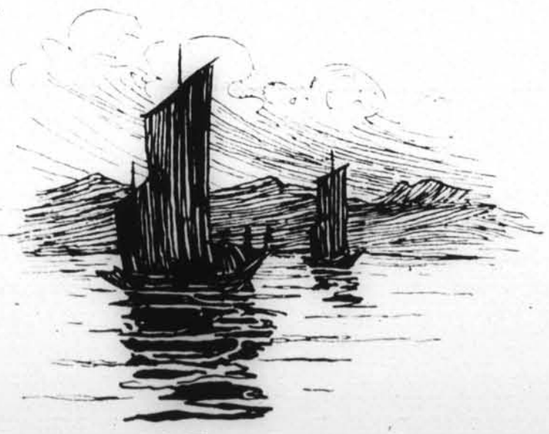
The Willard Straight Papers

at

Cornell University



Reel Number

8

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004843

Reel 8 1919 - 1923

A number of letters in 1919 suggest the form Mrs. Straight's announced gift to Cornell University might take. On January first an Ithacan proposed "a splendid building dedicated to the memory of Major Straight and thoroughly equipped for the enjoyable employment of the leisure time of all Cornell students." Jeremiah W. Jenks suggested founding a chair at the university in Far Eastern studies, Neil Gray and Jacob Gould Schurman discussed scholarships, and Olaf M. Brauner, on the last of October, suggested fellowships, an art gallery, or a college of fine arts.

Letters from Jo Davidson in the fall of 1919 discuss a plan to beautify the cemetery at Suresnes, but the project was later abandoned for lack of official approval.(1.) An undated critique of an article written about Straight by J. O. P. Bland(2.) is filmed at the end of 1919, along with another recollection by an Oswego friend. Many letters enclose contributions to a proposed memorial volume. An E. V. Morgan letter of 7 April 1920 encloses his memoir and another by Maurice Casenave, and he refers to copies of Straight's letters he had had typed, with certain deletions. A

1. Photographs of models of Davidson's sculpture and cemetery plans are among the Willard Straight Papers.
2. Bland's article is filmed with other memoirs on a manuscript reel.

letter dated April thirteenth was written by a medium, and enclosed messages believed to have come from Willard Straight.(3.) A letter enclosed under the date of 14 May 1920 lists Straight's dispatches to the State Department that might contain biographical material. Letters in early 1921 concern a showing of Straight's drawings and paintings in March, and there are a few notes from William Gibbs McAdoo and James E. Fraser in regard to a statue to Alexander Hamilton that Mrs. Straight had commissioned. The figure was placed outside the United States Treasury in Washington anonymously, though two letters from Arthur H. Vandenberg in July urged that Mrs. Straight be identified as the donor.

A letter from China on 22 November 1921 and another in January comment on changes in Peking since 1912. The Willard Straight Post of the American Legion issued a statement on 21 September 1921 opposing preferential treatment of veterans in the New York State Civil Service. Early in 1922 the Post sought essays on its members' war experiences as advice to young men in the future. Some of these essays are filed at the end of 1922. Many writers in 1922 respond to the announced plan to erect

3. Copies of many of these messages are preserved in the Papers.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004843

Willard Straight Hall, a student union building, at Cornell. Livingston Farrand, president of the university, wrote on 5 July 1922 to discuss plans for the use and management of the building.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004843

REEL 8

Segment 1

January-May 1919

Segment 2

June-December 1919

Segment 3

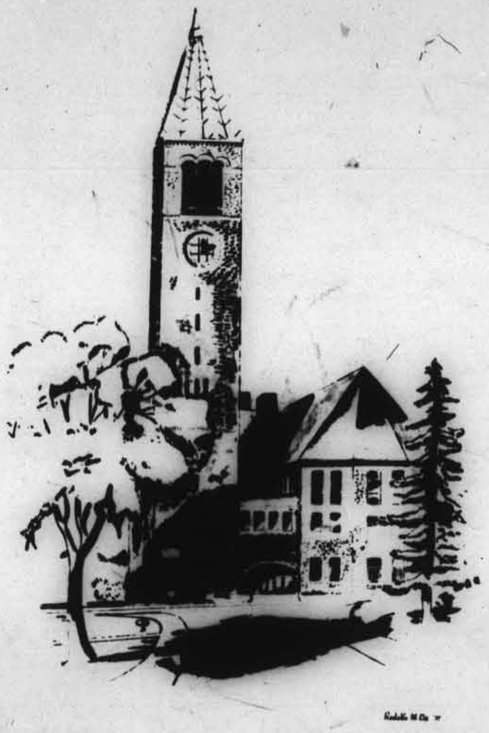
1920

Segment 4

1921-1923

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004843



START

MICROFILM by PHOTO SCIENCE
of CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK
14850
1973

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004843

[1-1-193

2101 R STREET
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dear Dorothy -

I have thought of you so often in your great sorrow, and now with a New Year starting it must be very lonely and sad for you - But you are such a wonderful person that one could not imagine you as giving in - and just to have the things said about you that one hears on all sides, would make it worth while to go on -

With love and very real sympathy -

Affectionately

Lila V. Field

New Year

100 EAST SEVENTIETH STREET

Dear Mrs. Straight

I was so sorry not to see you yesterday & especially because you were not well - I have thought of you so much & have felt such deep, deep Sympathy for you & I want to see you

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004844

Office of Chief Engineer
A.E.F. A.P.O. 717
Tours, Jan 1, 1919.

Dear Mrs Straight:

A letter which I tried to write to you some weeks ago did not get finished. It seemed impossible to find any words that would do any good. I knew that Mrs Harriman had told you better than I could of all that happened in those last few days. But when she read me the other day a part of the first letter received from you I realized at once that you would be glad to hear from all who were there.

I had had only fleeting glimpses of Willard over here up to the time that he went for duty at French G.H.Q. Just about that time I landed in the hospital in Paris for an operation. He

If it just becomes I cannot help expressing it - I do hope you will soon be all right again or perhaps you will be able to come & see us -

Very sincerely yours,

Mabel Brewster
[Brewster]

January 1st

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004845

was naturally very busy
but that did not pre-
vent his coming to see
me whenever he was
in Paris. He came in
the night before I was
operated upon and spent
several hours with me
and was there the follow-
ing morning early staying
with me up to the time
when I went to the oper-
ating room. Later, when
Col House asked for him
we had a long talk
one afternoon about

the state of the
world which I
shall always remember and when
I was able to sit up
Car was out again, his
often now. Col House
very dear friend
there yet for me. His
friendliness exi
tended to all
this is about
of with Many others,
love in it. His confidence
and friendship were not given
to so many. He made me feel

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004846

helps me on the way.
And the New Year which
begins to day will have
a higher purpose because
of him.

Sincerely yours
Sherwood Cheney.

[Brig. Gen. S. A. Cheney]

[2] [1-1-19]

justified in including
myself among this
chosen company. The
pride that I feel in so
doing is of the sort that
helps me over the rocky
places in the road. It
is a decoration that
I can always wear in
my heart. Hard as it
was to have him go, I
for one do not feel that
I have lost Willard
from my life. He is
still standing by to

FACULTY CLUB
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

January 1 - 1919.

My dear Dorothy Straight.

This is my first letter of the new year, and I have just written the figures 1919 for the first time. I sat up alone last night before the fire to see the old year out and thought of many things — very much of two years ago when you and my beloved Willard took me to your home and heart and saved my useless life. I never have been able to find the words to acknowledge all you did for me in that long illness; no son could have been more devoted to a father than was Willard Straight to me; and somehow one does not thank one's son.

Well, my very dear child, very dear to me, for you made me long so happy and so proud, I felt the first of my New Year thoughts should

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
3004847

go to you. May you be very blessed in your children; I can expect no more devoted "pops" like Willard; but if "Bill" and Mickey are to you what Willard was to you, the sweetness of life is still for you.

Thank you for your Christmas present, which reached me yesterday. It was good of you to think of me. Do not knock yourself to work.

Yours ever affectionately

F. Morse Stephens

"A MILITARY AND SOCIAL NECESSITY"—WOODROW WILSON

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY SERVICE
OF ITHACA

HEADQUARTERS
BOARD OF COMMERCE
PHONE: 648 BELL
122-A ITHACA

"SURROUND THE CAMPS WITH HOSPITALITY"

J. O. STUTSMAN, REPRESENTATIVE
WAR DEPARTMENT COMMISSION ON TRAINING CAMP ACTIVITIES

ITHACA, N. Y. January 1, 1919

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,

New York City,

Dear Mrs. Straight:

Having been engaged in recreational and social work in Ithaca for several months, and dealing with the problems growing out of the prejudices of Ithacans for the life of Cornell students, I understand and appreciate the mental attitude of Major Straight in making provision in his will to "make conditions for Cornell Students more humane".

My conception of the solution would be a splendid building dedicated to the Memory of Major Straight and thoroughly equipped for the enjoyable employment of the leisure time of all Cornell students. It should contain the following activities:

1. Separate rest rooms and comfortable lounging rooms for boys and girls.
2. Music rooms with a variety of instruments and music.
3. Library providing home papers, current magazines and popular literature.
4. Game rooms with pool and billiard tables, bowling allies and other games.
5. Moving pictures, small theatricals and entertainment with music.
6. Letter writing facilities with stationery furnished.
7. Spacious dance hall with every facility for supervision.
8. Lecture room where social and current topics could be discussed and where literary and debating societies could hold meetings.
9. Gymnasia with every facility for contests and physical training.
10. Spacious swimming pools and shower baths.
11. Ample toilets and lavatories.
12. Refreshments sold at cost.

The entire scheme should be worked out on a scientific basis including architectural plans, location, equipment and management and should be such as to draw the student life away from all forms of injurous amusement and to provide so fully for their leisure time that all lonesomeness would be obliterated.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004848

[1-1-19]

The management should be under the direction of an expert recreational engineer and all employees should be selected with a view to their qualifications and fitness for the positions. An endowment properly invested by your trustees would provide for maintenance and upkeep.

If these brief suggestions meet with your approval I should be pleased to hear from you and perhaps at some time in the near future to talk with you in regard to details. As you perhaps know, the War Camp Community Service was formerly known as the Playground and Recreation Association of America, and its representatives are expert in recraational propaganda.

Assuring you of my sincere interest in the plan to behefit the Cornell students and to further the idea of wholesome recreation, I am

Yours respectfully,

J. O. Stutsman —

JAN. 1, 19

Dorothy dearest,

Knowing you will
have seen Helen. She wanted
so much to see you & she could
but doesn't know yet, just
what she planned to do. She
went East the day after
Christmas on account of her
brother's death. He was one
who lived in Oakland. He
had a telegram Christmas
night and she & Marie

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004849

chosen. I thought you would be glad to hear that she had been with him. Her brother had a letter from her, just as she was called to the case, and another Thursday morning day. and she said he was such a wonderful patient and she was so dreadfully anxious because he was so ill. That is all she has heard, but if she has any further word she will let me hear.

I can't tell you Dorothy how much Irwin Willard - I don't realize how much I had depended on him in my thoughts. Of course he had always been my ideal of what a man should be ever since the night he first came to Irving Place, after the Harvard Yale Game, when all the others had been celebrating just a little bit too much, and took charge of things, especially George, and was like a big sweet, modern Viking -

I said that I don't know who to turn to about Roderick's education and his future. I had been

JAN 1, 1917 I.C.

hoping ever since Ted went out of my life, that when the time came for important decisions for the boy, that I could talk things over with Willard. And I counted too on his being a friend to Roderick. Since me I know he would form up to academic & brotherly ups & downs as a boy needs to do.

I don't know anyone whom I would want Roderick to be like as much as Willard. He was so big, and democratic, and broad minded

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004850

and yet so sweet and un-
selfish & thoughtful. Do
you remember that time
of our Wedding Anniversary
at Oakland, when the
extra maid didn't come &
Willard went off all on
his own hook & made all
the beds?

It seems selfish to even think
of any one need of hers, when
there are so many, many
places, which he is going back
left empty. The world needs
him so much. How few, how
pitifully few men there are

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004851

When we could have with the Dunlaps and never needed for them big decisions. And Willard had all them and it is hard to understand why he wasn't allowed to stay and help. Of course I can see he is helping, actively, and perhaps in even bigger ways. But still it is hard to see why the inspiration of his presence of his spirit and character, and unselfish devotion to the work he had undertaken, should have been taken away just when they needed it so much. And yet after all he had lived so fully his life, that this his memory all these qualities will live and perpetuate themselves in other men's lives. And perhaps the very fact that he cannot now be able to carry all his plans to fulfillment will be an incentive to those who knew him & followed him to pick up his standard and carry on with even more courage & determination.

My Dorothy dear, I don't know whether I've told you all this or not. Even if I have just now thinking

[JAN 1 1919]

about it & how near it comes to me that can not I am afraid bring you any strength.

But you send me just a little line, through some one who will write me soon. My heart is so near you Dorothy dear.

Elmyra [Swift]

Your dear dog.

P.S. I have sent my letter & little Christmas package to Bethany. Thinking you will have them about the time you receive (over)

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004852

P. S. I took the liberty of writing directly to Mr. Auer in behalf of our young enthusiastic friend William Austin, if you should have the opportunity to speak a word in his behalf it should be appreciated. E. H. S.

I simply cannot reconcile myself to it. And as for Billy he is very deeply grieved. They were really dear friends and companions, as well as their mutual military

1-1-17

Dear Mrs Straight-

I was grieved to the heart to learn of the loss of our really dear friend that I was not even able to bid Godspeed. Knowing how

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004853

admiration for each other.
I have thought of you constantly and wished I could be with you. Or to have you at this time. Such has been what a comfort your love & children must be to you - and what a heritage they have in the deeds and accomplishments of their splendid and patriotic father - Sir offer Jane Marjorie Dwight

2025 Hillyer Pl. Washington, D.C.

[1-1-19]

Willard Straight.
A Tribute -
from the Poets.

"Surely the Saints of old visibly came
To welcome you, that day in lovely France!
Michael, a living blade of crystal flame,
And all the flower of heavenly Chivalry,
Smiling upon you, calling you by name.

Leaving your body like a broken sword,
You went with them: and now beyond our sight
In the great ranks of God you live and fight,
For death to you was one more victory."

— — —

"His plans and self forgotten
When the great summons came,
He loved the soldier's purpose
More than the soldier's fame."

— — —

"To him who died for liberty,
And did not die in vain!
— He counted light the cost that gave
The world eternal gain."

— — —

"We can be happy in our sorrow, happy even in his death, for he died nobly. Such as he help to make plain God's own plan, not yet unsealed, and bring it near.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004854

[1-1-19]

"In alien earth, across a troubled sea
His body lies that was so strong and young,
His arm is still that struck to make men free.
— But let no cloud of lamentation be,
Where, on a warrior's grave, his sword is hung.
We'll keep the vision of his chivalry."

"The earth is richer that he lived,
And Heaven that he died."

"In the grand silence of the peace, so dearly won, he sleeps the warrior's sleep. He will not come to us again.

We, who will clasp our beloveds' hands once more, shrink at the thought of those whose loved return not. It is a natural impulse, but we are wrong.

They feel the loneliness, but they have the glory of those who carried forward the banners of a just cause. They share the triumph of that army of the dead, whose firmness of will, strength of purpose, and fearlessness of death, are celebrate in this tremendous hour.

Forever living, incapable of death, are the noble men who lie where freedom for the world was won. And joyful,

" with a sacred joy, may be those whose offering was beyond earthly measure, the Mothers and Wives whose treasures return not.

The God of Battles is also the God of Compassion. They need not the pity of men and women. They, too, wear the Victors crown."

Jan. 1st [1919] 1918.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004855

AGENCE FINANCIÈRE
DU
GOUVERNEMENT FRANÇAIS
AUX ETATS-UNIS

NEW YORK, LE 3 Janv 1919

Chère Madame,

Ma Mère m'envoie pour vous cette lettre que je m'empresse de vous transmettre en vous renouvelant encore une fois l'assurance d'une pensée fidèle, et de toute ma profonde et respectueuse sympathie.

Frederic Stock

Jan. 2. 1919

Dear friend

Ever since Mr. Straight left you I have felt I must tell you how deeply I feel for you. You have so many close friends who love you that I have waited for a while before writing you but

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004856

I do want you to know that
I sorrow with you.

Sincerely yours.

Florence McStowell

123 East 78th Street

COGGESHALL & HICKS

MURRAY H. COGGESHALL
DE FOREST HICKS
IMLAY BENET
DOUGLAS KENT
MEMBER NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

HENRY F. TAYLOR, SPECIAL

128 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

BRANCH OFFICE
203 WEST 79TH STREET

CABLE ADDRESS
COGHICKS, NEW YORK

January 3, 1919.

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

Dear Mrs. Straight:-

I have just received a letter from my friend, Colonel Harry Howland, asking me to send forward the enclosed letter and card to you.

I lunched yesterday with one of my very old friends, Mr. Burt Boyden, formerly Managing Editor of the American Magazine, who knew Mr. Straight very well. Mr. Boyden has been in France for over a year, only just returning. He had a long talk with Mr. Straight the day he was taken sick, and should you care to see Mr. Boyden, I know that he would be only too happy to tell you anything he could.

Although I did not have the pleasure of knowing your husband well, my association, being only an occasional one some years ago in connection with the Serbian Relief Committee, of which he and I were on the Finance Committee, I have always had a very great admiration for him and had hoped that some day I might know him better. Every man I know who knew him feels that the world has lost a very fine citizen.

Yours very sincerely,

Murray H. Coggeshall

MHC-C

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004857

January 3rd, 1918 [1919]
Remried, Germany
Hdqrs. 2nd. Division

Dear Dorothy:

You have been a great deal in my thoughts since Kermit told me on Christmas Day of Willard's death. I was shocked, as I had heard nothing of this illness, and my heart went out to you in your great sorrow. It was a comfort to me, and I know must have been to you, to have had Ethel with you during those sad days. I have always felt that you and Willard and Ethel and I had been so close during the biggest moments of our four lives, that I am very glad that at least Ethel could have been with you at a time when you so needed all the love and support that a friend can give. And I hope that I was able from this great distance to make you feel mine.

I have heard of Willard so often during the past months, and always so highly spoken of, as to his ability and the enthusiasm which he threw into his work, that you must feel that he was serving this country in the very most useful capacity of which he was capable. When I saw him last in June, he was just as contented and happy with what he was doing, as was I, and I can vouch for my own peace

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004858

of mind. His strength and usefulness lay in his executive capacity, and he was exerting it. I know that we have all felt at times that our jobs were embusque, and that we should be commanding battalions. Perhaps if Willard and I had both been younger, when this war came upon us, that our proper places would have been in direct command of men. I believe that the men that have come out of this war the happiest, have been those who did the actual fighting.

I hope that you will always feel that you can call on me for the help that a mere man can give. I think you know how much both Ethel and I love and admire you, and how much closer we necessarily feel our friendship to you to be through your sorrow.

My love to the children, dear Dorothy, and a great deal to yourself.

Affectionately yours
Richard Derby

Capt. James H. Webb
311th F. A.
A.E.F.

Jan 3rd
1919.

My Dear Dorothy,-

I felt terribly when I heard about Willard, and at first could hardly believe it was true. - You have my very deepest and sincerest sympathy, although I realize that does little good at such a time.

Willard certainly made many friends and everyone was fond of him. I shall miss him, along with many others, when we get back to our old life.

It must at least be a great satisfaction to you to know how highly he was thought of and respected by everyone. He certainly did everything that any

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004859

2/ man can do for his country and everyone knows it. His work should be a great example to many other young men to make the best of their opportunities & of life.—

At present I am in a dirty little French town Cirey-en-Marsillen- near Audelot, NW of Chaumont-, where we have been for a month- At least the Regt. is in all the various villages about here - just nobody in this town. I was away luckily for three weeks taking a convoy of 240 mules & 110 horses over the road (we had 100 men) 390 kilos up into Germany for delivery to the (third) Army of Occupation. We move up to billets near Verdun next week to join the rest of the Div. which we have not seen since our arrival in France in July (it does seem nearly 6 months now. seem 6 years!)

3/ They saw a lot of heavy fighting - that is the Infantry, but the Artillery Brigades never got in, as well as many others - We finished training Oct 17th & then sat & waited, but they had enough Artillery & just marched doughboys- It was a great disappointment to all - a year & a half of hard training & studying & then not a chance at the beasts! We had two of fun in the Range for 2 minutes however & a lot of fizzy. We are a 75 Regt. & they are great guns.

I hope I have not bored you with all this at such a time but thought news of your old friends might interest you.

Home now is uppermost in the thoughts of all but we know nothing & we are 2nd army, held in Reserve & the Army of Occupation & may have to stay a long time.

I wish I could do something to help you in your sorrow. Sincerely Walter Webb

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004860

1919

Chatelon

January 4th

Dear Dorothy:

I want to send you my love - most deep - tender sympathy. Before your grief we can only bow our head in reverence & pity, - yet with a sense of the solemn pride that must be yours in the midst of your suffering. I shall never forget those days in Paris when so many of your friends were united in anxiety, & longing to be

Jan 4 1919

Dear Mrs Straight:-

Hearing that you were ill I did not write & remind you of the little share of the Christmas gift to Mr Hinsch for his services to the Music League - I advanced your share of $333.00 so that he might have the full $1000. from the three lady guarantors

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004861

able to help in some way.
Please do not think of
answering this - it is only to
let you know that I think of
you often with so much
admiration & sympathy.

Affectionately yours
Ruth Draper.

Do work better about this
detail until you feel
quite strong and well
again - it did not break
my heart
but myriad duties and
thoughts fill your mind.
Could some one day
when you feel entirely
reconciled and sit quiet
for a little quiet time
late some afternoon ?

The old year with its tragedies
and chaos has gone - a new
era dawns, we mortals have
been shown terrible signs in
the heavens by which to guide our
lives. may the power of your
great courage enable you to
continue unshaken in the fight
and may the New Year bring you
new Visions and new faith.

Malvina Hoffman.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004862

Jan 4th
1917.

ONE, EAST SIXTY-NINTH STREET

Dear Dorothy -

During these long
weary weeks since
Willard died you
have been so
much in my heart &
thoughts & I have
often wished to
write to you -
& all his friends
& yours. Perhaps
Mary & I knew
him best & best
appreciated his
loveableness & his
ability. You made
him so happy &
so satisfied. Him
& his life was
so full of real
service & promising
possibilities that
we could not help
but be much of him

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004863

but I daresay I kept my
sincere interest in him
& my appreciation of his
merits & powers —
dear Dorothy remember
always I would be
glad to comfort & help you
if possible — & let me
go & you as his friend
as mine — as yours —
Quiet moments we have
in this rushing city &
little must the real be one
another — Mrs McClelland-
tell my sympathy &
Mother sending love
always with you
& Whether we meet
or not, remember I am
thinking of you & Willard
as inseparable in my loving
dreams & in my work &
sympathy Robert W. Herrick

Dryon N.C.
Jan. 4-1919

Dear Mrs. Straight:-

The Henry Adams book has just come forwarded from Florida where I have not been this winter.

You cannot know with what emotion I received it.

You are a lovely soul, dear Mrs. Straight, and the life that you are taking hold of so bravely and so beautifully will grow richer and sweeter and more worth while with the passing of the years.

I have lived through about everything, and as I

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004864

dread near the end of the long journey I can look back and see that the bitterest trials of life had their essential value and were necessary in weaving the wonderful spiritual tapestry that represents the life of each human being. Every shadow has its value in the beauty of the finished work.

As to the Henry Adams, it was the one book that I happened to want most and that did not come.

Sincerely yours
Margaretha Morley

I tell you these things as it may comfort you to know what kind of a woman she is. I hope she will return soon to this country & am sure there will be plenty of work for her. You need not return this letter & I hope will understand my sending it to you. My daughter Alice K. Lawrence is one of the Junior League girls. Believe me,

Jan 4th 1919

Very Sincerely
Alice Jerome Lawrence.
(Mrs Benj. B. Lawrence)

170 WEST FIFTY-NINTH STREET

My dear Mrs Straight

I venture to send you the enclosed letter which I received yesterday. I feel you would be glad to know something of this Miss Stacy. She is an unusually fine nurse & such a good woman in every way, & gives her heart as well as her skill to her patients. She has with a friend of ours Fredrick S. Young, four several years & his friends Alice speak of her patient & devoted care.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004865

[encl. 1-4-19]

HÔTEL DE CRILLON
PARIS

PLACE DE LA CONCORDE

Dec 3 1918

Dear Mrs. Lawrence

I am sending this now so I can wish you all a Merry Christmas

I am quite busy, having reached Paris from up north on Nov. 10th just in time to be here for the Armistice Celebrations.

Paris did nothing all that week but celebrate.

The next week I was detailed to this hotel to nurse a Major Willard Straight of N.Y. who had "flu" he developed a double pneumonia and died Sunday. Today we had a Military Funeral and Bishop Brent read a prayer. It was so sad—

Mrs Straight cabled she wanted him buried with the soldiers so he is being buried in the American Cemetary in Paris

He was such a clever man had been attached to Marshal Foches Staff and later transferred to Paris to the Peace Mission

This hotel has been taken over by the War Dept. for the Peace mission and all others have had to vacate.

Paris will hardly be over the effects of King George's visit— when the Belgian King & Queen will arrive and after that— Mr. Wilson — Then the Kings of Italy & all the other little countries will send their

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004866

rulers - and so it goes.
Our american soldiers are getting back but I suppose it will be 6 or 8 months before all who are to go will be home.
I have had a great experience would not have missed it for anything but now the war is over I am wondering what I shall do when I return. I must work at once.
The Red Cross has not (or had not up to Nov. 7th) paid my allotment which I made to my brother to pay my loans - but he has attended to it for me.
Your sweater saved the life of Col. Lincoln whom I nursed for 5 wks up in Hericourt in an empty Chateau. the had pneumonia + I did all the cooking etc., on a log fire in his bedroom - Absolutely no heat in the ~~room~~ house except the open grate. He is well now and down at Nice - He missed the last fight - by getting sick
There is nothing to write about but war and I suppose you are sick of it all.
I saw British prisoners released from Germany who could scarcely walk + were so dirty their skin looked like elephant's hide. They had to

[1-4-19]

4

be soaked with oil before the dirt would come off. and starved and sick they had walked for miles till they met some american soldiers who looked out for them.
It is not to be wondered at that the British cry for the Kaiser to be punished and the Americans seem so indifferent at least so one gathers from the papers. I think Holland should be made to deliver up the whole nest of criminals that she is now sheltering
I would so love to hear from you but know you are busy always doing something for someone. but some rainy day perhaps you will send me a note
With sincere regards to you all

Yours.
Mary E. Stacey
american Red Cross
Hotel Regina
Paris

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004867

THE FIRST NATIONAL CORPORATION
BOSTON, U. S. A.

D. A. de MENOCAL
VICE PRESIDENT

4th January '19

My dear Dorothy:

I am leaving for Australia on the 20th of this month where I shall remain for a few weeks. If there is any means of returning by way of China, which there is every reason to believe is the case, I shall visit Peking en route. As you & Willard have certain property there, including the house on the Wong-Fu-Ching-Da-Chieh, it occurred to me that perhaps I may be able to be of some service to you at this time in connection with your Peking interests. If there is anything that you wish personally attended to, any investigation made of conditions, or other matters I hope that you will let me know when I shall be glad to be guided by any letter which you may write or I can call

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004868

[1-4-19 PM]

ALFRED D. WARNER, JR.
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

Dear Mrs. Straight, —

For several weeks past I have wanted to write my sincere regret on learning of Willard's death; both Mrs. Warner and I were much saddened on hearing of your bereavement.

Deferring this expression of sympathy has been due to my desire to ask a favor. Ever since Willard entered the Service I had intended writing him for a photograph, but lacking his foreign address I never got around to doing so. Having been associated with him intimately for three years at Cornell, and having met him on various occasions since graduation, my earlier fraternal liking had grown into a deep affection and respect. For this reason I have wanted a more recent likeness of him.

You have many close friends whom you can command during this hour of sorrow, but if there remains any service possible for me to render I will deem it a privilege to be called upon. Sincerely yours.

Alfred D. Warner

at your home when I am in New York. But if there is nothing that you desire me to do for you in Peking or China please do not bother to answer this note.

With best wishes from us both for the New Year to you & the children

Yours sincerely

A. D. Warner

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004869

Saturday.
January 4th.

511 GRAND AVENUE
ST. PAUL, MINN

My dear Mrs Straight

In answer ~~to~~ your request for a complete list of Junior League (St. Paul) girls who have gone overseas in ~~the~~ service of ~~the~~ Y. M. C. A, I am ashamed ~~to~~ have ~~to~~ report ~~that~~ our list is very limited; in fact it contains one, solitary name Helen Locke.

She left St. Paul about ten days ago - ~~expecting~~ ~~to~~ sail shortly. She was looking forward, to

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004870

representative.

I hope you will not think me forward, if I express to you my sympathy in the great lock which you have just sustained. Though I have not had the pleasure of meeting you, I feel that there is a very real bond between the junior Leagues of the different cities, and our little, young, league looks up to your splendid big one, and admires your leadership of it.

Very sincerely yours
Margaret Wright.

a conference with you - on the subject of being transfered later, from office work to J. L. canteen work. The other two St. Paul members who were planning to go abroad, have of course given up hope under the new ruling.

If you were asking for a list of our members working with the Red Cross or the American Fund for French wounded, we would be able to send a longer list. and make a better showing - though we are very fond of our one Y. W. C. A.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004871

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE
OF MONTREAL

20 Highland Ave.
Jan. 5th 1919.

Dear Mrs. Straight

On behalf of the members of the Montreal League let me tell you how sincerely we all sympathize with you in your great bereavement

It is hard to realize at first that what is our loss, is the highest possible gain for those who have gone You will always have the comfort of the thought that your husband responded so nobly to the call of his country and will always be remembered and honoured amongst the heros who have paid the supreme sacrifice.

[1-5-19] [2]

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE
OF MONTREAL

It seems specially hard on those who have lost just now. When the war is practically over, and all the rejoicings and glad hearts, but I think there is always borne in mind the thought of the gallant ones who will not return.

With our most heartfelt sympathy we add our thanks for the noble sacrifice that has been made on behalf of humanity.

Trusting that the New Year will bring you peace and comfort.

Very Sincerely Yours
Helen G. Savage.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004872

Long Island Col. Hosp.
Brooklyn, N.Y.,
January 6, 1919.

Dear Mrs. Straight: —

I received the December cheque to-day and wish to show my appreciation. I also wish to thank you for that beautiful bath-robe. I owe it many

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004873

my most sincere sympathy.

Hoping you will soon recover I remain

Yours sincerely,
Edith N. Chambers.

hours of comfort already for I wear it as soon as I come off duty.

Mother told me you were ill; I hope you feel better now. I can imagine the terrible shock you were in because as small as I was I remember how my mother felt when father died. Once again I send you

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004874

[1-6-19]

My dear Mrs Straight:-

Feeling that- "Sympathy makes the whole world akin,". I take the privilege of expressing my sincere sympathy to you in the loss of Major Straight.

All of Oswego mourned his death, and owing to your kindness to me, it seems like the death of a personal friend.

In the passing away of Major Straight the world has lost one of its best products - who, a little

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004875

past the golden dawn of life, had all possibilities before him. Hope, wealth, happiness, he gave all for his Country what more can any man give?

He now has passed beyond the curtain, that hides from us the mysteries of the unknown, but to him they are now revealed.

Those who knew him best tell of his nobility of character, his generosity, and that he was always unassuming. This past year with its war, and epidemic has taught us all the uncertainity of life.

Oswego loved Major Straight, and they linger on the name with visible tenderness.

The enclosed clippings are from the Oswego papers, and they express the deep feeling, and love that Oswego held for Major Straight.

Again I extend my heart felt sympathy to you.

Sincerly and gratefully.
Esther McCoy.

#103 East 7th St
Oswego. N.Y.

Jan. 5th - '19

[1-7-19]

134 EAST FORTIETH STREET

My dear Dorothy

My heart has been aching for you all these weeks, but yet I have hesitated to write lest it would be a burden to you to read one more note. But I cannot help

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004876

holding out my hand to you, dear, though there is no way in which I can make you feel my deep and tender sympathy. I have thought so often of the little girl who came to see me after her father's death so many years ago. I wish I had known your

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004877

Jan 6/19

H 17 18 H

My dear Dorothy

They have not yet got the Willard's pictures. Did you get Mrs Carlyle's music. You must not too much try to efface yourself with things & other people's interests. You feel so far away & I don't know what I can do. Mrs Brady took me a most beautiful letter. Willard had such a capacity for friends & shown he was glad interested as they is time. Laura

2

Curtis is here for a few days & we are having a party for her tomorrow night — rather an old fashioned me with all our real friends.

Did you see the President's flat foot out for international understanding? in his Milan speech. I don't agree the workmen have done it all & speak the only American voice although they have contributed a new part to it. Travelers Hotels & literature have been speaking for many years without the sudden dramatic effect of international Congresses of workmen. Nor

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004878

do they speak the voice
of mankind because they
are too few to do. Most
men are farmers, clerks
shop keepers & what not.
But a voice as long unheard
may well speak loudly till it
achieves its proper audience.
One of the ugly things in the
world is people themselves, if
any class go vile, & the only
way to cure that is to get them
born right, & is really a problem.
Education is ever so much helped
the right way by having good
stuff to work upon. I don't
see how a healthy mind
can grow in the bodies born
in many slums & mining
districts from degraded parents.

I didn't mean to philosophize
only to ask how you are.

BO [Miles]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

0048/9

120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

January eighth.

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

I am sending herewith the letter from Rennick, which you stated you would like to read. If you wish to keep it, it will be entirely all right for you to do so, as Rennick has a copy which I can have.

I sincerely hope you are feeling better.

Sincerely yours,
A. W. Fredley

CLAUDE BRAGDON ARCHITECT
104 105 CUTLER BUILDING ROCHESTER N.Y.

Rochester, N. Y., January 8, 1919

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I was sorry to learn that you too had fallen a victim to the prevailing distemper, but more glad to hear that you appear to have escaped the desparate form which it sometimes assumes.

