personal loss,
what pride you must have in
him, that he fought so bravely
and died so nobly, for his Country.
It is a great thought to hold and
let comfort you.

I shall hope to see you
soon. If I may look you up.
When I am in New York I shall
be so glad to see you again.

With a heart full of love +
sympathy, believe me,
always your sincere friend.
Laura C. Hillcox.

411 S. Broad St.
Phila. Pa.
Dec. 16th

P.S. Please excuse my writing on this
paper as I cannot find my
stationery in the confusion of this house
being disturbed.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004697

AMERICAN COMMISSION TO NEGOTIATE PEACE
Political and Economic Intelligence Section
4 Place de la Concorde, Paris.

December 17, 1918.

Dear Dorothy:

I am sending you three letters which I opened because they were written by officers over here, and I felt they might contain something which might require an answer or which I might be able to attend to.

Major Cotton's letter contained ten francs with which I am buying tobacco for George Bennett.

Bennett is getting along nicely although it is not possible to move him as yet. He has, however, been out of bed and is recovering the use of his legs. They tell me that he is going to be all right in time. Charles Pembroke is now orderly to Mr. Grew, the Secretary of this Commission, and Joe Abbattiello, for whom I had already obtained orders sending him back to the United States with Captain Rennick, was siezed upon by Secretary Lansing as his orderly. I talked the matter over with Joe and he seems content to remain.

Martin Egan will see you before this reaches you. He may have told you of the possibility of my returning in the near future. The Colonel has the matter in hand. Personally, I think it is the most useful thing I can do now that the big machine over here is organized and running, and now that the great need is explanation in the United States.

Affectionately yours,

[illegible]

[12-17-18]

My dear Mrs. Straight
Please accept my deep heart
felt sympathy in this
hour of the greatest Sorrow
Of your life - I remain by
Mr Straight - meeting him

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004698

89 Pineapple St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.
Dec. 17th, 1918.

My dear Dorothy - I was so sorry not to see you yesterday for ever since I heard that Willard had been taken from us I have felt as if I must hold your hand & tell you of my sympathy & love. You know you have both, don't you? After I left your home I went to see Hazel & she told me you brought the day before the

in Manila when you were there, bride and groom - a few years ago. Yours is indeed a great loss.

In deep sincerity
Alice Gay Tilly

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004699

pictures of Grandmother Beard & Uncle Willard Dickerman - I think perhaps you would like to know that when Willard expressed his great desire to know more of his family I copied & sent him all I could find on the subject - mother also sent him letters written by his mother & grandfather. He greatly admired a small photo of his great grandmother Beard - It shows her seated

& the wonderful clear eyes are the same & the charming feature in the Baird family. My writing also came all the way through & came quite distinct - I received his letter this morning & will be glad to hear still more from him - I hope that this will reach you before you leave Ithaca - Mother sends her kindest remembrances to you & Mrs. Straight & the boys - We are well & the weather is delightful - We have had the furnace fires out for a week - Affectionately Fleur. [Mar 20 05]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004700

Dec 17.

640 Madison Avenue

My Dear Dorothy -

I have been too ill to write
Earlier + to tell you how deeply I sympathize
with you in your great loss. What a
Consolation it must be - dear - to feel the
the Community that knew him and his
work Led him in such Esteem and
proved its appreciation of him - You are
much in my mind and I wish that I
Could do something to indeed comfort
You - always Your

affectionate "Uncle Creighton"
[Webb]

Advanced H. H. S.
Treves, Germany.

December 17th. 1918.

Dorothy:-

You and Willard have often united in expressing
to me, on the anniversaries of my wife's death — and
can hardly believe it possible that his eager, gallant, spirit
to inhabit the earth, and that I am trying to express
to you for his loss! Never had a man more true
ever one more loyal! It is quite impossible for
I feel — but I understand well the sensation
one has with respect to the remainder of one's life,
after this, and that strange feeling of incompleteness, as
if the part of oneself that one relied upon most and most respected
had suddenly gone!

I should not even have written you in condolence, knowing my
inadequacy of expression, were it not that: in my own case, I found
that the understanding and sympathy shown by so many people, some

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

000701

Dec 17

640 Madison Avenue

My Dear Dorothy -

I have been too ill to write
Earlier + tell you how deeply I sympathize
with you in your great loss. What a
Consolation it must be - Dear - to feel that
the Community that knew him and his
work held him in such esteem and
proved its appreciation of him - You are
much in my mind and I wish that I
could do something to comfort
You - always Your
affectionate "Uncle Creighton"
[Webb]

Advanced G. H. Q.
Treves, Germany.

December 17th. 1918.

Dear Dorothy:-

You and William have often united in expressing sympathy to me, on the anniversaries of my wife's death — and now I can hardly believe it possible that his eager, gallant, spirit has ceased to inhabit the earth, and that I am trying to express my sympathy to you for his loss! Never had a man more true friends, nor was ever one more loyal! It is quite impossible for me to say all that I feel — but I understand well the sensation of futility which one has with respect to the remainder of one's life, after a loss like this, and that strange feeling of incompleteness, as if the part of oneself that one relied upon most and most respected had suddenly gone!

I should not even have written you in condolence, knowing my inadequacy of expression, were it not that: in my own case, I found that the understanding and sympathy shown by so many people, some

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004702

of them hardly known to me, meant a great deal more than I could have dreamed it would — it showed me a side of human nature which one has to suffer to see; and to come to see it is one of the surest uses of adversity, for one can never think again, after such an experience, that the world is quite cold and careless of the needs of others!

I was in Paris during Willard's illness, but there seemed to be nothing I could do there, so many of his friends were already helping; after remaining one day, therefore, and having been reassured by the opinion expressed by the doctors after their first consultation, I went on to the South, on leave, never doubting that Willard would recover and be his own buoyant self — I wish now that I had stayed on to the end, though I probably could not have seen him or have helped in any way.

May you be helped to the <u>divine</u> and the ~~strength~~ to go through the drizzled, drab, days to come!

Most sincerely yours,

F. A. McKnight

113 N. Carey St.,
Baltimore, Dec. 17.

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

I was so grieved when I learned, from the morning paper, of the death of Major Straight, and may I extend to you my warmest heart-felt sympathy in your sad bereavement. Years ago I knew and dearly loved Mr. & Mrs. Straight, his parents. I was then a student at the Missouri State Normal School and they were members of the Faculty. A very serious attack

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004703

of meningitis left me an invalid and I lost sight of the family for a time. But after the death of Prof. and Mrs. Straight, I learned of their son from the papers and have followed his brilliant career as diplomat and financier with an absorbing interest. His sad, untimely death has come as a distinct shock. He was so young to pass away, and the future held so much of promise. I hope I have not seemed presumptious in writing this little note to a stranger. My heart has gone out to you in your greatest sorrow, and I wanted to write to you. With tender sympathy, and an earnest prayer that our Heavenly Father may comfort and sustain you in every lonely hour.

Sincerely Yours,

Mary A. Worley.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004704

REMIREMONT (Vosges)
Téléph. 161

18 Déc. 1918.

Madame,

C'est seulement aujourd'hui, par une lettre que je reçois de Mr. George Benett, que j'apprends le très-grand malheur qui vous frappe.

La triste nouvelle de la mort si subite de votre regretté mari nous a vivement ému, ma femme et moi.

En cette douloureuse circonstance, nous vous prions Madame, d'agréer pour vous et pour vos enfants, l'expression de nos sentiments de très-profonde et bien douloureuse sympathie.

Nous avons gardé de Mr. le Major Straight, le souvenir le plus agréable. Par son affabilité, sa distinction, sa grande courtoisie et sa haute intelligence, il avait de suite su gagner toute notre amicale sympathie.

Il parlait souvent de vous, Madame, et de vos enfants, dont il aimait à nous montrer les photographies

Il se faisait une joie, après la guerre, de venir ici avec sa famille.

Nous sentions combien la séparation d'avec les siens lui était pénible, et cherchions à la lui adoucir autant que ses obligations militaires le permettaient.

Il aimait notre beau pays de

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004705

France, et nous parlait avec enthousiasme de la victoire prochaine et certaine des Alliés.

Vous aurez certainement l'intention, Madame, de venir en France après la paix.

Ma femme et moi, nous serions très-heureux de faire votre connaissance et de vous recevoir chez nous, selon le désir que nous en avait témoigné votre cher mari.

Bien que très-modeste, notre hospitalité sera des plus cordiale et offerte de tout cœur.

Ma femme vous prie de croire à ses meilleurs sentiments, et veuillez agréer, Madame, mes hommages les plus respectueux.

Charles Bourgogne

Charles Bourgogne
5 rue Jules Ferry
Remiremont (Vosges)

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004706

December eighteenth

39, East Fifty-seventh Street.

Dear Dorothy,

I heard at the Office that you had filled out one of my "reference" papers a few days ago. I want not to only to thank you very very much. but to tell you how sorry I am that this trouble was given to you just now.

you all the time

Very sincerely yours

Margery H. Clinton

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004707

One day I heard a rumor that the quota for Overseas workers was almost filled, so I rushed to the fourth floor, to register my name in time to be included. As you had been good enough to say that you thought I would be useful Overseas I wrote your name among my "references", feeling that it meant a great deal to me to have you approve me; - but

I did very that I found it was necessary for the present, to keep all intrude upon you, who had not the friendships. especially of one

You do so much more than your share for society. I only wish you knew how all Body. I appreciate it, and what a help Everyone in the Office, and what a help your example has been to all. Our Tuesday Suppers have been

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004708

Dear Dorothy. 4 Place de la Concorde

So many, many times every day I think about you as I work here. where Willard was to have done such important things. Letters are just now coming from home which tell of the anxious hours you are spending in waiting for news from here. and I realize again as I did then how dreadful those hours must have been. Often could only have heard as it did all the wonderful things and at that time about Willard. by his men his friends & his officers & superior officers it would seem as though your heart must be happy. I don't think I have ever known anyone who had so many friends in every class. so much beloved by all of them that many of his ideals and aspirations will be carried on by these same friends for he made a deep impression. What a comforting thing to be able to say about anyone. So few of us leave any impression at all. Every day I hear or read something which he is missed or this mission. I want you to know all this for I feel it may bring you comfort in a small measure. in these dark days and nights. I wish you knew, dear Dorothy, how my heart goes out to you. how much I wish I could be of some help. some real help in these times. I am afraid that my contribution can only be a compassionate one and I wanted like it to be so big. You have so much courage and you think so little of yourself that I feel sure you have found the only way to assuage your grief and you my love in great measure

18 December 1918 A.D.S.

[Delano]

Hotel Woodward

BROADWAY AND 55TH STREET,

New York

T. D. GREEN, PROPRIETOR.
L. H. BINGHAM, MANAGER.

December 18, 1919.

Dear Mrs. Straight,-

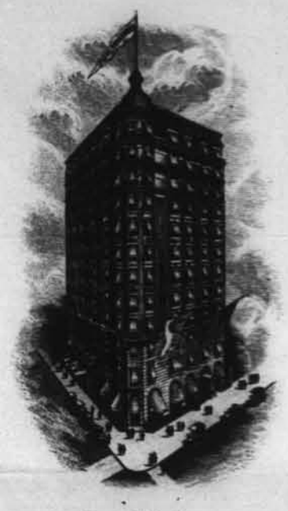
On the first anniversary of Harold's death these verses were sent to me by dear Dr. and Mrs. Thurber (so long with us at the rue de Berri church in Paris). They hoped I might "find comfort in the beautiful lines". And so I have copied them for you just at this time.

I am spending a ten days' vacation here, and often think of your

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004709

[12-18-18]



Hotel Woodward

BROADWAY AND 55TH STREET,

T. D. GREEN, Proprietor
L. H. BENJAMIN, Manager

New York

little animated treasures. They must be specially interesting and interested in the holiday season. I hope they make you always so glad that you almost forget to be sad.

Sincerely yours,

Caroline W. Henry.

[12-18-18]
[Henry]

RECOMPENSE.

We are quite sure
That He will give them back -- bright, pure and beautiful --
We know He will but keep
Our own and His, until we fall asleep;
We know He does not mean
To break the strands reaching between
The Here and There.
He does not mean -- though Heaven be fair --
To change the spirits entering there, that they forget
The eyes upraised and wet,
The lips too still for prayer,
The mute despair.
He will not take
The spirits which He gave, and make
The glorified so new
That they are lost to me and you,
I do believe
They will receive
Us -- you and me -- and be so glad
To meet us that when most I would grow sad
I just begin to think about the gladness
And the day
When they shall tell us all about the way
That they have learned to go --
Heaven's pathways show.
My lost, my own, and I
Shall have so much to see together by-and-by.
I do believe that just the same sweet face,
But glorified, is waiting in the place
Where we shall meet, if only I
Am counted worthy in that by-and-by.
I do believe that God will give a sweet surprise
To tear-stained, saddened eyes,
And that his Heaven will be
Most glad, most tided through with joy for you and me,
As we have suffered most. God never made
Spirit for spirit, answering shade and for shade,
And placed them side by side --
So wrought in one, though separate, mystified --
And meant to break
The quivering threads between. When we shall wake
I am quite sure, we will be very glad
That for a little while we were so sad.

George Klingle.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004710

169 Prospect Park S.W.

Brooklyn, N.Y.

December 18th 1918

My Dear Mrs Straight;-

On my return from the Hospital, where I have lain for seven months, owing to Street car accident, I yesterday learned of your great bereavement. I was shocked and stunned, and it is yet hard for me to realize that your good husband has passed away. But it is God's will, and I know your husband would not have chosen to die in any other cause, than in that of his country. I pray that God will help sustain you and your children in the losss of a good husband and dear father. We all have to suffer more or less in this world. I too have had my share of trouble. My wife went insane, when I was brought home in ambulance with fractured skull, broken knee cap, and torn stomach, and was for 6 months in Kings Park State Asylum, returning only two days before our dear little boy died of pneumonia, and helped nurse the other five through the epidemic. But God is good, I am now restored to health, though with left arm, side and leg paralyzed, and hope to get around again soon, keeping my home intact through all with some writings.

Again assuring you of my sympathy through your great loss, I remain,

Yours very respectfully,

Wm Geo. Hollis

207 WEST FIFTY-FIFTH STREET

December 18th 1918.

My Dear Mrs. Straight:

Although I am not known to you, I venture to write you as one of the many who have benefitted by the wise expenditure of your time and money which you and Major Straight have made these past years.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004711

I should like to be able
to give you some idea
of what your support
of The New Republic has
meant to me and my
family — our family
of many.
I cannot think how I,
or the mothers of our
children aged, could
have got through the
years of the war,
without that expression
of enlightened opinion
& endeavour the
believe in the possibility of
ultimate emergence of hope
the chaos and warfare.

It seems to me that
no more patriotic
service could have been
rendered than the founda-
tion and support of such
a magazine. I shall
upon bid for the coming
months during which
we are to make the
decisions which must
place a value on
the sacrifices the young

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004712

Hotel Bossert
Brooklyn N.Y.

Dec. 18-18

My very dear Mrs. Straight
and family.