Indeed, and I shall want all the help you can give me on the comments to the letters. They will necessarily be brief, but I am anxious to strike just the right note, and give just the right lead to a proper appreciation of the letters. Im clearing out some more of my old letter files, at New Year's time I came across another of Willard's letters, later in date than the others. This shows very clearly that the artist's attitude toward the East, so pronounced in the early letters, was beginning to give place to constructive thinking about the problems of Oriental finance and diplomacy which ouccupied his mind from that time on--though he never lost the other. I enclose a copy of this letter. You will be particularly interested in what he says about the education of boys--I dont know whether I agreed with him then, but I agree with him now: the natural impulses of healthy masculine youth must not be inhibited, but sublimated.

I received a long letter from Kirk Brice the other day, and in it he describes a dream he had about Willard which interested me so much that I feel sure that it will interest you. He says:

"I want to write you about a vivid dream I had afew days after you had gone home--a dream about Willard Straight.

"I was in a ball-room, in the afternoon, with rows of chairs occupying about half the room, and about fifteen or twenty people standing in small groups in the clear side--apparently a lecture about to begin. Gradually I became aware that I was talking to Willard--talked some time and then also gradually became surprised as I realized that he had died afew weeks before. Finally this astonishment

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004880

CLAUDE BRAGDON ARCHITECT
104 105 CUTLER BUILDING ROCHESTER N.Y

Rochester, N. Y., January 8, 1919

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I was sorry to learn that you too had fallen a victim to the prevailing distemper, but more glad to hear that you appear to have escaped the desparate form which it sometimes assumes.

Indeed, and I shall want all the help you can give me on the comments to the letters. They will necessarily be brief, but I am anxious to strike just the right note, and give just the right lead to a proper appreciation of the letters. In clearing out some more of my old letter files, at New Year's time I came across another of Willard's letters, later in date than the others. This shows very clearly that the artist's attitude toward the East, so pronounced in the early letters, was beginning to give place to constructive thinking about the problems of Oriental finance and diplomacy which ouccupied his mind from that time on--though he never lost the other. I enclose a copy of this letter. You will be particularly interested in what he says about the education of boys--I dont know whether I agreed with him then, but I agree with him now: the natural impulses of healthy masculine youth must not be inhibited, but sublimated.

I received a long letter from Kirk Brice the other day, and in it he describes a dream he had about Willard which interested me so much that I feel sure that it will interest you. He says:

"I want to write you about a vivid dream I had afew days after you had gone home--a dream about Willard Straight.

"I was in a ball-room, in the afternoon, with rows of chairs occupying about half the room, and about fifteen or twenty people standing in small groups in the clear side--apparently a lecture about to begin. Gradually I became aware that I was talking to Willard--talked some time and then also gradually became surprised as I realized that he had died afew weeks before. Finally this astonishment

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004881

and wonder became so strong that I spoke to him, saying: 'Why Willard, I thought you were dead!' He looked at me with a very noble, sweet and sad look, and then fell over and lay at length on the floor. Immediately I felt remorse, felt that I had killed him by saying what I did. A great yearning and affection flooded me, and I knelt down and spoke to him, telling him how sorry I was to have said that, and that I did'nt mean it, and that he must come back. I felt that if I could only love him enough that he would come back. And after a while, I, pouring out all the love that I could, slowly he did come back. I helped him up, and he soon became again very sweet and natural and fine--and just as friendly as he had always been. He said nothing more, but as more and more people kept coming into the room, we separated and began talking to different groups. I kept realizing that many of them were his friends. Of course no one else in the room was at all aware of what had gone on between us. Then I woke up.

"Last night he was in my dream again, but only incidentally, as one of a number, though quite distinct, and the dream went on to a number of phases which did not include him.

"I thought you would be interested to know about the first one, because it was so intensely real, and so comforting, and contained such a fundamental truth."

I shall not attempt to formulate my little essay, until you are able to send me anything that you yourself may find of interest, relating to this general period of Willard's life, for I shall strive for a unity only to be compassed by having all of my material in hand before I really begin. I had written something, but even this one additional letter will compel a different opening.

I consider it in the nature of a privelege and a sacred duty to pay this little tribute to the youth I loved and the man --separated from me in space and by the conditions of our lives---whom I still loved and admired.

Yours very sincerely,

Claude Bragdon

Enclosed 1-8-19

Hotel Crillon, Paris,
December 4th, 1918.

Dear Fiedler:

I am writing you this letter in detail covering all of the events of the last two weeks so that you may tell Mrs. Straight as much as you think she would like to know, and also because I know how much interested you will be.

I saw Major Straight on November 12th as I was passing through Paris on my way to London and had breakfast and a long talk with him. He looked better than I have seen him look for some time. He was trying at that time to have me assigned to him again for work on the Peace Commission, but Colonel Lindsley would not agree to my transfer and the matter was held in abeyance. He told me all the news from you in New York and seemed in excellent spirits. I arrived in Paris on my return from London on November 18th. As I only had a few hours to stay in Paris and as it was in the middle of the afternoon, I did not anticipate seeing him again, but on inquiring at the desk of the Crillon, they told me he had just come in. I met Joe in the hall, who told me that the Major had a little cold and was going to spend the afternoon in his room. I went up to see him and he said he felt all right but he had a cold and thought better not to take any chances. He went to bed that afternoon, and that was the last I saw him. On Thanksgiving morning I heard that he was very low and arranged to get into Paris to stay with him not knowing what friends might be around. I arrived in Paris early Saturday morning and have been here since. I shall have to go back to headquarters tonight, however, but hope to be able to get back to close up everything.

When I arrived I found Mrs. Harriman, Mr. Egan, Mr. Delano and Walter Lippmann were constantly near Major Straight and doing everything possible. He had absolutely the best physicians, both from the Army and the Navy, having had Colonel Richard Strong, whom you remember from the American International, General Thayer, Commander McLane and two others. The nurses, too, were the best that could be found. The Major quickly developed double pneumonia, however, and was unconscious for a number of days and up until he died at 12:45 A. M. December 1st.

The funeral service was at the American church on Tuesday, December 3d. There was a little gathering first at his room in the Crillon and afterwards a military procession was formed which marched down the Champs-Elysees to the American church. The room at the Crillon was beautifully decorated with flowers. I got a very large mat of purple and white violets and put a card reading as follows:

"Major Willard Straight
with deep affection, Your secretaries
Albert Fiedler
Roscoe Kincaid
George Rennick."

There were tremendous bunches of white lilacs from Mrs. Straight, which

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004882

were arranged around his head, and Mrs. Harriman very kindly put the violets near also. We had the casket covered with an American flag and the Major's sword and cap on top. The church was very well filled with a great number of the Major's friends. Among the men who marched from the hotel were Mr. Stettinius, Mr. Hoover, Mr. Delano, Mr. Egan, Colonel Bowditch, General Frank McCoy, General Bjornstadt, Colonel Mott, Captain Ogden Mills, Captain Marshall Field, Captain Lippmann, Colonel Cholmeley-Jones, Colonel Parsons, Mr. Sterling, Captain Dyckman, Major Mack, Mrs. Harriman, myself and a number of others whom I do not recall. James H. Perkins, Grayson Murphy, General Cheney and a great many others called but were unable to go to the funeral due to being ordered away. The church also was beautifully decorated with flowers. There were wreaths from everybody. The Staff of Marshal Foch sent a tremendous wreath; J. P. Morgan sent a wreath; the staff of the New Republic, a bouquet of white roses; the members of the original War Risk Section, a bouquet of roses and lilacs; and there were hundreds of others.

The service was most impressive. Bishop Brent officiated, assisted by Dean Beekman. The Major was buried at the American Cemetery just outside the gates of Paris. He was dressed in his uniform and boots and wore his locket with Mrs. Straight's picture, his wedding ring and his identification bracelet.

The pall bearers were members of the American Guard at Paris, and five men from the original War Risk Section, with Joe and Charles, marched directly behind.

Mrs. Harriman and Mr. Egan asked me to look out for the Major's luggage and for all accounts here. There will be, of course, a great many bills, and, as I cabled you this morning, I have arranged with Mr. Carter that he will pay all bills that I send him O. K.'d. He also advanced to me fifteen hundred (1500) Francs which Mrs. Harriman wanted me to distribute to the people who had worked for Major Straight at the Crillon, five Hundred (500) Francs, of which Mrs. Harriman took to buy remembrances for his three nurses, and two hundred (200) Francs of which I divided between his special military orderly who was assigned to Major Straight and a special Naval hospital man who was assigned. These last two, by name, Private Cronin and Sailor Hicks, were extremely devoted. Hicks stayed up several nights and Mrs. Harriman said he was always most willing and cheerful. I am sure Mrs. Straight would want to do something for all of these people and I have, at Mrs. Harriman's request, distributed money as per the attached statement. I have a copy of this statement with Mrs. Harriman's approval noted.

In addition to this I may have to draw further cash, as I suppose something must be given the Sexton, the Organist and others at the church, but up to date I have not been able to see the Rector of the church to find out. I will let you know about this later.

Major Straight has the following pieces of baggage:

4 Locker Trunks
1 Saddle Box
1 Suit Case
1 Bed Roll
1 Duffle Bag
2 Leather Cases of Books

Underwood Typewriter in Leather Case
Cot in Roll.

In addition to this baggage, there is the Major's little square brief case in which is his key ring and chain, gold pencil, cigar holder, his eye glasses, his gold cigar case and a number of letters from Mrs. Straight and several other things of personal character. This case I gave to Mr. Egan and he will carry it to Mrs. Straight. There is also the Major's sword and a German rifle or two belonging to him which I have so far been unable to pack. In case I can not find a place to pack same, Mr. Dequis will keep them here and send them over to the States later. This will be the best arrangement any way. Right here I can not say too much for the kindness and thoughtfulness of Mr. Dequis. He was completely broken by the Major's death and must have been extremely fond of him. I have made a complete inventory of what each piece contains and inclose herewith a copy. There is also in each trunk a list of its contents. Among Major Straight's papers was a letter written in June, a copy of which I understand Captain Lippmann has forwarded Mrs. Straight, in which he requests Colonel Logan to act as his executor in France. Colonel Logan is in Germany, and furthermore, is ill. Therefore, Mr. Egan telegraphed him requesting that he appoint me his agent to act for him here as regards Major Straight's luggage. As soon as this is received, it is arranged that I will turn over the baggage to Mrs. Harriman and that Mr. Egan will, if possible, take it with him to the States when he goes in a week or so.

Major Straight had a number of boxes of cigars and cans of tobacco on hand. I sent two cans of tobacco and a box of cigars to Bennett at the hospital, I gave one box of cigars to Mr. Dequis, one box of cigars to Mr. Loderhose, who is the man who handled all of Major Straight's affairs at Morgan Harjes & Company, and the balance of the cigars and the tobacco Mrs. Harriman took to divide between the Major's friends such as Colonel Logan, General McCoy and Mr. Egan, Colonel Bowditch and so on.

Joe has been with Major Straight since Bennett was injured and Charles has recently been re-assigned to him. They are both anxious to get back to the States and we will do everything we can to arrange it. Charles is now attached to Mr. Grew of the Peace Mission who would like to keep him for a few months, and Charles says that while he is very anxious to get back to Westbury, he would not mind staying. Mrs. Harriman thinks she can arrange to have Joe assigned as orderly to some officer who is going back very soon. I have just come back from seeing Bennett in the hospital. Physically he is improving daily, but he is absolutely crushed by the Major's death. The Doctor says that it will be unwise to move him for at least two months and that it may be nine months before he will be able to walk. I know that Bennett has a sister in England and asked him if he would like to be transferred from Dr. Blake's Hospital here to a hospital in England at such time as he can be moved. He says that as he feels now he had as soon stay here where he is until he can be moved to the United States. In case I get back to the States soon, I shall try to bring Charles and Joe with me, but I did not suggest this too strongly to either as I felt they would be company for Bennett here, and they are both very comfortably situated.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004883

[12-4-18]

I will keep you advised of everything I do and shall be very careful to see that everything is well taken care of.

With very best wishes,

Yours, George [Rennick]

[1-8-19]

CONTENTS TRUNK NO. 1.

4 Long Drawers
4 Under vests - gray
11 Under vests - white
10 Drawers - White
19 Light brown socks
4 Pajamas
6 Flannel Shirts
8 Light Shirts
14 Towels
31 Handkerchiefs
9 Silk Colored Handkerchiefs
6 Gloves
Leather Collar Box
30 Stocks Ties
1 Leather Stock Case
3 Overseas Caps
2 Pair Wrap Leggins
4 leather frames & pictures

G. H. RENNICK
Captain, A. G.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004884

CONTENTS TRUNK NO. 2.

8 Thin Under Vests
5 Thin Short Drawers
2 Pillow Cases
5 Long Under Drawers
5 Under Vests - Flannel
5 Towels
6 Sheets
1 Pair of White Flannel Trousers
1 Cardigan Jacket
3 ~~0~~ Knit Helmets
3 Flannel Belly Bands
1 Knit Scarf
2 Knit Sweaters
1 Bridge Set
2 Maps
Leather Flask
1 Fur Lined Muffler
2 Flashlights
2 Pillow Cases
5 Gloves
6 Pairs Socks
1 Knit Wristlets
1 Razor Strop
1 White Cap
1 Knit Cap
Sweater
Motor Goggles
Cork Screw
2 Pajamas Trousers
Money Belt
1 Package of Collar Ornaments
6 Flannel Shirts.

G. H. RENNICK
Captain, A. G.

CONTENTS TRUNK NO. 3.

5 Pairs Breeches
4 Tunics
1 Sweater
1 Pair Socks
2 Life Jackets
1 White Flannel Trousers
2 Pairs Pajamas
1 Flannel Shirt
3 Shirts
3 Silk Handkerchiefs
10 Ties
6 Soft White Collars
1 Leather Tie Case
1 Housewife
1 Package of Straps
Lounge Suit
Angora Scarf
Bathing Suit
2 Thermos Bottles
Medicine Case
Cigar Case (large - leather)
Map Case
Water Bottle
Clothes Brush
Sketch Box
Hood for Trench Coat.

G. H. RENNICK,
Captain, A. G.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004885

[1-8-19]

CONTENTS TRUNK NO. 4.

* * * * * * * *

5 Shirts
17 Summer drawers
11 Summer under vests
1 pair gray trousers
1 pair tan trousers
6 pairs socks
1 pair kid gloves
1 roll flannel
3 sheets
2 pairs wrap leggings
1 leather collar box and
8 collars and 1 belt
1 pair field glasses in leather case
1 Thermos bottle
1 Reading glass
Photograph - Mrs. Straight - gilt frame
" children - leather frame
" Mrs. Straight and children -
folding silver frame
Fur lined silk inner lining
Map scaling instrument
Punch and wire cutters in leather case
Paper knife
Small mirror
Spoon in rubber case
Pocket compass
Leather handkerchief case
Razor strop
Package of links for spurs
Package of elastic bands
2 Prints framed
2 Bed sacks
Canvas sheet
Meisette
Tobacco pouch.
12 Flannel shirts
Can water softener.

G. H. RENNICK,
Captain, A. G.

[1-8-19]

CONTENTS OF SADDLE BOX.

Leather bag
2 large leather straps
Belly-band
Surcingle
2 pairs rubbers
Condiment can
Ball twine
1 pair breeches laces
Sword strap
1 pair stirrups
Razor strop
Padlock
Whip
Swagger stick
Crop
2 Pressing cloths
1 holster
2 pairs spurs with straps
4 pairs spurs
1 pair chains
2 pairs straps and shields
Canvas bag
1 pair saddle bags - leather- small
Leather belt
Bridle and reins complete
Hat strap
Hitching strap
2 picket pins
1 pomiard
1 axe in leather case
1 can opener
1 pair hinges
Hasp
Metal towel rack
Rope
"Dotter" target rod
Shell cap
Canvas pail
1 pair house slippers
Mess kit and contents
Straw mat
2 rubber stamps
Hunting knife
Sword carrier
Saddle
4 candles
Ball cord
3 folding coat racks
3 coat racks
1 cane
Pair leather saddle bags - large
Saddle cloth
3 pairs boots
1 pair white ties
1 pair boots & trees
1 pair metal book racks
French bayonet
1 pair pliers in leather case
3 pairs shoes
3 pairs trees
4 pairs slippers
Wrist strap
Pair boot hooks
Pair arch supports
Jockey
Pair insoles
Sam Browne Belt
Pair silver candlesticks
1 brass candlestick
1 pair brass candlestick
3 Campaign Hats
Feed bag
Shoulder bag
Canteen, cup and cover
Sponge and bag
Gas mask & case
Pair boxing bloves
Pair angora blankets
Leather leggings
Flask & shoulder strap
Metal flask
Bottle in leather cover.

G. H. RENNICK,
Captain, A. G.

2

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004886

CONTENTS SUIT CASE.

* * * * * *

Canvas bag
2 Caps
2 Cigar boxes
21 Books and pamphlets
Personal cards
shaving brush
1 cake soap
shaving soap
Bottle Newskin
Candle stick
Sheet
1 ~~handkerchief~~
1 prs. Pajamas.

G. H. RENNICK
Captain, A. G.

CONTENTS DUFFLE BAG.

* * * * *

7 Shell cases
1 Quilt
Pair Boxing Gloves
1 trench helmet
~~Comb~~
Sleeping suit
German Helmet
Angora Sleeping bag
Oil cooking stove.

G. H. RENNICK,
Captain, A. G.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004887

[1-8-19]

CONTENTS OF BED ROLL.

Mattress
Trench coat with lining
Trench coat
2 British Warms
1 Regulation Overcoat
Bath robe
Lining for Trench Coat
Pillow
1 O. D. Blanket.

G. H. RENNICK
Captain, A. G.

[1-8-19]

MISCELLANEOUS.

2 Cases of Books

Underwood typewriter in leather case

Cot and chair in roll, posters - cane.

G. H. RENNICK,
Captain, A. G.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004888

PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
ELEVEN BROADWAY
NEW YORK

at Manila P. I.
January 9, 1919.

Dear Mrs Straight

I found on my return to Manila from a trip through the provinces a cable advising of Willard's death in Paris and in the cable I sent you to convey a little of the very deep sorrow and sympathy I felt at his loss.

While I had not had the privilege of knowing Willard as long as many of his friends I had known him long enough to become very much attached to him. His charm, kindness and intense, ready sympathy and broad vision made him a rare friend. To few men is it given to mean so much to so many people and I want to join with Willard's host of friends in extending to you the comfort which may come from knowing

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004889

that your sorrow is shared by many who loved and admired the man you loved.

To those of us who are trying to accomplish something in the Orient Willard's loss is more than a personal sorrow He has taken and had he lived he would have taken an ever more important part in a great movement which is bound to affect vitally our country No American was better known or more respected and admired by the Chinese than Willard Straight. He occupied a unique position, and his loss is an irreparable one.

Most sincerely yours

Edward T. Price.

[copy] [encl. 1-7-19]

CHARLES A. LINDLEY

[redacted] WASHINGTON, D.C. 1341 New Hampshire Ave.

45 Ave, Montaigne, Paris.

December 3rd, 1918.

Dear Edith;

I have just come back from Willard's funeral. This morning the body lay in its coffin, covered with the American flag and with his sword and cap on top. Candles burned beside the coffin and flowers were very simply and well arranged at the head and feet. Great thanks are due Mrs. Borden Harriman, who has done everything. From the Crillon Hotel the body was taken to the American Church on the Ave. Georges V. No gun carriage being procurable, an automobile chasis was used and did very well. An escort of soldiers marched alongside and we came behind- Peter Bowditch representing Gen Pershing, Gen. McCoy, m Gen. Jorstad, Col. Mott, Mr. Stettinius, Martin Egan and many others. We went slowly across the Place de la Concorde, up the Champs Elysees, and down to the church. Everywhere the French - with that special courtesy which never fails them [redacted] - took off thier hats as we went by - even the men working on the monuments and the taxi-cab drivers. And all officers and soldiers whom we passed, saluted. The church was full. Bishop Brent officiated and 'Onward Christian Soldiers' and the Battle Hymn of the Republic' were sung. From the church we motored out to the American cemetery at Surennes, where the burial took place. We are all so glad that Dorothy wanted him buried in France. It is the place where all American soldiers who have died during this war, should rest. Why should we bring home our dead? They have earned the right to sleep in the land on which their eyes closed, to remain forever in the soil for which they gave their lives. Their graves ensure that our work in France shall never be forgotten. The American cemetery at Surennes lies on the slope of Mt. Valerein, not far from the summit, overlooking the Seine River and the city of Paris. At present it is a raw piece of earth on the hillside, with rows and rows of white crosses, but when the grass grows again and the shrubs and trees have matured, it will be quite beautiful.

Bishop Brent made a very short, but fine address, the customary parting to the dead was given, the coffin was lowered into the grave and "taps" were blown.

And so ends a realman - just as the years of greatest achievement were before him. The Peace Congress will miss his clear headedness, his driving power, his idealism, his common-sense, his power over people. America had few men so well equipped for the problems now before her. His friends lose the finest and most generous comrade a man could have. At the grave ended warm friendships begun years and years ago in the Far East-Bishop Brent and I remarked to each other how many of the crowd that were gathered in the graveyard, had begun their friendship for him and for each other in the far East - Peter Bowditch, Martin Egan, Gen. McCoy, the Bishop himself and others. The day was a rainy one, but the sun came out for the first time just at the burial itself, and turning the whole cloudy day into the most glorious, bright silver. It will be hard to find another like Willard. He and Dorothy united more worlds, more sets, than any two people I have ever known. New York had no other couple who embraced such wide interests, who touched so many different people, who were quite such a special force in the community. And probably will never have.

Your affectionate brother Warwick Greene

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004890

1341 New Hampshire Ave.
Washington D.C.
Jan. 9th. 1919

Dearest Dorothy-

Thank you more than I can say for your wonderful generous check! I am putting it aside in the Bank until I think of some thing I really want! After all the hats and dresses you gave me you certainly ought to have given me anything else for Christmas! But it was so like you and you always spoil me more than is good for me! My heart has been to pull for you, Dorothy- what a Christmas and time to have all this extra worry about your health! Dorothy dear who that Willard be 'there' to look after you - in the wonderful, tender way he did- for the sake of your children you must think of yourself and do just what the doctor says. Why don't you take a little house in Aiken and take the children with you? It would be so good for you all. I suppose you don't want to take the children out of school but after all don't think it matters at all at their age,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004891

do you? Health is so much more important. Have you ever thought of going out to Cal with Eliza Swift? That would be such a wonderful change for you. If I can help you in the slightest way by taking the children or coming up to stay with them (if you decide not to take them) you know I would consider it a privilege to do anything in my power for you. Do write me as soon as you have decided & if you go to Aiken I will see you when you pass through if you will let me know what train you are on. I just can't bear to think of you sick & miserable. Your spirit is so wonderful that your body cannot keep up and you will take care of yourself with joy.

I enclose a copy (a very bad one that I made) of Warwick's letter. Of course you know all it says by now but I think it gives a very fine picture of Willard and what his loss has meant to the world and his friends. I love the last sentence and what he says about you and Willard smiling so many wrecks, etc. It is so true and how we all love you both with your wonderful feeling for each other and for your friends. Ah! Dorothy, I cannot write any more sanit.

[Lindley]

Mrs Willard D. Straight

My Dear Madam

Words can not express my feeling of gratitude so wonderfully kind and good of you in your great sorrow to remember me at Christmas. My heart is full of thankfullness and beline me it pains me that you should know such great sorrow however the Allmighty

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004892

knows best and for the
children sake if one of you
had to go it is better that
you are left to them
I hope the allmighty will
give you grace and Strenght
to bear your great sorrow
and that you will be carefull
of your health

Sincerely yours

Jan 9/1919 Katherine Quinn

then as we have been since
firm friends.
Mrs Straight. I had some
thing more than a mere
affection for Willard
& the news of his death was
a great shock to me.
I ask you to accept
my condolence seems
trite, only I want you to
know how much my
thought went to you, to
whom he was so much
more than to a mere man
friend

1919
S.C.

TELEPHONE 7881 GERRARD.

18, HALF MOON STREET,
MAYFAIR, W.

9th Jany/18

Dear Mrs Straight.
In passing through
Paris a few weeks ago
I met Mrs Egan & for the
first time heard of the
death of my dear old
friend, your husband.
You will remember me
in Willard's time in
Japan when Morton Egan
Willard & myself were

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004893

I had great hopes of his
being a really great man
- in the widely sense - in
his country & it is terribly
regrettable that he should
have been lost to it. I
knew all his weakness
& loved him. So you can
guess how I feel for you
whom I so well remember
in your home, & so well
remember your dear
children. I was taken
sick influenza on my
arrival here & was very
ill indeed & am only just
recovered, otherwise I'd
have written sooner

In deep sympathy
Yours very sincerely
A. Whitt.

Kenyon Willard as
"Whitey"

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004894

[1919] p9

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

Jan. 10

Dear Mrs. Straight -

Some day it may be some shred of comfort to you to read how Major Straight appeared in France, even to one who saw him only fleetingly. If only I could give you clearly just one of the mental images I have of him —

He used to come striding out of the same courtyard gateway where one used to see Gen. Pershing going in and out - the G1 door, Headquarters First Army, Ligny-en-Barrois. One could always pick out Major Straight from the throng of officers both by his height and a kind of nervous alertness, a discontented energy, which he seemed to irradiate. He seemed the very epitome of America - walking three blocks while a French officer would walk one, distinguished, impatient, a figure to catch the eye and not bothered or conscious of any amount of gazing.

Headquarters, First Army, was scattered through the town, concealed as much as possible. Army automobiles were not allowed to stand in the streets. G-1 was in a large building with a pretty court, a school or other adjunct of some clinical establishment, I think. The Major's office was a high-ceiled room, walled in with cases of French books and a tall fire place. Clerks in khaki came in at one door and colonels at another. He used to sit dictating at his desk, driving late into the night, a straight stemmed pipe between his teeth, — always with that same sense of high power and discontent. He talked orders faster than his stenographers could take him. — In a pause at the end of a long string of orders one night he said briefly, - "I was sniped at today. At first we thought it was an accident - bullets around our legs. - We moved over near some bushes - bullets followed us right along."

I remarked, "Well, that's something."

"That's nothing!" he said, almost snapped — And there you had the whole thing. Dictating orders, he was thinking of the front. He wanted action. He must have known how necessary, how absolutely vital to the front was the work of organizing brains like his at Headquarters, but one watching him might almost say that his manner cursed at the surroundings in which he had to work. — "Sniped at," - I envied him for it but to him it only rubbed a sore.

There was another fact about the Major's headquarters. The long room alongside his was filled with junior officers and field clerks. No matter how late he worked that whole room was on its toes for anything "the Major" wanted. It was n't army rules, it was a personal relation. I think even the orderlies out there felt that Major Straight knew all about them, each one individually. He had to drive them out to go to their billets.

I knew what that meant. The first time I ever saw him, it was at G.H.Q., at Chaumont, I had intruded on him and introduced myself, because I needed advice from a mind I knew, if I had it known the face. I remember being surprised that he was so small & looked so soldierly. He gave me exactly what I wanted and I went

[1-10-19] [2]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004895

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

away astonished that so much kindliness went along with so much ability. Majors were not ordinarily generous to strange captains. — Then a night at Chigny, when my companion went up to call on him & I was struggling to get a bite to eat in the crowded hotel — there was suddenly a tall figure at the door. He crooked a finger at me. "Where's your cap? — You come to my mess." — And he insisted on our sharing his comforts all the while we were at Chigny. — I understood exactly why so many officers, high & low, who knew him but slightly, spoke as they did of Major Straight. — In the rudeness of war, in the scrambles for efficiency or through jealousy or for existence, he had time to be gracious. Impatient, high-powered — and gracious. It made him a man among a million here.

Up at Bailly, Advanced P.C. of First Army, his headquarters were in a disused brick-and-stone shop near the Mairie and in some Adrian barracks. The whole town was a mud hole. Men were rougher there. But the atmosphere around Major Straight was the same — eager work. Because the Major was right and generous & knew.

I saw him last in Paris, after the armistice, at the headquarters of the Peace Commission. Noticing the black braid on his cuffs I congratulated him on the honor of being made a General Staff officer. "That's nothing," he said again. He looked so able and upstanding that I was astonished when he said "I'm sick. Fever. I'm going home — try to take care of myself." — He strode out the courtyard

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

looking just as soldierly as ever.

I wish so much that I had known him better. Then I could tell you more of him. — There are men like me all over the A.E.F. who met him rarely but have suffered a personal loss.

Truly yours.

Hiram Bloomfield

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004896

business with the Chinese.

With kindest regards in which Mrs. Gatzell and Lillian join

I am, dear Mrs Straight,

sincerely yours

J. H. Gatzell

Peking, China,

10th Jan. 1919

My dear Mrs. Straight:

The hearts of all Willard's friends in Peking, both Chinese and foreigners, have gone out in deepest sympathy to you these dark, sorrowful days.

I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to express a little of my admiration and affection for Willard. It has been my lot to serve under many Chiefs in my 30 years in China but the happiest period was when I was associated with Willard and trying to assist him

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004897

to carry out his hopes and plans. His character called out the best that was in me and my memories of him are wholly pleasant and inspiring.

I trust that what I have written as my tribute to his character, influence, and work will be of service to those who are preparing his memoirs.

I am unable to say when I shall return to America but I hope the way will be opened soon. Mrs. Latrell is not well but she finds life somewhat easier than it was in California where it was so difficult to get satisfactory help in the house. Unless she soon begin to improve, however, we shall have to return to California. My own health is not good but by taking care I manage to carry on. Unless I am able to hope that he will soon be relieved and go back to finish his college course. Lillian is with us here.

Princess Pauline has been very ill for many months and unable to see foreign visitors but we speak to her on the telephone occasionally. She seems fairly well - She seems fairly to enjoy the social atmosphere of Peking has changed very much for the worse since you were here and it is more heartbreaking than ever to try to do

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004898

[1-10-19]

In 1902, when I first made the acquaintance of Willard Straight, he was already a marked man in the Chinese Customs Service and his social and artistic gifts had made him a most welcome addition to the life of Peking. He was always ready with his guitar and a song or recitation to contribute to the enjoyment of a party. His love for art led him to spend much of his leisure in the study of types of man and architecture and his paintings were always a source of pleasure to his friends. His whole being throbbed with healthy activity and he was always out upon one quest or another when many men of his age and rank were "killing time" in ways common to the East. He read with unusual avidity the best literature and the thoughtful annotations to be found in many of his books reveal the fact that he read with understanding and for a purpose. It was felt by all who came into close contact with him that he would "go far" some day.

In 1904, when the Russo-Japanese war broke out, Straight was still doing secretarial work in the Customs Service, but, as I learned later, he was restless and eager to be taking a larger part in Far Eastern Affairs. The opportunity to satisfy these restless longings came to him in the guise of an offer from Reuter's and the Associated Press to send him to the front in Manchuria as artist and correspondent. It fell to my lot to make the necessary arrangements on behalf of Reuters, and I well remember the

[1-10-19]

keenness with which Straight set about making preparations as soon as the necessary papers had been signed. His sudden break with the Customs caused considerable excitement in Peking but his intimate friends were not greatly astonished.

I did not see Straight again until 1909 when he returned to Peking as Special Representative of the "American Group", though press reports and information from mutual friends had enabled me to keep in touch with his activities. In 1909, however, professional visits to Peking brought me again into contact with him. He was still the same happy, active personality but a new dignity seemed to envelope him.

He was working hard, I knew, but what the nature and purpose of it was I did not learn until May 1910 when it was my good fortune to join his staff and to learn to know him intimately.

One of my first impressions of him at that time was, that he had seen a vision and that he had devoted himself, body, soul and spirit to follow its leadings. I soon learned from him that the impression was correct, for he was ever frank in all his dealings.

It was evident that the years in which he had been absent from Peking had been spent in association with big men, and upon work and study which had made him familiar with world problems.

His task was no sinecure. It demanded the utmost skill, tact and judgment, and in addition, a personality peculiarly suited to the conditions then existing in China, and

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004899

a capacity for hard work.

Among his foreign colleagues were men steeped in the traditions of their firms, profound in their knowledge of diplomacy and jealous to guard the rights and privileges they had acquired through long years of patient and costly endeavour. Among the Chinese officials with whom he came into contact were some of the ablest of China's public men of those days.

He was handicapped from the commencement by the failure of the China Development Company to make good, and by the fact that he was a strong advocate of a practical application of the principles of the "Open Door" in the interests of American trade. The re-entrance of American interests was an uncertain factor in the Chinese problem. Success or failure largely depended upon the ability and personality of the man who represented these interests. The results of his work in the signature of the Chinchou-Aigun Railway, the Currency and the "Hukuang" Loan contracts prove beyond cavil that he possessed to a marked degree the unique qualifications required.

That the Chinese officials with whom he had to deal thoroughly trusted him was evident by the frank manner in which they discussed the many thorny questions which from time to time arose. They were not long in finding out that he was fair and sympathetic; that he thoroughly considered and carefully weighed all questions pertaining to

[1-10-19]

their side, and that he was always anxious and willing to be of service to them. This being the case they showed an extraordinary readiness to defer to his judgment and to give him their confidence.

It must be said that their confidence was often put to the test. At that time, as in these days, they were hoping that the United States Bankers with the United States Government behind them had now come to their assistance independent of other nations. The Chinchou-Aigun Railway contract, the first piece of business which Straight was identified with, was concluded after months of strenuous labour upon his part and upon the part of Lord French. Diplomatic complications arose out of this contract, however, and its operation was suspended.

The Chinese were bitterly disappointed but so high were their hopes and so strong their faith in the United States as represented by Straight, that it was not long ~~again~~ before they again approached him for help. This time it was a loan for currency reform. Currency reform was a subject in which Straight was intensely interested. It was a big subject. It must needs, if successful, bring in its train reforms in many other Government departments and contribute no little toward the business expansion for which Straight was working. American experts had made investigations into the matter and their reports were in the hands of the Chinese authorities.

With characteristic energy and thoroughness, Straight tackled this vast, intricate subject. He studied it day

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004900

[1-10-19]

and night, and discussed every phase of it sympathetically and painstakingly with the Chinese authorities.

In due course, a preliminary contract was drafted by Straight and its terms approved by the Chinese. But by this time much had been learned concerning political and diplomatic conditions and it was deemed advisable to offer participation in this contract to British, French and German interests. The task of inducing the Chinese to accept this participation fell upon Straight's shoulders and it is no exaggeration to say that it was his skillful handling of the negotiations, his frankness and patient discussions that overcame Chinese opposition to and suspicion of this move, for they were looking to the United States to help them out of many difficulties. It was surely a sore trial to them but under Straight's advice and guidance they submitted. British, French and German interests having accepted the offer of participation, and Chinese consent thereto having been happily obtained, Straight was brought into intimate business relations with the representatives of these long established interests. Straight rejoiced exceedingly in the thought that American interests were now linked up with those of the nations which stood foremost in world affairs in general and China in particular. He kept the leading position in the Currency Loan negotiations to which his work up to that time entitled him. To him fell practically all the work of completing the contract and he did it with untiring energy and rare wisdom.

[1-10-

In all the negotiations he never lost sight of the fact that he was representing his colleagues. He consulted them fully and frankly and having agreed with them upon the line of action to be taken, he was the very soul of honour and loyalty in his efforts to carry it out. When difficulties arose he gave himself no rest until a solution of them had been found, and in many cases it was his thoughtful study of them and his quickness of mind that provided the solution.

The next piece of work upon which Straight was engaged was the "Hukuang"Railway Loan Contract, American participation in which with the same British, French and German interests had been arranged by the direct efforts of ex-President Taft. This was another big project, and as such, strongly appealed to his imagination. He did not hold the leading position in these negotiations as he had in those of the Currency Loan, but he threw the whole weight of his ability and personality into them and gave loyal and valuable assistance to his colleagues, at all times. These negotiations were far more difficult than those of the Currency Loan. They involved the adjusting of intricate questions among the foreign participators and even more difficult and intricate Chinese questions. The nature and importance of these Chinese questions may be surmised from the fact that it was the conclusion of this contract which precipitated the outbreak of the Revolution which overturned the Manchu Dynasty and ushered in the republican regime in China.

The Hukuang contract was signed May 30th, 1911. During

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004901

[1-10-19]

the stormy days of the revolution, Straight and his colleagues were harder at work than ever before, for money was urgently needed. Negotiations were commenced at that time which finally ended in the conclusion of the Re-Organization Loan.

Straight returned to the United States in the spring of 1912. Up to the time of his departure from China he rendered the same loyal, conscientiousness service to his colleagues amongst whom by that time had been included the representatives of Russian and Japanese interests, and in New York his keen interest and strenuous efforts continued unabated until the spring of 1913 when, shortly before the contract was concluded, the American Group, for well known reasons, decided to withdraw from the negotiations.

I refrain from speaking of the general effect which the withdrawal of the American Group, produced here, but I desire to record, as a testimony of the high esteem in which Straight was held, and as an appreciation of his arduous and faithful work, that his former colleagues and friends were unanimous in expressing their personal sympathy for him.

In 1914, I saw Straight again in New York. The collapse of his most cherished plans had been a heavy blow to him but he was still hard at work on various enterprises connected with the expansion of American business in China, and hopeful that the near future would witness United States financiers once more taking an active part in international efforts to set China upon the right road to peace and prosperity.

Upon my return to Peking, late in 1914, rumours were

[1-10-1

abroad to the effect that Straight had lost all interest in China and was preparing himself for the Diplomatic Service. This rumour was soon contradicted, however, by the receipt of information that he had entered the American International Corporation as one of its Vice Presidents, and was in charge of its Far Eastern Department.

In 1915, tangible evidence of his continued interest in China appeared in Peking when a group of men arrived representing the American International Corporation and some of its allied interests.

I joined the American International Corporation in 1916 and I can testify that up to the time that he put aside all his personal interests to serve his country in the war he never failed in his efforts to foster and strengthen the new American venture in this field.

It was my privilege to see Straight (Major Straight then) in Washington in 1917. All of his extraordinary energy, and capacity for work of a constructive character, were then being devoted to his country's service in connection with a war risk insurance scheme for the American Army and Navy. He was expecting to go to France at any time to put into effect his scheme which, on the day I parted from him, had been approved by the Secretary of War.

Straight touched many lines in his career in China, and his touch was always beneficent. He was a painstaking host and his dinners and other entertainments were always a pleasure. He was ever ready to lend assistance in all social events.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004902

[1-10-19]

He was generous to a fault. I never knew him to refuse help to the poor and unfortunate even in cases which were not of the deserving type. That he was a tireless and conscientious worker the files of his correspondence, much of which was written at night by his own hands, must show. China has lost a most valuable friend. Chinese officials with whom he was once associated have spoken to me within the last few days of his high character, of his fairness and of the sympathetic manner in which he treated them. Former servants have expressed their "bitterness of heart" and have praised his kindness and generosity. I venture to say that of his former colleagues, friends and associates, there is not one who could not say that Straight always "played up and played the game". Always self-sacrificing he has now made the Supreme Sacrifice, but his influence for good, and the faithful work he did remain and will yet bear their appropriate fruit.

J. H. Gatrell

[1-10-19]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHIEF SPECIAL AGENT

Memo

Willard Straight appointed Vice Consul General at Seoul, Korea, April 6, 1905.

Appointed Consul General at Mukden, June 22, 1906.

Resignation from the service accepted in letter dated June 16, 1909. Mr? Straight's letter of resignation written in New York and dated June 9, 1909.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004903

[1-10-19]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHIEF SPECIAL AGENT

Memo

There is practically nothing from Willard Straight while he was vice consul at Seoul. This is due to the fact that the Consul at Seoul, Gordon Paddock, was rarely absent from his post. In a letter which Paddock wrote to the Department on Dec. 22, 1906, he says "This is the second occasion on which I have ever been away from my post, having made a trip of ten days to China, also in company with Mr. Morgan, in the summer of 1904."

On July 15, 1905, Mr. Paddock transmitted to the Dept two reports written by Mr. Straight. They were a "Report on increased Railway rates between Seoul and Chemulpo," dated July 14, ~~1905~~ '05, and a "Report on the recent Korean Government loan," dated July 11, 1905. The Dept has not yet been able to locate these (1/8/19)

[1-10-19]

MEMO

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHIEF SPECIAL AGENT

The Division of Far Eastern Affairs was organized in 1907 and reorganized in 1909. In March, 1908, Elihu Root, then Sec'y of State, issued an order creating a "Division of Far Eastern Affairs." Mr. William Phillips, previously Second ~~Secretary~~ Secretary of Legation at Peking, and Mr. Percival Heintzleman, formerly in the consular service in China, were placed in charge of the Division, Mr. Phillips being the Chief and Mr. Heintzleman his asst. Mr. Phillips and Mr. Heintzleman had previously been handling Far Eastern matters while attached to the office of the Third Asst Secy of State.

The Urgent Deficiency Act of Agust 5, 1909, appropriated $100,000 "**********for the maintenance of a Division of Far Eastern

[1-10-19]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHIEF SPECIAL AGENT

Affairs in the Department of State ******." This enable Secy Knox to put into operation his plan of specialization in the Department and his first step was to appoint three experts from the Oriental service. He placed Mr. Ransford Miller in charge of the Division. Mr. Miller's associates were Mr. E. T. Williams and Mr. Heintzleman.

Mr. Willard Straight was, for a short period in 1908*, Acting Chief of the Division but up to the present time the Dept has been unable to find any record of his appointment to that position.

Jan. 10, 1919.

* Nov. 20, 1908—Dec. 2, 1908.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004904

[1-10-19]
[from the files of the Dept. of State]

Department of State.

Chief Special Agent.

Memo.

In a long despatch from Consul General Straight to Asst Secy of State, December 22, 1908, a report is made upon precise conditions under which Americans may hold land within the territory owned by the South Manchurian Railway. He concludes: "The question of these "Settlements" is therefore, I repsectfully submit, the most vital of the many under discussion here today, and upon its solution largely depends the preservation of the principle of equal opportunity and the continued integrity of China."

In a despatch dated July 19, 1907, Consul General Straight, Mukden, says in conclusion: -

"This consulate ventures to hope that it may be the wish of the Department while insisting upon a full recognition by the Chinese authorities of our treaty rights and resisting any curtailment ~~therefore~~ thereof, to welcome and to encourage the consolidation of Chinese authority as ~~exist~~ constituting the strongest guarantee of the equality of opportunity in Manchuria."

In a despatch to Minister Rockhill at Peking, dated ~~Sept~~ Sept. 2, 1907, Consul General Straight says "The withdrawal of the American Consular establishment from that place (Antung) would be inimical to our interests."

In a letter dated Nov. 29, 1907, signed by the Chief Clerk (W.J.Carr) for the Secretary of State, he says:"The manner in which you have kept the Department so thoroughly informed on all political affairs within your locality is to be highly commended."

Department of State.

Chief Special Agent.

Memo.

The obtaining of proper quarters for the Consulate at Mukden was the result of a great deal of correspondence between Consul General Straight and the Department, in which W.S. insisted on suitable and dignified quarters.

In a despatch to Minister Rockhill at Peking, dated Oct. 17, 1906, Consul General Straight mentions inflated rents and mentions quarters occupied by Japanese and German consuls and asks a special allowance in view of the fact that his post "is at present of political rather than commercial importance, involving the policy of the "Open Door" and the questions connected therewith, I hope that it may be possible to maintain an establishment equal at least to those provided for their representatives by the other Powers."

In a report, dated Oct. 31, 1906, on "Commercial conditions in Manchuria" Willard Straight urges Americans to enter the field with direct and aggressive plans of campaign, personal representation being all important. He cites the success of the British-American Tobacco Co., which seriously threatened the Japanese Tobacco monopoly. Says Manchuria is virgin territory for trade as well as for investment.

Willard Straight appointed Vice Consul General at Seoul, Korea, April 6th, 1905.

Appointed Consul General at Mukden, June 22, 1906.

Resignation from the service accepted in letter dated June 16, 1909. Mr. Straight's letter of resignation written in New York and dated June 9, 1909.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004905

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Chief Special Agent.

Memo.

In a despatch from Mukden, May 4, 1907, Consul General Straight urges the establishment of a Commercial Information Bureau in the Far East, preferably at Yokohama or Shanghai, said bureau to be under the direction of the Dept of State or the Dept of Commerce and Labor. In this was American firms already represented in the Far East could be put in touch with business opportunities. Consular officers throughout the East would notify such a bureau of commercial opportunities and Americans should thus be able to secure contracts which might otherwise be lost

He also urges that American manufacturers place illustrated catalogues on file in the Consulate.

There is practically nothing from Willard Straight while he was vice consul at Seoul. This is due to the fact that the Consul-General at Seoul, Gordon Paddock, was rarely absent from his post. In a letter which Paddock wrote to the Department on Dec. 22, 1906, he says "This is the second occasion on which I have ever been away from my post, having made a trip of ten days to China, also in company with Mr. Morgan in the summer of 1904."

On July 15, 1905, Mr. Paddock transmitted to the Dept. two reports written by Mr. Straight. They were a "Report on increased Railway rates between Seoul and Chemulpo", dated July 14, 1905, and a "Report on the recent Korean Government loan". dated July 11, 1905. The Dept. has not yet been able to locate these (1/8/19.)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Chief Special Agent.

MEMO.

The Division of Far Eastern Affairs was organized in 1907 and re-organized in 1909. In March, 1908.. Elihu Root, then Secretary of State, issued an order creating a "Division of Far Eastern Affairs." Mr. William Phillips, previously Second Secretary of Legation at Peking, and Mr. Percival Heintzleman, formerly inthe consular service in China, were placed in charge of the Division, Mr. Phillips being the Chief and Mr. Heintzleman had previously been handling Far Eastern matters while attached to the office of the Third Asst Secty of State.

The Urgent Deficiency Act of August 5, 1909, appropriated $100,000---- for the maintenance of a Division of Far Eastern affairs in the Department of State **** This ~~exx~~ enabled Secty Knox to put into operation his plan of specialization in the Department and his first step was to appoint three experts from the Oriental service. He placed Mr. Ransford Miller in charge of the Division. Mr. Millers associates were Mr. E. T. Williams and Mr. Heintzleman. Mr. Willard Straight was, for a short period in 1908 (Nov. 20, 1908, - Dec. 2, 1908) Acting Chief of the Division but up to the present time the Dept. has been unable to find any record of his appointment to that position.

Jan. 10, 1919.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004906

Santiago, January 10th 1919

Agusto Villanueva G.
and Luis Izquierdo pre-
sent their respects to
Mrs. Willard Straight
and beg to offer their
sincere sympathy in
her bereavement.

My dear Dorothy-
The enclosed is a copy
of part of Choi's note which
you wanted- I was so sorry
to hear that you had been ill
& do hope by this time you
are quite well again. We
are still tied busy as usual-
Canteen day D-day &c I
must be off- Much love from
Jers.

"89" 1/11/19.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004907

[1-11-19]

"I am very sorry to hear of the untimely death of your cousin Major Willard Straight and I am sure many of our people who had long years been acquainted with him will feel a great loss to their country in the death of their great friendship promoter."

Tse Tsok Choi.

169 East 64 St.

Dear Dorothy:

I have thought of you, and wished for a word of comfort to give you. But as always, you are giving out to the world and this time the richest gift of all, courage and selflessness. Please don't assume this role, I only want you to know how proud I am of those of you. Your courage and selflessness in your grief is an example to all of your friends, and though their word of sympathy comes to you late, it is none the less earnest. So often I

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004908

With all my sympathy.

Madeline Pell.

164 E. 64 Street

11 January, 1919.

convey the inspiration you are to everyone who has the privilege of knowing you.

You have so many friends such a multiplicity of just claims upon you. That I, who am new to your friendship, hesitate to intrude too often. I scarcely knew your

January 11=

1155 PARK AVENUE

Dearest Dorothy-

While reading your letter this morning I was overwhelmed for the hundredth time with the rareness of your personality.

I wish I might put into words what you mean to me, or in some measure

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004909

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA
RENO, NEVADA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Jan 17 1919

My dear Mrs Straight:

I have just noted in a brief news note a reference to "the late Major Willard Straight." I had not heard [illegible] and must even now hope this a mistake or a soldier having the same name, only.

If your husband has made the Great Pacific, please know that you have my deep

husband - but I shall never forget the first time I saw him. It was in Paris - at the Lawrence's years ago. Wharton - Larry White and I were on the floor - and Willard, leaning against the chimney, was singing - singing songs of life and love and light

romance. You can see why he was always to us a gallant figure and our thoughts of him are to Ruth P.

It is difficult to remember about a Greyman - but I would not grant with it for wider memories.

I am looking forward to seeing you Ruth week. Yours as ever, ET

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004910

[1-12-19][2]

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA
RENO, NEVADA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Sympathy. You were ever so kindly to me that I know you are a kindly spirit. Life ought not to deal to such a spirit its bitters.

Perhaps my word comes to you very late. If so it is because I have just learned, and even now only imperfectly learned of your loss.

Cordially yours,

Walter E. Clark.

[1919]

The Manor House,
Waltham Cross,
Herts.

Dear Mr. Straight-

I have not written
to you earlier as I had
only the pleasure of
meeting you once I sadly
liked to intrude in
the first few weeks
of your great loss -
But I feel now that

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004911

I would like to send
you my most sincere
sympathy — I saw
Mr. Straight many
times in London &
Portsmouth when dear
Pauline was here, &
once or his boy
& Nanny when he
called at 39 Berkeley St.

It was always such a
great joy to Pauline
to see him over here, &
I know how grateful she
was for him, & indeed
everyone else who knew
him.
I hear from Lord Newborough
Sunday that you
have so kindly
offered to take care

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004912

2970 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago. Jan. 12, 1919.

Mrs Willard Straight,
New York City.

My dear Mrs Straight;

I am venturing to write you a word of my own share in the sorrow caused by the sudden death of my boy Straight. As a Cornellian I have felt that I had some part in his wonderful life: and as I have sat with him on the Board of Council Trustees, and responded to his kindly spirit, I have grown to feel that I

of Dorothy for a time — The idea of this change for her is very comforting — Mrs Barrett (Ex Secretary) is doing all she possibly can for her, but her time is naturally very limited — The child has a nursery governess & Mother's own physician, if only they could be doubled & trebled at — She needs a Mother's love so terribly — I know dear Pauline would be so happy to feel that she too might give — I so hope that you will forgive me for writing of this matter, but I am so devoted to Pauline that

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004913

had some personal acaquaintance with him.

My thought in writing to you is merely to name to you as others are doing who knew him, the reaction of that spirit on a stranger. He passed on to me, without knowing it, some of his world-kindness and I am grateful for it.

I too am one of those whom death has summed to despoil. My husband, William Vaughn Moody, foolishly known to you, was suddenly snatched away, just when he seemed in the fullness of his strength; and from this experience I have learned that death has no power to separate those who are kindred in spirit.

I trust this certainly may come to you.

As I say, this letter is just an effusion of gratitude toward one whose spirit contributed to the enrichment of life for me. If it falls into your hands I trust you will not think it intrusive

With great sympathy,

Sincerely yours,

Harriet Moody. [Moody]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004914

[1-13-19]

1310 ASTOR STREET

Dear Dorothy

I am sending you a collection of Peking films through the kindness of Mr. Hobart, as I hate to trust them to the mail. As you will see, one envelope is for you and contains photographs of you and Willard. The others are for Mr. Froelick with the idea that he may wish to select some of them for Asia. I shall write to him about them, and I hope all the films may be returned to me. If you see any impropriety in using these Manchu weddings, do not let him have them. But I fancy our lovely princesses would not mind at all.

Next Wednesday I expect to go south and my address

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004915

will be Oakland, Florida.
Will you be coming down,
do you think? If you
should, do send me a
wire and perhaps I can
see you somewhere. You
don't know how much
I have thought of our
beautiful little visit
together. With my love -

Devotedly

Mary Calhoun

Chicago
January 13

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004916

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004917

[1-13-19]

MANATUCK FARM,
BAYSHORE,
LONG ISLAND.

TELEPHONE BAYSHORE

Dear Dorothy.

The things are simply delightful here. I've spent a lovely day at the children are as delighted over their second Christmas as Jan over the delightful little table which I've got for him. I'll use a great deal. Jackie adores his drum & really Dorothy, I've been sending them such lovely & delightful things, each one showing thought physically. Helen Astor was with me last week. She said everyone in Paris spoke of Hilland. In such terms of admiration. She was at the Crillon through the days of anxiety & she said it was like a house, not a hotel & everyone sharing in sorrow & anxiety. Every day Dorothy some new person tells me something lovely he'd done. It's like a wonderful afterglow which grows more beautiful. I think too its bound to make one feel the promise of the new dawning & the eternal

I appreciation of what Kids like best. — Well my dear it's like you. You do for + Teaching: to us who love to do — I wonder which [illegible] do - meet me at Ho E. 41. (my dentists) at 4. on Wednesday + till me come up to Tom house + spend the eve. I after p.m. will go + have Fra together Sunday - Oh if he have other plans + rows hurry he to much for

at the Cosmopolitan Club tight. after lunch + go out skiing for till 3 30 — Will Call for up about seven Tuesday Evening + find out. Ps Charles has to go to Washington today + I am going to town tomorrow to meet him late. Dearest Mrs Whit it will be lovely seeing you again even if one for a glimpse + I do hope you'll a little stronger

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004918

OFFICE OF
GEORGE CARY, ARCHITECT,
184 DELAWARE AVENUE,
BUFFALO, N.Y.
TELEPHONE BELL, TUPPER 387

Buffalo, N.Y.
January 14th.
1 9 1 9 .

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,
1150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

Thank you for your letter of January 10th.- It is with pleasure that I am sending you the enclosed few lines of Willard's work in my Office, which I dictated to my stenographer, who was in my office at the time that he was here who is good enough to let us have this photo-print taken when the boys were larking at their leisure moments.

It is only recently that we destroyed all letters previous to 1915 so that I have not Willard's letters; but, my recollection concerning his abandonment of Architecture is, that most students graduating from Cornell are keen to travel to pick up ideas, and when he went to China he had'n't the intention to give up Architecture, but the appointment received and his stay in China weaned him from his earlier intentions, which later in life he had a keen desire to return to, as he so expressed himself when I saw him at one of the International Polo Matches.

You are most welcome to insert anything I have written concerning him, in the sketch of his life, which I am sure will be most interesting and worth while.

Very truly yours,
George Cary

W.D.STRAIGHT—in GEORGE CARY, ARCHT'S OFFICE—July-Aug.1900
Jan-Feb. 1901

It was during the Pan-American year in Buffalo, at which time J.M.Carrere, Walter Cook, J.G.Howard, R.S.Peabody, G.F.Shepley, and two other local architects beside myself were working up the drawings for the Exposition Buildings, that I wrote to Cornell University to send me on some of their strong students, if only for their vacations.

Ackerman (now of Trowbridge & Ackerman) had graduated and came on remaining with me a year, while Willard Straight came on for the summer and Xmas vacations 1900-01, through the recommendation of his fellow student, Ackerman, and though with me only three or four months he worked with keen interest on the Mission Building; the Ethnology Building, which stood opposite the Temple of Music in which Mc.Kinley was assassinated; and the New York State Building,(in front of which stood Mrs. Paine Whitney's statue of " Aspiration ") now the Buffalo Historical Society Building, the only remaining building of the Pan-American Exposition.

He was so keenly interested in his architectural work that he preferred working in the office nights, to outside social attractions that were offered him, and impressed me as being a man of high principals, very observing and having the eyes for seeing, and his manly straight forward manner in looking you straight in the eye when spoken to made you feel his strong lovable personality, in other words—To know Willard Straight was to love him.

George Cary, Archt.
184 Delaware Ave.
Buffalo, N.Y.

Jan.14.1919.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004919

[1-14-19]

169 EAST 74TH STREET
TELEPHONE, RHINELANDER 3963

Dear Dorothy

Notwithstanding a very bad chord of intending. I feel I must send you Monday. I can't go on Monday. I'll keep I understand & like what you leave passed through or you leave created for me an ideal of fidelity.

Yours Cromwell
[Agnes Cromwell]

Dear Dorothy

Notwithstanding a very bad chord of intending. I feel I must send you Monday. I can't go on Monday. I'll keep I understand & like what you leave passed through or you leave created for me an ideal of fidelity.

Though I was spared the ultimate bitterness, I lived in such utter fear of

Dear Mr Cary.

I am sailing tomorrow and I went to Westhampton today to be sure he understood about the pictures. I think your suggestion of a name ("Asperatem") very good

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004920

We will let it stand at that.

My address abroad is

Morgan Harjes

Paris France

Yours truly

Gertrude Whitney

AMERICAN ASIATIC ASSOCIATION
627 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK

January 15, 1919.

Dear Mrs. Straight:

I think Mr. Fiedler has told you that we desire to publish in ASIA several articles telling of the Major's life and work in its relation to the East.

We, of course, ought to get the very best material possible and we want first to let you know of our desire in order that we may have your opinion on it. If you approve, we wish first to inquire, so as to avoid duplication, whether you are to have prepared a life of the Major and if so, whether some of this material, either directly or reshaped, would be available for publication in ASIA.

We here feel very decidedly that we must have a series of articles that will in some measure express the very great national service which the Major's vision and force accomplished in giving our relations with the East that early impetus which will be the foundation for the big structure which is to come in the future.

If some time at your entire leisure you might see us for a short time, we should appreciate hearing what you have to say on this. We all hope indeed that you are well recovered from the sickness which we were most sorry to hear about and we trust that you and the children will be free from any further illness.

Most sincerely yours,

Louis D. Frochock

LDF:C

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

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004921

13 West 31st Street
New York, January 15, 1919.

Dear Mrs. Straight:

May I venture at this late day to offer you my sympathy in the loss of your heroic husband, without opening afresh the wounds inflicted by that blow?

Absent from New York at the time I was out of touch with the metropolitan press, and when sometime after my return Miss Ward McAllister at the Waldorf handed me a newspaper containing an item of interest which I read,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004922

I was about to throw it aside when my attention was arrested by the dispatch from Paris conveying the sad news about Major Straight.

Of his patriotism, his devotion to duty and his supreme sacrifice Major Straight's superior officers and his associates can give personal testimony. I can only assure you of the gratitude of one citizen for the sacrifice made by another who has freely given to his country all that the soldier on the battlefield can give.

Your friends and acquaintances can sympathize with you in person while I remain silent. Yet in a way I feel a distant acquaintance with you even though we have never met. I have a lively recollection as a boy of going with my mother to an evening reception at the home of Secretary and Mrs. Whitney in Washington. The cordial greeting that I received from Mrs. Whitney and the honor I felt at meeting the great Secretary who was then laying the foundation for our modern Navy made a lasting impression upon me.

Had I been in New York at the time a card left at your house might have sufficiently expressed what I felt; but having been absent, I am taking this method of recording my appreciation of Major Straight's sacrifice, and my sympathy for you in your loss.

Very sincerely,

Wm Grant Webster

Mrs. Dorothy Whitney Straight,
1120 Fifth Avenue,
New York.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004923

American Consulate
Foochow, China
Jan 16, 1919.

Dear Mrs. Straight:

Will you permit me to tender to you my heartfelt sympathies because of the loss of Major Straight?

All his many friends in the Far East were shocked upon receiving the sad news and mourn his early departure from life & he was very kind to me and his career was such that I received much inspiration from it.

He was a member of the Delta Zeta

Delta Chapter at Cornell,
& which I belonged, and it
was through my associ-
ation in that Chapter,
that I became interested
in him and in China.
After graduating from
Cornell in 1908, I
went to Washington
and saw "Bob",
we called him, about
entering the Consular
Service in China, as a
result I came to
China in the Summer
of 1909 and met him
in Peking, where he had
gone to represent the

[J-16-19]

2

American Syndicate
of Manchuria - for
a time, Minister
Plenipotentiary
at the Legation,
United States
Consul General
at Hankow and
Mukden. He was
the Consul - General
in Korea at the
time of 1909

I met you when
you visited Peking
from Mukden on the
occasion of
your visit to Shanghai
when I became
the Consul
at Changchun
shortly after
Mrs. Croly and
Mrs. Straight
and Miss Dodge
left Mukden at war
with Russia

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004925

E1-16-193

3

Secretary of State
Mr. Lansing very
very much for
his advice and
interest in me
was always great
help - his influence
was greatly in my
favor. His death
was a blow, indeed.
Sadly enough
the Allied Powers

Dear Friend.
I must at present,
when the war Excel-
ling Europe, Japan,
Even the States
America - At war
Great Britain, too
Concerning the enmity
here Even at
Washington the
Capital in Acting
E. Rolph Two
Vast Chinese Lot-

in the hospital - I saw
him many times
in the summer of 1913,
and in the winter of
1916-17 when I was
home on leave.

For years, we
corresponded - My last
letter to him never
reached him as it
was caught by a
Censor, who believed
I was giving valuable
political news regarding
China to be not
connected with the
State department!

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004926

blem, for he was an
Authority on Far
Eastern questions -

I have written
you at this length, so
that you will under-
stand my reasons for
extending my sympathy
at this time - your loss
has been great and
so has mine -

With all best wishes
to you and your children
for this year and the
years to come, I am
Sincerely yours -
George Hanson

1-16-19.

Dear Mr. Straight
This is just a line to say how sorry I
am to have been ill - I do hope
Aiken will benefit you. I am
perfectly delighted that you
will come - will set the
time for early summer for then

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004927

We can go about more comfortably.
I wrote Adelaide Roby to send you
what she has - and will try to
get the Times picture - By. the
way, have letters - he will look when
he returns from Lake Placid. This
is NOT a letter - merely an ex-
clamation! With my love - Jan
[Jensvold]
Faithfully yours Chris Jay Jensvold

Honolulu
T. H.

Kamehameha School
Jan. 16th, 1919.

Mrs. Willard Straight.

I wish to
send you my deepest
sympathy in the loss of
Willard Straight. I was
an intimate friend of
his parents in Pasadena and
spent several months
at the Straights after
graduating at the Pasadena
Normal School. I still
think him the most adora-
ble child I ever knew
and he was devoted to

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004928

me whom he called
Aunt Alice". I met Willard
again when he was a
young man and I hoped
he might see him if
we should visit New York.
I met Willard several
times myself and
his parents.
We have lived in Honolulu
about 29 years where
my husband has been
Vice President of a Hawaiian
school. Willard has been
so kind to our son Robert
now living in New York

at 908 Hunt Rd.: Mr. Straight's
[illegible] Robert
[illegible]
[illegible]
in the Naval
He has been
Mr. Straight
have been
York. Had
I hope some
and Millicent
His son writes
Ralph Jr. years
dressed like

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004929

[1-17-19]

My dear Mrs Straight:

It was with deep sorrow that I learned of the untimely death of Major Straight. At any age his removal from their midst would have been untimely for the loved and loving ones of his family; but the early ending of his many activities and good works for his city and his country deprived America of one of her most public-spirited and useful citizens at a time in his life that was ripe for the largest accomplishments and services. His support for worthy causes invariably possessed the rather unusual merit of being readily and cheerfully given.

I feel a deep sense of personal loss and sorrow. Though not knowing him intimately, I had worked for and with Major Straight enough in the Presidential Campaign of 1916 and as Chairman of the Committee

The parents of Mr. Straight were most wonderful people I have ever known, having the highest ideals.

I hope you will not think me wrong in writing you but I felt impelled to do so. I will write to Hazel Straight at once.

From a loving and devoted friend of Mr. Straights.

Hoping this may reach you and may give you a little comfort. I Sincerely Yours Mrs. Ulrick Thompson.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004930

of War Speakers and War Instruction of Mayor Mitchel's Committee on National Defense to come to admire him greatly and to form for him a genuine personal attachment. His personality was most charming and attractive, and I found his methods, motives, and purposes always to be unquestionable, his integrity and honor unimpeachable.

I sympathize with you deeply and rejoice in the consolation that is yours in your intimate memories of a nature so lovely and so rare.

Very sincerely yours
George Brokaw Dunton
Captain, 349th Field Artillery
American Expeditionary Forces
France

January Seventeenth, Nineteen Nineteen

To
Mrs Willard D. Straight
Fifth Avenue at Ninety-fourth Street
New York City

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004931

1-19-19-

Aurora. N.Y.

My dear Mr. Straight,

With good luck and not too many interruptions this will be a letter to you in reply to yours of the 14th.

I am so thankful that if any phrase I have written of comfort to

Mr. My own grief at losing Willard is so great that I fear it has made me a bit selfish in realizing what his going means to them - and Mrs especially, of course from me. It just seems all wrong - but yet Mr must believe it is right - That Mrs

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004932

much Inwited to say but only
to you — and Ishall have that
opportunity When you come Sun-
Dear Mrs Straight I am so glad
that you will come — Ishall
do everything in my power to
make you happy about it —
as I know Willard would
have me — Adelaide Roby
wrote me that she thought
her mother had all the old pictures
but doubted that the Cruellian
of 1901 was among her collections
of college days — So Mrs. Morison
very kindly sent me the one picture
which Ishall send you with
whatever the Congo times can
give me tomorrow. Adelaide made

[1-19-19]

the nice suggestion that
you write to ΔTΔ Lodge
2 Edgemere Lane, Shaker
N.H. and that the
maiden of the society
could tell you who sent
the Cruellian to
the Editor about first
my pic have — But
Hazel must have
Whatever More

[2]

those of St. Ramier
and Miss Newbrick. Then
Mr. Robertson must have
heard from him — and
heard from Mrs Stephens —
I envy Mrs Stephens —
Willard told it so well
China — Then in Mukden
No one have heard to —
Hanier Harbin — Khmer
Kuno Mee and Mee
Write to Pat Wright

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004933

of him the moment I shall send the pictures to you at New York — and they should reach you before the 24th — I am glad you are going away — and hope it will be warmer when you return to N.Y. I expect to go to Cleveland on the 3rd and stop in Rochester on my return for a few days with Adelaide R. Is Amato to want you to be in Chicago in pleasant weather — the end of May or early June — and I shall ask M. Roberts to come down while you are here — if you wish. Talking is so much more satisfying than writing — and perhaps we could make

[3]

to Athens — this of course — if you want to — the only 100 miles for me — but that not that decided now — anyway. If you are staying please. for us to my box — I shall what about Sue — a stranger Trait with her — but she always is reserved — and no

doubt, under the circumstances it was best not to say anything — but my heart was aching for her. Shall she is quite well.

I shall write you again before Sutter send to 1130 Fifth Ave. — and not a day passes without the thought of you — Villard Carl was always in —

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004934

the accident — think of what that means! — and for truly crowned his days. I was so glad when he married — and when I met you — I was so glad that I have him married to you. With my love — Jane —

Faithfully your friend

Elsie Gray Jerome [Jerome]

[1-25-19]

My dear Mr. Straight.

Just a few lines to say — Jerome left for Europe last Saturday. I talk about you a lot. And how I am trying to fit a work for you. I see you now very much. You have been in

My thoughts flew past Park Row. But I felt if I could be almost sure I should be able to write to you. When the Wilsons have gone to Europe — Shine here forgotten the Confederate Women. Rec. by you and Mrs. Straight and it is

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004935

American Consulate,
San Luis Potosí, Mexico.
January 22, 1919.

Dear Mrs. Straight:

I write you these words of deep condolence with a sad and heavy heart. With the untimely passing away of Mr. Straight I feel that I have lost a father, and know that I have lost the best friend I have ever had or ever will have. But of course my loss is nothing compared to your great loss. - How I would have loved to have seen Mr. Straight live to do the great work he was capable of doing!!! I hope my baby son "Willard" will be at least as good as the one after whome he is named!

I request to understand
that I remain
Yours Sincerely
Anita Eudaly - Secretary
Vice Con: Stanley B. Hawks
Vice Consul in Charge
Many people - "But it's
no use - Consul is Entire-
ly Alone"
The Yellowstone
Must Come - Please
Be Prepared
Keep Strong

Deepest Sympathy -
And Believe Me
Most Sincerely Yours -
Mary Ashley Cleland -

29 East 29th St -
Saturday Morning
1919 -

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004936

While I am of so little importance in the world, yet if there is any possible thing I can do for you pray do not hesitate to call upon me, for I shall be at your service at all times. While it may appear ridiculous for one of my small and insignificant standing to offer to help you in any possible way, yet I trust you will feel and know that I speak from my heart with the most sincerity.