Upon my return to
New York after a severe
illness, I beg you permit
me to express to you
my great grief and sorrow.
My sincere sympathy
and heartfelt condolence.
Willard was one of
my very dearest friends. I
just loved the man;
I may say there is no
limit. I can never
reconcile myself to the
loss of such a noble
& generous friend.
The last night I saw
him in New York was at
the theatre when he
visited my box and talked
with Mr. Koike of Japan
Mrs Jaynes and I. You no
doubt recall that Evening.
Last fall 1917.

men of the World Love each
other, many have died, and
it is for us to see that
their Path is not a mockery
By such works of
patriotism as you and
your husband have done
and are still doing, you
are raising a worthy
memorial to the noble dead
of the war.
Hoping you will work
full time soon an intimation
of this true, I am
Very sincerely
Henry A. Wise-

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004713

3

Before closing I want you to know a little story, that I shall treasure thru life."

At our last annual dinner Nov 7th/18.

The dinner was about over- when down came very strange feeling came over me. It kept saying Willard Straight finally I wrote on a piece of paper. "Let us forget"

"Willard Straight."

Sent it to toast master and Willard was cheered to the Echo- on the mention of his dear beloved name.

Then a feeling of relief came over me. out of joy. I had not forgotten my dear beloved friend.

Later I learned of his illness. "Too my sorrow."

Condoling I am truly.

Sterling Joyner

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004714

December 18- 1918

Union Club
Fifth Avenue & 51st Street

Dear Dorothy—

I never enter India House without being reminded of Willard most keenly. The place is indeed a splendid memorial to him. I know that it would be a great solace to his hosts of friends who frequent and love the spot which bears the stamp of his creation and which is everywhere associated with so many pleasant memories of him, if its walls contained a good portrait of him.

If you have anything of the kind and can spare it, I know of no place where it would be enshrined with fonder memories of the original. The Club has rung so many times with his joyous laugh and pleasant greeting and is so representative of his wonderful personality and aspirations— he was so much the spirit of it— that it would be indeed a splendid thing if we could have him looking down on us from the walls which he did so much to grace.

My sincerest hope for you is that the memory of his shining and heroic life will soften the greatness of your sorrow.

With Sincerest Sympath

Albert B Kerr

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004715

12/18/18

H 17/18 H

Dear Dorothy
Here is a sketch Mary
& me wrote of "For to Advertise"
I've determined it; & it
sounds very good — the
right flavor — don't you
think so — The trouble
is that neither Mary nor
I know the tunes exactly
of "A the Ship of the Dark"
or "Speakin' a funeral"
Does Lindley?
Mary will be here in
January. She would love
to do anything for you or I

2

love any land in
keep in Willard's
memory titled with us.
And I don't know any
one who'd have such
of the spirit of it — Will
January do — and we'd
you come spend a day
or so & we'd work
it all out together &
get it quite right & as
you want it — & we'd
hope you might stay
with us — Any way we
could have an evening
or two together — You
would like to do it, I believe
would'nt you?

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004716

3/

Dr Patchin came in today. He is taking a lot of prints in the Depot I think, also the construction things, villas, fresco & stables = We have some of the nice looking things in the Basil book - but they are perhaps larger although 3 of the stables are still worth reproducing =

I will let you know when the pictures are ready = Patchin & I will go look them over & see they are complete.

Affectionately

Basil

[Basil Miles]

[12-19-18]

Dear Dorothy,

Though Mother sent to you all of our messages of loving sympathy, I cannot let quite right without sending you this line to tell you how I have thought of you in

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004717

EDITORIAL POSTSCRIPT

REVISION OF

APPLETONS' CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

your great sorrow and sending
you my love -

Devotedly

Joan Phl.

The Farnsboro.
Washington, D.C.
Dec. 14 - 1918.

THE PRESS ASSOCIATION COMPILERS, INC.

17 MADISON AVENUE

EDITORIAL ROOMS

FOR REVISION OF
APPLETONS' CYCLOPEDIA
OF
AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY

NEW YORK

December 18, 1918.

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,
Old Westbury, L. I.

Dear Madam:

We are preparing a biographical account of the life and work of your husband, the late Major Willard D. Straight, for publication in our forthcoming revised edition of Appletons' Cyclopedia of American Biography, and find that we are lacking some details essential to insure its completeness. As this will be a permanent record, we shall appreciate the favor if you will kindly fill in the enclosed questionnaire, and return to us.

Trusting that it will be convenient for you to give this matter your early attention, and thanking you in advance for your trouble, we are

Very truly yours,

C. Leslie

ASST. MANAGING EDITOR.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004718

My husband joins me
in deep sympathy.

Affectionately yours.
Edith Roosevelt

Dec. 15th

Dear Mr. Straight

I have so wished you
before this, to tell you
how much I have
thought of you a great
deal, because I felt
there was so little one
could say. You told

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004719

must have to great + un-
bearable that even the
knowledge that others
appreciate it + realize
that the country has
lost must bring very
little consolation. You
must be glad that he
was able to carry out

[encl. 12-18-18]

WILLARD STRAIGHT
TWENTY-THREE WALL STREET
NEW YORK

July 9th, 1915.

My dear Mrs. Severance:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the fifth of July, regarding the new dormitory for women at Cornell.

I wish it were possible for me to make the contribution which you suggest but I regret that I cannot see my way clear to assume any additional obligations at the present time. If you care to bring this matter up again later, I shall be glad to give it further consideration.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Frank H. Severance,
150 Jewett Avenue,
Buffalo, N. Y.

**Association of Collegiate Alumnæ**
Committee on Educational Legislation
State of New York

MRS. FRANK H. SEVERANCE,
150 JEWETT AVE., BUFFALO
MRS. JOHN B. OLMSTED,
183 BRYANT STREET, BUFFALO
MRS. ANNA B. COMSTOCK,
CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA
MRS. ANDREW D. WHITE,
CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA
MRS. MABEL PARKER HUDDLESTON,
145 W. 78TH ST., NEW YORK
MISS KATHERINE M. KELLAS,
EMMA WILLARD SCHOOL, TROY

150 Jewett Ave [illegible]
Buffalo Dec. 18/15

Dear Mrs. Straight.

My first experience of a boarding school was at the age of thirteen. Coming from an island in Lake Champlain my experiences were very limited that those of the average child of that age. On the same floor was the room of Emma Dickerman, but a few years older than I from New York City. She was more Dear than I can ever express. She was a wonderful girl, tender hearted, sympathetic a keen sense of humor, full of enthusiasm and possessed of a brilliant mind. The last time I saw her, she invited me to visit her at her home in Dansy where Mr. Straight was then teaching. Willard was about two years old, a beautiful child and the cutest youngster I have ever seen. One could not "look off" an instant. She had his future all planned for him. "When he is in college I shall have my gray hair & will be very proud of his mother and father and will delight to have his friends meet us. We are going Dear" young as he is" and always remain his most sympathetic companions.

That was the only time I ever saw Willard. I have had telephone conversations with him and a little correspondence. I enclose his last letter. I had just

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004721

returned from a visit to Cornell. I was impressed by the Prudence Risley Hall with the oil portrait there in of the giver Mrs. Russell Sage. Another hall for the prudence of women was needed and I felt that no woman can woman was more worthy of such a memorial than Emma Willard Dickerman Straight. The plan we had in contemplation then was a building that would be a memorial for several women with certain corridors or suites named for them. Mrs. Straight was a wonderful teacher and her life an inspiration to all who came to know her. I shall never forget how the girls who had been in her classes in the Normal School in Tokyo crowded about me because I had known Mrs. Straight. This was in 1892 or possibly a year earlier. Because of what Mrs Straight was herself, and because she had given Cornell one of its most brilliant graduates I felt that I must like to see her name perpetuated there. The scheme then proposed was that each donor should name the suite whose name he wished to perpetuate. The Chairman of the building Committee said that in erecting the men's dormitories the living rooms for each student cost from $200 to $500. I was endeavoring to see how many such units I could secure when I wrote the letter to which the enclosed is a reply. I know of but one contribution. That was $1000 for Susanna Phelps Page one of the early graduates. The war stopped all efforts. Now the work must be taken up for the need is pressing. I am writing with no idea of suggesting a contribution, but because I wish first to express my own sense of personal loss by the

[12-18-18]


**Association of Collegiate Alumnæ**

Committee on Educational Legislation
State of New York

MRS. FRANK H. SEVERANCE,
150 JEWETT AVE., BUFFALO
MRS. JOHN B. OLMSTED,
183 BRYANT STREET, BUFFALO
MRS. ANNA B. COMSTOCK,
CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA
MRS. ANDREW D. WHITE,
CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA
MRS. MABEL PARKER HUDDLESTON,
145 W. 78TH ST., NEW YORK
MISS KATHERINE M. KELLAS,
EMMA WILLARD SCHOOL, TROY


untimely death of Mr. Straight and because I think you may welcome information of one of the projects that interested him. If you do not know Cornell I wish you might visit the institution. The Ithaca members of my Committee I know would warmly welcome you and I would most gladly arrange for a visit if it would serve you. Ithaca is a small place - much crowded, hotels not the best. So a little arrangement in advance adds greatly to one's comfort and opportunities.

Very Sincerely yours
Lena L. Severance


The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004722

Heavenly Father,
Believe me
Very sincerely Your,
Miles M. Shand

December 18th

Dear Mrs. Straight:

I realize
that words are poor
and weak in a time
of grief such as you
are now passing through,
but I want you to

know of my sympathy
in the sorrow which
has overtaken you.

I was found of
Mr. Straight and enjoyed
seeing him here as he
came at infrequent
intervals and I can
scarcely think of him
now as beyond our ken.
I believe indeed that
"His day is come - not gone -
His sun is risen - not set -
His life is now beyond
the reach of pain or death.
Not ended, but begun".

Praying that you
may be comforted in
your sorrow with
the comfort of the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004724

On board S.S. "Euripides."
Dec 18th/18.

Dear Mrs. Straight—

Please accept this late expression of sympathy from Mrs. Burchell and myself.

I wish you and the were really acquainted so that she could be of some possible comfort to you. You would find her so dear.

I was just leaving for France when I heard the news & did not have opportunity to write before I sailed.

I know how brave you will be.

Sincerely yours,

Burton Y. Burchell.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004725

COPY

The Yale & Towne Mfg. Company,

9 East 40th Street,

New York, December 19, 1918.

Ira H. Patchin, Esq.,
Business Manager,
Asia Publishing Company,
627 Lexington Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Patchin:-

This acknowledger your favor of December 18th, I shall be extremely pleased to receive the four reproductions of original water colors made by Major Straight when he was in China. I had a very high regard for Major Straight and was very much shocked to learn of his death in France. He has always been one of the most active men in the development of cordial relations between the Far East and this country and his loss to us is immeasurable. I am very glad to have these reproductions as a remembrance of their author.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Chas. W. Beaver.

CWB:KGD

[12-18-18]

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD
WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Whitney: I cannot refrain from expressing to you my deep sorrow at Willard Straight's untimely death. He was such a lovable, active, buoyant fellow that the world is the poorer not only for the loss of his unusual abilities but also for the loss of his lovable character.

To you and his family, I can only offer my sincere

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004726

sympathy.

Faithfully yours

Albert Strauss

19 Décembre 1918

15 avenue de l'Opéra
Paris

Chère Madame

Mes enfants m'annoncent le grand malheur qui vous frappe et je partage toute leur émotion.

Permettez moi de vous assurer de ma profonde sympathie et d'y ajouter l'expression de regret personnel.

J'avais eu le plaisir de faire la connaissance de Mr. Straight - et, lorsque votre vaillante nation est venue se ranger à nos côtés, c'est surtout à lui que j'ai pensé tant il personnifiait l'édiement glorieux et mémorable par l'impression que m'avait laissée notre trop courte entrevue.

Il a donné sa vie pour réaliser l'idéal de devoir et de justice que l'on sentait être sa ligne de conduite jusque dans l'éducation de son fils encore si jeune -

Je pense aussi à tant de qualités charmantes qui faisaient votre foyer

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004727

si heureux et vous aidaient
à répandre du bonheur
autour de vous.

Je sais que vous trouverez,
par vos enfants, et dans
la poursuite de vos buts
généreux la meilleure
consolation; mais je vous
plains, de tout mon cœur,
de l'irréparable perte et
je m'unis à vous, chère
Madame, dans la douloureuse
fierté de ceux qui pleurent
leurs meilleures affections

si tôt disparues.

Bien vôtre

Ch Pédézin Block d'Alsace

[12-19-18]

1739 N STREET

My dear Dorothy,-

A letter from Frances
and this morning's paper
advise me of the great
sorrow that has come to you.
Dark of the brightness of the
day and the satisfaction of
just returning from months

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004728

36 East Street
Annapolis - Md.

[12-18-18]

Dear Mrs. Straight.

When this war
find you - I can not
you. But I do want
you to know that dear Edgar
and I are thinking
of you - and sympathizing
with you - in your
terrible loss. I shall
never cease
to remember our sweet
boy - as he was
Peking -
Brussels and
Newport - and rejoiced
in the splendid
record he
made. It is hard to believe
that this
blow should have
fallen just as the time all
that he has been striving for
has come true. His splendid
record stands out as an
achievement to be envied and
his example has been an
inspiration to all who have
come in contact with him.
May pride in his record as
a soldier and a man help
heal the sense of loss, and
a knowledge that his part in
this struggle was felt take the
place of sorrow.

With heartfelt sympathy, I
am

Most Sincerely
Charles C Bolton

in the field with troops is
marred by the news, and
my deepest sympathy goes
out to you. It seems cruel
that this blow should have
fallen just as the time all
that he has been striving for
has come true. His splendid
record stands out as an
achievement to be envied and
his example has been an

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004729

240 Waverly Place N.Y.
Dec. 19' 1918.

Mrs W.O. Straight.

Dear Madam,

Allow me, a stranger to you, to add my line or two of sympathy in your bereavement, while also feeling proud and happy that your children will have so inspiring an inheritance. My home (except in winter) is in Ithaca N.Y. where we often had the bright, clear, noble young man, who was ever ready to help and cheer. I knew none of the students who gave a larger promise of a beautiful life; and, lastly am I, that he remembers his Alma Mater (though I am a Ruttgers, not a Cornell man). Your work is great is continuing his soul's desire, and may Our Father ever be present and bless you.

In sincerity. Rev. Wm Elliot Griffis. Formerly of the Ithaca Schools

and has much of fulfilment there still was for your husband. And yet what a lot he had accomplished for himself and his country. Though you may not share in the rich fruit of the after years he has fulfilled yourselves in those lovely children- they comfort you. I know. In a way I feel it is an intrusion - to say any thing to you - now - but do accept our heartfelt sympathy

Sincerely yours-
Grace Douglas Woods-

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004730

[12-19-18]

Glenvellyn Park
Orange, N.J.

Dear Mrs. Straight,

My heart has gone out to you, continually, in your great sorrow and I have longed to send you some little word of comfort - You have always been such an ideal to many of us in your great kindness, and generosity and in always finding a way to help those who suffer. I will never forget you were to me at Southampton, when I was in such grief over my Mother's illness and now, I can do nothing to help you bear this dark

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004731

days - I can imagine how bravely and with what a manly spirit you are facing your terrible loss and I know you have many, many friends, but if ever Brett and I could do any little thing for you, we would count it a privilege. Brett often speaks of your husband and we both felt with that personality and his splendid grasp of things that he had a great future. He certainly left a splendid record. Brett joins me in deepest sympathy and kind regards.

Ever your friend,

Edith Colby.

P.S. Please don't acknowledge this letter and later in the winter I will go up & try & see you.

# INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION

FIFTY TWO WILLIAM STREET
NEW YORK

THE MORRIS PLAN

OFFICERS
COLEMAN DU PONT, PRESIDENT
ARTHUR J. MORRIS, VICE-PRES. & GEN. COUNSEL
STEPHEN C. MILLETT, VICE-PRESIDENT
JOHN MARKLE, VICE-PRESIDENT
WILLIAM E. WOODWARD, VICE-PRESIDENT
FRED E. LINDER, VICE-PRESIDENT
CHARLES H. SABIN, TREASURER
JOSEPH B. GILDER, SECRETARY
WALTER D. BROWN, ASST. TREASURER
HARRY F. STEVENSON, ASST. SECRETARY
SATTERLEE, CANFIELD & STONE
ATTORNEYS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
CHARLES H. SABIN, CHAIRMAN
WILLIAM HAMLIN CHILDS
W. R. CRAIG
COLEMAN DU PONT
EDWIN O. HOLTER
JOHN MARKLE
ARTHUR J. MORRIS
ALEXANDER V. ROE
EUGENE V. R. THAYER
HENRY R. TOWNE
HERBERT L. SATTERLEE
CHAIRMAN, LEGAL ADVISORY BOARD

December 19, 1918.

Mrs. Willard Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Madam:

Enclosed please find a copy of the resolution adopted on Dec. 17th by the Executive Committee of the Industrial Finance Corporation on the occasion of the death of your husband, the late Major Willard Straight, U.S.A.

Faithfully yours,

Joseph B. Gilder,
Secretary.

JBG-EPT
Enc.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004732

[end. 12-19-18]

MAJOR WILLARD STRAIGHT

The Executive Committee of the Industrial Finance Corporation, consisting of

| | |
|---|---|
| William Hamlin Childs | Arthur J. Morris |
| W. R. Craig | Alexander V. Roe |
| Coleman du Pont | Charles H. Sabin |
| Edwin O. Holter | Eugene V. R. Thayer |
| John Markle | Henry R. Towne, |

has adopted the following minute on the death of Major Willard Straight, a Director of the Corporation and former member of the Committee:

WHEREAS, the Officers and the Executive Committee of the Industrial Finance Corporation have learned, with deep regret, of the untimely death of Major Willard Straight, U. S. A., in France, on December 1, while engaged in the service of his country, and

WHEREAS, Major Straight was active and influential in the organization of the Industrial Finance Corporation and was one of the original members of its Board of Directors and Executive Committee, and always an ardent advocate and supporter of The Morris Plan and its national development,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That, in the death of Major Willard Straight this Corporation has lost one of its most devoted and valuable Directors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of this Committee, who for several years served with Major Straight, desire to record their deep sense of loss as a result of his death and the high esteem in which he was held by all his Morris Plan associates; and be it further

RESOLVED, That these resolutions be spread upon the Minutes of the Corporation, and read at the next meeting of the Board of Directors, and that a copy thereof be sent to Mrs. Straight.

Attest:

Joseph B. Gilder,
Secretary.

New York, December 19th. 1918

My dear Mrs. Straight.

Though it has been my privilege to know you only a short while, I take the liberty to express to you my deepest sympathy in the loss of your husband whose death has been a great sorrow and bereavement not only to his family and friends but also an irreplaceable loss to his

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004733

country and to humanity.
Pray, accept my heartfelt and
sincere expression of sympathy
and condolence

Sincerely yours
Sofia Naimska

35 EAST THIRTY-SEVENTH STREET

Dec 19
1918

My dear Mrs Straight
My General Rae joins
with me - in deeply
sincere sympathy
in Jim in Jim's great
sorrow -
I am sincerely
Katherine Rogers Rae

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004734

690 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK

December 20, 1918.

Dear Dorothy:

Harry was so distressed not to see you before he sailed. Possibly you may have heard that Trubee, Alice, Frances and I are sailing December 28th, to be with him during his six months sojourn on the other side. If there is anything that I can do for you over there or you would like to see me for any reason before I go, I shall be so glad to arrange for it.

You know, I am sure, that we are constantly thinking of you and that our hearts are heavy at this time because of your sorrow. I know that you are bearing it in a wonderful way because you could not do it otherwise, but we appreciate what it all means to you and cannot bear to think of your loneliness and suffering.

Mr. Preston was here the other evening and told us that Willard had had every possible care, the special attention



DEC 20 1918

690 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK

of an expert physician and also the devoted care of Mrs. Boardman Harriman who had a room next to him at the hotel and was with him constantly.

The children join me in love to you.

Devotedly,"
Mrs Davie."

P.S. Is this the proper time for Alice to join the Junior League?

[Mrs. Davison]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004735

12-20-18.

Derrego. N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Straight

I just hated leaving
Jm alone that evening
it seemed as if one of
us should have stayed
with Jm. I know Jm

have three dear little
children & comfort Jm
but their appreciation &
grief is not the same
I suppose it is a blessing
that it is so. Since
my return Tuesday I
have been able to find
Several pictures and
some posters Willard did

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004736

for me. These with the books (which still have Dee discovered") I will try & have out for night work. May I suggest that you write Edward L. Robertson whose address is 320 Farmer St. Syracuse, N.Y.? He and Willard were very intimate in college altho Mr. Robertson graduated a year before Willard. He can tell you very many things of interest. I am wondering if you would care to come & stay with us when you start to write. We would so like to have you come to us and I am

(2)

sure Doris will join me in saying it would be great fun if you could arrange to stay with us. It is so convenient for writing & Willard would like to see you. We'll be out in the country & you can have perfect quiet. I'll be busy writing & Doris will be busy with the children & the housework, so you will be entirely free to work undisturbed. I am sure you will enjoy the country. I'll be out in the garden with my flowers & you can have the run of the house. I shall be in bed by 10 o'clock & you can work as late as you like. We breakfast at 8:30 & lunch at 1:30. Dinner is at 7 o'clock & we dress for dinner. I shall be glad to meet you at the train if you will let me know what time you arrive. Please let me know if you can come & how long you can stay. Sincerely yours, Dwight W. Morrow

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004737

come here this summer - Willard
Lord certain things in Georgia. And
perhaps in a few months, it
would not be hard for you to come.
You see - I am treating you as if
I knew you intimately - please
use me in the same way -
And believe me when I say that
anything I may do to help you
will be not only for Willard's
wife but for you -. I must
& put my arms around you -
if that would comfort you - I
stay away - whatever makes
for you ease of heart. Brother
Will was so sorry not to see -
We as well as my Father and
Christopher hope that you will

(3) DEC 29 1915

be able to come here -
Please don't bother to
answer this - there are
such busy times - but
do let me know when
you receive the package
which I hope I have
after the 25th.
With love from
us all - believe me

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004738

[12-20-18]

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE
CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

My dear Mrs. Straight,

We were so very sorry to hear of the death of Major Straight, and wish to express our deepest sympathy to you in your great loss.

Please permit us to be among those who are paying tribute to the memory of his unselfish services, and final sacrifice for his country.

Yours very sincerely,
The Junior League of
Chattanooga Tennessee
Sara H. Guild
Secretary.

Friday December twentieth.

Most affectionately yours,
Elsie Gay Jerrold

Friday ——

The Willard Straight

004739

MUSIC SCHOOL SETTLEMENT
55 EAST THIRD STREET
NEW YORK

*President:*
MRS. FRANK BAILEY ROWELL

*Vice-Presidents:*
MRS. FRANCIS L. HINE
MR. OTTO H. KAHN

*Honorary Vice-Presidents:*
MRS. A. A. ANDERSON
MRS. WILLARD STRAIGHT

*Treasurer:* MR. FRANK H. SIMMONS
*Secretary:* MR. CHESTER HOLMES ALDRICH

MRS. HOWARD MANSFIELD, *Chairman of the Board of Managers*

MR. CHESTER HOLMES ALDRICH
MR. GEORGE F. BAKER, JR.
MRS. SIDNEY C. BORG
MISS AGNES CARPENTER
MRS. CHARLES H. DITSON
MR. ROBERT B. DODSON
MR. DOUGLAS L. ELLIMAN
MR. ARTHUR FARWELL
MR. JOHN W. FROTHINGHAM
MRS. LEWIS HARDER
MR. ELLWOOD HENDRICK
MRS. FRANCIS L. HINE
MRS. FREDERICK TREVOR HILL
MR. OTTO H. KAHN
MR. SAM A. LEWISOHN
MRS. MORRIS LOEB
MR. DAVE H. MORRIS
MRS. GEORGE L. NICHOLS
MISS LAURA J. POST
MRS. WILLIAM PROCTER
MRS. FRANK BAILEY ROWELL
MRS. MARTHA B. SCHIRMER
MRS. ARTHUR H. SCRIBNER
MR. FRANK H. SIMMONS
MISS AGNES G. TROUP
MRS. H. MONTAGUE VICKERS
MR. ALBERT H. WIGGIN
MISS SUSAN C. WOODFORD

TELEPHONE: 3103 ORCHARD

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

December 20, 1918.

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

At the December meeting of the Board of Managers of the Music School Settlement, before the business of the meeting took place, it was RESOLVED:

That the Board of Managers of the Music School Settlement send to Mrs. Willard D. Straight their sympathy for the overwhelming grief that has come to her. They personally share in the sense of loss that has come to the country through the death of Major Straight, one of its noble citizens; and they beg to express their earnest and heartfelt wish that comfort and peace will come to her whose generosity and affectionate interest have at all times so helpfully gone out to others.

Yours most sincerely,

Miriam A. Bankes

Assistant Secretary.

[12-20-18]

AMASA STONE MATHER
10723 EAST BOULEVARD
CLEVELAND, OHIO

My dear Mrs. Straight—

While I could only claim a slight acquaintance with your husband yet that slight acquaintance had come to mean a great deal to me. It was at Mukden in 1907 that I first met him and during the days I spent with him there he made an impression upon me which I shall never forget. I saw him again that same year in Pekin and kept up a rather desultory correspondence with him for quite a while. As time went

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004740

on we met occasionally in Washington
New York and I think at the last
International Polo Match we shared a
box on one day. He was always
most kind and genial and made
one feel that he was genuinely
glad to see one and as though he
were fully sharing in the pleasure
of the party - whatever it was -
to the success of which he was always
the largest contributor. I have
always looked up to him and
the successful career he was
making just as I looked forward
to seeing him. I am but one of
very many who are sharing
your great sorrow at the loss
of one we all so loved and
admired. Yours very sincerely
Anna Shaw Chatham

December 2nd 1918

Salem -
20th Dec. - 1918 -

My dear Mrs. Straight: -

Long ago - when Willard went first to China - to the "Customs" - he made the journey out with us — we found him one of the most lovable boys that walked the earth - and he went deep into our affections.

I do not wish to trouble you - and this little line demands no answer - but I

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004741

do want to tell
you how we grieve
with you and for
you —
I am glad you have
your - and his - babies
to comfort you -
Mr. Spinney and I
send you our most
heart felt — sympathy
and all good wishes -
Yours sincerely
Annie L. Spinney

COPY

American Internation Corporation,
120 Broadway

New York, December 20, 1918.

Mr. Ira H. Patchin,
Asia Publishing Company,
627 Lexington Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Patchin:-

I have received the beautiful reproductions of Major Straight's water colors and I want to thank you very much for remembering to send me a set. I am very glad to have this nice Christmas present which appears to be an excellent example of his best work. Willard Straight certainly excelled in anything he turned his hand to.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Richard P. Tinsley.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004742

[12-20-18]

"that peace that passeth understanding."

A few weeks ago an intimate friend of mine died after having been resuscitated three times from a condition resembling death. Each time she was brought back she came apparently with regret and the last time she said to her sister, "Tell my friends that dying is beautiful: that it has no horror at all. I had always dreaded it but it is wonderfully beautiful."

This friend, Miss Childs, had been the most vital type, living life in all its phases and, pluckily getting something even out of trouble. Her message I like to pass on.

Mr. Trowbridge joins me in best wishes for you and your children.

Very sincerely yours,
Gertrude Sherman Trowbridge
(Mrs. Alexander Trowbridge.)

W 64 St. Wky.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

Please accept the highest tribute that we can pay to the memory of your husband.

We liked him so much as a college boy always admiring his spunk and every report of his subsequent career has been deeply interesting to us.

Having seen many boys during our University experience we can still distinguish the stars, among whom Willard Straight shines the brightest.

This wrecked world will see many who must struggle on toward high things alone, and we pray that the young wife will have given them

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004743

44. STATE STREET,
BOSTON.

Dec 20 18.

Dear Mr Straight

I have
wanted to send you a
line of sympathy in
hopes that I might be
able to write what I
feel but I cant.

It is a hard blow
to lose a friend for
you dont make.
many as the years
go by. & it is particularly

sad to lose one who
was so true.

Willards whole career
has been one in which
those who cared for him
took great pride & a
satisfaction & it is
hard to reconcile one's
mind to the fact
that he who had so
much to live for has
died.

I hope you will call on
me in the future at any
time if I can ever be of
help.

Yours sincerely
David Weisdell Jr.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004744

[12-20-18]

AMERICAN EMBASSY
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
LONDON.

My dear Mrs Straight:

Just a few lines to let you know that you have my heartfelt sympathy in this great loss & grief

Every one who knew Willard loved him and all know what a great loss you have suffered.

Yours sincerely
H.R.S. Sutherland

1918-19?

Extract from Mr. Frank E. Bolway's letter of December 21st, to Mr. A. W. Fiedler.

Regarding the hatchet, I have it now in the safe at Oswego. It will be forwarded to me today, so you will have it some time next week. This hatchet head was found by Major Straight one summer when he was vacationing out at Byron Stewart's farm at Fruit Valley. Byron Steward is an old, respected farmer, still living at that place. It seems Major Straight was accustomed to spending summer vacations out there from time to time with his people.

While walking around the farm one day with Mr. Stewart and Mr. Straight Senior, he found the hatchet head. It, of course, was without the handle. Mr. Steward picked up the spoke of a wagon wheel and handed it to Mr. Straight, Senior "Willard(s" father, who made the handle.

I understand the Stewart house is full of hatchet marks where Major Straight wielded the axe.

I sincerely trust this memento may prove of interest to Mrs. Straight and I know it will;, therefore I am pleased to be able to send it to her.