With the greatest respect, I am, dear Mrs. Straight,

Very sadly Yours,
M. Grosvenor Faulkner.

Form 1204

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT — GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT 1016 THIRD AVENUE
T77FY FGL 8 Near 91st St., Phone 6745 Lenox
FY BOSTON MASS 625P JAN 22 191

MRS WILLARD STRAIGHT
1130 5TH AV NY

DEAREST LOVE OUR HEARTS ARE WITH YOU TODAY

BEATRICE DEMONGAL
704P

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004937

414 E. Buffalo St.
Ithaca. N.Y.

[1-23-19]

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I have hesitated to intrude upon your sorrow while it was too dreadfully recent. But I feel that you will forgive me, the comparative stranger that I am to you, if I must express to you my sympathy for you, and also voice the great personal loss I feel in the departure of Mr. Straight.

I knew him intimately in the good old days when he was a student at Cornell — His interests lay so closely along mine at that time — and I came to love him.

Then our paths diverged. He became successful and held a commanding position. I felt reticent then about presuming that our old friendship still held. But he

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004938

proved the great soul that he was by being always the same to me, and he did me the great honor of writing to me how he always remembered the old days with me with appreciation. That letter was written several years ago but it is still one of my treasures.
So - is it strange that I feel a personal loss? That a man with such gifts and such a great soul should be called away seems cruel and unjust. I can only thank God that I had the great good fortune of having, at one time, come in such close contact with him. But for you and your dear children my heart bleeds. I can only offer a poor word of sympathy and a wish that your sorrow may gradually lessen. For what Willard Straight was to me, I thank you. Would that I could have expressed it more to him. In great sorrow and with deep sympathy, and with the hope that you may remember having entertained me with your dear husband in your home, I am

Sincerely yours
Olaf H. Brauner

January 23-1919.

Perhaps on may remember me if I tell you I was at Cornell Univ. Straight Memorial Library at Cornell

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004-939

[19193]

Tryon N. C.
Jan - 23 - 1918

Dear Mrs. Straight: —

Your letter made me very happy. It was a beautiful and significant fact that you and Willard should have come together in this life. You will continue in another.

The thought of the book you are making fills me with the deepest pleasure. It ought to be done, not only as a memorial to a unique spirit, but as an inheritance to his children and remoter posterity, as well as for an inspiration to everybody. For his was a light that

o it; but I could do nothing with Dixie. It would be impossible to distribute what I would say. I do it. I will see Dana & Sheldon Dow, and I will do it as you once, you may [illegible] Isabella, [illegible] please, & [illegible] for remission. I thank you. Dorothy please give you. I should visit, but I [illegible] a little visit, but I was [illegible] winter. I was [illegible] time perhaps? Cordially yo

I shall look forward to your coming to Ithaca next [illegible] I hope that this [illegible] impossible. Sometime [illegible] your coming

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004940

to write the little sketch you wanted, not only because I love the Straights but because they ought to be told about of the wonderful courage and unselfishness, and I am grateful for the only chance I shall ever have. Dear Miss Straight is incapable of writing in the third person, and Mrs. Williams is incapable of accepting Williams's merits as a child, and I may have some letters written by his mother in Tokyo. I do not think they would help you with the book but they might help you to know a woman whom you would have cared for even if you had not known her son. I sent her diaries to Hazel some years ago and I may have sent the letters, also I think I still have some.

Affectionately
Margaret W. Morley

[2] [1-23-19]

shone steadily through everything - Both his parents were unusual. As I look back they stand out as among the most interesting persons - stories I have ever come in contact with. Williams appears to have been the result of the most unusual combination of forces that ever came together. Their work in the world was creative, inspirational, and they, like Williams, passed out of life at the moment when they stood on the threshold of great achievements.

I am more than glad

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004941

·B·F·H·

907 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

My dear Mrs. Straight:

May I follow out my impulse to express to you what I feel the loss of your husband is to our city and country. To one whom I know had a combination of possibilities for good such as his; the character, the mind and above all the spirit; you at his side with courage

It can seem to be relegated to others but there is a difference which surely shows as they grow up.

This is quite long and may seem intrusive from someone who knows you so slightly but it is truly sincere and

Please believe me

Yours with heartfelt sympathy

Blanche Ferry Hooker

(Mrs. Elon Huntington Hooker)

January 24
1919

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004942

to test new measures and give many a cause and person a chance to prove good - the outlook for your double service in the community was wonderful.

I have observed and admired during the short time I have lived in New York the various subjects which you and your husband supported and I send this word only to say that I know you are going to have the same courage even if it seems not near present - to go on for the sake of your children. Do give them of your rested not tired self for it is my belief that every minute a mother spends with her children bears results.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004943

Salem - 24
Mass. I
19

My dear Mrs. Straight: -

Many thanks for your letter —

It was a real pleasure to me to hear from you —

With regard to your request for our recollections of Willard — I have thought the matter over very much —

on paper - as we would if we were telling you face to face & then - having our recollections before you - you can use any part of them you wish —

I will try to let you hear from me before long —

Mr. Spinney joins me in all good wishes -

Yours Annie L. Spinney

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004944

And a bit of
me will try to
give you a picture
of him - as we
saw & knew him
& loved him in
those early days
& to tell you what
we can of his
first years in
China - It will
be a real pleasure
to do so ——

From my point
of view it will
be much better
if you will leave
us to do it in our
own way ——
Pray do not send
the secretary up -
or look for any=
thing put in
form to go into a
book —— Just let
us tell you how
we remember him -

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004945

AMERICAN RED CROSS

CROCE ROSSA AMERICANA

10, VIA ANFITEATRO
TELEPHONE - 77

~~VERONA~~
Trent. Italy
January 25

Dear Mrs. Straight,

I know your heart is full of courage and I cannot write you any little conventional thing, but let me tell you how much I am thinking of you. Of here in Italy. It has seemed as if all over Europe as well as in America, everyone were lamenting the loss of your husband who has left only shadows and brilliant memories behind him. It must make you very proud to know how deeply admired and loved he was everywhere. With warmest sympathy.

Yours very sincerely,

Amy Aldrich

The American Asiatic Association

627 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK

Telephone PLAZA 544 *Cable Address* "AMASIAT"

ASIA *The Journal of the Association*

PRESIDENT
LLOYD C. GRISCOM

VICE-PRESIDENTS
JOHN B. CLEVELAND
ALBA B. JOHNSON
CHARLES M. SCHWAB
ELLISON A. SMYTH
EUGENE P. THOMAS
THEODORE B. WILCOX

TREASURER
JOSEPH R. PATTERSON

SECRETARY
JOHN FOORD

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
GEORGE G. ALLEN
I. OSGOOD CARLETON
HOWARD E. COLE
ALBERT CORDES
E. P. CRONKHITE
MARTIN EGAN
H. T. S. GREEN
JAMES R. MORSE
JOHN W. T. NICHOLS
MAURICE A. OUDIN
WILLARD STRAIGHT
SILAS D. WEBB

January 24, 1919

Dear Mrs. Straight—

Here is one thing so interesting as a possibility for your consideration when thinking of the biography of the major that I do not understand why I forgot to mention it to you. Probably that was because I felt unconsciously that you must already have known of it.

But lest you have not heard, it is the suggestion that came up in a conversation Ira Patchin had with Martin

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004946

2212 R St
Washington
Jan 25

My dear Mrs Straight.

Your very kind invitation to dine with you was, on account of my absence in Princeton, not communicated to me until Tuesday last, when I tried to reach you by telephone and left a message to the effect that I regretted exceedingly being already engaged for

Egan that Mrs Egan might be in a position to do some writing. I am not sure about the exact way in which it came up, but I know that Martin Egan thought that Mrs. Egan would be only too happy to do whatever she could that was thought advisable.

No doubt all of this you are quite aware of. I do hope we shall be able to get all the richness of tone and feeling that lifted the Major's life into a thing that radiated — in the parts of his life we shall have the delight of publishing. I couldn't help feeling all day after leaving your house yesterday how very much real life is a thing of two or three or four or five wonderful gifts and qualities in a human spirit — not complicated and difficult and having little to do with things and achievements — but simple and direct — and how beautiful and lasting and remembered things in life are only the

and rare combinations of these things — and their delicate shadings and mingling — the spirit — and the passion — of the Major's life will be the finest thing we shall have upon this trip next year. Sincerely yours Frederick Howe

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004947

that evening and having
to leave for Washington
that same night. I was
desirous to express to you
again my high appreciation
of your courtesy and my
deep disappointment at
not having had the pleasure
of meeting you and being
able to talk with you
about many common
interests. I have watched
with interest and admiration
the things you have been
doing for the better and
freer expression of American
thought and life and
I should greatly value the
opportunity of talking over
these and other matters
with you. You would do me
a special favor if you
would let me know when
you are to be in Washington
next. There are also some
things in connection with the
biography of Mr Straight
that I should like to speak
to you about.

Please believe me,
Very sincerely yours
Paul S. Reinsch.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004948

ESTABLISHED BY THE CITY OF NEW YORK 1816

TELEPHONE
5948
MURRAY HILL

Valentine's Manual of Old New York

HENRY COLLINS BROWN, EDITOR, 15 EAST 40TH ST., NEW YORK.

EDITORIAL ROOMS
VALENTINE'S MANUAL
GLIMPSES OF OLD NEW YORK
NEW YORK OF TO-DAY

January 26

Mrs Willard Straight
Subscription Editor

My dear Mrs Straight: Was the photograph I sent you of the Grace Building now the Arden House of any interest to you. We intend to publish it in next years Manual in connection with a slight tribute we wish to pay to Major Straight.

I saw also at work on a book in which he was much interested – Early Modern Ships – containing many of the little Salem Newburyport & Boston ships. It will be a very elaborate affair as I have succeeded in securing a wonderfully rare and interesting ships from many of the old New England families – the Crowninshields, Gardners Peabodys Derby Endicotts Forbes et al to besides the remarkable collection of Mr Charles H Taylor who owns many unique an rare examples of the celebrated Roux Bros of Marseilles who made what they called "Ships Portraits" according to

ESTABLISHED BY THE CITY OF NEW YORK 1816

TELEPHONE
5948
MURRAY HILL

Valentine's Manual of Old New York

HENRY COLLINS BROWN, EDITOR, 15 EAST 40TH ST., NEW YORK.

EDITORIAL ROOMS
VALENTINE'S MANUAL
GLIMPSES OF OLD NEW YORK
NEW YORK OF TO-DAY

their business card one of which is in the Taylor collection. What I am trying to do is to record that period in American merchant shipping when man sailed the sea with naught but sail and oar to help him. All the plates are to be in color exactly as in the original pictures some of which were drawn by sailors themselves.

You can readily imagine how deeply this subject interested the Major Straight was in its pages I hope to record some sense of the worth of his life to New York which, alas, was all to brief.

Yours Truly
Henry Collins Brown

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004949

26 January 1909

GRACE CHURCH RECTORY
804 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

My dear Mrs Straight,

Thank

you very much
for this generous
gift in connection
with the Me-
morial Service.
Only too well

I have thought
of you constantly
& have wanted to
write & tell
you how much
I have been stirred
by the warm
words which I
hear in praise
of Major Straight

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004950

not to have
troubled; for I
did so little,
& should have
liked to do so
very much more.

I shall see
the first, as
I know he would
like to have it
used, in giving
help & suffer-
ing, & as I so
use it, I shall
be thinking of
him, & so it
shall be in
memoriam.

(2)

in all hands. It
must be a
comfort to you &
feel how deeply
his life has gone
into the life of
the world, & share
it & inspire
it. His life has
was not short,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004951

because he filled
it so full of
wisdom & compli-
kindness that he
did more in it than
most men do
with many years.
And now he
has entered
new & great

opportunities, which
we can only imag-
ine.

Thank you
again, Dear Mrs
Straight, & be-
lieve me
Very Sincerely Yours
Charles Lewis Slattery
[Slattery]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004952

THE NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR IMPROVING
THE CONDITION OF THE POOR

OFFICERS
CORNELIUS N. BLISS, JR., PRESIDENT
GEORGE BLAGDEN, TREASURER
FRANKLIN B. KIRKBRIDE, SECRETARY
GEORGE W. WICKERSHAM, COUNSEL
BAILEY B. BURRITT
GENERAL DIRECTOR

VICE-PRESIDENTS
R. FULTON CUTTING
PERCY R. PYNE
ROBERT SHAW MINTURN

UNITED CHARITIES BUILDING, 105 EAST 22ND STREET
TELEPHONE, 7040 GRAMERCY

NEW YORK January 27, 1919

Thanked him and wrote that Mrs. Straight is in France

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

My dear Mrs. Straight

I send you herewith a copy of a minute which has been spread on the records of this Association. I cannot forbear adding a word of deep personal regret. I was in Paris at the time that Mr. Straight was taken sick and was enabled, through my acquaintance with Mr. Walter Lippmann, to secure an almost daily bulletin as to his progress. Afterwards it was my privilege to talk with one of the nurses, who cared for him, who was one of our good employees of the AICP until she left for work in France.

The loss of few men could have caused so wide and genuine regret among Americans in Paris at the time as did the death of Willard Straight. It is needless to add that I personally shall miss him very much in A.I.C.P. work.

Please do not take the trouble to acknowledge this letter.

Sincerely yours

Bailey B. Burritt

General Director

American Y.M.C.A. hiee
January 27th

Dear Mrs. Straight.

The news of your husband's death has come to us very late but I must also tell you how sad we are to hear of it. In Switzerland we are working harder because of it. It is a priceless cause that such men as Mr. Straight die for.

Very sincerely
Elizabeth D. Loomis.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004953

January twenty-eighth,
1 9 1 9.

Mr. Fiedler:

I thought you might like to send a copy of a letter the Corporation has received relative to Major Straight, to Mrs. Straight.

F. M. Dearing.

RECEIVED
JAN 29 1919
W. D. S.
A. W. F.

[enclosed 1-28-19]

(COPY)

CHINA COMMERCE CLUB OF CALIFORNIA
Merchants Exchange Bldg.,
San Francisco.

January 21, 1919.

RECEIVED
JAN 29 1919
W. D. S.
A. W. F.

The Secretary,
American International Corporation,
120 Broadway, New York City.

Dear Sir:

I would feel it a privilege if I might express to someone associated with the late Major Willard Straight as you have been the tribute to him of a friend who knew Major Straight in China from early in 1907 and who was privileged to hear his very fine address before the Foreign Trade Convention early in 1917. I shall cherish the memory of his very pleasant company, his fine character and his admirable achievements thruout my life and as one of the best memories I have been given to enjoy.

Faithfully,

(Signed) Frank E. Hinckley.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004954

WILLARD STRAIGHT
ONE TWENTY BROADWAY
NEW YORK

January twenty eighth
1 9 1 9.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I am enclosing herewith the further sketch prepared by Captain Rennick, covering the work of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, together with accompanying enclosures. If you desire any further information in this connection, kindly let me know and I shall be glad to take the matter up with Captain Rennick, although he thinks this last enclosure will give a pretty fair outline of the activities of this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

A. W. Fiedler

Mrs. Willard Straight,
Aiken, South Carolina.

[encl. 1-28-19]

Capt. G. R. Rennick.

Major Willard Straight was appointed by Secretary McAdoo in October, 1917, to organize a party to proceed Overseas and handle the administration of the War Risk Insurance Act with the American Expeditionary Forces.

After long conferences with the War and Treasury Departments in Washington a scheme for handling this work in the American E. F. was evolved and on December 12th, 1917, Major Straight together with thirty-four other officers and sixty-five enlisted men sailed on the S. S. "ADRIATIC" for France.

Prior to embarking Major Straight had laid out an entire program of operations among the American E. F., and took with him what he considered necessary equipment to do the work. In this connection, it was amazing to find how exactly correct Major Straight's conception of what the difficulties to be encountered would be. With no information as to the situation in France he conceived plans which exactly fitted conditions.

Upon arrival in France two officers and eight enlisted men were detailed for duty in London to handle War Risk matters with the American troops stationed in England. The remainder of the party proceeded to Paris, which at that time was Headquarters, Line of Communications.

It was found that American officers and soldiers of which there were approximately 250,000, were at that time scattered among approximately 200 towns and villages. Due to the war and other conditions, transportation was exceedingly difficult. Through the cooperation of the American Red Cross, Major Straight secured the loan of a number of Red Cross automobiles, and the Y. M. C. A., loaned the use of all their huts.

The period of automatic insurance, that is, the period during which officers and enlisted men were by the Government automatically covered by insurance without any premium payments, expired February 12th, 1918. This was exactly two months from the day the party sailed from the United States. The party landed in France December 27th, and in the short period between then and February 12th the entire American E. F. were canvassed for insurance and allotments, insurance aggregating approximately $1,250,000,000 being secured.

Major Straight was transferred from the War Risk Section to the Army General Staff College on February 14th. He left the War Risk Section with a tremendous amount of work on hand which was most ably and brilliantly handled by his successor, Major Henry D. Lindsley, later Colonel Lindsley. Many of the problems which Colonel Lindsley later had to face were unthought of by Major Straight, but it is a fact that the plan of organization conceived by Major Straight in Washington prior to his leaving the country was the basis of the entire organization of that Section during all of the time it has been in operation.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004955

[1-28-19]

It is also a fact that this organization which only for a short time exceeded 250 persons handled the entire insurance and allotment matters of the American E. F., which at the signing of the armistice were said to have amounted to 2,500,000 men.

This record speaks for itself of the ability as an organizer of Major Straight and his successor, Colonel Lindsley.

With reference to Major Willard D. Straight's services with the War Risk Section of the American Expeditionary Forces, Colonel Henry D. Lindsley requests to make this statement:

"The soldiers of the American Expeditionary Forces and their dependents owe a lasting debt to Major Willard D. Straight for the service which he rendered in the original organization and administration of the War Risk Section with the American Expeditionary Forces.

When Major Straight got together his officers and men in December,1917 to go to France, he had practically no actual knowledge of the conditions Overseas. France was a closed book to the people of the United States. Entering upon this uncharted sea, Major Straight showed an intuition as to the actual problem and its successful handling which cannot be characterized by any milder word than "marvelous". He carried with him not only men but a complete equipment which enabled his new organization to commence operations with the entire American Expeditionary Forces in Europe practically on the date of his arrival there, and his work was so carefully thought out that no part of it was overlooked or postponed beyond the very short time within which it was necessary to reach every officer and enlisted man with the American Expeditionary Forces.

The friendly relations which Major Straight had with officers of the highest rank with the American Expeditionary Forces enabled him immediately upon arriving in France to establish that cordial co-operation with every branch of our army, so essential to the successful administration of the War Risk Section.

While the record of Major Straight's life is one of achievement after achievement, there is in it no more brilliant page than that which records his services in organizing and directing the work of the War Risk Insurance Bureau with our soldiers overseas."

At the time a man enlists in the Army, the Navy, the Marine Corps or the Coast Guard of the United States, he is solicited for Government Insurance. He may take up to a maximum of $10,000 and is eligible for 120 days after the date of his enlistment.

PROCEDURE IN UNITED STATES: If a man takes insurance he fills out a Form 2-A, the original of which is sent to the Bureau of War Risk Insurance and the duplicate placed with the man's Service Record. Under a recent War Department Order, however, the duplicate copies which have been kept with Service Records are now to be collected and sent to the Adjutant General of the Army for file.

It was the original plan that there would be at each Division Headquarters two officers and eight enlisted men to take charge of all insurance and allotment matters arising within the Division. This staff was later slightly modified, and handled in addition to insurance and allotment matters all personnel and statistical matters for the Division.

The amount of insurance premium is deducted from the monthly pay of soldiers on the payroll. Company Commanders are responsible that proper deductions are made, but aside from this and a personal interest in his men, a Company Commander is not responsible for, nor has he any other connection with, insurance matters.

Insurance activities in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard were organized as outlined above in all camps throughout the country as well as in schools and other points of concentration.

Attached hereto is a copy of Form 2-A, used in making an application for insurance, together with a copy of the Insurance Act

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004956

with Amendments Prior to July 1st, 1918, which may be of interest to you.

PROCEDURE IN THE AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES: It was generally believed that the work of soliciting insurance done in the camps in the United States was thorough enough to close the matter. However, men were being sent Overseas and arriving still within the 120 day limit, and a trip through the "submarine zone" had a considerable effect upon their attitude toward insurance. Many men took less than the full $10,000 in the United States, and upon arriving in France were very anxious to get an amount to round out the $10,000. To handle this situation, branch offices were established at each port of debarkation in both France and England and Organization Commanders were, by Commanding Generals of base ports, instructed to submit to the Insurance Officer at that port a list of all men under their command who had less than the $10,000 of insurance and who were still within the 120-day limit. This system made it possible for the Insurance Officer to interview personally each man who was not fully covered, and an average insurance of about $20,000,000 a week was thus secured.

Applications in France were made out in triplicate, the original and one copy being sent to the War Risk Section, Headquarters, S. O. S., and the remaining copy placed with the soldier's Service Record. One of the copies sent to the War Risk Section was forwarded by it to the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, at Washington, and the other kept at the Headquarters of the War Risk Section as an emergency copy.

In addition to the organizations at the base ports, the War Risk Section in France maintained an Insurance Officer with necessary enlisted men at each Casual and Replacement Camp; also a number of officers who served as Traveling Adjusters, whose business it was to

go from place to place wherever their services were requested to assist Company Commanders in clearing up insurance or allotment matters.

The organization at Headquarters, War Risk Section, consisted of:

Insurance Division
Allotment Division
Legal Division
Field Service Division
Administration Division
Military Division.

In addition to the insurance feature, the War Risk Bureau in the United States and the War Risk Section in France handled all allotments of pay made by enlisted men which carried a Government allowance, on account of dependency.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004957

[1-28-19]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF WAR RISK INSURANCE
Division of
Military and Naval Insurance
Form 2 A (Revised)

APPLICATION FOR INSURANCE

My service number is _____ (Service number)

My full name is _____ (Given) (Middle) (Last name)

Home address _____ (No. and street or rural route) (City, town, or post office) (State)

Date of birth _____ (Month) (Day) (Year) *Age* _____ (Nearest birthday)

Date of last enlistment or entry into active service _____ (Give month, day, and year)

I hereby apply for insurance in the sum of $_____ payable as provided in the Act of Congress approved October 6, 1917, to myself during total permanent disability and from and after my death to the following persons in the following amounts:

RELATIONSHIP TO ME	NAME OF BENEFICIARY (Given) (Middle) (Last name) (If married woman her own Christian name must be stated)	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS (a) No. and street or rural route (b) City, town, or post office and State.	AMOUNT OF INSURANCE TO BE PAID TO EACH BENEFICIARY
		(a)	
		(b)	$
		(a)	
		(b)	
		(a)	
		(b)	
		(a)	
		(b)	

I authorize the necessary monthly deduction from my pay, or, if insufficient, from any deposit with the United States, in payment of the premiums as they become due, unless they be otherwise paid.

I offer this application, and it is to be deemed made, as of the date of signature, with premiums commencing from that date and payable at the end of each calendar month, beginning with the month in which application is made.

I wish Insurance Certificate sent to: (Name) _____

(Address) _____

Signed at (on board) _____

the _____ *day of* _____, *191*

Witnessed by: _____ *Sign here* _____

Rank _____

Commanding _____ (Rank or rating) _____ (Organization)

(This space for any notations insurance officers may deem necessary.)

2—8225

(OVER)

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004958

MONTHLY PREMIUMS FOR EACH $1,000 OF INSURANCE

(Each $1,000 of insurance is payable in installments of $5.75 per month for 240 months; but if the insured is totally and permanently disabled and lives longer than 240 months the payments will be continued as long as he lives and is so disabled.)

Age	Monthly premium
15	$0.63
16	.63
17	.63
18	.64
19	.64
20	.64
21	.65
22	.65
23	.65
24	.66
25	.66
26	.67
27	.67
28	.68
29	.69
30	.69
31	.70
32	.71
33	.72
34	.73
35	.74
36	.75
37	.76
38	.77
39	.79
40	$0.81
41	.82
42	.84
43	.87
44	.89
45	.92
46	.95
47	.99
48	1.03
49	1.08
50	1.14
51	1.20
52	1.27
53	1.35
54	1.44
55	1.53
56	1.64
57	1.76
58	1.90
59	2.05
60	2.21
61	2.40
62	2.60
63	2.82
64	3.07
65	3.35

The smallest amount of insurance which may be applied for is $1,000 and the largest amount is $10,000. Between such limits insurance may be applied for in any sum provided it is in multiples of $500.

Insurance may be applied for in favor of one or more of the following persons:

Husband or wife.

Child, including legitimate child; child legally adopted before April 6, 1917, or more than six months before enlistment or entrance into or employment in active service, whichever date is the later; stepchild, if a member of the insured's household; illegitimate child, but, if the insured is his father, only if acknowledged by instrument in writing signed by him, or if he has been judicially ordered or decreed to contribute to such child's support, and if such child, if born after December 31, 1917, shall have been born in the United States or in its insular possessions.

Grandchild, meaning a child, as above defined, of a child as above defined.

Parent, including father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, stepfather, and stepmother, either of the insured or of his/her spouse.

Brother or sister, including brothers and sisters of the half blood as well as of the whole blood, stepbrothers and stepsisters and brothers and sisters through adoption.

_____

_____

_____, _____, 19____.
(Day.) (Month.)

Charge / Checkage } of premium ($_____) will be made by me monthly, beginning with month in which application is dated.

First {charge / checkage} made _____, _____, 19____.
2—8225 (Day.) (Month.)

_____

*Commanding*_____

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004959

THE WAR RISK INSURANCE ACT.

(WITH AMENDMENTS PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1918.)

THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS ONLY THE PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE DIVISION OF MILITARY AND NAVAL INSURANCE.

AN ACT To authorize the establishment of a Bureau of War Risk Insurance in the Treasury Department.

* * * * * * *

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. That there is established in the Treasury Department a Bureau to be known as the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, the director of which shall receive a salary at the rate of $5,000 per annum.

That there be in such bureau a Division of Marine and Seamen's Insurance and a Division of Military and Naval Insurance in charge of a commissioner of Marine and Seamen's Insurance and a commissioner of Military and Naval Insurance, respectively, each of whom shall receive a salary of $4,000 per annum.

* * * * * * *

SEC. 13. That the director, subject to the general direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall administer, execute, and enforce the provisions of this Act, and for that purpose have full power and authority to make rules and regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, necessary or appropriate to carry out its purposes, and shall decide all questions arising under the Act, except as otherwise provided in section five. Wherever under any provision or provisions of the Act regulations are directed or authorized to be made, such regulations, unless the contex otherwise requires, shall or may be made by the director, subject to the general direction of the Secretary of the Treasury. The director shall adopt reasonable and proper rules to govern the procedure of the divisions and to regulate and provide for the nature and extent of the proofs and evidence and the method of taking and furnishing the same in order to establish the right to benefits of allowance, allotment, compensation, or insurance provided for in this Act, the forms of application of those claiming to be entitled to such benefits, the methods of making investigations and medical examinations, and the manner and form of adjudications and awards: *Provided, however*, That payment to any attorney or agent for such assistance as may be required in the preparation and execution of the necessary papers shall not exceed $3 in any one case: *And provided further*, That no claim agent or attorney shall be recognized in the presentation or adjudication of claims under articles two, three, and four, except that in the event of disagreement as to a claim under the contract of insurance between the bureau and any beneficiary or beneficiaries thereunder an

70564°—18——1

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004960

action on the claim may be brought against the United States in the district court of the United States in and for the district in which such beneficiaries or any one of them resides, and that whenever judgment shall be rendered in an action brought pursuant to this provision the court, as part of its judgment, shall determine and allow such reasonable attorney's fees, not to exceed five per centum of the amount recovered, to be paid by the claimant in behalf of whom such proceedings were instituted to his attorney, said fee to be paid out of the payments to be made to the beneficiary under the judgment rendered at a rate not exceeding one-tenth of each of such payments until paid.

Any person who shall, directly or indirectly, solicit, contract for, charge, or receive, or who shall attempt to solicit, contract for, charge, or receive any fee or compensation, except as herein provided, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and for each and every offense shall be punishable by a fine of not more than $500 or by imprisonment at hard labor for not more than two years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

SEC. 14. That the bureau and its divisions shall have such deputies, assistants, actuaries, clerks, and other employees as may be from time to time provided by Congress. The bureau shall, by arrangement with the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, respectively, make use of the services of surgeons in the Army and Navy. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to establish an advisory board consisting of three members skilled in the practice of insurance against death or disability for the purpose of assisting the Division of Military and Naval Insurance in fixing premium rates and in the adjustment of claims for losses under the contracts of insurance provided for in article four and in adjusting claims for compensation under article three; compensation for the persons so appointed to be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, but not to exceed $20 a day each while actually employed.

SEC. 15. That for the purposes of this Act, the director, commissioners, and deputy commissioners shall have power to issue subpœnas for and compel the attendance of witnesses within a radius of one hundred miles, to require the production of books, papers, documents, and other evidence, to administer oaths and to examine witnesses upon any matter within the jurisdiction of the bureau. The director may obtain such information and such reports from officials and employees of the departments of the Government of the United States and of the States as may be agreed upon by the heads of the respective departments. In case of disobedience to a subpœna, the bureau may invoke the aid of any district court of the United States in requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of documentary evidence, and such court, within the jurisdiction of which the inquiry is carried on, may, in case of contumacy or refusal to obey a subpœna issued to any officer, agent, or employee of any corporation or other person, issue an order requiring such corporation or other person to appear before the bureau, or to give evidence touching the matter in question; and any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof. Any person so required to attend as a witness shall

be allowed and paid the same fees and mileage as are paid witnesses in the district courts of the United States.

SEC. 16. That the director shall submit annually to the Secretary of the Treasury estimates of the appropriations necessary for the work of the bureau.

SEC. 17. That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $100,000, for the payment of all expenses incident to the work authorized under this Act, including salaries of the director and commissioners and of such deputies, assistants, accountants, experts, clerks, and other employees in the District of Columbia or elsewhere, as the Secretary of the Treasury may deem necessary, traveling expenses, rent and equipment of offices, typewriters and exchange of same, purchase of law books and books of reference, printing and binding to be done at the Government Printing Office, and all other necessary expenses. With the exception of the director, the commissioners, and such special experts as the Secretary of the Treasury may from time to time find necessary for the conduct of the work of the bureau, all employees of the bureau shall be appointed from lists of eligibles to be supplied by the Civil Service Commission and in accordance with the civil-service law. Such fees, allowances, and salaries shall be the same as are paid for similar services in other departments of the Government.

SEC. 18. That there is hereby appropriated from any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $141,000,000, to be known as the military and naval family allowance appropriation, for the payment of the family allowances provided by Article II. Payments out of this appropriation shall be made upon and in accordance with awards by the Commissioner of the Division of Military and Naval Insurance.

SEC. 19. That there is hereby appropriated, from any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $12,150,000, to be known as the military and naval compensation appropriation, for the payment of the compensation, funeral expenses, services, and supplies provided by Article III. Payments out of this appropriation shall be made upon and in accordance with awards by the director.

SEC. 20. That there is hereby appropriated, from any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $23,000,000, to be known as the military and naval insurance appropriation. All premiums that may be collected for the insurance provided by the provisions of Article IV shall be deposited and covered into the Treasury to the credit of this appropriation.

Such sum, including all premium payments, is hereby made available for the payment of the liabilities of the United States incurred under contracts of insurance made under the provisions of Article IV. Payments from this appropriation shall be made upon and in accordance with awards by the director.

SEC. 21. That there shall be set aside as a separate fund in the Treasury, to be known as the military and naval pay deposit fund, all sums held out of pay as provided by section two hundred and three of this Act. Such fund, including all additions, is hereby made

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004961

available for the payment of the sums so held and deposited, with interest, as provided in section two hundred and three, and the amount necessary to pay interest is hereby appropriated.

SEC. 22. That for the purpose of this amendatory Act the marriage of the claimant to the person on account of whom the claim is made shall be shown—

(1) By a duly verified copy of a public or church record; or

(2) By the affidavit of the clergyman or magistrate who officiated; or

(3) By the testimony of two or more eyewitnesses to the ceremony; or

(4) By a duly verified copy of the church record of baptism of the children; or

(5) By the testimony of two or more witnesses who know that the parties lived together as husband and wife, and were recognized as such, and who shall state how long, within their knowledge, such relation continued: *Provided*, That marriages, except such as are mentioned in section forty-seven hundred and five of the Revised Statutes, shall be proven in compensation or insurance cases to be legal marriages according to the law of the place where the parties resided at the time of marraige or at the time when the right to compensation or insurance accrued; and the open and notorious illicit cohabitation of a widow who is a claimant shall operate to terminate her right to compensation or insurance from the commencement of such cohabitation: *Provided further*, That for the purpose of the administration of Article II of this Act marriage shall be conclusively presumed, in the absence of proof, that there is a legal spouse living, if the man and woman have lived together in the openly acknowledged relation of husband and wife during the two years immediately preceding the date of the declaration of war, or the date of enlistment or of entrance into or employment in active service in the military or naval forces of the United States if subsequent to such declaration.

In Articles II, III, and IV of this Act unless the context otherwise requires—

(1) The term "child" includes—

(a) A legitimate child.

(b) A child legally adopted more than six months before the enactment of this amendatory Act or before enlistment or entrance into or employment in active service in the military or naval forces of the United States, whichever of these dates is the later.

(c) A stepchild, if a member of the man's household.

(d) An illegitimate child, but, as to the father, only, if acknowledged by instrument in writing signed by him, or if he has been judicially ordered or decreed to contribute to such child's support, and if such child, if born after December thirty-first, nineteen hundred and seventeen, shall have been born in the United States, or in its insular possessions.

(2) The term "grandchild" means a child as above defined of a child as above defined.

(3) Except as used in section four hundred and one and in section four hundred and two the terms "child" and "grandchild" are limited to unmarried persons either (a) under eighteen years of age, or (b) of any age, if insane, idiotic, or otherwise permanently helpless.

(4) The term "parent" includes a father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, father through adoption, mother through adoption, stepfather, and stepmother, either of the person in the service or of the spouse.

(5) The terms "brother" and "sister" include brothers and sisters of the half blood as well as those of the whole blood, stepbrothers and stepsisters, and brothers and sisters through adoption.