---

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004745

[12-21-18]

My dear Mrs Straight: —

At the time of your husband's death I felt such really deep and sincere sympathy for you that I wanted to send a note to express that sympathy, but I refrained because of the slightness of our acquaintance and because I knew you would be flooded with letters from all of yours, and your husband's friends. But to-day I received a letter from a friend of mine, Lt. Col. Arthur Poillon, and whether you know him or not I felt you would be pleased to hear what he said of your husband. He wrote, "To-morrow I have a very difficult position to fall fill - I wonder if you ever knew Willard D. Straight. He died last night and I am to be a Pallbearer to-morrow — for cheap, he had everything to live for, he caught the flu, was in bed two weeks and is now dead. It seems hardly possible - only

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004746

a month ago we were taking daily walks together and discussing every conceivable subject. I valued him greatly as a friend and brother Officer, and now he is no more. Then thinks of the misery and loss to his wife and children, and they were always uppermost in his thoughts. I almost rebel against destiny." It is but another tribute added to the many hundreds I have heard expressed by those who knew him, and by those who knew him only as a public citizen. I ventured to send it to you as I felt you would be glad to hear from someone who had been with him so recently. With most sincere regret and sympathy for your great loss, I remain,

Cordially yours
Lewis L. Curtis

December twenty-first

Santiago Chile
Dec 20th 1919

My dearest Dorothy
My heart has been with
You so often since we
had the terrible news in
the New York papers &
dont want more time to
pass without telling You
how very deeply I feel
I feel for You in Your
terrible sorrow. —

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004747

It seems so cruel + unjust
+ I know there are no words
for it — but, if the sympathy
+ devotion of friends can
help you bear it — please!
Count us always there. —
This takes for a great
deal of love from your
friends who are thinking
of you constantly

Irene + Warren Robbins

THE REHEARSAL CLUB
220 WEST 46TH STREET
NEW YORK

My dear Mrs. Straight—
It does do good of
you to think of things
yesterday afternoon, un-
fortunately something must
have occured to prevent
the messenger delivering
the tickets until almost
four o'clock, & the girls
had decided by that
time, but they appreciated
your thought of them
just as much—

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004748

[12-21-15]

My dear Mrs. Straight,—

It was a very great shock for me to learn a short time ago of your loss! We all loved Willard, as you know, for his many splendid qualities, so that the condolences we offer you at this time are doubly sincere and heartfelt.

With deepest sympathy

Many I express now, my deepest sympathy for you in your great trial? I have avoided to do so before, but felt I should not intrude where there were so many others who had the greater privilege.

My cousin's little wife, Reina Wright, told me of your wonderful courage. I know that you have the knowledge of where to go for help,

& support, & that is why you can be so brave, it is so wonderful that way he can help us, Emily "instrument—and the enduring arms"

Yours most sincerely

Jane H. Hall

December 21st 1915

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004749

I am

Faithfully yours

Leonard R. Miller

U.S.S. Von Steuben

21 December, 1918

267 WEST 73rd STREET

Dec. 21, 1918

My dear Mrs. Straight:

Frequent & unexpected calls to Washington have prevented me from acting upon my desire to assure you of my sympathy in your bereavement. As you know, I esteemed Major Straight most highly. His elevation of purpose and breadth of view led him into wider fields of activity

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004750

than most men are able to cultivate, and wherever he labored he made himself felt and produced appreciable and useful results. That he laid down his life at the end in the service of his fellow-men was in keeping with his generous aims and ambitions, but it is melancholy to reflect upon what has been lost by the premature termination of his career.

Mrs. Moore asks to join me in this expression of condolence; and I beg you to believe me to be

Very faithfully yr

J. B. Moore.

Mrs. Willard D. Straight.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004751

TO AID, ENCOURAGE, AND INSTRUCT PEOPLE OF FOREIGN BIRTH TO BECOME CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES
TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE-AMERICA, THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY AND RECIPROCAL OBLIGATIONS.

PRESIDENT
NATHANIEL PHILLIPS

SECRETARY
SAMUEL W. LEVINE

VICE-PRESIDENTS
ARNOLD BINGER
ROYAL DIXON
DEMOSTHENES LIAKOS
G. CARL LOTZ M. D.
JACOB WEISS

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY
CHARLES HENRY LEE

TREASURER
RAPHAEL PERLMAN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BORIS FINGERHOOD

LS

# League of Foreign Born Citizens

(AN INSTITUTION FOR AMERICANIZATION)
INCORPORATED 1913

NATIONAL OFFICE
303 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

PHONE, MAD. SQ. 2875

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN
WILLIAM FELLOWES MORGAN

VICE-CHAIRMAN
GEORGE W. WICKERSHAM

TREASURER
CHARLES L. BERNHEIMER

MRS. VINCENT ASTOR
GEORGE GORDON BATTLE
LEWIS L. CLARKE
ABRAM I. ELKUS
DR. GEORGE F. KUNZ
SAM A. LEWISOHN
GEORGE McANENY
ANNE RHODES

December 21st, 1918.

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,
1130 Fifth Ave.,
New York City.

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

May I, on behalf of the League of Foreign Born Citizens, enclose the within feeble expression of the sense of loss that has come to the League in the passing of Major Willard D. Straight.

Amongst the speakers at the Reception was Chief Magistrate William McAdoo. Judge McAdoo, in the course of his remarks, spoke of the high attainments of Major Straight, his charming personality and his steadfast devotion to any cause which earned his interest.

Judge McAdoo recounted an incident associated with the aid rendered by Major Straight to the New Republic, telling of a time when certain of the policies of the editors of the New Republic appeared to clash with Mr. Straight's own views but that he continued his support saying that the periodical must be the free expression of the thought of those who conducted it, and only so long as it remained truly independent could it hope to succeed as an expression of honest advanced thought.

Again expressing my own personal condolences, I remain,

Most sincerely yours,

Nathaniel Phillips
President,
League of Foreign Born Citizens.

NP/TS.
Encl.

The Willard Straigh

004752

Dec. 19 1918
[encl. 12-21-18]

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the League of Foreign Born Citizens have heretofore formally expressed their deep grief at the passing of Major Willard Straight, and

WHEREAS, the Committee appointed by the Board of Directors have just reported that they did duly attend the services in memory of the late Major Straight, and

WHEREAS, it is the earnest wish of the members of the League of Foreign Born Citizens unitedly to express their profound loss, therefor be it

RESOLVED, that this gathering of members of the League of Foreign Born Citizens and their guests, men and women upon whom there has just been conferred the honor and who have thus willingly undertaken the responsibilities of American citizenship, that this assemblage do solemnly give voice to their feeling of irreparable loss which has come to the League in the death of Major Straight who had so signally evidenced his interest in the cause of Americanization. And be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our lasting appreciation of the encouragement he rendered to our organization since the time he became associated with our efforts.

Himself the exemplar of the best type of Americanism, he was devoted to the ideal of a united America wherein there might dwell the native-born and those recently arrived from foreign lands bound together to uphold the cherished ideals of a free America.

We shall miss the inspiration of his presence. His memory will ever guide us toward the ideal of a unified America. And we do

FURTHER RESOLVE, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of Major Straight.

Dated, New York, December 19th, 1918.

Nathaniel Phillips
President

Charles H. Lee
Administrative Secretary.

OFFICERS
HARLES P. HOWLAND PRESIDENT
OSEPH R. SWAN VICE-PRESIDENT
RS. SCHUYLER VAN RENSSELAER HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT
. K. BRICE TREASURER
HOWARD W. NUDD DIRECTOR

# Public Education Association

## of the City of New York

Founded 1895. Incorporated 1899

8 West 40th Street, New York City

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MRS. MIRIAM SUTRO PRICE CHAIRMAN
MRS. GRAHAM B. BLAINE
W. K. BRICE
CLYDE FURST
MRS. E. C. HENDERSON
CHARLES P. HOWLAND
GEORGE D. STRAYER
JOSEPH R. SWAN
MRS. JOSEPH R. SWAN
MISS ELIZABETH S. WILLIAMS

December 21, 1918.

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

The Public Education Association shares with many other civic organizations to which Major Straight gave his generous interest and support the deep sorrow that his early death has universally caused. He was one of the great liberal forces in this country and his loss is a public no less than a personal one.

The Association feels his loss with peculiar keenness because of his intimate personal relations with its executive officers and his lively interest in its work. Not only as a former member of the Executive Committee and as vice-president of the Association, but at all times, he stood ready to assist us in every way to improve the public schools of New York City and the country at large.

In behalf of the Executive Committee of the Association, I wish to express to you our own sense of loss and our sympathy in your great bereavement in the hope that another indication of the large place your late husband held in public esteem and affection may be of comfort to you in your personal loss.

Very sincerely,

Miriam Sutro Price

Chairman, Executive Committee.

Belvidere S.D.Dec.21:1918

Dear Mrs Straight

you

It seemes allmost pre posterious for me to write to any appreci ation of Mr Staright after all those you have received from so many of the great men of the world,but I cannot refrain from doing so as he was more to me than to some of them,although I had never met him.

I had known him however every since when a little boy at his parents death he went to live with my sister Dr.Rainier of Oswego and her friend Miss Newkirk.

My sister was next to me in the family and as I was the only brothe we were very intimate while she was living and nothing concerning her life or home but what I was very close too as we were in constant corispondents,and I do not think I ever received a letter from her but what she mentioned "her boy"from the time he came to her until she "went away" and then until she too"went" Miss Newkirk keptbup the corispondence and she too seldom wrote without mentioning him.

Then too a few years ago while living in Kansas and my work as a Home Missionary on the fronteer ,as it so often does got into great financial straits ,whenI in writing to an old friend of mine now pasto of the church where my sister was a member ,wrote him about it with no thought of telling Miss Newkirk even ,I was very greatly surprised to rec sometime later a check for an amount that seldom comes into the posession of a Home Missionary at once,as a memorial of my sister.

I am sure Iwas never able to express my gratitude for his kindness, nor the appreciation he expressed at an other time in his memorial of her through the Y.M.C.A.at Oswego.

This opend the way for me to write him at different times and I was surprised at the kindness he allways expressed in his letters until I had come to feel almost he was a real part of my own family,especail as my own family were all (adopted)girls and each of my other sisters had but one boy in their familiey ,I had come to feel he to at least was as near to me as were they.

I wish someway I could give to you some little measure of comfort in your hour of greatest sorrow,but I some times feel ,words are such empty things at such a time. I was once ministering at a funeral of a much beloved lady,the wife of a young Dr. I felt I had failed to say the words of comfort I had hoped,when just as the great crowd started up the church aisle a young buisness man who had recently buried his wife reached over and took the Dr's hand they stood there while the great throng passed by,and I knew that in that silent handclasp the comfort I had failed to give had been given because he had felt what I had not been able to express.

Up above is one who has passed your way and knows from experience and I commend you to Him with your dear little ones and am sure He will send the comfort I could not give. Yours sincerly M.T.Rainier

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004753

[Dec 22, 1918 PM]

7th Div. A.E.F.

My dear Mrs. Straight

just a few lines to assure you of my heartfelt sympathy on account of Willards sad death. Letters such as this lighten your sorrow very little I fear but the respect in which he was held by all who knew him and the fact that he unhesitatingly gave up his life for the cause in which all real manhood and womanhood enlisted must be of the greatest comfort and pride to you.

Sincerely

Benjamin Gatins
[Capt.]

21 Dec: 1918

GRACE CHURCH RECTORY
804 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

My Dear Mrs Straight.

I want to tell you how constantly Grace Church thinks of you. I know how bravely you are going through these hard days; & your courage is

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004754

worthy of the
courage which
Major Straight has
shown to us all.
I hear of him
from all sorts of
people, & I
know what a
comfort to you
it must be to
see how his fine
life helps people
& how it will
help people al-
ways.

I am grateful
that his name will
always be associated
with Grace Church.

Believe me
Very Sincerely Yours
Charles Lewis Slattery

[Slattery]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004755

French Military Hospital - X^e Army
Mayence - Dec. 22 - 18.

My dear Dorothy:

The news about Willard reached me first, as a rumor, some time crossing in ferment, and then confirmed by a sad little note from C.V. Whitt. I am so! so! sorry.

Why this should have to hit you, my dear friend, and after the end of it all, and when you both meant so much not only to each other but to the life of your day to which you both gave so generously, is one of the mysteries that is hopeless to think about. I have seen so much heartbreak and suffering that I cannot understand why more should be exacted.

It is useless to tell you what Willard did here, his intelligence and energy, his character and qualities of leadership have been useful in a big way from the day he landed, whence most men landed tired and disheartened after they had escaped even in small ways. I know he was very tired in the Spring, when the last time I saw him, but Regan told me he was taking it easier of late, & consequently the reaction from over work has not set in afterwards and then when this deadly Epidemic hit him, he had given everything he had and there was no reserve strength left.

I wish there was something I could do to

help in the hard time you have ahead of you, rearranging the pieces of your broken life into a scheme for living. You had so much and made so much of it that it is cruelly hard to have it come to this.
But Dorothy it doesn't. The fine things, the fine affections that you and husband have lived, can't be touched. If death was the end of it - for all those thousands of fine touched souls that shared the month of France this summer, life would be impossible. We are only accepting it - both, fortunately, and while living are the living: one sees gone on, and back and clearly we simply have that one take the course on into new

weight to bear to continue the same game of living as nobly as he can and loving as much. Now is all both, spread. I am as happy as I can be a broken leg and [illegible] - but anything that you could ask from an old friend, know that it is in my heart ready to give it to you. God bless you and help you to bear this blow.

Faithfully & affectionately yours

David Gray [Gray]

David Gray Capt. U.S. A.
A.E.F.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004757

December 22-18

Hôtel Ritz
Place Vendôme
Paris

ADRESSE TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE
RITZOTEL-PARIS

Darling Dorothy -

Your letter is a benediction, and the most touching expression of Truth I have ever read - I feel as if every one in the world should be uplifted by coming in touch with your point of view - I felt that you would take the burning separation this way, but I became so immersed in the struggle to save him that I could hardly, at first, receive the fact that even you could rise to the heights that you have - Oh, Dorothy, you make me want never to think of myself again -

I think & know all that you say about Willard - He was the purest & highest - minded man I ever knew

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004758

And I am so proud to
have been able to call
him my friend –
I feel so truly humble
when I read of your gratitude
to me – You can never know
how blest I feel, that I was
allowed to show you in
such a small way that
you both have always
meant to me –
Did I tell you that I was
having the grave covered
over with ivy – it grows
so beautifully thick in
France?
The cross must be the regulation
wooden one, but Tiffany
is making a nice plate
like that Mrs. Reid ordered
for all the other graves –
As soon as it is all in order,
Patchin will take a photograph
for you –
Do, Ds, Come over, it
would be such a joy to
see you and tell you
all that can't be written –
I have been so completely to

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004759

Hôtel Ritz
Place Vendôme
Paris

ADRESSE TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE
RITZOTEL-PARIS

[12-22-18]

I did want work with Ethel but my conscience would allow me to break my contract with the Red Cross, and leave my work so disorganized ——
Ethel is expecting a baby in April, and of course I will go home for that — Suddenly she has developed acute kidney trouble and the doctors all agree that she must go home as she can't get the proper diet here. The Commander-in-Chief has been so good, and ordered Henry back to the U. S., so that he can go with her. Isn't that nice? I can't help worrying a little, and I am bitterly disappointed that the months I had looked forward to with her here can't

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004760

be realized - However, it is all for the best, I know - They will take some things of Dillards to you - She, I hope, will see you at once I would love to have her know you better - She is so sweet, and gentle & strong and absolutely happy with Henry - Cherry came to see me today on his way to Iowa from Ames - He looks much stronger, but is having a little digestive trouble - He is a very rare person, and I love talking with him about you and Dillard -

I have seen very little of Lippmann, he is so busy - Everybody everywhere says such wonderful things about Dillard, and every one asks about you - A music Paper - Greenbaum - sent an order for a wreath, but it arrived too late -

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004761

Hôtel Ritz
Place Vendôme
Paris

ADRESSE TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE
RITZOTEL-PARIS

I will think of you and those Angel children all Xmas day - How I should love to give Beatrice a lighting - Some day you must give me a photograph of them all like those Willard had in his room - I used to love so sitting here with you & the babies looking at him from every side & corner. Your pictures stood on either side of the mantle piece and Kept watch all through those anxious days & nights, & here where all was peace & nothing was heard until after I came home from Versailles -

[12-22-18]

There never was any look of pain or suffering, but at the last moment a decided look of relief - like a tired child dropping asleep - passed over Willard's face - and I Kept thinking

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004762

all thro' last hours, and
repeating to him
"Hear thou the eastern dawn,
Hearest thou in the red
Dawn the Angel's song?
. . . . . .
Death comes to set thee free
Oh, meet him cheerily.
As they have friend.
And all thy pains shall
Cease
And in Eternal peace they
Remain end"—

It is from Swinburne, and
I hadn't thought of it since
I was a Child, and it hurt
quite the Principle we
Cling to now, but somehow
it seemed to voice what I
wanted Willard to know,
that all those who loved him
were there in spirit. Going with him
right to the Threshold, after
which he didn't need any
telling, he knew—
Dear, darling, Dorothy, how
I ached to hold him here for
you—
Bless you for being so
Meaning such an infinite
Amount— I thank God that
my life has been allowed
to touch yours. Daisy—

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004763

Advance
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
G-2.