(6) The term "commissioned officer" includes a warrant officer, but includes only an officer in active service in the military or naval forces of the United States.

(7) The terms "man" and "enlisted man" mean a person, whether male or female, and whether enlisted, enrolled, or drafted into active service in the military or naval forces of the United States, and include noncommissioned and petty officers, and members of training camps authorized by law.

(8) The term "enlistment" includes voluntary enlistment, draft, and enrollment in active service in the military or naval forces of the United States.

(9) The term "commissioner" means the Commissioner of Military and Naval Insurance.

(10) The term "injury" includes disease.

(11) The term "pay" means the pay for service in the United States according to grade and length of service, excluding all allowances.

(12) The term "military or naval forces" means the Army, the Navy, the Marine Corps, the Coast Guard, the Naval Reserves, the National Naval Volunteers, and any other branch of the United States service while serving pursuant to law with the Army or the Navy.

SEC. 23. That when, by the terms of this amendatory Act, any payment is to be made to a minor, other than a person in the military or naval forces of the United States, or to a person mentally incompetent, such payment shall be made to the person who is constituted guardian or curator by the laws of the State or residence of claimant, or is otherwise legally vested with responsibility or care of the claimant.

SEC. 24. That the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, so far as practicable, shall upon request furnish information to and act for persons in the military or naval service, with respect to any contracts of insurance whether with the Government or otherwise, as may be prescribed by regulations. Said bureau may upon request procure from and keep a record of the amount and kind of insurance held by every commissioned and appointive officer and of every enlisted man in the military or naval service of the United States, including the name and principal place of business of the company, society, or organization in which such insurance is held, the date of the policy, amount of premium, name and relationship of the beneficiary, and such other data as may be deemed of service in protecting the interests of the insured and beneficiaries.

SEC. 25. That whoever in any claim for family allowance, compensation, or insurance, or in any document required by this Act or

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004962

by regulation made under this Act, makes any statement of a material fact knowing it to be false, shall be guilty of perjury and shall be punished by a fine of not more than $5,000, or by imprisonment for not more than two years or both.

SEC. 26. That if any person entitled to payment of family allowance or compensation under this Act, whose right to such payment under this Act ceases upon the happening of any contingency, thereafter fraudulently accepts any such payment, he shall be punished by a fine of not more than $2,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

SEC. 27. That whoever shall obtain or receive any money, check, allotment, family allowance, compensation, or insurance under Articles II, III, or IV of this Act, without being entitled thereto, with intent to defraud the United States or any person in the military or naval forces of the United States, shall be punished by a fine of not more than $2,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

SEC. 28. That the allotments and family allowances, compensation, and insurance payable under Articles II, III, and IV, respectively, shall not be assignable; shall not be subject to the claims of creditors of any person to whom an award is made under Articles II, III, or IV; and shall be exempt from all taxation: *Provided*, That such allotments and family allowances, compensation, and insurance shall be subject to any claims which the United States may have, under Articles II, III, and IV, against the person on whose account the allotments and family allowances, compensation, or insurance is payable.

SEC. 29. That the discharge or dismissal of any person from the military or naval forces on the ground that he is an enemy alien, conscientious objector, or a deserter, or as guilty of mutiny, treason, spying, or any offense involving moral turpitude, or willful and persistent misconduct shall terminate any insurance granted on the life of such person under the provisions of Article IV, and shall bar all rights to any compensation under Article III or any insurance under Article IV.

SEC. 30. That this Act may be cited as the war-risk insurance Act.

ARTICLE II.

ALLOTMENTS AND FAMILY ALLOWANCES.

SEC. 200. That the provisions of this article shall apply to all enlisted men in the military or naval forces of the United States, except the Philippine Scouts, the insular force of the Navy, and the Samoan native guard and band of the Navy.

SEC. 201. That allotment of pay shall, subject to the conditions, limitations, and exceptions hereinafter specified, be compulsory as to wife, a former wife divorced who has not remarried and to whom alimony has been decreed, and a child, and voluntary as to any other person; but on the written consent of the wife or former wife divorced, supported by evidence satisfactory to the bureau of her ability to support herself and the children in her custody, the allotment for her and for such children may be waived; and on the enlisted man's application or otherwise for good cause shown, exemption from the allotment may be granted upon such conditions as may be prescribed by regulations.

The monthly compulsory allotment shall be $15. For a wife living separate and apart from her husband under court order or written agreement, or for a former wife divorced, the monthly compulsory allotment shall not exceed the amount specified in the court order, decree, or written agreement to be paid to her, and for an illegitimate child, to whose support the father has been judicially ordered or decreed to contribute, it shall not exceed the amount fixed in the order or decree.

If there is a compulsory allotment for a wife or child, then a former wife divorced who has not remarried and to whom alimony has been decreed, shall not be entitled to a compulsory allotment, but shall be entitled to a family allowance as hereinafter provided.[1]

SEC. 202. That the enlisted man may allot any proportion or proportions or any fixed amount or amounts of his monthly pay or of the proportion thereof remaining after the compulsory allotment, for such purposes and for the benefit of such person or persons as he may direct, subject, however, to such conditions and limitations as may be prescribed under regulations to be made by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, respectively.

SEC. 203. That in case one-half of an enlisted man's monthly pay is not allotted, regulations to be made by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, respectively, may require, under circumstances and conditions as may be prescribed in such regulations, that any proportion of such one-half pay as is not allotted shall be deposited to his credit, to be held during such period of his service as may be prescribed. Such deposit shall bear interest at the same rate as United States bonds bear for the same period, and, when payable, shall be paid principal and interest to the enlisted man, if living, otherwise to any beneficiary or beneficiaries he may have designated, or if there be no such beneficiary, then to the person or persons who, under the laws of the State of his residence, would be entitled to his personal property in case of intestacy.

SEC. 204. That a family allowance of not exceeding $50 per month shall be granted and paid by the United States upon written application to the bureau by such enlisted man or by or on behalf of any prospective beneficiary, in accordance with and subject to the conditions, limitations, and exceptions hereinafter specified.

The family allowance shall be paid from the time of enlistment to death in or one month after discharge from the service, but not for more than one month after the termination of the present war emergency. No family allowance shall be made for any period preceding November first, nineteen hundred and seventeen. The payment shall be subject to such regulations as may be prescribed relative to cases of desertion and imprisonment and of missing men.

Class A. In the case of a man to his wife (including a former wife divorced) and to his child or children—

(a) If there is a wife but no child, $15;

(b) If there is a wife and one child, $25;

[1] This section as amended takes effect on the 1st day of July, 1918.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004963

(c) If there is a wife and two children, $32.50, with $5 per month additional for each additional child;
(d) If there is no wife, but one child, $5;
(e) If there is no wife, but two children, $12.50;
(f) If there is no wife, but three children, $20;
(g) If there is no wife, but four children, $30, with $5 per month additional for each additional child;
(h) If there is a former wife divorced who has not remarried and to whom alimony has been decreed, $15.

Class B. In the case of a man or woman to a grandchild, a parent, brother, or sister—
(a) If there is one parent, $10;
(b) If there are two parents, $20;
(c) If there is a grandchild, brother, sister, or additional parent, $5 for each.

In the case of a woman, the family allowances for a husband and children shall be in the same amounts, respectively, as are payable, in the case of a man, to a wife and children, provided she makes a voluntary allotment of $15 as a basis therefor, and provided, further, that dependency exists as required in section two hundred and six.[1]

SEC. 205. That family allowances for members of Class A shall be paid only if and while a compulsory allotment is made to a member or members of such class. The monthly family allowance to a former wife divorced shall be payable only out of the difference, if any, between the monthly family allowance to the other members of Class A and the sum of $50, and only then if alimony shall have been decreed to her. For a wife living separate and apart under court order or written agreement or to a former wife divorced the monthly allowance, together with the allotment, if any, shall not exceed the amount specified in the court order, decree, or written agreement to be paid to her. For an illegitimate child, to whose support the father has been judicially ordered or decreed to contribute, it shall not exceed the amount fixed in the order or decree.

SEC. 206. That family allowances to members of class B shall be paid only if and while the members are dependent in whole or in part on the enlisted man, and then only if and while the enlisted man makes a monthly allotment of his pay for such members in the following amounts:

(a) If an enlisted man is not making a compulsory allotment for class A the allotment for class B required as a condition to the family allowance shall be $15;

(b) If an enlisted man is making a compulsory allotment for class A the additional allotment for class B required as a condition to the family allowance shall be $5, or if a woman is making an allotment of $15 for a dependent husband or child the additional allotment for the other members of class B required as a condition to the family allowance shall be $5.[1]

SEC. 207. That the amount of the family allowance to members of class B shall be subject to each of the following limitations:

(a) If an allowance is paid to one or more beneficiaries of Class A, the total allowance to be paid to the beneficiaries of Class B shall not

[1] This section as amended takes effect on the 1st of July, 1918.

exceed the difference between the allowance paid to the beneficiaries of Class A and the sum of $50.

(b) The total monthly allowance to beneficiaries of Class B added to the enlisted man's monthly allotment to them shall not exceed the average sum habitually contributed by him to their support monthly during the period of dependency but not exceeding a year immediately preceding his enlistment or the enactment of this amendatory Act.

SEC. 208. That as between the members of Class A and as between the members of Class B, the amount of the allotment and family allowance shall be apportioned as may be prescribed by regulations.

SEC. 209. The War and Navy Departments, respectively, shall pay over to the Treasury Department monthly the entire amount of such allotments for distribution to the beneficiaries, and the allotments and family allowances shall be paid by the bureau to or for the beneficiaries.

SEC. 210. That upon receipt of any application for family allowance, the commissioner shall make all proper investigations and shall make an award, on the basis of which award the amount of the allotments to be made by the man shall be certified to the War Department or Navy Department, as may be proper. Whenever the commissioner shall have reason to believe that an allowance has been improperly made or that the conditions have changed, he shall investigate or reinvestigate and may modify the award. The amount of each monthly allotment and allowance shall be determined according to the family conditions existing on the first day of the month.[1]

ARTICLE III.

COMPENSATION FOR DEATH OR DISABILITY.

SEC. 300. That for death or disability resulting from personal injury suffered or disease contracted in the line of duty, by any commissioned officer or enlisted man or by any member of the Army Nurse Corps (female) or of the Navy Nurse Corps (female) when employed in the active service under the War Department or Navy Department, the United States shall pay compensation as hereinafter provided; but no compensation shall be paid if the injury or disease has been caused by his own willful misconduct: *Provided*, That for the purposes of this section said officer, enlisted man, or other member shall be held and taken to have been in sound condition when examined, accepted, and enrolled for service: *Provided further*, That this section, as amended, shall be deemed to become effective as of October sixth, nineteen hundred and seventeen.

SEC. 301. That if death results from injury—

If the deceased leaves a widow or child, or if he leaves a mother or father either or both dependent upon him for support, the monthly compensation shall be the following amounts:
(a) If there is a widow but no child, $25;
(b) If there is a widow and one child, $35:

[1] This section as amended takes effect on the 1st of July, 1918.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004964

(c) If there is a widow and two children, $42.50, with $5 for each additional child up to two;
(d) If there is no widow, but one child, $20;
(e) If there is no widow, but two children, $30;
(f) If there is no widow, but three children, $40, with $5 for each additional child up to two;
(g) If there is a dependent mother (or dependent father), $20, or both, $30. The amount payable under this subdivision shall not exceed the difference between the total amount payable to the widow and children and the sum of $75. This compensation shall be payable for the death of but one child, and no compensation for the death of a child shall be payable if the dependent mother is in receipt of compensation under the provisions of this article for the death of her husband. Such compensation shall be payable whether the dependency of the father or mother or both arises before or after the death of the person, but no compensation shall be payable if the dependency arises more than five years after the death of the person.

If the death occurs before discharge or resignation from service, the United States shall pay for burial expenses and the return of the body to his home a sum not to exceed $100, as may be fixed by regulations.

The payment of compensation to a widow shall continue until her death or remarriage.

The payment of compensation to or for a child shall continue until such child reaches the age of eighteen years or marries, or if such child be incapable, because of insanity, idiocy, or being otherwise permanently helpless, then during such incapacity.

Whenever the compensation payable to or for the benefit of any person under the provisions of this section is terminated by the happening of the contingency upon which it is limited, the compensation thereafter for the remaining beneficiary or beneficiaries, if any, shall be the amount which would have been payable to them if they had been the sole original beneficiaries.

As between the widow and the children not in her custody, and as between children, the amount of the compensation shall be apportioned as may be prescribed by regulation.

The term "widow" as used in this section shall not include one who shall have married the deceased later than ten years after the time of injury, and shall include a widower, whenever his condition is such that, if the deceased person were living, he would have been dependent upon her for support.[1]

SEC. 302. That if disability results from the injury—

(1) If and while the disability is total, the monthly compensation shall be the following amounts:
(a) If the disabled person has neither wife nor child living, $30;
(b) If he has a wife but no child living, $45;
(c) If he has a wife and one child living, $55;
(d) If he has a wife and two children living, $65;

[1]Where section 301 is amended by striking out the provisions that a mother is entitled to compensation only when she is widowed and substitute provisions are included to the effect that compensation is payable to a dependent mother or dependent father, such substitute provisions shall be deemed to be in effect as of October 6, 1917. (Extract from section 15 of Act of June 25, 1918.)

(e) If he has a wife and three or more children living, $75;
(f) If he has no wife but one child living, $40, with $10 for each additional child up to two;
(g) If he has a mother or father, either or both dependent on him for support, then in addition to the above amounts, $10 for each;
(h) If he is totally disabled and in addition so helpless as to be in constant need of a nurse or attendant, such additional sum shall be paid, but not exceeding $20 per month, as the director may deem reasonable: *Provided*, *however*, That for the loss of both feet or both hands or both eyes, or for becoming totally blind or becoming helpless and permanently bedridden from causes occurring in the line of duty in the service of the United States, the rate of compensation shall be $100 per month: *Provided further*, That where the rate of compensation is $100 per month, no allowance shall be made for a nurse or attendant.

(2) If and while the disability is partial, the monthly compensation shall be a percentage of the compensation that would be payable for his total disability, equal to the degree of the reduction in earning capacity resulting from the disability, but no compensation shall be payable for a reduction in earning capacity rated at less than ten per centum.

A schedule of ratings of reductions in earning capacity from specific injuries or combinations of injuries of a permanent nature shall be adopted and applied by the bureau. Ratings may be as high as one hundred per centum. The ratings shall be based, as far as practicable, upon the average impairments of earning capacity resulting from such injuries in civil occupations and not upon the impairment in earning capacity in each individual case, so that there shall be no reduction in the rate of compensation for individual success in overcoming the handicap of a permanent injury. The bureau shall from time to time readjust this schedule of ratings in accordance with actual experience.

(3) In addition to the compensation above provided, the injured person shall be furnished by the United States such reasonable governmental medical, surgical, and hospital services and with such supplies, including artificial limbs, trusses, and similar appliances, as the director may determine to be useful and reasonably necessary: *Provided*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect the necessary military control over any member of the military or naval establishments before he shall have been discharged from the military or naval service.

(4) The amount of each monthly payment shall be determined according to the family conditions existing on the first day of the month.

(5) Where the disabled person and his wife are not living together, or where the children are not in the custody of the disabled person, the amount of the compensation shall be apportioned as may be prescribed by regulations.

(6) The term "wife" as used in this section shall include "husband" if the husband is dependent upon the wife for support.

SEC. 303. That every person applying for or in receipt of compensation for disability under the provisions of this article shall, as

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004965

frequently and at such times and places as may be reasonably required, submit himself to examination by a medical officer of the United States or by a duly qualified physician designated or approved by the director. He may have a duly qualified physician designated and paid by him present to participate in such examination. For all examinations he shall, in the discretion of the director, be paid his reasonable traveling and other expenses and also loss of wages incurred in order to submit to such examination. If he refuses to submit himself for, or in any way obstructs, any examination, his right to claim compensation under this article shall be suspended until such refusal or obstruction ceases. No compensation shall be payable while such refusal or obstruction continues, and no compensation shall be payable for the intervening period.

Every person in receipt of compensation for disability shall submit to any reasonable medical or surgical treatment furnished by the bureau whenever requested by the bureau; and the consequences of unreasonable refusal to submit to any such treatment shall not be deemed to result from the injury compensated for.

SEC. 304. [This section was repealed by act of June 27, 1918—vocational rehabilitation act—Public—No. 178—65th Cong.]

SEC. 305. That upon its own motion or upon application the bureau may at any time review an award, and, in accordance with the facts found upon such review, may end, diminish, or increase the compensation previously awarded, or, if compensation has been refused or discontinued, may award compensation.

SEC. 306. That no compensation shall be payable for death or disability which does not occur prior to or within one year after discharge or resignation from the service, except that where, after a medical examination made pursuant to regulations, at the time of discharge or resignation from the service, or within such reasonable time thereafter, not exceeding one year, as may be allowed by regulations, a certificate has been obtained from the director to the effect that the injured person at the time of his discharge or resignation was suffering from injury likely to result in death or disability, compensation shall be payable for death or disability, whenever occurring, proximately resulting from such injury.

SEC. 307. That compensation shall not be payable for death in the course of the service until the death be officially recorded in the department under which he may be serving. No compensation shall be payable for a period during which the man has been reported "missing" and a family allowance has been paid for him under the provisions of Article II.

SEC. 308. That no compensation shall be payable for death inflicted as a lawful punishment for a crime or military offense except when inflicted by the enemy. A dismissal or dishonorable or bad conduct discharge from the service shall bar and terminate all right to any compensation under the provisions of this article.

SEC. 309. That no compensation shall be payable unless a claim therefor be filed, in case of disability, within five years after discharge or resignation from the service, or, in case of death during the service, within five years after such death is officially recorded in the department under which he may be serving: *Provided, however*, That

where compensation is payable for death or disability occurring after discharge or resignation from the service, claim must be made within five years after such death or the beginning of such disability.

The time herein provided may be extended by the director not to exceed one year for good cause shown. If at the time that any right accrues to any person under the provisions of this article, such person is a minor, or is of unsound mind or physically unable to make a claim, the time herein provided shall not begin to run until such disability ceases.

SEC. 310. That no compensation shall be payable for any period more than two years prior to the date of claim therefor, nor shall increased compensation be awarded to revert back more than one year prior to the date of claim therefor.

SEC. 311. [This section was repealed by act of June 25, 1918. The substance is now included in section 28.]

SEC. 312. That compensation under this article shall not be paid while the person is in receipt of service or retirement pay. The laws providing for gratuities or payments in the event of death in the service and existing pension laws shall not be applicable after the enactment of this amendment to any person in the active military or naval service on the sixth day of October, nineteen hundred and seventeen, or who thereafter entered the active military or naval service, or to their widows, children, or their dependents, except in so far as rights under any such law have heretofore accrued.

Compensation because of disability or death of members of the Army Nurse Corps (female) or of the Navy Nurse Corps (female) shall be in lieu of any compensation for such disability or death under the Act entitled 'An Act to provide compensation for employees of the United States suffering injuries while in the performance of their duties, and for other purposes,' approved September seventh, nineteen hundred and sixteen.

SEC. 313. (1) That if an injury or death for which compensation is payable under this article is caused under circumstances creating a legal liability upon some person other than the United States or the enemy to pay damages therefor, the director, as a condition to payment of compensation by the United States, may require the beneficiary to assign to the United States any right of action he may have to enforce such liability of such other person, or if it appears to be for the best interests of the beneficiary the director may require him to prosecute the said action in his own name, subject to regulations. The director may require such assignment or prosecution at any time after the injury or death, and the failure on the part of the beneficiary to so assign or to prosecute said cause of action in his own name within a reasonable time, to be fixed by the director, shall bar any right to compensation on account of the same injury or death. The cause of action so assigned to the United States may be prosecuted or compromised by the director, and any money realized or collected thereon, less the reasonable expenses of such realization or collection, shall be placed to the credit of the military and naval compensation appropriation. If the amount placed to the credit of such appropriation in such case is in excess of the amount of the award of compensation, if any, such excess shall be

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004966

paid to the beneficiary after any compensation award for the same injury or death is made.

If a beneficiary or conditional beneficiary shall have recovered, as a result of a suit brought by him or on his behalf, or as a result of a settlement made by him or on his behalf, any money or other property in satisfaction of the liability of such other person, such money or other property so recovered shall be credited upon any compensation payable, or which may become payable, to such beneficiary, or conditional beneficiary by the United States on account of the same injury or death.

(2) If an injury or death for which compensation may be payable under this article is caused under circumstances creating a legal liability upon some person, other than the United States or the enemy, to pay damages therefor, then, in order to preserve the right of action, the director may require the conditional beneficiary at any time after the injury or death, to assign such right of action to the United States, or, if it appears to be for the best interests of such conditional beneficiary, to prosecute the said cause of action in his own name, subject to regulations. The failure on the part of the beneficiary to so assign or to prosecute the said cause of action in his own name within a reasonable time, to be fixed by the director, shall bar any right to compensation on account of the same injury or death. The cause of action so assigned may be prosecuted or compromised by the director, and any money realized or collected thereon, less the reasonable expenses of such realization or collection, shall be paid to such beneficiary, and be credited upon any future compensation which may become payable to such beneficiary by the United States on account of the same injury or death.

(3) The bureau shall make all necessary regulations for carrying out the purposes of this section. For the purposes of computation only under this section the total amount of compensation due any beneficiary shall be deemed to be equivalent to a lump sum equal to the present value of all future payments of compensation computed as of the date of the award of compensation at four per centum, true discount, compounded annually. The probability of the beneficiary's death before the expiration of the period during which he is entitled to compensation shall be determined according to the American Experience Table of Mortality.

A conditional beneficiary is any person who may become entitled to compensation under this article on or after the death of the injured person.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to impose any administrative duties upon the War or Navy Departments.

SEC. 314. That from and after the passage of this Act the rate of pension for a widow of an officer or enlisted man of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States who served in the Civil War, the War with Spain, or the Philippine Insurrection, now on the pension roll or hereafter to be placed on the pension roll, and entitled to receive a less rate than hereinafter provided, shall be $25 per month; and nothing herein shall be construed to affect the additional allowance provided by existing pension laws on account of a helpless child or child under sixteen years of age: *Provided, however*, That this Act

shall not be so construed as to reduce any pension under any Act, public or private: *And provided further*, That the provisions of this section shall be administered, executed, and enforced by the Commissioner of Pensions.

ARTICLE IV.

INSURANCE.

SEC. 400. That in order to give to every commissioned officer and enlisted man and to every member of the Army Nurse Corps (female) and of the Navy Nurse Corps (female) when employed in active service under the War Department or Navy Department greater protection for themselves and their dependents than is provided in Article III, the United States, upon application to the bureau and without medical examination, shall grant insurance against the death or total permanent disability of any such person in any multiple of $500, and not less than $1,000 or more than $10,000, upon the payment of the premiums as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 401. That such insurance must be applied for within one hundred and twenty days after enlistment or after entrance into or employment in the active service and before discharge or resignation, except that those persons who are in the active war service at the time of the publication of the terms and conditions of such contract of insurance may apply at any time within one hundred and twenty days thereafter and while in such service. Any person in the active service on or after the sixth day of April, nineteen hundred and seventeen, who, while in such service and before the expiration of one hundred and twenty days from and after such publication, becomes or has become totally and permanently disabled, or dies, or has died, without having applied for insurance, shall be deemed to have applied for and to have been granted insurance, payable to such person during his life in monthly installments of $25 each. If he shall die either before he shall have received any of such monthly installments or before he shall have received two hundred and forty of such monthly installments, then $25 per month shall be paid to his widow from the time of his death and during her widowhood, or if there is no widow surviving him, then to his child or children, or if there is no child surviving him, then to his mother, or if there is no mother surviving him, then to his father, if and while they survive him: *Provided, however*, That not more than two hundred and forty of such monthly installments, including those received by such person during his total and permanent disability, shall be so paid. The amount of the monthly installments shall be apportioned between children as may be provided by regulations.[1]

SEC. 402. That the director, subject to the general direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall promptly determine upon and publish the full and exact terms and conditions of such contract of insurance. The insurance shall be payable only to a spouse, child,

[1] Section 401, as amended, is in effect as of October 6, 1917: *Provided*, That nothing herein shall be construed to interfere with the payment of monthly installments, authorized to be made under the provisions of said section 401 as originally enacted, for the months up to and including June, 1918: *Provided further*, That all awards of automatic insurance under the provisions of said section 401 as originally enacted shall be revised as of the 1st day of July, 1918, in accordance with the provisions of said section 401 as amended. (Extract from section 20 of Act of June 25, 1918.)

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004967

grandchild, parent, brother, or sister, and also during total and permanent disability to the injured person, or to any or all of them. The insurance shall be payable in two hundred and forty equal monthly installments. Provisions for maturity at certain ages, for continuous installments during the life of the insured or beneficiaries, or both, for cash, loan, paid up and extended values, dividends from gains and savings, and such other provisions for the protection and advantage of and for alternative benefits to the insured and the beneficiaries as may be found to be reasonable and practicable, may be provided for in the contract of insurance, or from time to time by regulations. All calculations shall be based upon the American Experience Table of Mortality and interest at three and one-half per centum per annum, except that no deduction shall be made for continuous installments during the life of the insured in case his total and permanent disability continues more than two hundred and forty months. Subject to regulations, the insured shall at all times have the right to change the beneficiary or beneficiaries of such insurance without the consent of such beneficiary or beneficiaries, but only within the classes herein provided. If no beneficiary within the permitted class be designated by the insured, either in his lifetime or by his last will and testament, or if the designated beneficiary does not survive the insured, the insurance shall be payable to such person or persons within the permitted class of beneficiaries as would under the laws of the State of the residence of the insured be entitled to his personal property in case of intestacy. If no such person survive the insured, then there shall be paid to the estate of the insured an amount equal to the reserve value, if any, of the insurance at the time of his death, calculated on the basis of the American Experience Table of Mortality and three and one-half per centum interest in full of all obligations under the contract of insurance.

SEC. 403. That the United States shall bear the expenses of administration and the excess mortality and disability cost resulting from the hazards of war. The premium rates shall be the net rates based upon the American Experience Table of Mortality and interest at three and one-half per centum per annum.

SEC. 404. That during the period of war and thereafter until converted the insurance shall be term insurance for successive terms of one year each. Not later than five years after the date of the termination of the war as declared by proclamation of the President of the United States, the term insurance shall be converted, without medical examination, into such form or forms of insurance as may be prescribed by regulations and as the insured may request. Regulations shall provide for the right to convert into ordinary life, twenty-payment life, endowment maturing at age sixty-two and into other usual forms of insurance and shall prescribe the time and method of payment of the premiums thereon, but payments of premiums in advance shall not be required for periods of more than one month each and may be deducted from the pay or deposit of the insured or be otherwise made at his election.

SEC. 405. [This section was repealed by act of May 20, 1918. The substance is now included in Section 13.]

O

BUREAU OF
WAR RISK INSURANCE

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

January 28, 1919.

RECEIVED
JAN 29 1919
W. D. S.
A. W. F.

Dear A[illegible]

Enclosed herewith are two of the memoranda I spoke of in my last letter. They were both prepared personally by Major Straight, and I am sure they will be of considerable interest and assistance.

Some of the minor details have changed, but in the main this covers the organization.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. A. W. Fiedler,
Room 2654, No. 120 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Enc.

My last memo covers any changes made in Memo. #2 herewith.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004968

[encl. 1-28-19] #1

Original handed The Adjutant General of the Army November 10, 1917. Embodying suggestions be Colonel Lord, Q.M.C., and Colonel Leach, of the General Staff.

November 10, 1917.

Memorandum: The Adjutant General of the Army.

Subject: Organization for Administration of the War Risk Insurance Act in the Army.

1. The general basis for cooperation between the War and Treasury Departments, and the broad lines of the organization required in the Army, in connection with the Administration of the War Risk Insurance Act are embodied in a memorandum dated November 7th, 1917, handed by the Secretary of the Treasury to the Secretary of War, and approved by him.

2. Pursuant to verbal instructions of the Adjutant General of the Army, a detailed plan for this organization required is submitted herewith.

3. It is recommended that the organization throughout the Army be identical for similar administrative units. Because of the especial situation overseas, however, it is recommended that certain particular functions be exercised by the Insurance Division to be established in the office of the Adjutant at General Army Headquarters in Europe.

4. The recommendations herein, therefore, are placed under two heads: 1st, the organization for the Army as a whole, 2nd. the special organization for the Expeditionary Forces.

[1-28-19]

- 2 -

I - ORGANIZATION FOR THE ARMY

(Except as modified for the Expeditionary Forces in Europe.)

(a) A special service, to be organized, to be known as the "Insurance Division, Adjutant General's Department". (Suggestion for War Department General Order attached, Enclosure No. 1.) The commissioned personnel thereof, below the grade of Major, to be commissioned in the Insurance Division, Adjutant General's Department, and the enlisted personnel thereof to be transferred to, or enlisted in, the Insurance Division, Adjutant General's Department, National Army.

(b) The Insurance Division, in the War Department, to be under an officer of suitable grade, who shall on behalf of the War Department, deal with the War Risk Insurance Bureau. This Insurance Division, Adjutant General's Department, and the officers assigned thereto, or commissioned therein, shall deal with the administration of the Act with respect to the personnel of the Army, and shall have charge of records, (except such statistics as are prepared and maintained by the Personnel and Statistical Divisions), required by the Army in connection with these duties. As representative in the War Department of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, the officer in charge of the Insurance Division shall coordinate the work of this division with the work of the Statistical and Personnel Divisions, and with such functions as the Quartermaster

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004969

Corps and Medical Department may be required to exercise under the Act.

(c) This division of the Adjutant General's office shall, as required by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, prepare for issue to the Army, and by order of the Secretary of War, issue in regular form, orders, bulletins, circulars, and other instructions, to insure the proper and effective administration of the Act.

(d) To avoid duplication of records, the Statistical and Personnel Divisions of the Adjutant General's Department in the War Department and elsewhere, shall record, or secure and furnish to the Insurance Division information relating to the personnel of the Army required in connection with the administration of the Act, and which may properly be embodied in the card indices maintained by the Statistical and Personnal Divisions.

(e) An officer of the grade of Captain commissioned in the Insurance Division of the Adjutant General's Department shall be assigned as Assistant to the Adjutant of each geographical department and each tactical division and shall be authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury, through the Secretary of War, to act as agent of the War Risk Insurance Bureau in such department or for such division. This officer with each Division, and in each geographical department as may be required, to be assisted by a First or Second Lieutenant, likewise commissioned in the Insurance Division of the Adjutant General's Department. Officers so assigned shall be known as

[1-28-19]

"Insurance Officers". At all army posts and stations, and other places under military control within the geographical limits of the Departments (except tactical divisions, Ports of Embarkation, and Recruiting Depots) questions arising under this Act shall be dealt with by the Post Adjutant or organization commander, under the general supervision of the Department Commander through the Insurance Officer for the Department.

(Suggestion for telegram to Department Commanders and Commanding Generals of Divisions attached, Enclosure No. E.)

(f) Where the general commanding a tactical division is also the commander of a Regular Army or National Guard camp, or National Army cantonment, the Insurance Officer shall act for the camp or cantonment, as well as for the Division. Upon the departure of the Division an Insurance Officer shall, if required, be assigned to the Camp or Cantonment.

(g) Insurance Officers of the grade of Captain shall be assigned as assistants to the Adjutants of Ports of Embarkation and Agents of the War Risk Insurance Bureau, to inspect and report upon the extent to which organizations about to sail have taken advantage of the provisions of the Act.

(h) An Insurance officer of the grade of First Lieutenant shall be assigned to each Recruiting Depot to supervise the preparation of applications by men enlisted thereat, prior to their assignment to tactical units.

(i) The enlisted personnel of each Insurance Office at Headquarters of geographical departments and tactical divisions

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004970

shall consist of one Regimental Sergeant-Major to have charge of records, two Battalion Sergeants-Major and three Sergeants, first class as clerks and stenographers, and two privates, first class, as messengers. The enlisted personnel of each Insurance Office at Ports of Embarkation, Recruiting Depots, and for Lines of Communication in Europe shall consist of one Regimental Sergeant-Major in charge of records, two Battalion Sergeants-Major and one Sergeant first class as clerks and stenographers, and two privates, first class, as messengers. These non-commissioned officers and privates, first class, shall be enlisted in the Insurance Division, Adjutant General's Department, National Army.

(j) To insure the administration of the Act in the spirit in which it was conceived, it is necessary, where not incompatible with discipline, that cases be given a personal, rather than routine treatment. To this end, Chaplains, where on duty with organizations, will in addition to their other duties, cooperate with the Insurance Officers. The Insurance Officers will also, where feasible, utilize as far as possible the good offices of representatives of benevolent organizations such as the Red Cross, Young Men's Christian Association, Knights of Columbus and Young Men's Hebrew Association.

(k) Special Agents of the War Risk Insurance Bureau may later be appointed by the War Risk Insurance Bureau to confer with Insurance Officers as to questions and particular cases, arising under the Act.

[1-28-19]

(l) Correspondence in connection with the administration of the Act, and reports required by the War Risk Insurance Bureau shall be forwarded by Insurance Officers through military channels to The Adjutant General of the Army, and shall be dealt with by the Insurance Division of his Department.

II - ORGANIZATION FOR THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

(a) An Insurance Division or Bureau shall be established in the office of the Adjutant at General Army Headquarters in Europe. The officer in charge thereof shall be given the grade of Colonel and be a member of the Commanding General's Staff.

(b) This officer shall be assisted by three Majors, Adjutant General, as Inspectors, five Captains, Insurance Division, Adjutant General's Department, as follows: one Assistant to the Judge Advocate, one expert on Army pay, one expert on Insurance and two experts on office administration; six First or Second Lieutenants, Insurance Division, Adjutant General's Department, in charge of the divisions of the office. The enlisted personnel shall consist of the Regimental Sergeant's-Major in charge of records, eight Battalion Sergeants-Major and sixteen Sergeants, first class, as clerks, stenographers and typists, and ten privates, first class, as messengers. There shall be attached to the Division one Major, Judge Advocate, one Captain, Pay Department Marine Corps, in charge of administration of the Act with

Numbers later changed

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004971

[1-28-19]

respect to the Marine Brigade attached to the Army in France, and one Lieutenant, Junior Grade, U. S. N., to deal with Navy casuals in France.