22 December 1918
Trevs, Germany.

Dear Mrs. Straight

I don't know how to write you, but I want you to know that you have my heartfelt sympathy. I happened to go through Paris & stopped at the Crillon meeting Ashbel Barney on entering the Hotel who told me of Willard's condition. I called the morning of leaving to inquire & at that time we were all hoping, but two days later I saw the sad news in the paper. I do feel so sorry for you wish I could help you. When I return (whenever that will be) home I shall hope to see you. Wishing only yours

Sincerely yours
de Lancey Kountze

Dewey
MOTEL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dec. 22, 1918.

Dear Mrs. Straight,—

"When Death took away those I loved my only joy was in hearing praise of them, and words of affection and admiration from all who had been friends --and realizing therefrom, with a certain glory and inward happiness, the fact that the loved one had been a great power for good in the world— permanent and far-reaching."

In searching for the words that might comfort in your crushing sorrow, I can only quote

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004764

from Peking which destroyed all joy and hope in my life, even as those from Paris have so darkened yours. Shall we ever cease to wonder why those specially equipped for service here should not be allowed to live for those who so need them?

Sincerely and sorrowfully,

Caroline W. Henry.

I am spending part of my annual leave here. Shall be in New York at the Hotel Collingwood, 45 W. 35th & 8t. from the 28th to the 31st of the month, on my return to Providence.

your own, written to me in that precious and inspired letter from Peking in January, 1912. I am sure you will be brave, for how perfectly they can be applied to the life of your dear husband.

In addition to treasured memories you have treasures in living realities — those darling children, and for their sakes he would not have you sad.

I believe you must feel my great throbs of sympathy, especially when you remember that this is the anniversary of the month when I was receiving those fatal cables

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004765

14 West 16 Street
December 22. 1918

My dear Mrs Straight
I have hesitated
hitherto to write to you
knowing that, at this
time of your supreme
sorrow & agitation, you
would be almost
overwhelmed by letters
from your Countless

Dear Lord and Master, we have
Christmas to consecrate you.
Bring your friend,
Produced 5. 15th

To
Mrs Willard Straight
4 East 64th St.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004766

friends - May I ask
you now if the steps
I am taking in regard
to the Russell Memorial
Church
and opposite
Sunday afternoon
I thought the Russell
this four weeks
I am sure they
Rev Miss Addams
Rev Mr Ellsworth
Dr. Gladden
Rev Mr Ellsworth
Dr. Gladden
Rev Mr Ellsworth
Dr. Gladden

December 22'/18

Dear Mrs. Straight:-

I have been often with you since I heard of your sorrow

to you. The memory of such a life can not die and we cannot feel that the accident of physical death means an end. Now we see through a glass

and at his Christ.
mas season. I
must write you
of my Name
sympathies.

Although I
did not know
the Straight Fa.
mily, I knew

so much about
the good he did.
can re-
alize what a
loss has come
to the country.
But that they
realization must
be a comfort

Daddy, — now
we know in
part — but
then shall we
know.

Yours, with Fatherly
regard Henry C. Woolley
[Woolley]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004769

The New
REPUBLIC
421 West 21st Street
New York City

Dec. 23rd 18

Dear Dorothy:

I am sorry
to learn of a little
mishap which has
befallen the New Republic
Board of Trustees and
Staff and what follows
is not for us you
would dare to utter
but we do sympathize
with it and we send
Mr. and Mrs. Straight
our love and
we wish we could
do or say something
that would be helpful
and comforting
but we cannot
and what we could
do for them. But
we would appreciate
it exceedingly if you
would let us know how much of

[12-23-18]

61 Knightsbridge,
London, S. W.

My dear Mr. Straight

Speaking as
one of Willard Straight's
old friends I can't tell
you how deeply I feel
the personal loss, and the
loss to the world of such
a good character. I wish
to assure you of my
sympathy, although that
is all that one could
say, and I would have
done so before but for

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004770

contributed to our lives. For as happens to be a group of people whose personal fulfillment depends on their ability to communicate freely & are compelled to see their ~~not~~ their impressions, state of mind & emotions. In so modern as D. start & carry on the new Republic which surrounded us with a rich wealth of personal & past experience which we know to be ~~unique~~ in the history of the journalism of a nation. We ~~appeared~~ us the to report honestly & carry. ~~any~~ the work which was necessary to us, but in which the

similarly cries of oily boys reaching a relief catapults. As the banner towards us was cut & read aspect- -ed all ~~unlawful~~ of the most unlawful de- -nunciations and most friendly ~~op~~ opinions which was their present personal quality & which in the end could be turned personal subject, which ~~nation~~ would have always supported from ~~the~~ only ~~limited~~ ~~the~~ foundations - We will try to base them on what ~~is~~ our spirit lies in our future work.

Faithfully yours
Herbert Croly

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004771

[A-43-18]

61 Knightsbridge,
London, S. W.

My dear Mr. Straight

Speaking as
one of Willard Straight's
old friends I cannot tell
you how deeply I feel
the personal loss, and the
loss to the world of such
a good character. I wish
to assure you of my
sympathy, although that
is all that one could
say, and I would have
done so before but for

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004772

I knew him well in his student days in Peking, and all of his friends of those days felt that he had a future of unlimited promise. Everyone who knew him regarded him as a very unusual man — one of a rare few. All said that his life could not have attained its full promise. And yet it was a fine end for such a life that his last enterprise should have been as a soldier of his country.

I am,

Very sincerely,

Robert M. Collins

Dec. 20-1918.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004773

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
0 0 4 7 7 4

# *To* Dorothy Straight

## IN MEMORIAM

*Our association with* Willard Straight *is a precious memory to us which we wish to record. To the work of founding and developing the New Republic he brought qualities of heart, mind and will that made deep and lasting his hold on our regard and affection. He wove his faith in the value of education and the duty of service into the purposes of the New Republic. His attitude toward the direction of the paper combined vigorous conviction with wholesouled fairness. His respect for editorial freedom was a new light in American journalism. His personal relation with each of us was marked from the first by his buoyant and winning disposition, by the candor and openness of his mind, by the courage with which he held his own strong views and the magnanimity with which he accepted disagreement. He was a brave, spirited, generous associate, and it was a privilege to have been joined with him in a work which only his good-will and right-mindedness and shining faith could have helped towards a consummation.*

Herbert Croly
Robert Hallowell
Francis Hackett
Ruth J. Littell
Alvin Johnson
Walter Weyl
Walter Lippmann

2 W 43

Dec 23 - 15.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I can not go off for the holidays without telling you how often I have been thinking of you during these anxious weeks and shall be a while all the world is rejoicing in the Christmas mood. I know that you will be rejoicing notwithstanding too even in the midst of sorrowful hours and heartaches. I can only say that you have been the greatest help and

May I just thank you with all my heart for going on so wonderfully and tell you that if there is any least thing I think I can ever do to cheer with you even a little bit anywhere any time — please command me. — May I just pray for you the Peace of God that passeth all understanding.

Yours loyally Richard H. Edwards

[Edwards]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004775

inspiration to us all
that many workers.
I personally can not
thank you enough
for all you have
done to guide our
thought and lift on
our common load.
What a privilege it
is to serve this cause
and to feel that we
can in some measure
serve the nation in
serving them. Truly
pray that all our little
group of workers here
may be great enough

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004776

and we are all right again now and Charlie so far has had it, thank goodness!

It is perfectly extraordinary the way I dream of you and Willard night after night - the most vivid realistic dreams and knowing how I feel when I wake up I keep thinking of you and I don't see how you bear it. Just now, at Christmas time - it must be so hard for you. Willard had so

Monday 1341 New Hampshire Ave. DEC. 23, 1918 sa.
Washington D.C.

Dearest Dorothy -

How like you to telephone Charlie and offer to come down when we were sick! I was so touched and so was Charlie. Vinton and I both had the "flu" and had a miserable time but we were lucky enough to get a good doctor and nurse

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004777

much sentiment and was so
wonderfully thoughtful that and
Christmas was such a happy time for ya
that I simply cannot grasp it.
I did not mean to write such
a sad letter, Dorothy dear, I sat
down to tell you how we are think-
ing of you every minute and
to send you my very best love.
I think Willcarbi will was
the most wonderful tribute to you
Dorothy. and altogether the
biggest - finest thing I ever read!
I should think you would be so
proud of the trust he has placed
in you to carry on his wonder-
ful ~~Amer~~ ideals and vision
for the betterment of the
America that he loved with
his whole heart.
I cannot wish you a Merry
Christmas, Dorothy dear but knowing
your spirit feel that Willard's
peace and happiness will be with
you. [cliff. [Lindley]

ONE WEST SIXTY-SEVENTH STREET

New York. Dec. 23 - 18

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I was shocked and very grieved over the sad news about Major Straight - and while I admit that in such cases there is very little consolation one can offer I like to add my name in your list of his friends.

I am taking the liberty of sending to you the portfolio of drypoints which was destined for the Major.

and with the assurance of my sincerest sympathy

I am, respectfully yours

N. Zarokelle

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004778

# THE MORRIS PLAN COMPANY

AUTHORIZED BY AND UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE BANKING DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

HENRY R. TOWNE, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
ARTHUR J. MORRIS, PRESIDENT
HERBERT L. SATTERLEE, VICE-PRESIDENT
CLARK WILLIAMS, VICE PRESIDENT
JOHN MARKLE, VICE-PRESIDENT
W. E. WOODWARD, VICE-PRESIDENT
CHARLES H. SABIN, TREASURER
WALLACE D. McLEAN, SECY. & GEN. MGR.
WALLACE SMITH ASST. GEN. MGR.
JAS. B. MORRIS, ASST. TREASURER
GEO. J. SCHUTZ, ASST. SECRETARY
S. F. BOOS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY

CAPITAL THE MORRIS PLAN $1,000,000.

MAIN OFFICE
EQUITABLE BUILDING
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

UNION SQUARE BRANCH
1 UNION SQUARE

BRONX BRANCH
391 E. 149TH ST., N. Y.

December 23, 1918

Mrs. Willard Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mrs. Straight:-

Herewith is enclosed a copy of the resolutions adopted by the Directors of The Morris Plan Company of New York, apropos of the untimely death of your husband, Major Willard Straight, who had been a member of the Board since its organization, now four years ago.

Permit me to take this opportunity of conveying to you an expression of the deep personal regret that I feel at the loss of a friend and associate so highly admired and esteemed. Major Straight, together with our mutual friend, Herbert L. Satterlee, Esq., in the earlier days, when The Morris Plan was first begun in this city, was more responsible at a certain time than any other person, for the successful launching of this national enterprise. As a result of his able and faithful assistance, and the loyal time and attention he gave this business for several years after it began, it must be a source of gratification to you to know that several million people have been helped, directly and indirectly, on a business basis that has brought them no loss of self-respect but has taught them how to help themselves.

I desire to express to you and Major Straight's family, my profound sympathy in their great bereavement and in our loss.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur J. Morris
President.

K
Enclosure.

[illegible] REC'D 12/31/18

DEATH OF MAJOR WILLARD STRAIGHT

Resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of The Morris Plan Company of New York at a meeting held on Friday, December 13th, 1918.

WHEREAS, the Officers and Board of Directors of The Morris Plan Company of New York have learned, with deep regret, of the untimely death of Major Willard Straight, U.S.A., in France, on December 1, while engaged in the service of his country, and

WHEREAS, Major Straight was active and influential in the organization of The Morris Plan Company of New York, and was one of the original members of its Board of Directors, and always an ardent advocate and supporter of The Morris Plan and its national development,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That, in the death of Major Willard Straight, this Company has lost one of its most devoted and valuable Directors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of this Board, who for several years served with Major Straight, desire to record their deep sense of loss as a result of his death, and the high esteem in which he was held by all his Morris Plan associates; and be it further

RESOLVED, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Company, and a copy thereof sent to Mrs. Straight.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004779

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

December 23, 1918.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I fully realize that for you the approaching New Year's Day will be clouded by the great loss which you have sustained. Let me, however, express the hope that the New Year will have as large a measure of happiness in store for you as the circumstances will permit.

I have great difficulty in realizing that Major Straight has gone from us, as I had looked forward with such keen pleasure to further association with him in the many public matters in which he was so deeply interested.

I hope that you will feel free at any and all times to call on me if I can be of the slightest service in furthering the great purposes in which both you and he have been so deeply interested.

Most sincerely yours,

G. Rowe

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

178 W. 3rd St.
Geo. G. -

[12-23-18 pm]

3 Windsor Ave
Oak Lane
Philadelphia
Pa.

My dear Mrs Straight -
I have waited until
now to write you,
knowing mine would
be only one of a
thousand that you
would receive - and
I do so want you
to know that my

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004780

heart aches for you -
I knew Willard from the
time he was a small
boy - knew all those
boyish characteristics that
as a man have made
him so loved and
admired - I considered
him my best friend -
Words fail - only those that
have endured can
know the meaning of
your great loss -
With a heart full of
deepest sympathy -
Believe me sincerely
Marguerite Voorhees

FORTY-NINE EAST EIGHTIETH STREET

December 24th 1918

My dear Mrs. Straight,

Will you permit me tho
I a stranger to you personally
save as he has come to know
you through common friends,
to express to you the deep
sympathy which he
has felt in the death of
your husband, just at the
time when it seemed that
the world could not spare
him and the hope that
the Christmas season may

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004781

Christmas 1918

With sympathy
and all my good
wishes
from
Archer Gibson

Thus to you & yours the sympathy
of your countrymen & the
Confederacy should come from
one who also has a son
fighting with the
Allied cause.

Yours very truly
Wm Cabell Brown

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004782

heard the praises said
of Willard at the C.I.C.
meeting yesterday. The
resolution that was passed
at the meeting will be sent
to you. The hope was
expressed by every member
present that you
would take Willard's
place. Mr. Bliss wanted
to see you, but I told him
I would tell you myself
the unanimous wish of
the Board for you
that you become a
member of this Board.