The personnel with tactical divisions in Europe shall be identical with that throughout the Army.

In addition to the foregoing officers commissioned in the Insurance Division, Adjutant General's Department, shall be assigned in Europe as follows: One Captain and one First Lieutenant to take charge of the administration of the Act with military forces at casual camps in England; one First and one Second Lieutenant on each Line of Communication in France, and two Captains and two First Lieutenants to be assigned the Insurance Division at Headquarters to have charge of this work with Special technical troops on detached service.

(c) The major part of the work in Europe in connection with the administration of the Act being with the Army, the Insurance Officer with General Army Headquarters, as representative in Europe of the War Risk Insurance Bureau, (not in his capacity as a member of the Commanding General's Staff) shall exercise supervision as regards matters of Treasury administration, over the officer or officers detailed by the Navy Department to act as Insurance Officers at the Headquarters of the Naval Expeditionary Force.

(d) Correspondence from military forces temporarily stationed in England shall be transmitted direct to the

The Adjutant General of the Army (as with the military forces in the United States) copies to be sent to the branch of the War Risk Insurance Bureau at General Army Headquarters in Europe.

(e) Applications, correspondence and reports from the military Expeditionary Forces (except in England) to be sent direct to the Insurance Division at General Army Headquarters. Original applications to be retained and copies to be transmitted direct to the War Risk Insurance Bureau in Washington. Correspondence and reports in connection with the administration of the Act to be forwarded by the Branch Office to The Adjutant General of the Army. The Chief of the Insurance Division at General Army Headquarters may, however, be authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury, through the Secretary of War, to act as representative of the Treasury in certain matters of Treasury administration.

5. The possibility of utilizing the Statistical and Personnel Divisions of the Adjutant General's Department to perform functions required with regard to the personnel of the Army in connection with the administration of the Act, has been considered. These divisions, by collecting and keeping up-to-date information required by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, may, without greatly increasing their own tasks, obviate the necessity of a duplication of records. It is believed however, that the volume of work which must necessarily be performed by the Adjutant General's Department in undertaking the administration of the War Risk Insurance Act with respect to the personnel of the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004972

[1-28-19]

Army, makes imperative the organization of a separate division for this purpose.

6. It is believed essential that officers of the Army charged with the duty of supervising the administration of this Act be given the grade, which, by being commensurate with the responsibility of the task, will facilitate the performance of their work. To this end it is recommended that the officer in charge of the Insurance Division in the Adjutant General's Department in Washington and the officer in charge of the Insurance Division of the General Army Headquarters in France, while performing these functions, be given the grade of Colonel, and that their principle assistants be given the grade of Major, Adjutant General's Department, and that Insurance Officers at the Headquarters of geographical departments, Ports of Debarkation, and with tactical divisions, be given the grade of Captain, Insurance Division, Adjutant General's Department.

7. The foregoing recommendation is made in what is believed to be the best interest of the service, and without regard to the fact that it has been suggested that the undersigned be assigned to this duty overseas.

Major, Adjutant General, U. S. N.
Detailed to the Treasury in connection with the organization of War Risk Insurance overseas.

[1-28-19] #2

MEMORANDUM

1. Certain troops have already arrived in France and are located either on lines of communication or in the Zone of the Advance.

Other troops are constantly arriving from the United States.

2. Conditions here make it imperative that allotment and insurance applications should, insofar as possible, be filled out before troops embark from the United States, records being collected, arranged and forwarded to War Risk Headquarters, Lines of Communication, Expeditionary Forces.

3. Assuming that the War Risk Organization in the United States is now functioning, troops now embarking and en route should be covered. The problem, therefore, is

(a) Dealing with troops now in France.

(b) To make sure that troops arriving have been covered.

(c) Above all to make certain that troops to embark in the future will have been covered prior to departure.

4. The organization created by Captain Wolfe has, to a certain extent placed the advantages of the insurance before the troops in France, and has received such applications as have been forwarded to them. No attempt has been made to go carefully through organizations to determine definitely whether or not the members thereof desired insurance. No attempt has been made to fill out allotment applications, which must be signed by every enlisted man.

5. The task before us, therefore, is

(a) To explain to every officer and enlisted man his privileges under the War Risk Act, and to enable him to apply for insurance prior to February 12th if necessary.
(b) As soon as possible to see that every enlisted man in the Expeditionary Forces has executed form 1-B.

6. To avoid confusion and interference with the task of training troops, it is desirable if possible that through one operation the benefits of the War Risk Insurance should be placed before the officers and enlisted men, who should be given an opportunity to apply for insurance at the same

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004973

[1-28-19]

time the enlisted men are executing Form 1-B.

7. While steps are being taken to carry out such program, the organization created by Captain Wolfe should continue to receive applications for insurance.

8. The Paris office, therefore, must be continued, and while officers and enlisted personnel are working with troops in the field, the main office must be established to receive executed applications made out under the new system. When the new system is in operation it may be found practicable or expedient to discontinue the Paris office. With this possiblity in view the individual folders now filed in the Paris office should be arranged alphabetically by organizations so that they may, without delay, be embodied in the records to be kept by the main office when established.

9. Under the proposed order for the establishment of the War Risk Section, Headquarters Lines of Communication, the main office will be located at Tours, and branch offices at the headquarters Advance Section, Lines of Communcattion, at Base Section No. 3 in England, and at Headquarters of each Replacement Division.

10. The operation of these offices must cover two phases:

(a) Temporary, during which all troops now with the Expeditionary Forces will be covered.
(b) Permanent, which will deal with questions arising under the Act when applications have been executed.

11. While at the outset concentrating all attention on the immediate task in hand which is to secure applications from all troops now with the Expeditionary Forces, it will be necessary to create machinery for handling these original operations in such manner as will conform to the machinery required for permanent administration. It will be necessary, moreover, to install certain portions of the permanent machinery in order that while field parties are operat-

[1-28-19]

ing, organizations and individuals arriving may be covered before they are embodied in organizations which have already been covered by field parties or in which field parties are working.

12. To meet this situation, two steps are essential:

(a) That all organizations and individuals leaving the United States complete applications before departure.
(b) That War Risk Officers be installed at Replacement Division of the First Army Corps and see that commanders of organizations on Lines of Communication and on detached service which have been covered by War Risk Officers, be instructed that upon the transfer thereto of men who have not filled out their applications, such organization commanders shall themselves supervise the completion of such applications and forward the same to the main office.

13. Pending the installation of the main office at Tours, the Paris office will serve as the main office. Field parties will be organized as follows:

(a) A War Risk Officer and one Lieutenant and one enlisted man will be attached to the Headquarters, Advance Section, Lines of Communication. Under his general direction field forces will operate as follows:

Captain Ijams and one Lieutenant with one enlisted man will visit the First Division and arrange with regimental and organization commanders a schedule for their organization. When this schedule has been arranged a field party of say eight officers and ten enlisted men will go through the Division. The Lieutenant accompanying Captain Ijams will remain at Division Headquarters as Coordinator. While the field party is working with the Division, Captain Ijams will proceed with another Lieutenant to the next Division and in like manner arrange a schedule. The field forces will then go through the next division, the Lieutenant remaining at division headquarters as coordinator, and the Lieutenant from the First Division accompanying Captain Ijams to the Third Division where a similar program will be followed. In the meantime one officer and one or more enlisted men as may be necessary, will be stationed at Headquarters Replacement Division to supervise the completion of applications of organizations or individuals transferred from the Replacement Division to Divisions which have been covered by field forces, or in which field forces are operating.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004974

[1-28-19]

(b) Under the direction of the officer stationed at Headquarters, Advance Section, Lines of Communication, as many officers and enlisted men as may be available would deal with detached troops and hospital units in the Zone of the Advance.

(c) At the main office a field force would be organized of as many officers and enlisted men as may be available to deal with organizations and detached troops at points other than the Zone of Advance. Their movements would be coordinated either from the main office or if deemed desirable from the base sections of Lines of Communication.

14. Field forces would operate according to a carefully prepared plan, applications being prepared in triplicate, one copy to be left at the organization to serve as a guide for the notation on service records, two copies to be transmitted to the main office, one for file and one for transmission to the Bureau of War Risk Insurance at Washington. Applications held at the main office to be filed alphabetically by organizations.

15. Under the system as outlined it will be necessary for correspondence in connection with War Risk matters to come from organization commanders direct to the main office of the War Risk Section. In view of the proximity of troops there is no reason why correspondence from divisions in the field should pass through the Replacement Section or through War Risk Office at Headquarters Advance Section, Lines of Communication. Correspondence from detached troops must necessarily come direct to the main office. For this reason it would be desirable at the outset to lay down the principle that correspondence should be direct with the main office.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004975

January 28th

6, VIA PIACENZA.
Rome.

Dear Dorothy:

I can't begin to tell you how greatly distressed Peter and I were to hear of your husband's death — Peter had known him for so many years, and besides having the greatest liking for him, admired his great ability and felt that he would be one of the leading men of his generation. The country is very much the poorer for loosing him, although he had already done more than most men accomplish in twice his lifetime —

I can imagine how terrible it must have been for you not to have been with him when he was ill — I am so glad that at least you can feel sure

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004976

[1-29-19]

ARCMH #2
Paris - France

Dear Mrs Straight—

Mrs Harriman
has sent me a beautiful
little clock as a gift
from you. I appreciate
your thoughtfulness and
I am very glad to
have this remembrance of
Major Straight. Please
accept all my sympathy

that he had the best of care
and was surrounded by devoted
friends— I have heard this
from several people who were
in Paris at the time—
With love, and the very
deepest sympathy from us both.
I am Affectionately yours
Susan Clay—
I did not write to you at once
as I knew how deluged you
would be with letters, but I cannot
help thinking Dr. Hicks Henry visit
to Paris & talk with you would help
Henry Sec. to the ambassador.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004977

for your loss. We have all felt it so keenly and I am very sorry there was so little we could do to help.

I am glad to feel though that he was not unhappy in his illness and I am sure that he suffered little, either mentally or physically.

I expect to return to New York in June

and, if I may, I will call to see you then.

Thank you again for your kindness.

Very sincerely yours

Kenneth Taylor

January twenty eighth

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004978

CITY HALL

John M. Hurley
City Clerk

The City of Oswego
City Clerk's Office

Oswego, N.Y. Jan. 30th, 1919.

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,
94th Street & Fifth Ave.,
New York City.

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

By request of the Common Council of the City of Oswego I am transmitting by separate express package an engrossed framed copy of resolutions on the death of your distinguished husband, Willard D. Straight, passed by the said Common Council at a recent meeting.

The City of Oswego had every reason to admire and respect Major Straight in his life time and now that he has ceased his earthly activities, the official body of our city, but expresses the sentiment of the entire citizenship in the resolutions referred to.

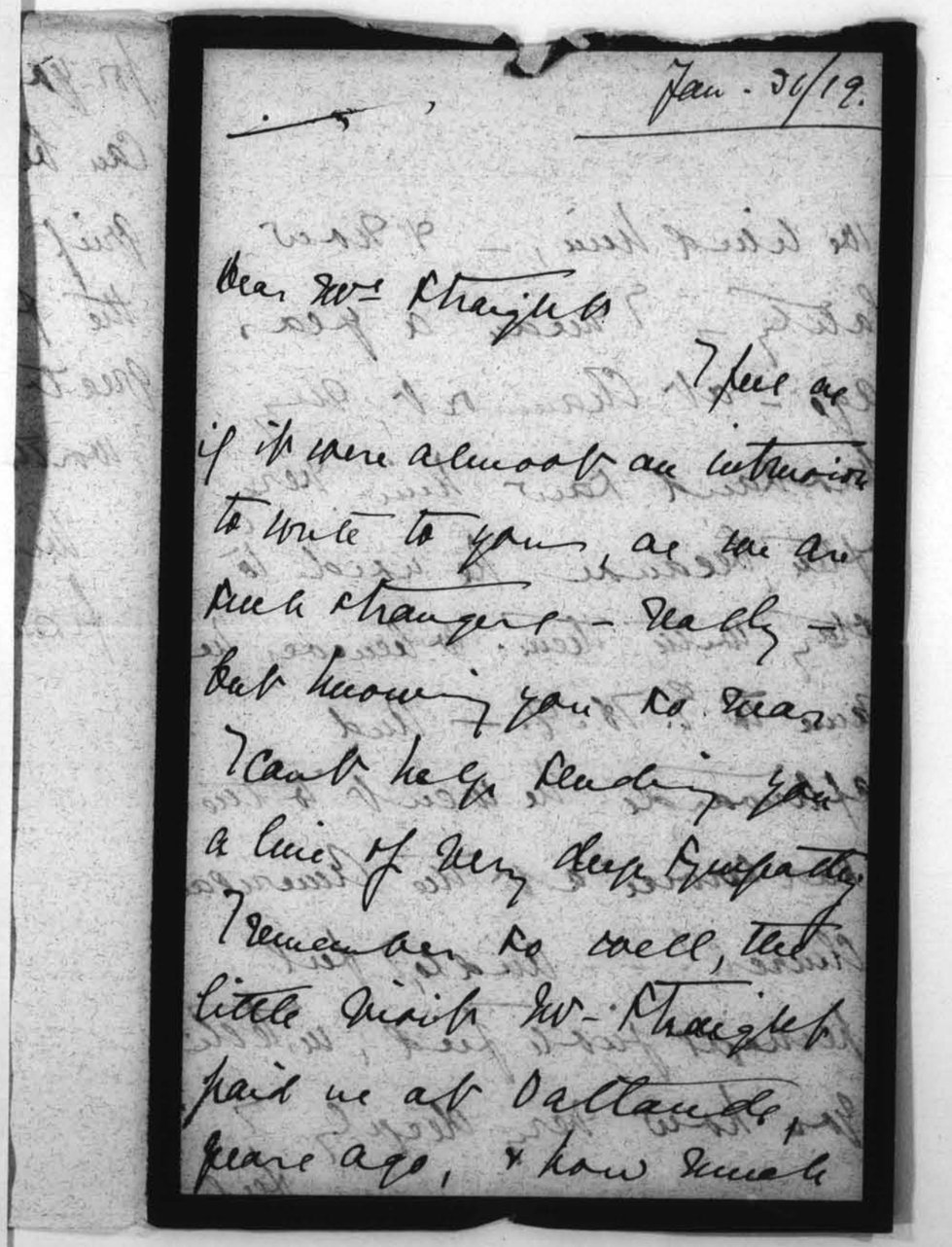
Many of us felt in the death of Major Straight the loss of a very dear and loyal friend. I know that he was such to many Oswego people. Personally, I had the privilege of being a classmate of Major Straight in the Oswego High School.

The resolutions which I am transmitting are but feeble expressions of our sentiments of grief for Major Straight's death and sincere sympathy for you in your very great affliction.

Most sincerely yours,

John M. Hurley

City Clerk.



Jan. 30/19.

Dear Mrs Straight

I feel as if it were almost an intrusion to write to you, as we are such strangers - really - but knowing you so dear I can't help sending you a line of very deep sympathy. I remember so well, that little visit Mr. Straight paid us at Orlando, years ago, & how much

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004979

we lived here, — & how lately — I mean a year ago — at Chamonix, my husband saw him very often, because he used to stay with them whenever he came to P. W. C. — And afterwards he went to the Red Cross — & the American Church! — And so, I feel perhaps justified, in telling you how very deeply I feel for you. — I don't think there can be any consolation for a grief such as yours, — except the feeling that he made the great sacrifice, for a cause worth dying for. —

With very deal sympathy
from me both
believe me
Yr very sincerely
Edith Wharton

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004980

American Consulate General,
Mukden, China, January 31st, 1919

Administrator of the Estate of
Willard Straight,
c/o 120 Broadway,
New York.

Dear Sir:-

On March 1st, 1916 I signed a promissory note in favor of Willard Straight for gold $695.25 and for interest at 6 per cent. The term of the note was two years, but it was kindly extended for another year.

Acc. 3/4/19.

According to Mr. Fiedler's letter of June 14th, 1918 the total amount which will be due on March 1st, 1919 will be $820.40. I therefore enclose a draft for this amount. It should reach you before the term of the draft expires, if not, kindly advise me and I shall send any further interest which may be due on account of its late arrival.

I cannot refrain, even in this business letter, from expressing my whole-souled admiration for Willard Straight. He was "a combination and a form indeed where every god did seem to set his seal." He was always a friend to his friends - were it not so I should not be having the opportunity now of writing in this connection. His sad and untimely death has caused universal grief, but his glorious and heroic example will be an inspiration

[1-31-19]

for many generations. Straight's old friends in this city of Mukden - where he was the first American Consul General - deeply sympathize with his family in this dark hour, but hope that they may find some solace in the thought that he gave his life for so glorious a cause and that he will always live in the memory of the many thousands of those who loved him..

Very truly yours

E. Carleton Baker

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004981

JAN. 31, 1919.

MINUTE ADOPTED AT THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NASSAU COUNTY ASSOCIATION,
INC., HELD DECEMBER 13, 1918.

Major Willard D. Straight, an organizer and a former member of the Board of Directors; a consistent and generous supporter of this Association, who, alert to the call of duty, patriotically volunteered in defense of his country and its ideals, died in Paris on the first day of December, 1918.

His life, measured by years, was brief, but in accomplishment its fullness has seldom been surpassed. The works which he wrought were not only far reaching in this land, but throughout the world. His kindly and constructive interests extended alike to intricate problems and to the intimate welfare of the lowly.

Nassau County where he chose to dwell has been measurably promoted through his talents, and much, definitely founded through his broad vision, will come to fruition for the community welfare.

We, and all who knew him the world around, are conscious of the extent of our loss; are honored to have known him and thankful for his works.

To his wife and children we extend our sincere sympathy.

JAN. 31, 1919.

Dear Mrs Straight:

I enclose copy of a minute adopted at the last meeting of the Directors of Nassau County Association.

I have delayed expressing my own sympathy to you in order that I might

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004982

at the same time for-
ward the formal action
taken by the Board, and
I know just received
it.

I assume you may
own feeling is very
genuine at the loss of
so noble and good a
man as Major Straight
and at your bereavement

Sincerely
Jan 31, 1919 Alfred E. Stevens

Jan 31, 1919

SAINT PAUL'S SCHOOL
CONCORD, N.H.

Dear Dorothy: I have
thought of you all day,
and of Willard and her
Parker into eternal youth.
That will keep you
young too!

Send you my love -

L. Fairchild

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004983

Memorandum for Mrs. Straight

Referring to the attached letter; Major Straight on the first of January of each year sent Mr. Turley a draft for fifty yen towards the support of his blind school at Moukden. I took this matter up with you shortly after the first of this year and it was your wish that this contribution be continued. A draft for fifty yen was forwarded to Mr. Turley under date of January fourteenth.

A. W. Fiedler

January thirty first
1 9 1 9.

[encl. 1-31-19]

Blind Girls Industrial Home
Moukden
Manchuria
China
Dec.' 27th 1918

Mrs Willard Straight
120 Broadway
New York

Dear Mrs Straight;

Mr Turley wishes me to write to you a few lines to say how deeply & truly we sympathize with you in your sad loss. Our hearts went out to you when we heard, only recently, of our old & good friend, Major Willard Straight's death in France.

During his residence in this city - as the very first Consular representative of U. S. A. to live here - we were a very small foreign community & we got to know him well. He was known as "Straight-by name & Straight by nature" meaning that he was a noble-minded and perfect Christian Gentleman. We used to watch him as he bravely & so cleverly & surely battled with the Chinese authorities who, at that time, did all in their power to baffle & thwart western enterprise & the opening of this city to foreign trade. The wide liberties now enjoyed here - are very largely due to his painstaking tact & skill.

As Consul-General - he was greatly esteemed & respected - but it was even more revered by those who like ourselves, had the privilege of his personal friendship -

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004984

[1-31-19]

He took an especial interest in hospital work & was ever a great friend & constant supporter of our School (now a Home) for poor hopeless & useless blind girls.

He encouraged us by his yearly letters & his annual contribution. which he did not forget. even when he was on active service.

It was he who encouraged us to persevere on the lines of self-support and bought the very first things we had for sale - by giving our then few girls an order for some socks. which he was kind enough to write us years after to say that he was still wearing them.

Our senior girls who are now happy & useful young women remember him well & one is now writing a short letter in Chinese Braille. which we are hoping will be kind with Chinese characters. so that any Chinese scholar whom may meet may read it.

It sets forth their sadness at hearing of their warm-hearted Patron's death & their sincere sympathy with those dear ones. whom he has left to mourn his loss. & that they are praying that you may have comfort.

Should you ever visit China & can come to this city we should be pleased to give you a welcome & do all in our power for you. & we would like you to see our now large family of sightless girls.

Trusting you will accept our very kind regards & every good wish.

Yours very Sincerely
Robt. W. Burley
Hon. Secy.

[c. Jan, 1919]

I called at your house last Sunday morning and was disappointed to learn that you had gone to Washington. I left the India House Tribute and also a cane which Willard got from a German prisoner. It was one of the things which Willard left at Ligny and Joe, who knew about it, motored out there with me to get it. It seemed to me a thing that Whitney would like to have and keep. There is one signature, that of Mr. Robert Dollar, of San Francisco, missing from the India House memorial, but I shall arrange to get it at a later date.

Hoping to see you very soon and trusting that you and the children are well, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Marion Egan

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004985

little daughter was born. I was so delighted to hear from you, for as you know I haven't had a letter from you for seven or eight years? Perhaps you never got the one I wrote you? I've been taking care of Baby myself ever since she was 6 weeks old so have been kept very busy. She's too sweet & simply adorable & can't bear to be away from her even for an hour. She's named after her mamma & Sylvia. Pat loves her & they are so sweet together.

TELEGRAMS, BISHOPS CAUNDLE.

MARSH COURT,
SHERBORNE,
DORSET.

Feb. 1, 1919.

My very dear Dorothy
I've tried to write & hope that something helpful that I can say seems any good. I only heard about Willard a short time ago & I simply can't bear it. My dear I'm so desperately sorry for you for I always feel that he was me & the very best man I'd

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004986

ever met. I always feel
I wanted to know him
better for I was sure he
was one in a million &
I was so glad he was
your husband for if ever
anyone deserved a good
man you did. The
best men always seem to
be the most to go first &
it does seem so deadly
hard. I'd give anything
to be able to do something
for you. I'm so glad
you have your three children
& they must be darlings. I
only wish I could see you &
them sometimes. Let me
if you could send me a
photograph of you & them I
should so love to have it, &
would you mind giving me
one of Willard's too? for I
should appreciate it more
than I can tell you. He
was so awfully kind to me
when he was in London, I
shall never forget it.

I'm so sorry I never wrote
to thank you for the cable
you sent me when my

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004987

[1-1-19]

Lionel is here now, I think for good, unless he sees an alien job.

If ever there is anything more I can do for you you will let me know won't you?

With such a very great deal of love & all the sympathy that I can give you always my dearest

Your very devoted

R d -

[Mrs. Lionel Lambart]

TELEGRAMS, BISHOPS CAUNDLE.

MARSH COURT,
SHERBORNE,
DORSET.

Feb. 3. 1919.

My dear Mrs Straight,

It was difficult to believe the news which came to us over the wires a few weeks ago and I waited for confirmation before writing you to express my sincere and profound condolences. His life was so full of promise and had been so preparatory for future services that it staggered me to think that he had gone. I knew Willard from the time of his arrival in China and saw him first when he was a student of Chinese. I had the opportunity of watching his whole career and,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004988

though we were never intimately associated in any enterprise, I observed with the greatest admiration his profound interest in the problems and progress of the Far East. He was always ready to do a good turn to his fellows and never did an unkind act to any one. Only shortly before the news came the Resident of China who knew Willard in Honkkong asked me about his present whereabouts and I told him of Willard's work in France. It was a wonderful life that he had and his name will always be remembered in China along with those of the most prominent and influential Americans who have visited here.

Please accept my heartfelt sympathy for yourself and his children who will forever cherish his memory,

Yours sincerely

John C Ferguson

WILLARD STRAIGHT
ONE TWENTY BROADWAY
NEW YORK

February third
1 9 1 9.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I am enclosing herewith a cable received this morning from Mr. Casenave which explains itself. I have retained a copy here.

I am also enclosing copy of a letter received by me this morning from Mr. R. W. Sailor of the Cornell Alumni News, from which you will note that he is sending to me a copy of the 1901 Class Book. I have acknowledged receipt of this letter and have informed him that you would be grateful if he would see that you are furnished with clippings of all the items which have appeared in the "Alumni News".

On January thirtieth I telegraphed you as follows:

> "Have inquiry from Mr. Stahl of Old Westbury for four of the polo ponies two English ponies Roscoe and Hitchykoo. May be possible same time dispose of Walter and Gold Dust Stop If Prices satisfactory do you approve my selling same. Kindly telegraph reply"

and have not as yet received a reply. I wonder if by any chance this telegram has failed to reach you. If so, will you kindly advise me by telegraph as to your wishes regarding the polo ponies.

Everything here is going smoothly, although Mr. Gorton is home ill with influenza. However, he is making a good recovery.

Trusting that you are feeling better, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A. W. Fiedler

Enclosures.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004989

[encl. 2-3-19]

MEXICAN TELEGRAPH CO.
CONNECTING WITH
CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN TELEGRAPH CO.
64 BROAD STREET, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE BROAD 672

JAMES A. SCRYMSER, FOUNDER

ALL AMERICA CABLES

UNITED STATES and SOUTH AMERICA DIRECT

JOHN L. MERRILL, PRESIDENT

388-02

Cablegram received at 64 BROAD STREET, NEW YORK, to which office REPLY to this message should be sent marked **"VIA COLON."**

VIA COLON

Date.....

N 1 DF DE 2/B

RIO 40 DATED 30TH

LCD MRS WILLARD STRAUGHT

120 BROADWAY NY

RECEIVED
FEB 3 1919
A.W.F. ✓

YOUR LETTER THIRTEENTH DECEMBER RECEIVED ONLY TODAY. STOP. ANXIOUS TO DO MY BEST TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF DEAREST WILLARD. WILL WRITE THE ARTICLE AND MAIL IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

CASENAVE.

PASS P-3

The foregoing Cablegram was received **"VIA COLON."** *Repetitions of doubtful words should be obtained through the company's office, 64 BROAD STREET, NEW YORK, and not by direct application to the sender. No inquiry respecting this message can be attended to without the production of this form.*

[encl. 2-3-19]

COPY

CORNELL ALUMNI NEWS,

Ithaca, N. Y., February 1, 1919.

RECEIVED
FEB 3 1919
W.D.S.
A.W.F. ✓

Mr. A. W. Fiedler,
Office of Mr. Willard Straight,
120 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Fiedler:-

I am sending you a copy of the 1901 Class Book today. It does not belong to me so I do not know whether there will be any charge for it or not, but will advise you about this later.

Will you not convey the information to Mrs. Straight that the Associate Alumni of Cornell University, which is the General Alumni Association of all Cornellians, through its directors, approves of a resolution memorializing the services to the University of Mr. Straight, and that I will send her the resolution as soon as I can have it put into suitable form.

The Alumni News also has published a number of articles regarding Major Straight and his services to the University, which I shall take the liberty of sending to you one of these days, which you may dispose of as you please, sending them on to Mrs. Straight if she is interested, or destroying them if she is not.

Hoping you will find the Class Book interesting, I am,

Sincerely yours,

(signed) R. W. Sailor.

'07 Business Manager.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004990

[2-3-19]

Waterloo NY
Feb 3 1918

G·H·H·

My dear Elsie. [Jensvold]

I found your letter waiting for me on my return from France. and am very sorry to tell you that I have no pictures or letters of Willard Straight available. I never had a letter from him that I remember. and while I probably at one time had some college pictures. "that was many years ago." and they have long since dis-

England. Well. While I was in Paris for a few days early in January before I sailed. I called one day on my distinguished fellow townspeople the Secretary of State and Mrs Lansing. And when after passing about a dozen guards secret service men, secretaries &c. I was admitted. I found Mrs Lansing with Sze and his wife. Of course he recognized me. and I think Mrs Lansing had the surprise of her life.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004991

By the way here is a rather interesting experience. Dr Willard Straight's class was a very fine China man named Sao ki Sze (Spelling not guaranteed). He and Straight were very good friends and we all liked him who knew him. He & Fanny had quite a bit to do in getting Willard to decide to go to China in the first place. I had heard that Sze was a very prominent man in China. and was the Chinese ambassador to appeared. Probably during the annual Spring house cleanings - I am terribly sorry. for I would be so glad to help out Mrs Straight.

Of course I have any amount of wonderful memories of him. I was fortunate enough to have always seen a lot of him at College. and of course every one who knew him felt naturally under his peculiar charm. We were both great admirers of Prof. H. Morse Stephens. and I saw really a lot of him in this connection

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004992

[2-3-19]

G·H·H·

I had a ~~perfectly~~ wonderful time in France I was with the Fourth Division from July 6th to January 1st. attached to the Sanitary Train. and trailed across France thro 'Chateau Thierry and the Vesle. Verdun and St Mihiel the Argonne. and ended up at Coblentz after six weeks with the Army of Occupation in Germany. I feel like a fighting cock and seven months

of out door life and army food have entirely agreed with me.

Meg joins me in love to you and Christopher.

Most sincerely
yours
[George H. Hooker]

23 WALL STREET

February 3. 1909.

My dear Mrs. Straight!-

I have tried very often in the last few weeks to write you about Willard, but whenever I have tried to put anything to paper it seemed utterly futile. His death was a great shock to all who had been friended by his friendship. Nothing that any of us can say can help you. As the years go by, I am sure there will come to you a deeper and deeper realization that your sorrow at his passing is not too great a price to pay for having been so great a part of his life.

I wish I might have the privilege of coming to see you and telling you of some of the talks I had with him in Europe. Meanwhile, may I not simply say that Mrs. Morrow and I have thought very much of you during the last few weeks and that we want you to know of our heartfelt sympathy.

Very sincerely yours.
Dwight W. Morrow

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004994

[2-5-19]

†

Diocèse de BEAUVAIS

ARCHIPRÊTRÉ ET PAROISSE
de SENLIS (Oise)

Senlis, le 5 Février 1919

Madame

J'ai appris avec une très-vive peine le grand malheur qui vient de vous frapper dans vos plus chères affections, et je viens vous dire la part bien grande que je prends à votre affliction. Votre cher Mari s'était adressé à moi, pendant son séjour à Senlis qu'il aimait beaucoup, et m'avait demandé un service que j'avais été très-heureux de lui rendre; il me témoignait une grande sympathie que je partageais également envers lui. Son grand cœur s'était pris de pitié pour mon pays de Senlis si éprouvé le 2 Septembre 1914 par l'incendie, le massacre de nombreux otages et du Maire, M. Odent. « Je veux, me disait-il, vous aider, ma fortune le permettant, à réparer ces ruines. Quand j'ai quitté l'Amérique ma femme m'a dit de faire du bien par amour pour elle et en son nom. » Le jour de la signature de l'armistice, il était venu me voir pour m'annoncer la bonne nouvelle que j'ai connue le premier, grâce à sa bonne amitié. Il venait en même temps me prévenir qu'il partait pour Paris, appelé pour faire partie de l'Etat-Major du Colonel House, et m'exprimait son vif regret de me quitter. « Mais, ajoutait-il, « nous reviendrons après la guerre, ma femme « et moi, et je vous la présenterai, vous verrez « combien elle est bonne. Nous voudrons vous aider à reconstituer tout ce que vous avez perdu, votre patronage de jeunes gens qui vous est si cher et vos autres œuvres Chrétiennes. Elle vous aimera, vous verrez, vous et votre paroisse. Nous parlerons de vous autour de nous, et l'on vous viendra en en aide. Adieu, mais plutôt, au revoir bientôt, cher Monsieur le Curé! » Il était très-ému, et moi aussi. C'était deux amis qui se quittaient.... hélas! pour ne plus se revoir. Lui me disait adieu, il me laissait une lettre contenant cent dollars! pour mes pauvres sinistrés. Et quelque temps après, la nouvelle de la mort me parvenait; j'en fus profondément attristé, c'est de tout mon cœur que je vous le dis.

Je devine votre douleur, il me parlait de vous avec tant de tendresse! Et les petits enfants étaient souvent sur ses lèvres!

Madame, je viens vous faire une prière. Si vous veniez en France pour votre cher disparu, dans le cas où sa dépouille serait encore parmi nous, n'oubliez pas le pays de Senlis où il se plaisait tant, ni le curé de ce pays qui lui était

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004995

si attaché par l'affection et la reconnaissance. Je serais bien heureux de vous offrir une très-modeste hospitalité et de parler avec vous de cette regrettée mémoire.

Si vous daigniez accorder quelque bienveillance à ma lettre, je vous aurais grande reconnaissance de me le dire par quelques mots de votre main. Ne craignez pas d'écrire en anglais, si vous l'aimez mieux, je saurai vous comprendre.

Mes humbles prières au bon Dieu n'oublieront pas celui qui n'est plus, et la compagne affligée qui l'a perdu.

Daignez agréer,

Madame,

l'expression bien sincère de ma douloureuse sympathie et l'hommage de mon très respectueux dévouement

Mgr L. Dourlent

Curé archiprêtre de Senlis

France (Oise)

Je prends la liberté grande de vous adresser une Conférence faite par moi sur les Malheurs de ma chère paroisse.

[2-6-19]

AMERICAN COMMISSION
TO NEGOTIATE PEACE

Dear Dowling.

It was a pleasure to get your cable and today I have sent your answer in reply. I say that I have gotten in touch with the proper authorities and am getting a plan of the Burial Ground as laid out by the Army, and will tell you all about it as soon as I receive some which ordered on began the 1st of March. Just how difficult it is going to be to change the ideas of "the authority" in the Army I do not know. But when we have talked it over we can try. The general scheme

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004996

to food. They require a certain amount of change in detail to make it very good. I should find it hard to explain all this in a letter but since I shall be in New York soon this will not be necessary. The work in the Secretary's office where I have been, has shown me that it is necessary here to always do very materially & in doing so I can slip out without being missed. The alternative is to commit myself for a long time which, with duties always prolonged indefinitely, does not seem possible. Everything which is happening here at present time is so thrilling that it is hard to make up my mind to leave. Almost every day I am impressed by some one the loss of Willard in this mission. I cannot begin to express to you for my own part.

The big loss that was made in the organization, I feel more keenly as time goes on and realize the work he did. To the work & time he put in it. I know of no one who could fill his place. I am sorry to say that my wife's health is not good & I hope to take her to Europe in June. I should be very glad to see you & Mrs. Straight & the children & you to dine with us one evening.

Yours very sincerely,

[Delano]

Feb 6th 1919.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004997

HOTEL VOUILLEMONT
15, RUE BOISSY-D'ANGLAS
(PLACE DE LA CONCORDE)
PARIS
ADR. TÉLÉGR. HOTEL VOUILLEMONT
TÉLÉPHONES { ÉLYSÉES 01-82
ÉLYSÉES 01-82

Dear Mrs. Straight

I have been wishing I could get home to tell you of Willard and I can't write and one does not know how to write. When he came to Paris he looked me up. I was living at the Crillon till the American Peace Commission took the place. The day before he was taken sick he came to my room to breakfast at a quarter to eight. I had a friend staying with me - Joseph Lindon Smith. He was like a breath of fresh air or a ray of sunshine (never saw him otherwise) so kindly a humane a his generous active nature was bubbling over with things to do. And worth while things they always were. And the nicety of my friend, his altruistic wish, his desire to make the world better were never so clearly revealed in everything he said. Smith will keep that economic always. Clearly his main impulse was unselfish - it was to help. Well, I did love his visits and always the friends who happened to be with me when he came were struck by these generous men, so young so full of life, so eager to serve. And how Considerate, thoughtful & kindly he always was.

And it was good to keep in touch with you and to know about the children through him.

The day he fell ill. he sent for me and I went for three days to spend a half hour with him every afternoon, he wanted me to. At his request I got the Taylor my friend to assist his regular physicians. Then P. was dead I should not see him. I got a new friend his nurse whom he liked & who was extremely Conscient and devoted. (Another came later am for the night & one for the day) The one thing I shall always remember about him is what the night nurse told me. When he was delirious & speaking about his work, again and again would he say "No, no, Give him another chance. He is a fine fellow. You must give him another chance."

This seems to me a revelation of character of a very noble nature.

I have thought of those he left constantly and with a heavy heart. What victims this war has made! But none that could so ill be spared as Willard.

With affectionate regards
Sincerely yours

August T. Belmont

February 6th 1919.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
004998

WILLARD STRAIGHT
ONE TWENTY BROADWAY
NEW YORK

February seventh
1 9 1 9.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

Referring to my earlier letter, transmitting copy of a communication from Mr. R. W. Sailor of the Cornell Alumni News, I am enclosing herewith a copy of a further letter, received this morning. I have received the class book mentioned and am holding the same here subject to your instructions.

I have acknowledged receipt of this letter to Mr. Sailor and have informed him that I am sure you haven't a copy of "The Era" for the year 1901, and have asked him to inform Mr. Senior that you would be grateful if this could be sent to you. I have further asked him for Mr. Senior's address and when I am in receipt of this, I shall draft a letter to him, for your signature, thanking him for his courtesy in this matter.

On Saturday, last, I received word that Mrs. Eads Johnson died at Wilmington, Delaware, of influenza-pneumonia. I sent a telegram of sympathy to Mr. Johnson, signing your name, which I trust is entirely satisfactory. I mention this so that in case you should hear of it through some other source, you will know that your sympathy has already been conveyed.

I have again looked everywhere in the office for a copy of the book plate but have been unable to locate it. I am certain that Major Straight did not leave it in the office.

Trusting that you are feeling better, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A. W. Fiedler

[encl. 2-7-19

COPY

Cornell Alumni News

Ithaca, New York

February 5, 1919.

Mr. A. W. Fiedler,
120 Broadway, New York City.

Dear Mr. Fiedler:

I find that the copies of the Class Book, one of which I sent you, belong to the Alumni News, and the copy, therefore, is sent to Mrs. Straight with our compliments.

We have in the office a copy of The Era for the year 1901. This copy belongs to Mr. John L. Senior, who was a class mate of Mr. Straight's and also a fellow member of the University Board of Trustees, and both Mr. Straight and Mr. Senior were members of the editorial force of The Era that year. Upon inquiry, Mr. Senior says that if the volume would be of any particular interest to Mrs. Straight, and if she has'nt a volume of the same, he will be very glad to permit us to send the volume on to you.

Regarding the Alumni News items, I shall attend to that within the next few days, and send you on copies with a list of the items which it seems to me would be of special interest to you and you may cut them up, or dispose of them in any way you wish.

Yours sincerely,

R. W. Sailor

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

004999

-2-

not forget that I am to lunch with you.

With cordial regards,

Very sincerely yours,

M.W. Ireland

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL
WASHINGTON

mwi/emc

February 7, 1919.

Miss Ruth Morgan,
26 Washington Square,
New York City.

My dear Miss Morgan:

All cemeteries are administered by the Quartermaster Department. If Mrs. Straight wishes to communicate with the Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, in regard to our cemeteries in France, she should address the Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, (Cemeterial Division), Washington, D. C.

If she wishes to communicate with the authorities in France in regard to the cemeteries she should address the Chief Quartermaster, American Expeditionary Forces, Tours, France.

I regret very much not seeing you when I was in New York but will do better next time when I trust Mrs. Ireland will be with me. You may be very sure I will

[1919]

Tryon N. C.
Feb. 7. 1918

Dear Mrs. Straight:-
I am mailing you the little sketch you asked for. In the places where I was not sure of dates and names Hazel can tell me.

Dear Willard! How it took me back to a past existence, almost like a previous incarnation. I wish I could make you see Willard at the age of three in a little bright red jacket, with curls of pure gold blowing in the wind, glistening

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005000

about like a butterfly
over the downs at Pleas-
ant Valley.

Affectionately
Margaretta Morley

From Miss Morley
Margaret

[2-7-17]

Willard Dickerman Straight was born at Olivet N. Y. on the last day of January 1880, and died in France December first, 1918.

Although he accomplished much, the story of his short life has its abiding value less in what he did than in what he was; in his personality; in the quality of his genius.

Both his parents possessed unusual powers and he selected as his inheritance the best ~~qualities~~ in each.

His father, Henry H. Straight, was an idealist whose chief aim in life was to advance the cause of education. Captivated by the fundamental ideas promulgated by Pestalozzi and which were beginning to influence educational methods in this country, he gave himself to the work of building up a system of teaching which should extend Pestalozzian methods not only through all the public school grades, but through the high schools and even the universities. With characteristic broadness of view he saw the whole problem while most others were hammering away at details in the kindergartens and lower primary grades. He chose Normal School work because to prepare and inspire teachers to go forth and educate the youth of the nation in the new methods seemed to him the best way of broadcasting the priceless seed.

As his special subjects were physics, chemistry and biology, including physiology, he was vitally interested in the methods of teaching all subjects, viewing school training as a whole to be

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005001

conducted on one broad general plan.

The development of the individual was his favorite idea. He believed that in every department of education the pupil should be led to see and to think for himself and that to this end he should have his own outfit, make his own tools and diagrams so far as possible and conduct his own experiments.

He aroused sufficient enthusiasm to be allowed to test his ideas in the Oswego State Normal School where with consummate skill he planned and equipped a set of roomy laboratories for practical work, among the first on such a scale, perhaps the first, in the country. It was an expansive experiment when conducted according to Professor Straights' demands, and in a few years he moved to Normal Park, Ill., to pursue his vision in the normal school there which had just passed into the control of Colonel Parker, whose broad ideals and virile methods as exemplified in the public schools of Quincy, Mass., had given him a national reputation.

Professor Straights advanced ideas and his remarkable organising ability gained him a warm reception at Normal Park where his system of laboratories was quickly duplicated and perfected and where he enthusiastically pursued his great plan of revolutionising methods of teaching throughout the whole country until he was stopped by an untimely death.

Professor Straight was tall, thin, square-shouldered with strong, clear-cut features

and clear eyes beneath a fine intellectual forehead. His hair, reddish brown and curling slightly at the ends was of that soft quality that denotes a sensitive temperament. He wore side whiskers and a full moustache. His chin, clean shaven, was strong and square - In temperament he was calm, friendly, self-contained and cheerful.

He was a theorist and a dreamer rather than a man of action, although in the direct line of his work he was indefatigable. He lacked the gift of diplomacy, seeing but one thing and moving directly towards it. He unconsciously strove to absorb everything and everybody into his work, his enthusiasm occasionally laying him open to the accusation of being blind to the needs of other personalities. For this he was sometimes called selfish, but he was not, unless the sky that draws water from many streams as well as from the great ocean in order to transmute it into the life giving rain to be distributed over the face of the earth is selfish. He gave himself more freely than he gave others.

When he became the victim of an insidious disease, consumption, he calmly accepted his fate but his enthusiasm burned the brighter. He watched the progress of the disease and calculated the number of years he would have for his work, not more than ten, he decided very well, what can best be done in ten years towards completing his scheme of education? He

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005002

worked it out like a problem in mathematics. At the end of five years he would have reached such a point, at the end of ten — the work might be sufficiently defined and tested to make it practicable for others to carry it on. But fate willed differently. In less than ten years and when he was only — years old and his work unfinished, his hands were folded. But who shall say that his concentrated passion is not a motive force still in operation?

Emma Dickerman Straight had a personality as unique as her husband's, but entirely different. She could never have moved heaven and earth for the winning of one idea because she saw a thousand possibilities instead of only one. Where, outside his great enthusiasm her husband was placid, she was vividly alive to everything.

In appearance she was slightly below medium height, slender, full of energy. While not beautiful according to classical standards there was something in her face that attracted attention, strangers looked again — and asked who she was. She was dark with high cheek bones, a fine mouth with beautifully chiseled lips, a straight nose with sensitive nostrils, heavy black hair that grew beautifully about a low wide brow, and eyes — how can one describe her eyes — Very dark, somewhat deep set and glowing

with the emotions of a soul never at rest. She had a keen sense of humor that leaped out from her eyes and otherwise expressed itself in a short, characteristic laugh. This power to see the funny side of life saved her from what might otherwise have been a destructive emotional intensity, and also saved her from the bitter side of nature, which her quick intellect made a baffling form of expression.

Temperamentally she was an artist with no natural leaning towards scientific methods. She loved poetry, pictures, literature, beauty in all forms and, above everything else, people. She was by nature religious with a touch of mysticism. She possessed deep sentiment without it being sentimental and had a passionate desire for social expression. Not that she cared for "society", but those rarer contacts, the companionship of great natures, of interesting personalities of whatever rank in life, of these she could not have enough. She was the kind of woman to have created a brilliant salon. As it was she came in sympathetic contact with the most interesting people within reach, and her Normal Park apartments were the center of the most inspiring social life of the students. Her interest in people was not confined to her own pleasure in them. She was keenly alive to the needs of others and was forever extending a helping hand to those in any kind of trouble.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005003

While her husband had a comparatively simple nature hers was extremely complex and contradictory. To her artistic and deeply emotional nature was joined phenomenal executive ability. To conceive was to execute. She drew the charts and diagrams for her husband's lectures and had them finished almost before he had done explaining what he wanted. They were beautifully made and strictly accurate, illustrating what he needed better even than he had expressed it. She was in perfect sympathy with her husband's aims and his work, but outside that she had a great seething life need of her own which she partly satisfied by books, music and the society of loved friends. When Professor Straight's failing health made it necessary for him finally to leave his work and go to Southern California for respite, Mrs. Straight assumed his full teaching and lecturing and gave to it the impetus, the inspiration of her own ardent nature.

After Professor Straight's death Mrs. Straight went with her two children, Willard aged (eight?) and Hazel (five?) to Japan which mysterious land had long held a beckoning charm for her. Her interest in Japan began in the persons of two Japanese students who had come to the Oswego Normal School to learn Western civilization. Through the influence of one of these she received her call to Japan, not as an ordinary teacher but in the unique position of one bringing Western

civilisation for the first time to the women of Japan. She was the head of a department of the Girls' School of Tokyo, a government institution, connection with which gave her privileges not accorded to other foreigners. Instead of having to live in the foreign quarters she occupied a native house in the city and she was privileged to attend certain native (court?) functions, besides enjoying other special favors. Of course she met all the interesting foreigners living in Japan.

It was a position peculiarly suited to her genius and where she could have satisfied all the demands of her multiple nature. But alas! she had taken from her husband the seeds of the fatal disease which in her ran a quick course the damp climate of Japan being favorable to its development, and before her first term of office had expired she was obliged to return to America where in California she died and was buried in her husband's side at ——.

In such parents was material for the fashioning of genius.

Willard, the only son of Professor and Mrs. Straight was born in the Oswego home surrounded by an atmosphere of love and reverence. The new arrival placed special emphasis on the fact that in the child lay the future of the race, and this child was dedicated to the betterment of mankind.

At the hour when Willard first opened his eyes on an interesting world, a young Normal School teacher, a special friend of the family was alone in the sitting room when Professor Straight entered and walked up and down, a radiance

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005004

never before seen transforming his face. At length he stopped, looked at the friend with eyes that she felt saw her not and in a voice unsteady with emotion said, — "Unto me a son is born."

It is needless to say that this child was destined to be educated. But theories do not work smoothly where the material is so unknown a quantity as a highly individualized human being, and Willard was that. He was a beautiful baby with unusually well-developed features and his mother declares, when he was six months old that he had a sense of humor.

However that may be, the education of Willard was a very puzzling problem to his parents in spite of the fact that they were two of the finest educators in the land. Theories do not work with genius and Willard's education was equally an education of his parents in ways that were astonishing and totally unlooked for.

When in despair his mother would pour out her heart to his father with dire forebodings for the future, he, puzzled but optimistic would reply, — "After all, there is nothing in him but what came from us. Let us be patient."

The child's beauty and his activity, it was soon evident that he had inherited his mother's ardent temperament as well as her executive ability, and — him the exposure of all eyes among the hundreds of teachers and students who surrounded him at

Normal Park where it was a common question — "What is Willard's latest?" Fear was not in him and when he was about three years old he held up the limited express that was obliged to stop at Normal Park because of a cross road. This beautiful train had a great fascination for the children and one day it pulled out and was well under way before one of the trainmen noticed a small white object fluttering on the step of the rear car. Hastening to the spot he found Willard straight clinging tightly to the bar, eyes gleaming, face tense with excitement. The train had to be stopped and backed some distance to the station where the hilarious truant was restored to the arms of a frantic nurse upon whose head was poured out in full measure the indignation of a furious and frightened train conductor, for the child had come within an inch of death and the great limited had lost time.

Equally characteristic was a scene witnessed perhaps a year later and at the sea shore. Willard had the inspiration of organising a military company and there must be an immediate creation, by his all-suffering mother, of stripes, shoulder straps and caps cut out of colored paper. A little later the army was heard approaching and there appeared a column of boys whose captain about half their size, marched grandly at the head, clutching his sword and vociferating

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005005

orders, his yellow curls bloore back from the edge of the cap, his face tremendously earnest and bright red from the combined actions of the sun on a fair skin and vigorous exercise. The spectacle was so funny and so pretty that everybody stopped to look, laugh and applaud.

Willard's chief accomplishment for the first years of his life was the unconscious but successful modification of his parents' pet theories of education. One principle was that children should be coerced as little as possible, working out their destiny themselves and learning from experience to correct their mistakes. This was the theory most severely strained by Willard's activities. For instance, when about six years old he conceived a great affection for the mother of his chum Jimmie who let Jimmie do as he pleased with magnificent disregard of consequences, and one day Willard informed his mother that he was going to live at Jimmie's house. Impulsively she replied, "If you love Jimmie better than me, you may go." Fatal mistake. She had no idea he would go — after that, but with a naughty and very queery gleam in the eye Willard gathered up the needs of the moment and departed.

Against his mother's expectations he not only spent the night but did not appear next day. From feeling hurt the above mother became frightened. She knew he would eventually come back, but while perfectly healthy he was not robust and after his enamored hostess sent word that he was doing well his mother had visions of a luxurious diet that might

agree with Jimmie but prove fatal to Willard. A family council was called when the placid father casting his pet theory to the winds walked over to Jimmie's house, took Willard firmly by the hand and marched him home.

Whatever Willard did, even as a child, was done on a large scale. He had his father's broad vision and his mother's quick understanding and remarkable executive power. Money was never an object to him excepting as a means to an end and he had the power of persuading others of the value and the necessity of bringing forth his visions. What he wanted, he wanted furiously, and by one means and another, always honorable, he usually achieved his ends.

When he was about (eight?) years old he went to Japan with his mother and his little sister.

Mrs. Straight's path in Japan was a thorny one, for amidst the new and stimulating life where she needed her splendid vitality unimpaired to enable her to play her part creditably she almost at once became aware that she was the victim of a disease that was rapidly sapping her strength. Willard was a source of the greatest anxiety, for the Japanese custom of deferring to the man of the family, whatever his age, placed Willard above her in authority. The servants obeyed him instead of her and she had not the physical vitality to cope successfully with the situation. He did as he pleased, and as he pleased to do many fine things as well as some very trying ones, he got from his short stay in Japan a love for the Orient which made it

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005006

easy for him to return in after life. He took painting lessons from a native artist and showed a vigor of expression that promised success in the career of artist which for years was his ambition. But life was too insistent in other directions.

Mrs. Straight returned to California with her children and in a few months was laid to rest beside her husband.

The children were sent back to Oswego to live with their mother's friends, Dr. Elvira Rainier and Miss Laura E. Yeakirk.

Under the circumstances no better choice could have been made for the guidance of the brilliant, spoiled boy than Dr. Rainier, Aunty Doc he called her. She herself felt that a man's influence would have been better for him, but she did the best she could. She was wise and she was adamant. Added to this she was human, and she devotedly loved Willard. He naturally fell to her control while Miss Yeakirk mothered the little sister.

The education of Willard under Aunty Doc had thrilling episodes. For the most part she conquered, as she was right and Willard knew it. In proportion as he was forced to obey just laws he came to respect and love the lawgiver. But there were tragic scenes at first, in which Willard's intense emotional nature, hurled against the granite of Aunty Doc's will, broke into uncontrollable tears, to his rage and humiliation. He would argue manfully, the tears running down his face, his hands clenched in rage at his own weakness

which he objurgated in parenthetical clauses between the sounding periods of the main argument. It can be believed that at such time the air about the two was tense. Aunty Doc was magnificent, never yielding an inch altho she confessed that at such times she found it hard to keep her face straight.

She admired Willard as well as loved him and his way of always choosing his companions from among the very best boys in town gave her great satisfaction as well as a feeling of security.

For Willard at a critical period of his life to have fallen into the hands of so wise a guide as Dr. Rainier was a good fortune that helped prepare him to meet the inevitable trials of life that lay ahead. Through everything he kept his high courage and his big outlook. In his maturity as in his boyhood he drew to himself always friends from among the best, and he fulfilled the destiny to which his parents had consecrated him at his birth. He was a force in the betterment of humanity.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005007

February 7th [1917]

110 EAST SIXTY-FIRST STREET

Dearest Dorothy —

You have been so much
in my heart and mind that
I want very much to write to
you — There are so many
things I should like to say —
but it is always difficult for
me to express my thoughts —

Somehow I feel I have never
been able adequately to convey to
you two things — One is how
much your friendship has meant
to me — Dearest Dorothy dear, to
thank you more than I can ever
say — for the great happiness
and inspiration you have given me
— and for all your wonderful
sweetness to me ——

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005008

And Ken — I feel I have so little
been able to show you the depths of love
and sympathy in my heart during these
past two months — and my longing
to be with Ken
to comfort you —
felt anything as I have your sorrow —
In so many ways it has been so
long, my dear — not only has it been
so terrible because it was your sorrow
— and I love you so much that
I could hardly bear to think of what
Ken is meant — But through Ken
I had learned to love Willard as
Ken does — And Ken the bond between
us two has been certainly the greatest
gift of friendship that has ever come,
& can ever come to Ken and me —

[2-7-17] [2]

— Just a line, if I know if I can
get down to see you —

110 EAST SIXTY-FIRST STREET

all to day. Must, Katherine, be
you dearness, how saddened I
I thought I would tell you
what Ken was to me in the last
letters I had — from Paris —
On Tuesday 13th he wrote to me
in Oxford, Monday night to
Tuesday Morning left to
Rheims with — Mrs. Harriman —
to be with Willard. Next Sun-
day a "Stewart to find a
Ken flowers there — Thought I
saw Willard is with there —
Then Willard is with there —
He is much more alone than he
knows are — and where the things
we had planned and
Ken had planned to do —
that to be planned to do —
All is left because Ken loved
in Oxford, — as I do — and
because he would be pleased
to a Buckhurst, that Sun-

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005009

[possibly 2-7-18]

[c. November 14, 1918.
Later enclosed by wife to DWS]

Hyde Park Hotel,
Knightsbridge
London S.W.

pg

the French government has very kindly given me — them a nice dinner with a lot of my old fr men friends — and Mrs Vanderlip and her sister Mrs Hammeyer — and Miss Ruth Morgan and Miss Porter — all old Red Cross people — I asked Miss Porter to take my cross down when she goes on with her father next month — Stettinius and Willard came in later — Stettinius is very anxious, he says, for me to help him in winding up some of the things he,

Yours tomorrow — If it is — as it must be — that he knows — he will like my doing that —

And then again — Had written page after page and made the rarest flight I have ever seen — "How wonderful Mrs. Straight must be — This an amazing and beautiful example — and a high inspiration — How proud Willard must have been — must be — It is such things that be loved and understood so well —"

And now good-night, and so the much love — as always — my dear —

Yours Ward —

[Murphy]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005010

but I hope he won't need me for anything for very long if he needs me at all — I had a long talk with Bill and after words — He is certainly splendid in his attitude — and he has done so much for his work that he will admit it himself. He with a great importance in his next place — with Colonel House — and I am very glad that he is there — yesterday morning I left Paris — and motored to Bonlogne — a gorgeous day. Clear and cold — Andy Mellon and I spent the night together at the hotel there and today we came on to

all I know and I have ever known I have cared much for Willard Price I pray to know him — and when I think of the tragedy of his wife and children I can hardly bear it — Surely it cannot be that one so fine and useful to the world will be taken — He can do so much — He is so needed —

[12-7-18]
[end. 2-7-18]?

Grayson Kirby Murphy is his wife.

110 EAST SIXTY-FIRST STREET

Paris — November 25th — 1918 —

I had news that Willard was terribly ill here — and I found him in a very grave condition — really just barely fighting for life —

I cannot find words to express my feelings — If

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005011

My heart is heavier than it ever has
been ——— Of course everything in the
world is being done for him — I am satisfied
myself as to that advance — There is
nothing at all that I can do ———

London — December 3rd/2 — 1918 —

After several days I am writing to
you again — It has been to me so
dreadful since I wrote last that
I could not write — I have never
in my life felt anything as I did
Willard's death — I can hardly
believe it now — It simply crushed
me — and what I have done I have
done as if I were in a dream —
I could not believe that he could go —

[12-7-18]
[end. 2-7-18]?

110 EAST SIXTY-FIRST STREET

he, who was so needed in
the world — so loved — and
so full of a fineness that
the world needs so much —
It seemed to me that the
whole thing was mad — as if
the Devil had won the war —
I could not write — I could not
say anything to her — I
sent things and one to Willard —
Nothing human could

Have used full of sorrow
for about seven things —
It had planned to make —
I can hardly bear to think of
this — Mr. Norman
alone of me he called a Paris
May more so I have and fine
that they were tears-tearing —
I am writing to her —
Every thing was done in Willard —
Nothing human could

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005012

apparently have saved him —
Mrs. Harriman was wonderful —
I found there was nothing that
I could do when I reached Paris —
and I was afraid of being in the
way — so I only kept in touch with
Ted ——— I had to leave the
morning after he died to come back
here — Somehow it does not
seem that the world can ever seem
the same again — It all seems
so wrong somewhere ———
Everyone is very kind — but there is
nothing that matters — all I want
to do is my duty here ———
——— Had no idea that anything
could sadden and depress me so —

[12-7-18]
[encl. 2-7-18?]

3.

110 EAST SIXTY-FIRST STREET

I did not realize until I
first heard that Willard
was ill, how much I had
grown to love him and
to reckon on his friendship —
and I had been so much —
through him - of this family
since that last Christmas all the
time of her —

Thursday 7th —
Yesterday — Willard's going
to Arizona — I called up
is always present — and I
can't help but think
Lady Hayes since
her — I wish the time to pass
as all the time is devoted
of Willard — He was so ill
and so widely known and
loved and loved —
to-gether if this war ever

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005013

and the loss to the world seem to
be clearer every day ——
I am rather disturbed about tenden-
cies - Bolshevism and rebellion and
Socialism are entirely too active in
preying on the ~~world~~ weakened world,
staggering under the burden of the war.
The problems before us are very grave—
We need all the wise and good men
we can find— Such a figure as
Willard would have been in it all.
with his shining unselfish soul and
his great experience and ability—
Oh for me, I am tired— I wish that
the way were easier - But I shall do
my best— I wish to God that it
might have been possible for Willard
and me to work together as we
planned— We dreamed great dreams

Excerpt from Letter from Ambassador Morgan to Mr. Dearing dated February 10, 1919.

"Thank you for having forwarded my message of condolence to Dorothy and for your letter telling me you had done so. I am very much affected by Willard's death. We had many memories in common which no one else shared, and were together at a very interesting moment for us both. No one can replace him.

Dorothy has asked me to make some notes for the Memoir, which is under preparation. The most interesting souvenirs, however, are his letters which are in a trunk at Aurora. I have not read them for a long time and parts of them will not be of public interest. It has occurred to me to ask you to read them and to have copies made for Dorothy of those portions which are suitable for the work. I am, therefore, writing my sister to collect and send the letters to you for such use as your knowledge and taste may consider them suitable. I am certain you will take pleasure in carrying out my wish."

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005014

Salem -
10th Feb. 1919.

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

At last I am able to send you what I promised -

When I tell you what a sorrowful time we have had I am sure you will not wonder at the delay ——

We have just lost a most dearly loved nephew — a man just about this age

I am

Yours

Aurie J. Spinney

My dear Mrs. Straight.

I think my wife has given you a very fair account of our meeting and acquaintance with Willard. He was a fine boy and a good clean and clear minded boy and man.

With all good wishes

Yours very truly

W. J. Spinney

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005015

of Willard + Eaton + Tuscumbia little
in the same way. low fever —
He had been I am about well
married for but not feeling quite
some years but as strong as
his own little usual —
wife has been I have been
life looking for very glad to write
the arrival of the accompanying
her first baby - & I hope you will
Since - I have find it what
been ill — not you want —
seriously - just a With all good
bad throat wishes

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005016

to place some Chinese boys in school in America - among them his own younger brother - You boys likely know Mr. Lyon - If I mistake not he was in after years Chinese minister to Washington - He came to tell us about Willard + to ask our advice for him as to suitable - Journey - and the like ——

We were glad to be of any help - + - as we were just about to return to China - a lively correspondence ensued - ending in a request from him, that he might travel out with us - We were going via Suez + wanted three in London + Paris en route

Mrs Spinney [Feb. 10, 1914]

Sometime before the outbreak of the Boxer uprising - Mr. Conger - then American Minister to China - made complaint to Sir Robert Hart - the Inspector General of the Imperial Maritime Customs - that - while - there were senior men - there were no young Americans coming up to fill their places + to represent their Country - in that most Cosmopolitan of services — This Sir Robert admitted but said it was no through no fault of his —

The opportunities in America to make a career - + to make money quickly - were so numerous + the rush + stir of life were so alluring

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005017

that American boys were not content with what China had to offer - especially as time went on. & with the growth of the Service promotion came more slowly. While a number of men had gone out - at one time & another - few had been content to remain - Mr. Conger said - given the right to appoint some men he felt sure of finding good ones - who would stay & he accordingly did name four - (I believe) any of them are still in the Service I cannot say — but I certainly - one man from Cornell resigned after a year or two —

This must have been near the time of Willard's graduation - Since the years of his childhood spent in Japan - he had always had a great longing to return to the Far East - & knowing of this man's return he wrote direct to Sir Robert asking to be allowed to fill the vacant place. I think the spirit of the request must have pleased the old man - for Willard was at once given the appointment he asked -

We were in America at the time - & one day a young Chinaman came to see me — Alfred Sze - I am not sure how he anglicizes his name - a Cornell man himself he was back - I think -

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005018

to be an artist - but he felt sure that - without ample means - it was not a life to give oneself to — that - for him - while of that kind undertaken to keep the wolf from the door & not - for love & with a care free mind could not be of the best. The assured position - both socially & financially - given by the Service in China — the interesting work - which still left a man some time to give himself to other pursuits that interested him — & the thought of what he might do with his pencil - especially in a Country so little known as China - all this plan suited him well - as he still had things to attend to - so he followed by German mail direct - Mrs. Hawley & her daughter - two Smith ladies from Milwaukee - were also to be of the party - & we all met at Genoa - where we took steamer for China —

This was at the beginning of the winter of 1901-2 — I wish I could make you see Willard as we saw him that sunny day in Genoa - A fine sight of him - A big - handsome - sunny faced American boy of the best type — good - kind - courteous - full of enthusiasm & the joy of living — & far too genuine to affect an air of being bored - which so many boys imagine makes them

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005019

appear manly — He was only a boy — for — if I mistake not — he celebrated his twenty-first birthday during that voyage —

We had the pleasantness of journeys & though it was an old story to us — he made us see so much of it — through his fresh & artistic eyes — that it was almost like taking it again for the first time —

How he did enjoy it all — & especially every touch of the East —

We had — as deck passengers many Mecca pilgrims & he would stand long with arms folded on the rail looking down on them — & then — in the evenings — under the cabin lights — he would draw group after group of them — old men — little boys playing games on the decks — Once Mr. Pinney stole the sketch book & took it down to the lower decks & the pilgrims recognized face after face with many a laugh —

You know how great a gift Willard had for catching a likeness — I have a charming little sketch he made then of my husband smoking & reading in his deck chair — But he said he could not draw women — he did "not understand them" —

As we went farther & farther east how he did delight in Ceylon — Penang — &c. —

He & I had many a long talk — He had a longing

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005020

wonders & the newly opened flowers in the glorious spring weather —

I found Willard living with a number of other wide-awake young men all working expeditiously hand over their Chinese & here his quick well-trained eye stood him in good stead — His progress in Chinese was quite wonderful & won him a quick transfer to the Inspectorate General in Peking — which is — I could always looked upon as a compliment & an opportunity —

About the same time we Spinney were transferred up the river to Kiukiang —

appealed to him — & through it all he felt "the call of the East" — I think if life had not called him to other things he might have gone far as an artist — Our long living in China was made of it under circumstances which gave us a greater knowledge of the Chinese than falls to the lot of most — & certainly — to my eyes — his Chinese were truly Chinese & not merely Europeans with obliques eyes — On those days in the Service there was amongst the men of many nationalities which went to the making of it a wonderful esprit de corps — & Willard looked forward to entering it & to life

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005021

in China - with its varying aspects - with the most intense interest —

Whether he had further ambitions - I cannot say - but he certainly tried to get the most & the best out of every passing moment — Knowing him as we did - his after successes did not come as a surprise to us - only as something to rejoice in —

[Mrs Spinney]

I wonder if you know Nanking Dabbler there are more beautiful parts of China but - to my mind - it is the most picturesque & interesting of all the China ports — & to Nanking Willard was sent on his arrival in China to study Chinese —

At the same time Mr. Spinney was sent as Commissioner to Chinkiang - the nearest port on the Yangtsze to Nanking. So near that Willard could easily come down for a holiday with us — & once I went up to see that all was going well with him - Our Consul at Nanking & his two charming daughters were friends of mine & we did have a very jolly little visit together - picnicing amongst the ancient

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005022

volume later he fell very ill - lying between life & death for months — As soon as he could travel we made our way to a specialist in Europe - under whose care he made a complete recovery & eventually we returned to China for a time — but we did not see Willard again till he came to us in Switzerland - not very long before your marriage — We never quite lost touch with him in all those years - but while my husband was so ill I had little time & thought to spare from him - & - meantime - Willard himself wandered far afield — He wrote from time to time but

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005023

we ourselves were such wanderers letters were destroyed as they were answered + - I am sorry to say - I have none of his I can send you ——

We have spent much time in Peking + at this time Willard was there we had friends there from whom we heard more or less of his life there — + - knowing him as we did it was no surprise to us that he became a general favorite — + in spite of the many kindnesses that were heaped upon him — he left Peking as whole - souled + unspoiled as he came ——

of his leaving the Chinese service + be war correspondent for Reuter - during the Russo-Japanese war - of his work with Mr. Morgan in Corea + Cuba + - later - for our own government - you doubtless know far more than we ——

I do not think of more at the moment - If anything further occurs to you - pray do not hesitate to ask us — we are more than glad to tell you anything we can ——

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005024

MANCHURIAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

ROOM 2654
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY

Chinese Post Office,
Harbin, Manchuria,
Feb. 12 1919.

RECEIVED
MAR 21 1919
W. D. S.
A. W. F.

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

My dear Mr. Fiedler;-

This is not a business letter. I write concerning the death of Major Straight. At first we would not accept it but now it is confirmed and we must be resigned. I have read with intense interest the story of his life in Asia. Surely his is a record of which one can be proud. He has set an example which will inspire men to do and dare. I will not burden you further for you have had countless messages at this time. Only let me add my expression of deep sympathy to you in your loss. We know full well what it means to all of us with whom he was associated.

Though I have not had the honor of meeting Mrs. Straight, I feel that I would like to send her a note as coming from a former Cornell professor for whose institution he had done so much and who now sends his message from the heart of Manchuria.

Sincerely yours,
Wm. D. Beck

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005025

[2-12-19]

My dear Mrs. Straight.

Though I have not had the honor of meeting you, I trust that you will pardon me if I send my message of sympathy "from out the mists of Asia."

It too, came from

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005026

and can understand
something of the greatness
of the vision of Major
Straight for Manchuria.