Dec. 24

7 East 91st Street.

Dearest Dorothy -

Nothing I can say to
you will help you in the
least, but I had hoped to be
with Dan you before us
to greet the day after
Christmas for a week.

You loveliness & sadness
in these happy holidays
is constantly in my thoughts.

I wish you could have

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004783

In each of my letter I am to ask something of you, but to me it is to become a public character can ever put aside any of the duties that come crowding in on them.

I send you a heart full of love & devotion & sympathy. I'm glad that the children are better.

Very affectionately

Adele

[Mrs J. A Burden]

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

Y.M.C.A.

191

Coblentz, Germany.
Christmas Day.

Dear Dorothy:

Every day I am thinking about Willard and about you. I loved him and I shall miss him all my life. The ache that I feel helps me to know dimly how it must be for you. In recent years we had drifted apart but now I know it was only seemingly. all the old ties and memories and the old affection came back in a flood and they abide with me now. I feel it would have been the same had I gone first.

I was with my Division on the march across the German frontier. The telegram reached me several days late, - inexcusably delayed. I was not in Paris on the third of December. It would have been a dear memory if we could have been together that one last time.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004784

[12-25-18] [2]

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

_____ 191

Dorothy I give you all I have of loyal sympathy and appreciation. It will be weeks before this poor letter reaches you. And you are so very far away. But when you read this let it tell you that all those days that have passed and those that are to come there's a hand stretched out in sympathy, and that I know, as you know, how it is with you. All that I have written is so inadequate to tell you that Willard is in my heart, lost, and that I am lonely and life is darker going on without him.

May your sad heart be comforted and may God bless you and your little children.

Your friend
George Marcus.

[12-25-18]

thoughts today.
I admired Mr Straight so much & your was such a useful life together, that it is very kindness to hard it cut short so soon. He was indeed a citizen his [illegible] could ill afford

Dear Dorothy
I have been thinking
of you today very much.
Letters I know can be
but of little comfort
to you. But I wanted
to write & I know
that you will be
in many people's

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004785

to love - With much
love & sympathy -

Affectionately yours
Cynthia Brooks

Dec. 25

Yore have tasted
of great happiness
— Heartbreaks
of death cannot
touch them —
while you live —
affection
from Sweet —

Xmas day 1918

52, SEYMOUR STREET, W.1.

PADDINGTON 1817.

Dear Dorothie -
My heart aches
so for you in yr
sorrow — Love
has just written
me. Time is
nothing here
can say —
but remember

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004786

[Xmas 1918]

Dorothy dearest.

These little bowls for flowers take you all the love and sympathy I feel for you! I know, underneath all the joy and pleasure you give to everybody, this Christmas, how terribly, terribly, lonely you must be and how you must miss Willard's wonderful power of enjoyment and, one might say, boyishness. I feel he will be very close to you and the children on Christmas and his wonderful love for you, which made your life together so beautiful, is always with you and nothing can

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004787

take it away. I feel it so strongly when I am with you.

You are the most considerate friend in the world - with the most complete understanding always and I love you more every year.

God bless you, dear

Edith. [Lindley]

SEVEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN
MADISON AVENUE

Dear Dorothy

I have just rec'd my Xmas letter from Almeria Paget — the wailes of a wonderful husband — "I spoon dear Willard whose dearth

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004788

came as a shock as I had not
heard of his illness. Poor dear, devoted
Dorothy + those little mites! I have never
seen.
I am so fond of Almeric. A life-
long friend of mine.
What a brave woman you are!

Affec
Rose D. W. Vorst

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004789

FACULTY CLUB
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

December 25. 1918

My very dear Dorothy Straight,

This is a very sad Christmas day for me — and what must it be for you. I just thought I must sit down and write to you. I simply cannot rejoice as others are doing, for my dear boy Willard is ever in my mind — and when I think of him, I think of you and his dear children.

I came across this little picture of him taken by one of my boys of the California brand at Camp Doniphan last year and I thought you might like to have it. It is like him — is not it? It is just a snap shot, but I prize it and I send it to you as the most valuable thing I have. I have the little round picture of the children which you gave me ever on my table and look at it, as I write. Do not trouble yourself to acknowledge this. Yours ever sincerely

H. Morse Stephens

Dec, 1918

Clara and I sincerely hope that despite its sorrow for you, this season will hold that Happiness which the world cannot bring and cannot take away.

Ordway Tead

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004790

MEADOW WOOD
ROSLYN, N.Y.

My Dear Mrs Straight-

Major Straight was so kind and thoughtfull towards me, in my small Efforts to improve conditions here in Roslyn, that I am writing to ask you to allow me to be one of the many who willingly bear witness to his Nobility of character and solicitude for those less fortunate-

He was always anxious to help in any good work. and I will miss the Encouraging words he always had to give. None of his many business cares seemed to weigh too heavily, to interfere with his thought for others.

I know of no man who will be so greatly missed among his friends and acquaintances nor one whose life has meant so much to all. who came in contact with him-

Sincerely yours
Jno H. Love

Mrs W. D. Straight.
Old Westbury L.I. N.Y.

26th December 1918.

DEC. 25, 1918
56

128 EAST THIRTY SIXTH STREET

Please don't answer this.

My dear Mrs. Straight:—
I don't know you well enough to go To see you at such a time as this but I do want to thank you, if only because I'm a member of your community, for the inspiration of the fine quality

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004791

[12-26-18]

My dear Dorothy.

It was with deepest regret and sorrow that I heard of Major Straights death and I am sending you these few lines to try & tell you of my most heartfelt sympathy for I know only too well what you must be suffering.

Though our lives seem far apart I often think of you & how kind you were when my husband died and it seems cruelly hard that you too should now be called upon to suffer the same dreadful loss.

My little Natalie has a snap shot on her dressing table of your three children

Kindest thoughts of your courage & unselfishness.

While my heart aches for you in your sorrow, I have quite realized how large a measure of affection there was in my very genuine admiration for you. And now the letter knows no bounds. What a moment for it is that is upon us!

Kindest thoughts Yours Sincerely Katrina Trask Tiffany.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004792

taken in the parks. and it seems so pitiful to think that they too now have no father. they were so sweet & saw them several times last winter.

With a heartful of sympathy.

Dorothy dear,

Believe me.

affectionately yours

Natalie M. Ashmore

25 East 30th Street.
December 26. 1918.

26. Dec.

TELEPHONE, 3008 PARK.

39, CAMPDEN HILL ROAD, W.

Dear Mrs Straight,

words are poor things, but you know without my saying so how deeply I feel for and with you. Willard's death has left us all the poorer, who were his friends & we shall miss him greatly. all one's memories of him, rich

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004773

back to the beginning, & to the end which was worthy of all his ideals, are good & happy memories. But that makes his loss all the sadder -

I won't write more, & don't trouble to answer this - I just wanted to grasp your hand & say how sorry I am -

We expect to be in New York in April - my wife goes to visit her mother, & I en route to S. America - So perhaps I may have a chance of seeing you -

Yours very sincerely

F. V. Slands

258 Riverside Drive,
New York,
Dec. 24, 1918.

My dear Mrs. Straight,

I wonder if you can know how deeply I appreciate your thoughtfulness of yesterday. I have been enjoying the little book all evening, propped up in bed in blissful lagginess!

I heard such a wonderful thing today about Major Straight. A man, whose name I don't know, asked for leave when he heard the Major was ill. He said he went right to Paris hoping he might be able to help, but found he was not needed because so many

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004794

[12-26-19]

Dear Cousin Dorothy,

Charlotte and I are more touched than I can express to you, that in this time of your great sorrow, that you should even have thought of sending us books this Christmas, according to you and dear Cousin Willard's custom the past few years, and we thank you most warmly for them.

The package came this morning, and we are eager to read the books at once, in fact I could not refrain from looking through mine without waiting. The "Eighteen Capitals of China" looked so interesting, while "The Life of Benvenuto Cellini" must be very charming from all I hear of it.

Our cousin John W. Y.

others had done the same thing. My husband wrote me about it -- and I just have to tell you,

And please may I say how perfectly corking I think you are - I probably could never say this to you, but in a way I can appreciate what has come to you, but there are very very few who could be so fine. Do you mind my telling you this?

I truly hope you and your children are much better tonight, all of us are so sorry that this extra trouble had to come.

Thank you again for the book - and good night.

Ruth Humbert.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004795

Nichols sent us for his Christmas present four reproductions of Cousin Willard's water colors which were recently sent to him by the Asia Publishing Co. as he felt we ought to have the pleasure of seeing them. They are certainly very remarkable. We have placed your books beside them on the piano [illegible] and other gifts are laid. Our Cousin John is a member of the Executive Committee of the American Asiatic Association, and he sent us a copy of the Resolutions drawn up for Cousin Willard. I am filing all the fine Tributes that I have seen, all so appreciative of his noble character. With renewed thanks, and loving tender thoughts of you, from Charlotte and me.

Gratefully and cordially yours
Martha Nichols.

80 Federal St. Salem, Mass.
December 26th 1918

Friday. December 27 1918.

8 EAST SIXTY-THIRD STREET

Dear Mrs. Straight

This is just a line to tell you how deeply you have all my sympathy in your terrible loss. It is a terrible loss, not only for you, but for the city & the nation; but it makes my heart ache to think of what you must go through Especially in these Christmas

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004796

days. I only wish I could help you!

Very sincerely yours
Mabel Choate.

Please do not answer this.

25, DUNDONALD ROAD
GLASGOW. W.

27th December. 1908.

Dear Mrs Straight.

Some days ago I happened to come across this little book, and was much struck by the beauty of some of the poems. I thought that perhaps you might care to have a copy.

Will you please accept it as a small token of affectionate regard

From
Brenda M. Finlay.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004797

Willard. My friendship with him was built up in our occasional meetings which occurred every two or three years ever since I was in College. We used to correspond fitfully, but the only time I saw anything of him consecutively was when he was living here with you shortly after your marriage. He was then full of schemes, so many of which have come through & are today facts, and he used to talk of them by the hour. As Sherman said of him here the other day "Willard almost always accomplished what he set out to do." Although I saw him only from year to year I used to think of him constantly & my sense of loss is correspondingly great. I find it is the people you think about who matter whether or not you see them often.

80, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.

Dec 27 1918

Dear Mrs Straight,

The news of your husbands death was a severe blow to me. I had heard he was ill in Paris but I had no idea it was so serious. That he should be cut off in the prime of life seems too utterly useless, and even though we hear of so many similar cases just now it does not seem to justify what happened to Willard. He was meant to live, and he got so much out of it, & what is more, put so much into it, that his death seems to me one of the outstanding tragedies of the war.

As you know I seldom saw

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004798

I am awfully sorry for you and both Priscilla and I send her sincere sympathy. I would give anything if this thing had'nt occurred and to have it happen just when the war came to an end must have made it doubly hard. But you have the satisfaction, which nothing can ever take away, of knowing that your husband got most of what there is in life out of it and that he left every one he knew the gainer for having seen him. His was a fine & valiant spirit.

Yours sincerely

Robert Grant Jr. [Robert Grant jr.]

3 St. Paul St.

Brookline Mass. 29th 1918

my dear Dorothy –

The beautiful book on "Egypt and its Monuments" is received, and I write to thank you for it, and more especially for the kindly thought that prompted you sending it – and this is the more appreciated when I consider how much your thoughts must be with a post so full of interest and pleasure and new to abruptly terminated.

I never had met Mr Straight

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004799

but since he had a national
reputation I knew more or
less of him + must regard
his ~~taking~~ death as a
national calamity —
I beg to express my
sympathy with you — I
knew that to you the wine
of life must seem sharper
perhaps —

The book on Egypt appeals
in wheat to me since
years ago — 1902 — I spent
a fortnight in and about
Cairo — I thought there,
and still think it, the
most interesting and fascinating
place I have ever seen —
I went up the Nile as far as
Luxor, once spent a couple
of days at the latter place —
They are there digging out
these Monuments from the
sands that for centuries had
buried them — I do not
know whether the Monuments
interested me more than the
fact that those huge structures
had been so buried by the
sands of the desert, or what
seemed almost like fairie land
that they are actually lost to
sight until quite recent

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004000

89 Pineapple St.
Brooklyn
Dec 28th 1918.

My dear Dorothy The lovely orange-tree arranged with especially beautiful ferns has reached us also books we particularly liked. All are greatly appreciated for with your grief and many cares no one could expect this most sad Christmas day to be recognized unless for the sake of your little children -

Sue took the liberty of exchanging her book at Brentano's as it was a duplicate she had -

times - I also visited Damascus and Constantinople - Hence the war operations of the British in this region are of unusual interest to me - I think I sent you a copy of the book entitled "Round Democrack" - you may have forgotten that my youngest daughter married Mr Democrack - Frank - The latter has been with the A.E.F. at the front as Master Spiral Engineer - Their home is in Palo Alto California where Mrs Democrack - Josephine - and her three children are now living -

With renewed thanks for so kindly remembering me I remain sincerely yours
Horace White

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004801

[12-28-18 PM]

American Red Cross Hospital #1

Dear Mrs. Straight:- I do not like to intrude on your grief, a comparative stranger; I know you have many friends over here, who have been writing to you: but I was thrown with your husband in some rather intimate ways, and I should like to tell you so, and to say what an admiration for him I had. He was, as you know, a great friend of George Marvin's, and years ago he came to Boston on a return trip from China with George. I asked him to address the boys in my study, and I shall always remember the impression he made, as he stood before them & told of his work abroad. There, as it happened, last December I was on the Adriatic with him as we came abroad to the war; and I had long talks with him during the voyage. He was interested in his insurance

I have not yet been able to go and see Hazel but hope to do so soon.

I enclose the address of Miss Williams the nurse & friend of Hazels' Mother who may be able to tell you much of Willards childhood -

With many many thanks for your great thoughtfulness from us all and earnest wishes for the happiness the future may bring to you

Most affthy
Aunt Agnes
[Doane]

Miss Anne E. Williams
246 Park St.
Mentor Ave.
Cleveland, O.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004802

work, but hoped soon to get through with it, and to be allowed to join his regiment again. There in Paris I went once to see him, to talk about insurance questions which had come up in my work at the hospitals.

At the end of February, though, I was sent to a hospital behind the American lines near Toul, where I stayed for seven months and more; during which time I heard nothing of Willard. But shortly after my transfer again to Paris, some one at dinner one evening casually mentioned that Major Straight was seriously ill at the Crillon. I went round at once after dinner. They were a little doubtful about letting me see him, for he was weak and a little delirious; but I thought he would know me, and I sent in my name as Billings of Easton. They asked if he remembered + he said: "You bet." Then he spoke of George Marvin. I prayed with him, and he shook hands + said: "I can't tell you how I thank you". I saw him again each day for



several days until the Saturday night came when at mid-night they sent for me. He died very peacefully with no suffering. The funeral was impressive and touching — one of the most touching that I have seen in France. He was a rare man, to have so many men friends so attached to him. I keep thinking of the word of Bishop Brent at the grave, — that we had "counted on him as one of the important workers in this critical period of reconstruction". We needed him. But you will find some day that he has been doing important work over on the other side. They in the other world will love him, as his friends here loved him.

My heart, though, aches for you. I know how desolate and empty life now is for you. But his beautiful memory will be an increasing comfort to you, as time goes on; and when you meet him again later on, you will find him grown, as he, I am sure, will find you grown.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004803

I feel, always, helpless in the presence
grief. After all these years I ought to
ave [so]- something to say that would
elp. But- I have become, myself, sure
this one thing - that- God is good, that
e cares, and that- to the depth of His
ving heart. He suffers with us, as we
uffer in our grief. That- much I can
y to you, for I that- much I am sure.
If I wish I could do something for you.
will some day come to see you, if you
ould like to have me, when I get home.

Sincerely Your Friend,
Sherrard Billings.

AMERICAN COMMISSION
TO NEGOTIATE PEACE

Dec. 28. 1918

Dear Dorothy,

If all goes well I shall return to the United States
at the end of January in order to begin working again. The Colonel
considered the idea some three weeks ago, and then for a time
the matter was in doubt because they wanted me to go on an
observing mission to Berlin. But two days ago, I decided that
I would be of more use at home, and the Colonel has agreed to
my going.

I participated in the idea by many long talks I had
with Willard in November when we canvassed the whole
situation. I wanted to come then, but he warmly urged me
to stay, help in the Polonia crisis, learn the solution
either before returning. But he did agree that what
America thought counted most, and that anything which
could be done to obtain matters at home would be
most worthwhile.

You will not know until I see you and tell
you what a decisive loss Willard's death is to this
Commission. For me alone it has meant weeks of
wandering in the labyrinth of indecision, and the
case is typical. I am very anxious to get back into the
fresh air.

There are many, many things to tell you all,
and I look forward to seeing you with great
eagerness. I would beg to wish them. But no

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004804

thing I want to say to you here which I would not know how to say to you in your presence. The nobility with which you have carried yourself is a gift to every one of your friends. I wish I could say before you to prohibate the sacred memory I have of November, that you might have my own share of William at the peak of his hope and courage and greatness. He has been through the furnace and the swamp, but his eye was never so clear, and in the classic meaning of religion he has known keenly to high and unselfish purposes. The malignity of war he detested splendidly, and the ardor in him — to me the younger part of his soul — was to adventure with plans and the good fight.

He has his troubles, as you know, and in the matters he was engaged in, they were disturbing, and sometimes fierce. But there was only a definite confidence, than I had ever before seen in him, as to what men would do if they lived and were unafraid.

I know, Dorothy, that nothing I can tell you adds one link to your own perfect understanding of him, but it means so much to me to share these things a little with you. The belongs to you entirely, but I know I can too.

Yours ever,

Walter Lippmann

# STATE CHARITIES AID ASSOCIATION

UNITED CHARITIES BUILDING

105 EAST 22ND STREET

NEW YORK

OFFICERS.

MR. GEORGE F. CANFIELD - - - - - PRESIDENT
MRS. WILLIAM B. RICE, MR. OREN ROOT, MISS LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER - VICE-PRESIDENTS
MR. MORTIMER N. BUCKNER - - - - - - TREASURER
MR. HOMER FOLKS - - - - - - - SECRETARY
MR. HENRY C. WRIGHT - - - SECRETARY PRO TEM
MR. GEORGE J. NELBACH, MR. GEORGE A. HASTINGS - ASSISTANT SECRETARIES

BOARD OF MANAGERS

MRS. TUNIS G. BERGEN
MR. MORTIMER N. BUCKNER
MISS HELEN C. BUTLER
MR. GEORGE F. CANFIELD
MR. CHARLES S. FAIRCHILD
DR. SIMON FLEXNER
MR. THEODORE L. FROTHINGHAM
MR. WILLIAM E. HARMON
MRS. FREDERIC D. HITCH
DR. CHARLES HITCHCOCK
MR. ADOLPH LEWISOHN
MR. JOHN A. MCKIM
MISS RUTH MORGAN
MRS. HENRY OOTHOUT
MR. EUGENE A. PHILBIN
MISS FLORENCE M. RHETT
MRS. WILLIAM B. RICE
MR. ELIHU ROOT
MR. OREN ROOT
MRS. CHARLES CARY RUMSEY
MR. HERBERT L. SATTERLEE
MISS LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER
MR. EDWARD W. SHELDON.
MRS. WILLARD STRAIGHT
MRS. MARY HATCH WILLARD

December 28, 1918

Mrs. Willard Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mrs. Straight:

I am sending you herein a copy of a resolution passed by the Board of Managers of the State Charities Aid Association at its meeting on December 18, 1918:

"RESOLVED, That the Managers of the State Charities Aid Association express to Mrs. Straight their warmest sympathy in her bereavement.

"The fine abilities of Major Straight, his unusual knowledge of world-wide conditions, and tireless efforts to improve them, make his death a great loss to the whole country.

"They cannot but hope that the remembrance of all the good he was able to do in his short life may be some consolation to Mrs. Straight."

Sincerely yours,

Henry C. Wright

Secretary pro tem

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004805

Bourgo. N.Y.
12-28-18.

My dear Mrs. Straight,

Here are the clippings of which I spoke. The other things make really quite a collection and too bulky to send in — Many yrs would enjoy seeing of course — but would not care to put in a book — as they are —.

Two poetic — sketch I told yr — are at Boston Neck College 18 miles out of here and do want to get them until Spring. I find I have it a 1901 "Cornellian" — but think perhaps Adelaide Robyhas and if yr wish I will be glad to write her the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004806

ones Shaw are '98, '99 and 1900. Then Shaw "Verse and Prose" which Willard illustrated for J. L. P. Bland and sent me from China in 1903 — and in which he made a charming water-color in 1906 — I must have that book of water colors he made in 1903 and 1904. Draw it in 1906 I think. I take Mr. Robertson will be of help for he and Willard were such good friends. He would know much of his life in Shaw. I shall keep all three things together and when I come on — I may select what I wish here for the book and I shall be so glad to lend them to you for

DEC 28 1918

(2)

that purpose. Shaw perhaps a dozen or more pictures. Most of them in a book with other photographs so that I can't take them out. I should like too — to have the pleasure of telling you about them all. Shaw I am sure — more of his things than anyone else and — need you surely ought to see them — any way.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004807

Please let me hear from you —
and believe me —
— Faithfully your friend,
Elsie Gray Jerrold —

Nice
Dec 29

Dearest Dorothy

Ever since I read of your sad & terrible loss I have thought of you often but hesitated to write for I feel so useless when I think such sorrow as yours It is hard to be able to do nothing for those we care for when they have such grief to bear — My love you have long had, Dorothy,

but it goes out to you now with heartfelt sympathy —

It does seem to be true that "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth" for the hardest things to bear seem to be sent to people like you —

Take care of yourself, my dear, for the sake of those dear ones in whose minds & hearts you have a very high place —

With renewed sympathy & affection Ever

Grace Henry

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004808

1918
52

Received
Army of Occupation
December 29th

Dear Mrs Straight

I have
just heard with
deep sorrow of the death
of Your husband -
He was a fine
soldier and loved
by all who knew
him - Please accept
my truest sympathy
in Your great loss -
He has given his
life & his Country and
his Service is one to
be indeed proud of -
It will certainly
never be forgotten by
his hosts of friends.
All who knew
him, and like myself
served under him,
will always hold
him in affectionate
regard - He had the
satisfaction of knowing
this, from our own
lips, when last
February we all
parted in Paris -
Since then I had

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004809

heard of his splendid work at the Staff College and later with his Division.

For you who have already born so much in this long separation the blow must be indeed a hard one, and my sympathy for you is my prime - You have both made the Soldiers sacrifice the glory of which no words can express.

I am asking Mrs Watkin to forward this letter to you as I am not sure of your address.

Yours very Sincerely
Guard Beckman Hopkins

G. B. Hopkins Esq
Lt. R. Dublin Fus
Mesopotamia

Sunday

BARATCEA
EAST ISLIP, LONG ISLAND

Dec 29 1918

Dorothy dearest, I cannot explain from writing you these few lines, Christmas week, for not only have you been constantly in my thoughts, but you have brought home to me this year such a different conception of Christmas -

For being with you and knowing your spirit, has been to me the living embodiment of the original Christmas

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004810

As I have seen in you the spirit of love, service and selflessness which was born into the world on that day.

Of all the many tributes to Willard, of all the recognitions of what he accomplished in his life none are to me comparable with the tribute you pay him, by your marvellous selflessness and devotion to his ideals. For none but a very rare person could have inspired so much, and no one less big & with less sublime faith could have taken that inspiration and been as absolutely true to it as you, - which is true the epitome of Christ's life.

To tell you of my sympathy I know is unnecessary, to be of any real help to you I fear impossible, so I can only take from you; but I pray that having had this opportunity & privilege, I may at least in my small way not throw it away.

I inclose you a clipping which I thought you might not have seen, being in an inner sheet of the Times today.

Yours sincerely, Willard Straight

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004811

my saying it again, that if you ever want me, I take so to you & do anything in my power for you at any time. And it is no favor to ask, as I have no ties, & my own inclinations are always to be with you. I only regret that these last days while you were ill I could be of no use —

Ever devoted
Frances [Livingston]

NATIONAL COMMITTEE
FOR
UPLIFTING THE MORO WARDS OF THE NATION
THE WORK OF BISHOP CHARLES H. BRENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

ROOM 1905
21 EAST FORTIETH ST., NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE 3620 VANDERBILT

RIGHT REV. CHARLES H. BRENT, D. D.
EPISCOPAL BISHOP OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
CHAIRMAN

VICE CHAIRMEN
JOSEPH H. CHOATE
LLOYD C. GRISCOM
HAMILTON WRIGHT MABIE
WILLIAM FELLOWES MORGAN
GEORGE WHARTON PEPPER
WILLIAM JAY SCHIEFFELIN
LORILLARD SPENCER

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MRS. NATHANIEL BOWDITCH POTTER
MRS. LORILLARD SPENCER SR.
GEORGE WHARTON PEPPER
JOHN T. PRATT
GANO DUNN

TREASURER
WILLARD STRAIGHT

SECRETARY
CURTIS J. MAR

NEW YORK COMMITTEE
MRS. NATHANIEL BOWDITCH POTTER, CHAIRMAN
MRS. W. BOURKE COCHRAN
JULIAN T. DAVIES
GANO DUNN
MRS. HENRY WINTHROP GRAY
LLOYD C. GRISCOM
HAMILTON HOLT
HENRY SPIES KIP
JOHN T. PRATT
MRS. ELIHU ROOT, JR.
MISS E. LOUISE SANDS
BEEKMAN WINTHROP
J. MAYHEW WAINWRIGHT

NATIONAL COMMITTEE
MISS MABEL T. BOARDMAN
AMERICAN RED CROSS
FRANCIS E. CLARK, D. D.,
UNITED SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR
MISS JULIANA CUTTING
MRS. ADAM DENMEAD
MRS. L. L. FUNK,
NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY ASSOCIATION
MRS. HENRY WINTHROP GRAY
MAJOR HENRY L. HIGGINSON
HON. RICHMOND PEARSON HOBSON
HENRY C. KING, LL. D.
MRS. HENRY CABOT LODGE
MRS. SETH LOW
MISS ELIZA B. MASTERS
WILLIAM R. MOODY
MISS CLARA MOREHOUSE,
INT'L ORDER KING'S DAUGHTERS AND SONS
MISS ANNE MORGAN
JOHN R. MOTT
INT'L COMMITTEE Y M C A.
MRS P. V. PENNYPACKER
GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
MRS. NATHANIEL BOWDITCH POTTER
RAYMOND ROBINS
MRS. W. EMLEN ROOSEVELT
MRS. WILLIAM GERRY SLADE
UNITED STATES DAUGHTERS OF 1812
FRED B. SMITH
MEN AND RELIGION FORWARD MOVEMENT
MRS. LORILLARD SPENCER, SR.
REAR ADMIRAL CHARLES STOCKTON,
COMMANDER, ORDER OF WASHINGTON
MR. AND MRS. I. N. PHELPS STOKES
MRS. WILLIAM H. TAFT
MRS. MARY LOGAN TUCKER
MAJOR-GENERAL LEONARD WOOD

[December]
November 29th, 1918.

Mrs. Willard Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

The National Committee for Bishop Brent's Moro Work in the Philippines, through its Executive Committee, desires to extend to you its sincere sympathy for your great loss in the death of your husband, Major Willard Straight, while in the service of his country in France. We desire to express our high regard for Major Straight who was our first treasurer and did much to aid Bishop Brent's undertaking in the Philippines. His loyal service and co-operation at all times in this work was deeply appreciated by Bishop Brent and all the members of our Committees. In this hour of your great grief words are but poor means of expressing our sympathy for you, but all of Major Straight's friends and associates will long cherish his Memory.

Respectfully yours,

J. J. Mar
Secretary.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004812

1915
D.C.

48, AVENUE HENRI-MARTIN
TEL. PASSY 37-63

Paris.
December 29th

My dear Dorothy:

It was only a few days ago on arriving here to spend Christmas with my family that I heard the terrible news of Willards' death. Words are no comfort at such a moment but as an old friend I want you to know how

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004813

deeply I sympathize with you in your
pain & sorrow, rendered more poignant
by the fact that you could not be
with him at the last. However he
gave his life for his country the same
as if he met death on the battle field,
& that for a noble heart is some
consolation.

If it lay in my power to relieve any
of your sufferings, believe me I would do
so gladly, & if I can at any time be
of the slightest service, please do not
hesitate to call on your old & may
I say, affectionate friend,

Sheldon Whitehouse

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004814

35 South Oxford St.
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Dec - 29 - 1918

My dear Mrs. Straight, -

I was very sorry to learn of the death of your husband, Major Straight, in France.

My recollection of the many kind things you have done for the soldiers through Y. M. C. A. Hut #5, and your splendid spirit of service at all times, prompts

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004815

me as a former member of that staff to extend to you my sincerest sympathy in your bereavement -

May our "Great Father" strengthen and sustain you in your time of sorrow.

Very Sincerely Yours

William T. Reed

[Dec. 31, 1918]
PM date

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dear Dorothy

I cant begin to tell you how much I sympathize with you in your overwhelming grief and how deeply I feel for you that this great loss should have come to you - Willard was always one of my ideals - I have admired him for a long long while - I have always looked up to him as a very fine character. And you and he were so wonderful together - There was no one who deserved to live more than he or who was needed more even though he did die in a great cause just as much as if he had died in battle -

And there is no one that has deserved less this terrible blow

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004816

thank you. It hurts me to think that such a fine and courageous person as you should be made to suffer so cruelly - But I know this Dorothy that with such a person as you, suffering will only temper the steel the more, and I know that you will and ought to hold your head higher and carry on more bravely because of Willard -

A letter and words sound so empty at a time like this, but I do do want you to know how deeply I feel for you in your great loss and sadness. At least it is from the heart.

Robert L. Bacon

JAPAN SOCIETY
NEW YORK

165 BROADWAY

UNITED STATES AND JAPAN

December 31st, 1918.

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,

1130 Fifth Avenue, City.

My dear Madam:-

It was with the greatest sorrow that the officers, members of the Executive Committee and members of the Japan Society learned of your husband's untimely death and we beg to extend our sincere sympathy in your bereavement.

At the December meeting of our Executive Committee, voice was given to the great sorrow and loss we felt and all the members of the Committee rose and stood for a moment in silence as an outward mark of respect.

We are enclosing herewith copy of the resolution of the Executive Committee.

Very respectfully yours,

Eugene C. Worden

Secretary.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004817

DEC. 31/19

JAPAN SOCIETY
NEW YORK

165 BROADWAY

UNITED STATES
AND
JAPAN

RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, JAPAN SOCIETY,

DECEMBER, 1918.

The members of the Executive Committee of the Japan Society desire to record their deep regret at the death of Major Willard D. Straight, for many years an active member of the Society, and, up to the time the world war broke out, a member of its Executive Committee.

From early associations and natural instincts, he became strongly interested in the peoples and problems of China and Japan and exceptionally imbued with a sense of the importance of those peoples in world relations. He had a far reaching vision of the Far East at a time when future possibilities were in general but dimly perceived. Supplementing zeal with earnest study, he acquired a knowledge of language and traditions and financial conditions in the two countries which was to give him in our own country prominence as an authority and as a valued adviser of large financial interests. Yet his range of thought and sympathy was never limited to particular regions, but embraced the world of trade and finance everywhere.

Together with the strong characteristics developed and exhibited in business and diplomacy, he was endowed with refined and appreciative tastes, with special love of books and art, heightened by the possession and development in the latter field of a marked personal talent.

His individual attractiveness brought him into relations with the members of this Committee, as with others, which have left with them an agreeable and permanent impress on which it is now a pleasure to dwell.

Upon his Country's call in the great emergency, which has now happily ended in triumph, he entered its military service, attaining a rank that implied early recognition of the value of his contribution to the cause, and in this service, and with many fruitful years apparently in prospect, he has laid down a life the usefulness of which can scarcely be computed, and with the ending of

DEC. 31/19



which many hopes are buried.

To those nearest to Major Straight in intimate personal relations, the members of this Committee beg to express their deep and reverent sympathy.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004818

[12-31-18]

My dear Dorothy.

I wish I could tell you how much I have thought of you and felt for you during your time of such anxiety and then in your great loss. I know you are one of the kind who will go on through life always with a brave front and a kindness for everyone, but feeling your loss more deeply than most people are capable of doing. The thing Dorothy you can always have with you is the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004819

Knowledge of what a splendid and noble character your husband was. No one could help admiring him and I know how devotedly his friends loved him. These few lines tell you very inadequately how deeply I feel for you. I wish there was something I could do for you but I know there is not a thing. With love and heartfelt sympathy, from

Yours Affectionately
Betty Thomson

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004820

have conquered, which is the one achievement open to every one, and is the tribute to him which he would care for most.

With deepest love from
Harriet Aldrich
Lily Lee Cross.
Louise K. Hollister
Mabel Coleman
Sally Wright.
Priscilla Cuckincloss
Gertrude E. Whitney

1918

Thursday

383 PARK AVENUE

Dear Dorothy

Though absent, there is no one more present with us today than you, and we feel we want to try and tell you of our sympathy.

The example of your courage has been the greatest inspiration to all of us, and it should help us all our lives. By your spirit you

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004821

[Dec. 1918]

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL
WASHINGTON

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

While fearful of such a result, I was still unprepared for the great shock which came to me from Willard's taking off, news of which reached me only last night. In common with Willard's hosts of friends, I mourn with you at his going. Filled with a real genius with which God had endowed him, he had a life fuller of high promise than any other young man of whom I know. His going is a real loss to the whole country.

I need not tell you he died in a great and noble cause. It was characteristic of him, that while he might have remained at home at his work, he chose to go where he felt his country needed him most, at whatever personal sacrifice or danger. He thus leaves for his children that priceless heritage which only heroes can bestow.

God give you in these things, peace and comfort and bestow upon you the spirit of consolation and resignation, in which prayer Mrs. Clark fully joins.

Faithfully J. Reuben Clark

[Dec. 1918]

4, WEST FIFTY-EIGHTH STREET

Dear Dorothy.

Please accept my most heartfelt sympathy. I feel so badly that you & all people should have this overwhelming sorrow and sincerely pray that the loving sympathy of your devoted friends can be a little consolation.

It would make me happier than I can tell you if you would give me the privilege of helping you or relieving you in any

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004822

of your millions of activities.
It would be such a joy
to feel I was helping you
who are such an inspiration.
I have just come back
from the country full
of health and am not
tied down in any way -
doing nothing. Wont you
give me the satisfaction
of really helping either
in Junior League affairs
or otherwise?

With deepest regard and
affection and a heart full
of sympathy, dear Dorothy.
I am, Sincerely yours

Mary C. Alexander

n.d.

55 WEST FORTY-EIGHTH STREET

Dear Dorothy.

We leave for the south
tomorrow. I am sorry not to
have seen you, but I have
been laid up with a bad
cold in the country.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004823

you are in my thoughts
so often, and I hate to
think of you sad lonely writer.
If all people you deserve
happiness, and it makes my
heart ache. yours
Monday. D Tory.

Oh, my dear. there is so
little we can say, only
pray that God may
just give you and give
you that certainty of
being with him again
which alone makes living
possible.
He will be so terribly
missed, his charm and
brilliance and the sense
one always has with
him of life's being a great
adventure, of the world's

[Dec. 1918]
4 Stuffen Court.
152 East 36th Street

Dear Dorothy.
You have been in my
mind every moment of the
past days. I know so well
the suspense of this hideous
disease — It must have been
almost unendurable for
you, but not until the fin-
ishes is one does one realize
the comfort even a ray of
hope has given, in the
blackness of loneliness.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004824

being a wonderful wise place, - ivory, and apes & peacocks, sandalwood, cedarwood, & sweet white wine." India House is full of that Spirit of this, your own House is full of it. Most of us live Holiday enough in one place but he was a citizen of the world, China, India, - he felt all their savors & made us all aware of the variety of life every moment one was with him. Now you must want to hold that boyish, eager awareness for his Children.

His loss to the nation is incalculable. But I know there is a lovely pattern being woven of all our living and suffering, that the Complete is very real, that the Peace of God does come. Now I wish I could tell you all the love & sympathy I feel for you.

Katharine Crocker

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004825

along with him. He served his country with his whole heart.
He loved his country and wished it to command the respect of the world. With his ability to point the way, his enthusiasm and wholehearted ness would have been a powerful influence in the right direction in the difficult days the country must go through. He was the finest, most ~~outstanding~~ [upstanding] loyable man in the world.

His big soul was enmeshed by worldliness. God seems to transplant such souls too early.
We cannot understand it - and ought to His wisdom.
Willard was a great friend lost to me.
Yours devotedly
[Joseph Grace]

n.d.

c/o Parker

TELEPHONE
MANHASSET 375

TULLAROAN
MANHASSET
LONG ISLAND

Dear Mrs Straight
Our hearts go out to you in your sad bereavement. Willard stood alone amongst men for his loyalty his unselfishness and his inspiration. For those who knew him the real things he had accomplished were a mere incident to the desire of the heart he had in him for doing good for the world. He had a world birth of view a broadness which carried men

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004826

[Dec. 1918]

All my affection and sympathy go out to you, dear Dorothy. Words are so inadequate and poor at such a time, and the loss of a life so usefull, so brilliant, so splendid, can only seem to us cruel and mysterious.

My heart aches for you when I think of the loneliness and misery you are passing through. I know how devoted and happy you were, and that brings a sort of answer to such suffering. I have always felt that Meredith

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004827

was right when he said "A life gone from right and hearing to not, if it was loved, a life lost."

I pray for you that you may have the strength of soul to carry you through these days.

Your friend,

Pentelli Peennyngh.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004828

THE GROLIER CLUB
47 East Sixtieth Street

The members of the Council of The Grolier Club recently learned with regret of the death of the late

Major Millard D. Haight

who had been a member of the Club since 1913, and they desire to extend their sympathy to his family in their time of sorrow

Walter Gilles
Secretary

THE GROLIER CLUB
47 East Sixtieth Street

The president and members of the Council of The Grolier Club learned some time since of the death of the late

Major Millard D. Haight

who had been a member of the Club for several years and they desire to extend their sympathy to his family.

Walter Gilles
Secretary.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004829

Gladstone's Prayer

Mrs Willard Straight

from Helen S. James

Gladstone's Prayer for a Loved One.

" God grant that his life may unfold itself in Thy sight and find sweet employment in the spacious fields of eternity.

Tell him, O gracious Lord, if it may be, how much I love him and miss him and long to see him again, and if there be ways in which he may come, vouchsafe him to me as a guide and guard, and grant me a sense of his nearness in such degree as Thy laws permit. "

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004830

[Dec. 1918] 16 West 10 Street
New York—

Dear Dorothy.-

That this great grief should come to you makes one feel more than ever how little we understand the workings of Providence. That all your sacrifices should end in this greatest of all, makes one heart ache for you beyond words— We are all

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004831

thinking of you with the deepest sympathy and longing to be able to lighten your burden as much as possible – You have done so much for each and everyone of us!

I am so sorry, dear, and I know so well that nothing will help – and also I am dumb before your wonderful courage and selflessness –

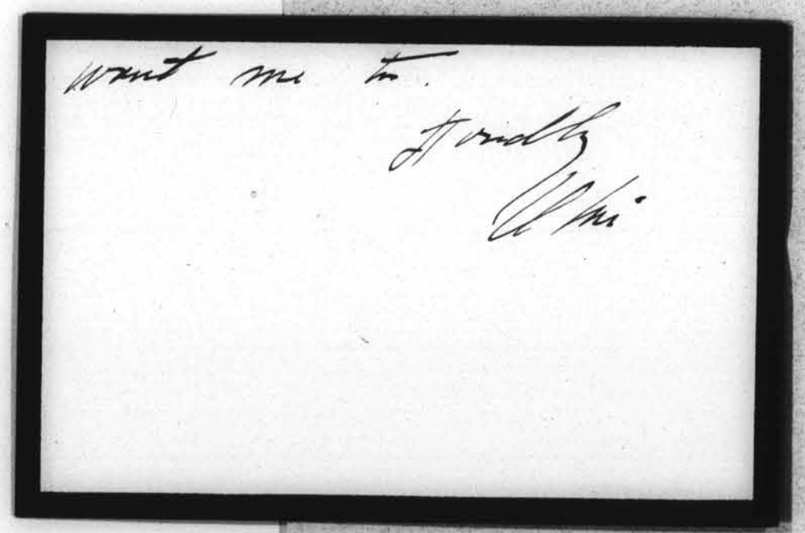
Yours sincerely
Madeline Wilburn

25 Riverside Drive

Dorothy Dear –

I am thinking of you very much & would love to see you and help you if you

[Dec. 1918]


want me to.

Friday

Ellis

**972 FIFTH AVENUE**

Dear Dear Dorothy, my
heart aches so for you - it
ache seems so hopelessly wrong
& cruel to have Grim
Taken & so many worthless
men left. Words arent
any use, I know, the only
thing you can do is be
game as he was & glad

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004833

of the wonderful life & happiness you've had that nothing can take away - Always I'm yours

Most loving Helen

and longing to help —

Yours very sincerely

Elsie Porter.

119 EAST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET

Dear Mrs Straight

I cannot help writing you just a line to tell you how much always and I have thought of you in this great sorrow. Please accept our deepest sympathy

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004834

1918

AMERICAN RED CROSS
(CROIX-ROUGE AMÉRICAINE)

Dear Dorothy,

All through Willard's illness, Aunt Lucy and I felt sure he could not die; he was so fine and strong in every way, and you were so happy together that it seemed too cruel that anything should keep you apart. I had seen Aunt Lucy suffer, and I couldn't bear that you should enter into the same state. But since Willard died, I have gradually come to feel differently. ——— Hardly a day passes when we don't talk of you and Willard, and always together. Now, more than ever, we know that you will live on together, together achieving your highest ideals and together looking after your children and your work. So while I feel as sad as ever over your sorrow, I feel less bitterly. I know so will that he will never die so long as you and the children are alive to make what was best in him live. — But, dear Dorothy, it breaks my heart

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004835

to think of how lonely you can't help being so much of the time. I love you so much, you mean so much to me, and I wanted you to happy in the simplest, most natural ways. That seems to be the most difficult kind of happiness to have. ———

Devotedly yours,

Polly Root.

14 rue de Marignan.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004836

1918-19?

1155 Park Ave

My dear Mrs Straight

I am leaving
this for you — just as
the chance I ch — meaning
some thing typ. The
High Church teachings
have been unspeakable
Comfort — to me since
the death of my

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004837

[1918]

148 East 38th St.

My dear Mrs Straight—

I just want you to know how dreadfully another Junior League girl feels on hearing of your husbands death. You can never fully

just what Child I was the just Christmas after her death, when I found it impossible to hang up greens & sat down & Cried instead that I found my way into a church & fortunately a Clergyman who was able to help & Comfort me. This last year what Elihu has

Dear Mrs Straight
I'll write you Margaret a
just try to tell
I am
Sincerely
Alice D. Root

[Mrs Elihu Root jr.]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004838

realize Mrs Straight what a perfectly wonderful inspiration you have been to all of us during this war-time and we have come to so love and admire you that the news of your great sorrow has much affected us also.

With heartfelt sympathy
Most sincerely
Barbara Shedd.

[Dec. 1918]

RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL,
MADISON AVENUE & FORTY SIXTH STREET,
NEW YORK.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS,
"RIZCARLTON"

UNDER THE DIRECTION & MANAGEMENT OF:-
THE CARLTON AND RITZ HOTELS, LONDON.

Dear Mrs Straight.

I am sending you a little something to eat with your "tea" my sister in law made it herself and she is some "Jam maker"

I would have written sooner but I simply could not find words to express my feelings! you know how I worshipped Mr. Straight. Please ask me if I can do anything and accept my deepest sympathy

Yours Sincerely Sorrowfully
Max Williams

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004839

[Dec. 1918]

14 East Sixty-second Street

Dear Dorothy —

You have been in my thoughts so much during this last week, and I have wanted to write to you — but words do so make just a tiny bit what they mean — so all I am going to say is that my

[Dec. 1918]

14 East Sixty-second Street

heart aches for you and wish I could do something or say something to be of some comfort — I write much love

Lovingly Sabra

Give Jerrold but am flat in bed —

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004840

[1918]

Dearest Dorothy:-

I have the feeling that for Willard have been days close today - and that so it will continue.

You know that all the love in my heart is with you with all the other loves of all your friends - I am not giving up for a day or two because I think

"Woodsere"
Castlewood - Va

My dear Mrs. Straight -

Upon receiving for a second time news of the death of your husband -- and I want to extend to you my heartfelt sympathy. My husband - Sgt. Thos. John E. Woodward

were with the Surgeon unit & the Second & your Rich Mrs. under your husband -- and Mr. Woodward had written me such splendid things of Maj. Straight - & just wanted to know -

Cordially
Anna D Woodward

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004841

perhaps you would rather have it
that way, but I shall be
here waiting if there is anything
else I can do.

You are the bravest & the
most wonderful friends I have

Your loving
Natalie -

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004842

END

of film

Please Rewind

MICROFILM by PHOTO SCIENCE
of CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK
14850
1974

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004843