I pray you may
have the strength "to carry
on" - a strength which comes
from the knowledge of his
great service to his country
as put so well by Mr. Roosevelt.

I remain, my dear Mr. Straight,
Respectfully yours,
Charles Denby

Lincoln's Birthday - Manchuria.

Northern New York not far
from Oswego. I knew him
at Cornell - followed to
Manchuria where I met
his friends, including Mr.
C. D. Jameson who spoke
with so much interest
about both of you.

Among the countless
messages I hope there
may be one small place
from one who has seen

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005027

From Minutes of Canton Christian College Council, Session 445,
February 13,1919.

It was agreed to adopt the following resolution:

The Council of the Canton Christian College, on behalf of the faculty and students of the Canton Christian College, records with a sense of keen regret the death of Major Willard D. Straight a member of the Board of Trustees of the College. His thorough acquaintance with and love for China, his splendid services to this country in consummating difficult achievements in diplomatic and financial negotiations and in constructive business projects, his appreciation and interest in the deeper social and educational problems of China, his earnest efforts to bring about closer and more cordial relations between the East and the West, and his unselfish devotion throughout his life to the service of others make us feel that China and America have suffered an irreparable loss of an unusually fine friend and citizen. In this memorial we wish to express an appreciation for his life, our own sorrow in his untimely death, and our sympathy with the members of his family in their bereavement.

It was agreed to hold a memorial service Sunday afternoon at two o'clock in honor of Mr. Straight.

Madrid 12 Fevrier 19

Madame
J'ai appris la mort de Monsieur Straight a Paris, et je viens vous dire combien c'est: de coeur que toutes mes condoléances vont vers vous.
Quel affreux malheur!
Quoique j'avais très peu vue votre mari, j'avais de suite eu pour lui; en plus d'une vive affection sympathique, une profonde et vraie amitié.
Croyez toujours chère Madame

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005028

Straight a mes sentiments
les plus respectueux

Ignacio Zuloaga

Rosales 7o

Madrid

Je suis en train de peindre
les portraits du Roi, et de la
Reine.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
353 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE EDITOR.

CABLE ADDRESS:
"CENTURY, NEWYORK."

February 15, 1919

Dear Mrs. Straight:

We have had an opportunity recently of reading some most interesting letters from your husband to Mr. Claude Bragdon, an architect of Rochester, New York. These letters were written to Mr. Bragdon while Mr. Straight was in China in 1903--1904. We were unable to publish these for definite reasons, because we were unable to meet Mr. Bragdon's requirements as to the form of publication.

But the idea comes to our mind that, perhaps, it might be possible for you during the year to gather together a collection of Mr. Straight's letters to you for publication in The Century Magazine. You will appreciate, I am sure, that I do not think of any letters of a peculiarly personal or intimate nature, but rather those, perhaps, of a discursive character that would interest a number of people and show what an unusually excellent and interesting letter writer Mr. Straight was.

I should be glad to hear from you about this plan sometime at your convenience.

Very sincerely yours,

T. R. Smith

Mrs. Willard D. Straight
Old Westbury
Long Island

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005029

TRUSTEES
JAMES N. GAMBLE, CINCINNATI, OHIO, PRES.
HARRISON RHODES, NEW YORK, N. Y., VICE-PRES.
LAURENCE THOMPSON, DAYTONA, FLA., SEC'Y-TREAS.
C. H. WILDER, CINCINNATI, OHIO
GEORGE S. DOANE, PASADENA, CAL.

TRUSTEES
REV. ROBERT MC KAY, DAYTONA, FLA.
SMITH G. YOUNG, LANSING, MICH.
EMMET J. SCOTT, TUSKEGEE, ALA.
MARY MC LEOD BETHUNE, DAYTONA, FLA

The Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute for Negro Girls

INCORPORATED

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE, PRINCIPAL

Daytona, Florida, February 18, 1919

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

My dear Mrs. Straight :

The sad news has just reached me of the passing on of your dear husband. I have no words in which to convey to you the deep sympathy that I feel for you, in this hour of your great bereavement. We are always powerless when so poignant a grief comes to us, we can only "be still and know that God is the Lord," and that in His own time will come that "perfect peace that passeth all understanding !"

With all my heart I commend you, dear Mrs. Straight to the loving, tender Father who "doth not willingly afflict nor grieve the children of men," and remind you that altho the hour may be dark and the path rough to the feet, "underneath are the Everlasting Arms."

Yours in heartfelt sympathy,

Mary McLeod Bethune

MMB/D

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005030

CLAUDE BRAGDON ARCHITECT
104 105 CUTLER BUILDING ROCHESTER N.Y.

Rochester, N. Y., February 21
1 9 1 9

My dear Mrs. Straight:

My little essay and the letters are actually in the hands of the printer, but they are to appear in Scribner's instead of in the Century. I like this better, and I hope you do, too. Mr. Bridges, editor of Scribner's was willing to take them without the addition of other letters--was indeed eager to do so. This is the reason that I made the shift, though when the Century editor found that he was likely to lose the publication, he waived the condition that he had made from the start. However, he returned the mss. promptly, and I take it that everyone is satisfied

I met Mr. Fiedler last night, and he delivered to me the three photographs which I am forwarding to Mr. Bridges to-day. I will have them returned to Mr. Fiedler after the reproductions are made.

I embodied all your suggestions and corrections together with the additional information concerning Willard's early years in my mss.before I sent it. I feel sure that it is now substantially all right, though I shall try to get you a proof before going to press, "to make assurance doubly sure".

I hope that the quiet and the beautiful country may have brought strength to your body and healing to your spirit. I am indeed glad if in my appreciation of Willard you detected a note which seemed to you true. These are delicate tasks, and I cofess I shrank from it at first, but it needed to be done, and apparently I was the one to do it.

Yours always sincerely,

Claude Bragdon

54, WESTBOURNE PARK ROAD,
BOURNEMOUTH WEST.

20th February

My dear Mrs Straight

I was so very truly grieved to hear from my husband of your sad loss. Mr. Straight always appeared to me to possess the very essence of health and strength and the promise of long

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005031

life - You will understand how I can sympathize with you. It brings back to me over two years ago, not indeed that there is ever absent from my thoughts - but there is so much to awaken deep thoughts in both cases. The breaking up of a happy home - a home which made the sacred ties and better by its very existence - and in Mr Straight's case there was also the cutting short of so much promise, the shortening of a great career and the loss to his country of one who had the power to do so much for their interests - I cannot say anything except to express my deep sympathy - You have the best record of

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005032

comfort in your devotion to the needs of others - I feel that you will be able to realize that the separation is only partial & temporary, that his spirit will be near you and that you can never be alone after having once shared his life and allowed him to share yours

With my deep sympathy

Believe me

Yours very sincerely

Anna M. Gordon

WILLARD STRAIGHT
ONE TWENTY BROADWAY
NEW YORK

February twenty first
1 9 1 9.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

Enclosed herewith please find a copy of a further letter received from Mr. Sailor, together with a copy of my reply.

Also I am taking the liberty of enclosing a suggested letter to Mr. Senior thanking him for his kindness in sending to you his copy of the Cornell Era, which I trust will meet with your approval. If it is satisfactory, will you kindly sign it and mail in the enclosed envelope.

There are a number of matters which I should like to take up with you but they are not sufficiently important for me to go down to Aiken, nor do I wish to interrupt your rest in any way. I would appreciate it, however, if you could either send me a telegram or write a short note letting me know about when you expect to be back in New York, so that I can make my plans accordingly. I am anxious to run down to Washington for a day or two to go over the Washington property situation with Mr. Lindley and Mr. DeLashmutt, but would not like to be away if you expect to be back the end of this month.

Sincerely yours,
A. H. Fredley

Mrs. Willard Straight,
Aiken, South Carolina.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005033

[encl. 2-21-19]

COPY

CORNELL ALUMNI NEWS

Ithaca, New York

February 15, 1919

Mr. A. W. Fiedler,
120 Broadway,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Fiedler:

I am sending you today a copy of the Cornell Era for the year 1901 with the compliments of Mr. John L. Senior, whose address is 246 Wildwood Ave., Jackson, Michigan. I am also sending you under separate cover copies of the Alumni News beginning with the issue when we first heard of the death of Mr. Straight and when we unfortunately ran his name in the heading as "William D" instead of Willard D, down to the present, with a list of the articles, some of no importance whatever, some merely editorials which have appeared since then, and I think there has been something in each issue except that of January 16th.

I am enclosing also a rough copy of the Associate Alumni's resolution and am taking up the matter of getting it properly engrossed for presentation. When this is done I shall send it on to you, if you think best, but I would appreciate your sending me Mrs. Straight's address so that I could send it direct to her. I leave this, however, to your judgment with particular reference to what Mrs. Straight would prefer.

Yours sincerely,

R. W. Sailor

February twenty first
1 9 1 9.

R. W. Sailor, Esquire,
Cornell Alumni News,
Ithaca, New York.

Dear Mr. Sailor:

Many thanks for your letter of the fifteenth of February, advising that you have sent under separate cover copies of the "Alumni Newe" containing items on Major Straight. I received the copy of the Cornell Era a few days ago and this morning the copies of the "Alumni News" reached me. I am certainly grateful to you for the kind attention which you gave this whole matter.

I also have the copy of the Associate Alumni's resolution. It seems to me that it would be much better to send this direct to Mrs. Straight when it is ready. Her address is 1130 - Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Again thanking you on behalf of Mrs. Straight, I am,

Sincerely yours,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005034

[2-21-19]

My dear Mrs. Straight

A letter just received from Mrs. Calhoun was written the day she had joined with so many others in doing the last sad honors to your beloved husband - She writes of his most gallant fight for life and his fine

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005035

death in mid-career, in the heat of action with never a regret. The regrets are for us who love him, his splendid vitality and energy and for his darling young wife in New York.

For him. There is the brilliant record of a splendid life filled with great projects for others and especially for needy China.

For his many friends who tremble the globe, there is the abiding loss of a true and kind friend, but for you, whom he loved more than life, his going must be an unspeakable loss.

Dry only little can slip from our just lips even since then there has been such a revelation of what loss can mean.

As we think of the millions of sorrowing women throughout the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005036

wored and their superb
courage in spite of their
grief and endless yearning, one
is dumb with wonder and
admiration for them - What an
inspiration our dear Frances
Mrs. Cal has been, how worthy
of Mr. Cal!

I so often think of
your hospitable home in
Peking, where each of us
met with such a special
welcome and the Chinese

[2-21-19] [2]

were treated with such
exquisite courtesy —

What a fortnight of hosts
Mr. Straight was so thoughtful,
ever ready with a good
story, his merry laugh
ringing through the rooms,
his sympathy so sure —

Dr. Gatrell, never wearied
of telling of his great admiration
for Mr. Straight whose sterling

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005037

qualities and unswerving honor set a new standard for the business men of Peking -

Did ever any man have such a host of devoted new friends as your husband a certain tribute of solid worth -

How I should love to bring my little three -

year-old daughter to see your and your beautiful children and taste of the happy Peking days. My heart is sympathy is yours and I am so thankful for the privilege of calling your friend.

Always affectionately yours
Mary Corbett Smith
(Mrs Norman Hall
Jennifer Hall
Clifton Chittenden
February twenty-third 1919.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005038

Rio de Janeiro, February 27th, 1919.

My dear Dorothy:

I only recently received your letter of December 13th, relative to the intention of Mr. Croly to prepar a memoir regarding Willard. I have asked a person who has access to my papers in Aurora to send F. M. D. whatever letters of Willard's can be found. Dearing will hand Mr. Croly copies of those portions which can be appropriately used.

I shall take pleasure in preparing a sketch of those early days in which we were so closely associated and which were the beginning of many tendencies which Willard afterward developed and enlarged.

Always faithfully yours,

Edwin Morgan

Mrs. Willard Straight,
120 Broadway,
New York City.

Trier Germany
Feb 24 1919

TC Bttn Gen Staff
AC of S G-2 HQ Bde M P Cmp.
A P O 930.

Dear Mrs Straight -

Perhaps you will remember we dined together two or three years ago at the Lotos Club in Boston, and at that time I told you of the old days in Korea where I saw a lot of Willard while I was travelling around the world with Archie Coolidge. I have thought of you often with great sympathy since learning the sad news of Willard's death, and of him also, - and of the world as well, which I know would have gained so much more and more each year if he could have lived and kept on using his gifts in service for the world, as he had so well started to do. I had practically never seen him since 1905 when he made such a striking impression on me in Korea, where I had two or three weeks of delightful companionship with him but I shall never forget him.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005039

practice, had to pay so much. Why?
Sometime I hope our paths will cross
for a moment again —
meanwhile please believe me
Yours sincerely
Richard B Hobart.

So I want to add my little word
to the thanks of those that you have
already received. It will always seem
a puzzling cruel stroke, and terribly
undeserved, if there is such a thing
as deserts, which I entirely doubt —
I shall always be sorry for you, and for
such a fate or power that took
him at this time — the "Lord" or "Hand",
I suppose Bishop Brent would say.
But I am glad for the satisfaction and
peace that you and the rest of us will
sometime find, in spite of our sorrow,
disappointment and whatever life brings,
in caring for the world, and believing
in it and helping it, a lot, as
you certainly do, or a little, as
I mean to start doing. I have learned
my little lesson and duty at no cost
at all, simply of living through the last
two years — you, who already had
learned it, and had put it into

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005040

THE ASSOCIATE ALUMNI
OF
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
I T H A C A

March 1, 1919.

Mrs. Willard Straight
1130 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I have the honor of sending you under separate cover a resolution of the Associate Alumni of Cornell University, the directors of which represent the entire alumni body of the University, and I feel they express the sentiment of these thirty thousand people.

No resolution, of course, can adequately express the personal sorrow felt by those Cornellians who knew your husband, at first as a student, then as an alumnus, and finally as a trustee. Will you not, however, accept it as representing in its own poor way the sorrow of some thirty thousand persons who directly or indirectly considered Mr. Straight their friend.

Yours sincerely

Robert Warren Sailor ('07)

Secretary.

R.W.Sailor
F.J.B.

March 2nd. 1919
Victoria Hotel
Toulon. France

My dear Mrs. Straight

When I came back recently from Serbia to the land of cables, mail, and daily papers, I learned of the death of your husband. I cannot tell you what a shock it was and how very much I wished that I might be of some service to you. I knew him but slightly yet I always felt that through you I knew him well. The loss which has come so unexpectedly to you is one which it has always seemed to me would be more shattering than any other. Any yet I know you have met it

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005041

with courage and strength. You enter so fully into the feelings of others that you will have known how large a number have shared with you. There are not many things that help in such a time. To me, it was a help to reflect that at this time in the world's history countless numbers of others were enduring similar griefs and were continuing to live and be useful and even, in time, cheerful. Time is kind to us all in this respect. Life is never again exactly the same but it is not less worth while.

Mrs Fricks & I have been here at Taylor with an older daughter who was taken with influenza here while on her way to Roumania. She developed pneumonia and two weeks later a second pneumonia and we have been very anxious indeed. During the last few days she has been much better and I think she will completely recover. She will not however be able to go to America before May and I am planning to remain on this side until that time.

I look forward to seeing you after my return.

Believe me, as ever

Very sincerely Yours

Henry Fricks

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005042

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK March 4, 1919.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Dorothy Whitney Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

At its meeting on December 5, 1918, the Executive Committee of the American International Corporation by a rising vote unanimously adopted a memorial to the memory of Major Straight with the request that it be transmitted to you.

It is at once a great honor and a sad duty to comply with this request, an honor because we all of us have felt so deeply the privilege of having numbered among our Officers a man of his character, but it again emphasizes the loss which we have sustained. His personality pervaded our entire organization and helped us through many of the early difficulties which we encountered. As we knew him better, the respect and confidence were strengthened with a deep friendship.

This, I assure you, is no formal act of a Corporation but a real testimonial of the esteem of a group of friends and colleagues.

Sincerely yours,

Charles A. Stone

President.

Tryon N.C.
March 2-1919

Dear Mrs. Straight, — I am sending you four pictures of Willard, perhaps you already have them. The one of the two children was taken on a very hot day, their mother said, when they did not want to have their pictures taken! The one from Japan was taken for the sake of the new overcoat, of which Willard was very proud.

The enclosed photograph is of Mrs. Straight. I do not know that she would have liked me to give it to you, she disliked

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005043

are pictures of herself so much. And no picture ever did her justice. Her charm depended upon the mobility of her features and the ever changing expression of her eyes. But I think that in this picture, poor as it is, you can get some idea of where Willard got his power.

I sent you a little sketch of Mr. and Mrs. Straight and of Willard's early years, a few weeks ago, and I hope it reached you safely.

I hope that you and the children are well.

Affectionately yours,
Margaret A. Morley

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005044

March 4th [1919]

1341 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE.
WASHINGTON D.C.

Dearest Dorothy.

We arrived this morning after a very comfortable journey - we played bridge with Mrs. Joseph Hoffman and a Canadian whose name I don't remember. We were very comfortable those last two days. Saturday night we dined out - I at Mrs. Dillworths & Charlie at the Arts Club & Sunday we lunched at the Straws and the MacBurneys came for supper & played bridge. They had just arrived & we had played a lot with them in the afternoon & were badly beaten! He plays the most beautiful game that I have ever seen. We saw Murray Craig before & Mr. Wright before we left but they had no clues. Isn't it strange - I gave the boys the money and Flora turned the house over to Maria and I think everything were all right. I can never thank you, Dorothy, for giving us all such a wonderful time! Nita's chicken-pox did him good as I have never seen him look so well! Everyone says they have never seen the Verge of us look better so you see what you did for us! But far above the health was the being with you. I didn't have much chance to talk to you but one only has to be with you to feel that you and Willard are closer than you have ever

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005045

been and the feeling I have of the closeness of Willard when with you is extraordinary! It is of course your wonderful faith. Most people are selfish in a great grief if not at the time, but you have no more thought of self now than at any time and the interest you take in your children, friends and everything that is of interest in the world shows your entire lack of thought of self. The fact that you don't show any bitterness that Willard was taken away just at the time when he was needed the most in this topsy-turvy world is true perfectly marvellous and shows what a real philosophy of life here and elsewhere you have.

I wonder if you realize what an influence you have among your myriads of friends and among those who know you slightly or not at all! Your open mindedness on all subjects is like a tonic and I find myself wondering many times a day what you would think about this or that.

Did you ever know of such a mess as this Congress has made

can properly run it stand for it etc. etc. but that will surely be amended satisfactorily. I went to the Senatorial Com. investigating Bolshevism this morning and heard Miss Beatty testify. Have you ever heard her? She was most interesting about Russia where she has been for eight months. She was very open minded and of course the old Senators decided she was a Bolshevik with a capital B. & they tried to trip her up by the most idiotic questions. She was more than a match

[3-4-19]

1341 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE.
WASHINGTON D.C.

I have enclosed the picture.

of things.? They say that Lodge + Penrose started it but of course it got wa beyond their control and they could do nothing to st it's going so far. I should think that it would act like a boomerang and se many people the Presider support would might not sta have gone. The great difficulty seems to be the mandatory idea and t fact that we may have t police Russia and the Au

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005046

for them, keeping her temper in a remarkable way and answering their questions as you would talk to a child. They are going to call Raymond Robbins to-morrow and Ambassador Francis on Saturday. I saw Gladys yesterday and John lands on Friday. The bean-liger Law has been ordered to the Foreign Office in London and sails Saturday so it all fits in very well! I also saw Caroline Phillips for a few minutes and she said she was going to N.Y. next week and hoped to see you.

I keep wondering if the children are still without the chickens pox and how the Junior League is working out. If you have a moment write me about everything but especially your own self. I know I ought not to ask it as it means one more thing for you to do! Take care of yourself, dear. We will live over those days with you at Aiken many, many times - as you will never know how much I miss you or what an inspiration you are to me. Love. Good-night [Lindley]

1550 Le Roy Ave.,
Berkeley, Calif.,
March 6th 1919

My dear Mrs. Straight.

I have taken the privilege of sending you a copy of my book "Foreign Financial Control in China." This book is dedicated to your husband. For it owes its conception largely to an article written some years ago by Mr. Willard D. Straight on the loan negotiations with China.

More than that, I myself am endeavoring, in my small way, to live up to ideals similar to those that make the memory of Willard Straight

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005047

one of America's finest possessions!

My book, then, with which I have made bold to connect the name of your husband will, I pray, be taken by you more for a contribution to his idealism and to his spirit which is a living force. The shortcomings of the book are otherwise great.

I beg to express to you my deepest feelings of sympathy and admiration.

Believe me

Very respectfully yours

T. W. Overlack

I may add that I owe your address to the kindness of Professor Henry M. Stephens, who had also given me an introduction to Mr. Straight.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005048

[1913]

ONE HUNDRED FORTY BROADWAY
NEW YORK

March 8th.

Dear Dorothy-

Shan't be reading
your letter - Shan't try to answer it
because there are things that I want you
to understand - and I am not very
well talk to you of them - It will
seem easier - Nothing is indelicate.

shall be very brief and simple.
You do not know how grateful
I am to you for what you say -
and for being what I see you
are. I have so much Billard's
thought - and mine - that there
should be among us all a partnership
and surely nothing that has happened
can change that hope - or lessen
the fierce happiness that there
must be in carrying on so gallant

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005049

[3-8-19] [2]

ONE HUNDRED FORTY BROADWAY
NEW YORK

I am in no way a man of God
as you are and as Bill and me.
As for that attitude in
them not that is for
them only that is yours. I am
so sorry that you misunderstand this
things — that there is always between
us from the start — for only as can
the most precious friendship of my
life continue on a living human
thing and not become a memory —
you will understand what I
mean — I am so glad that in
the you find nights — and sleep
the you children are — the
thought that you may some day
find me a person with you hope
to pay them to me —

G. Straight

a fight as we may for the things we planned
to fight for — for though we may not lean physically
on each other's strength I know that that keen
spirit is with us and before us — if there is
anything real in life still —

But your letter makes me fearful. Do
please do not think much of me. I know that
nothing that is meanest can survive. Grantes
terribly to be your friend that I want you to be sure
in your opinion and your expectations of me, that
you may not be so disappointed when you
learn what I really am. Willard gave me
credit for so many things that I did not deserve —
Please do not look for them in me. Take up
your own mind — and know that in many ways
which you do not know I am selfish and narrow
and often of a mean spirit. I am sure
much reputation that brother earned we deserved

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005050

flowers. And I rely mention it because I want you to know that I thought of you then.

Your courage and bravery is an inspiration to us all. I wanted to put my hand in yours. So I know that some of the things said at Ruth's meeting to help us. We have for you to bear. We're not we proud of us Ruth?

MARCH 5, 1917
F.L.

820 FIFTH AVENUE

Dear Dorothy

I am sending you a little valentine which will very much for. And I am writing a letter to go with it for I think a note I wrote to you in December must have been lost - perhaps they are managing that it! I must write some

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005051

To me could have met a more different + selected one, graciously than she. I shall never forget her expression when she clasped her gift.

Some time I hope to see you. You are often in my thoughts, and I hope you feel as much better as you look, since your return from Aiken.

Always appreciatively
Harriet Pratt

9 March —

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
353 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE EDITOR.

March 14, 1919

Dear Mrs. Straight:

I wrote to you sometime ago about the possibility of the Century Magazine printing some letters from your husband. This letter was addressed to you at Aiken.

We have carried the idea further, and as a result of a talk with Mr. Herbert Croly today the Century Co. wishes to submit for your consideration the following plan:

We should like to publish in book form, sometime either this year or next, a biography consisting of the life and letters of your husband to be written by Mr. Croly. Mr. Croly is disposed to undertake this work if certain situations do not demand his entire attention during the next six months. In addition to this, we should like to publish several chapters from the biography in the Century Magazine.

Mr. Croly informs me that there is already under consideration a plan to bring out a private memorial book about Mr. Straight. You will appreciate, I am sure, that our idea will not complicate this situation in any manner as our work is for public distribution, and Mr. Shuster and myself consider that Mr. Straight's personality and achievement deserves the best biography and the widest distribution that can be given to it.

We ask you to think this matter over and let us know your attitude sometime at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,
J. P. Smith

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

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005052

30 Av. Henri Martin
Paris. March 18-
1919

My dear Mrs. Straight:

Although I have not met you I hope you will let the friend clip that my husband had for you, and our common sorrow be my introduction.

My husband died on Feb. 17 of influenza followed by pneumonia just as yours did so soon after. He was aide-de-camp to Gen Pershing and in that way came in

touch with Maj. Straight a great deal.

I went to Maj. Straight's funeral and did so feel for you as for many on that day. I had a letter from my husband saying how sadly they felt at Headquarters about Maj. Straight's death and adding "I know pity those who die, it is so easy to die, but the hard for the ones left who must go on living, it will be so hard for Mrs. Straight and his children." I know now the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005053

real meaning of his words.

It does seem hard to lose them when they were little so young and had so much to live for. But they must have been needed for a higher calling and we will have always the wonderful memories and the glory of our happy days that can never die out of our souls.

Writing I can say can express what I would wish to say, but you will take as my meaning that which I have left unsaid and just know that I know what you too are suffering. The reason that I, the wife of an Army Officer, happen to be in France is that we have lived here for 6 years, my husband being in the regular Army, served with a French regiment early upon the War, was afterwards with Allorchi of the Embassy here & then sent to Gen Pershing

(2) MARCH 14 1919 EC

I have a daughter 13 yrs. old that is now to come, the joy of my life.

My husband is buried so near to yours (only 2 graves between them) I go out to the Cemetery every Sunday and I wondered if I could be of any service to you in writing you any information or in any way doing something for you. I would so love to help you if I can

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005054

Mrs. Harriman tells me that she hopes you would come to Paris with her in May and I should hope to see you then. I will be in Paris until Sept. when I expect to go back to America. I do think you to plan and do so understand your wish. Most sincerely yours

Anne P. Boyd

New York, N. Y., March 19, 1919.

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

My dear Mrs. Straight:

In accordance with the suggestion in our conversation of some weeks ago, I have made the following notes, which I trust may be of some use to you:

ARRIVAL IN CHINA.

As Professor ~~Stevens~~ Stephens will probably have much better information on the motives of Willard's decision to go to the Orient, I shall begin with his arrival there. He landed at Shanghai between Christmas and New Years 1901 and lived with me for about a fortnight while he was getting together his furniture and equipment for Nanking, whither he had been ordered by the Inspector General to study Chinese. His viewpoint of approach to everything Oriental around him was delightful in its expression of art and humour, which had already combined in some of his college work.

NANKING DAYS.

From Nanking, for example, he sent me some delightful letters telling me of his native surroundings, with all the life of the street of the ancient capital, which attracted him greatly. I remember in one he drew on the margin a picture of a very rotund and good natured Chinese teacher with all the impedimenta of tortoise shell glasses and silk tipped queue. In another letter he sent a request for a hat and he sketched on the margin a picture of the broad brimmed English fedora with pugaree, all of which was accurate and artistic but of no value in comparison with the very remarkable likeness of himself on which he mounted this graphic order for a

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005055

[3-19-19]

head covering.

His Nanking days were evidently very free and easy and I believe it was there that he more or less rushed through the illustrations for Bland's "Verse and Worse", working only outside the very trying schedule of Chinese studies which he had laid out for himself.

Before leaving for America in 1902 I visited him for a few days and found him working on these drawings for Bland and on some general sketches. One day I discovered a water color of a Chinese soldier, a type that I had known so intimately during the previous year when I was studying on the Yangtze. When I admired the sketch he replied that under the law of the Arab, it was mine, cut it off from the board and handed it to me. It hangs now in my Harbin home, together with a very clever pencil sketch of a Chinese boy which he also gave me during this visit. This latter, I consider, ranks with the very best pieces of his work I have seen, as he put into it with a fine economy of lines, a richness of expression which makes it a masterpiece.

A similar sketch I found on this trip at Mr. and Mrs. Spinney's, Commissioner of Customs at Chikiang. One day while on their veranda, he had called up the old gateman of the Commissioner's compound and with a red, blue and black pencil he had left on a half sheet of blue writing paper a likeness of the old servant which at once became a treasure in their household. I believe it was also there that I saw a very attractive poster style water color of a big Chinese Junk done all in sepia.

As I was leaving for America late that month he sent me a letter of bon voyage containing a pen sketch of myself and my much-lettered suit case on board steamer off for America, while on the other page he sat cross-legged over a great Chinese tome with a pagoda in the back ground, studying the lesson that MA had seen fit to

[3-19-

abandon.

It was sketches and work like this the men who were with him at Nanking told me filled the few leisure hours he had from Chinese studies and riding. Through it all there seemed to be no especial evidence of an artist about him. He just drew pictures ~~and~~ of things at hand which interested him and I think it was this entire absence of outward evidences of the cult that gave his work one of its best stamps of culture.

TRANSFER TO PEKING.

I believe I am right in saying that it was the marked progress he made in Chinese at Nanking that secured to him the transfer to Peking to continue studying part of the days and working the remaining hours in the Inspectorate. His studies there carried him on so well that , when he left the service in 1904 to go out for Reuter, I have heard he was slated to be made Assistant Chinese Secretary. His training in line and drawing helped him much with the written character -- so he once intimated to me.

I take it you must of course know the story of his going disguised as a Budhist Bonze to the midnight ceremony where the Emperor went to worship on some festival occasion.

MANCHURIA.

The next time I saw him was after my return to China where I was teaching in St. John's College in the Spring of 1905, when he passed through from Japan on his way north to try to get to the Front. Then following his days in Korea after the closing of the war, with Minister Morgan and as Acting Consul General at Seoul and the completion of his year's contract with Mr. Morgan in Cuba, our paths next crossed in the autumn of 1906, when he came to Mukden as Consul General and offered me the post later of Vice and Deputy Consul General.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005056

I think that one of the incidents in his Eastern career which most clearly brought out the real temper of the man and won the respect of those in close touch with him during a very trying period was his action at the funeral in Newchwang of Fairchild who had been his Deputy and was supposed to have shot himself at Mukden. At the grave when the Rector offered a prayer in which he made some reference which was not in keeping with the character of Fairchild and which I believe contained some regrettable reference to the fate of those who die by their own hand, Willard stepped forth at the end of the prayer and offered one himself which men who were there say was one of the noblest, finest utterances that they have ever heard.

When I passed through Mukden in March of 1907, he was, as I remember, still in the old Chinese Hotel which they had taken during those first rush days for the Consulate there. Later that spring, in May, I think, he visited me in the Customs at Antung, where he wrote almost incessantly but hardly touched his pencil.

Incidentally, during this visit we had one of those delightful out-of-door journeys which can only come in China. We took a great Junk and sailed down the Yalu, between the wonderful green-clad mountains of Korea and lower hills on the Chinese side, enjoying life to the full. It was during this trip that we had the wonderful experience of seeing the skipper with a fifty or sixty foot boat try to hurdle a narrow strip of mud across the creek, illustrating what Willard and I had both learned of the Chinese character, that it tries instead of thinking. Of course we stuck and had to go home by cart, leaving our comfortable old cruiser high and dry.

Our next meeting was in Mukden in February 1908, when I noticed a very definite change had begun to show itself in him. The seriousness of the Government problems on which he was engaged reflected itself in his own frame of mind. He worked almost incessantly and was

very definite as to what the Government must do in order to hold the loyalty of men like himself who were trying to fight its battles in the Orient. With it all he was a wonderful host during these days and gave to the old temple at Mukden a reputation for genial hospitality which reached quite around from Manchuria to Washington and back again. Travelers came from all over who seemed to have known him in every country of the Orient.

It was at about this time that his trip with Mr. Taft when Secretary of War, took him through North Manchuria and it was either during this trip or not long after that he saw the great agricultural possibilities of the Sungaree Valley and the Black Land country of Northern Manchuria. He went home while I was still at Antung and we consequently lost touch until 1913 or 14.

RANCH INTEREST.

Persuaded that the combination of soil fertility, cheap labor, cheap lands and improving transportation was one that could certainly be counted upon to yield good returns if properly taken advantage of, he always showed a keen interest in the work we started from Tientsin to develop the Sungaree River ranch. When I came home in the autumn of 1915 to secure additional capital for our further development, he tried to interest some of his financial associates here without result. Then after I succeeded elsewhere in pledging enough capital to ensure the fruition of our plans and went back to ask him if he would take a place on our Board of Directors, he not only accepted the position but subscribed to the capital as well and gave us his best efforts in successfully launching the new Company. Even though we have met with the severe reverses of two years of flood and other difficulties, he wrote to Mr. Fiedler during the past year from France that, although he believed we might be some time in making good, he was willing to stay by the undertaking with the feeling that ultimately we would bring it through.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005057

[3-19-19]

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

but
I feel that it is ~~my~~ right that I pass on to you a statement made by Ambassador de Cartier, when I happened to meet him one day this winter on the Washington train. He said that, even though he was a Belgian,--than which nothing can stand for more of suffering in this war,--the loss of Straight had affected him more than that of any one else whom this colossal struggle has taken from us.

Also I should like to add that Willard had a circle of very close friends among the Chinese officials, from whom nothing will probably ever be heard but who have shown peculiarly close feeling for him during his life in China.

Yours very sincerely,

Louis Dolen.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON SQUARE
NEW YORK

JEREMIAH W. JENKS

March
Twenty-second
1 9 1 9

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I am taking the liberty of sending you copy of a letter from Professor Latourette, of Denison University, together with one from Mr. W. P. Mills, a secretary of the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A. The letters explain themselves.

I may say that I have never met Professor Latourette personally. I know, however, that he has been much interested in the Far East; that he has written on the Far East very acceptably and that he bears a good reputation.

I trust that you will pardon me for taking this liberty, but I have thought it quite possible that, under the circumstances, you may be very glad to hear of such suggestions.

Very sincerely yours,

J. W. Jenks.

Mrs. Willard Straight,
1130 Fifth Avenue,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005058

[3-22-19]

C O P Y

March 10, 1919

Dear Dr. Jenks:-

The enclosed letter from Professor Latourette, of Denison University, speaks for itself. I wrote to him of our conversation at the Hotel Astor on February 21, when you told me that you were encouraged with reference to the whole Chinese-Japanese situation at the Peace Conference. It is this to which Dr. Latourette refers in his opening paragraph. The article of which he speaks is one that he expects to write for the New Republic on the Far Eastern situation and the Peace Conference.

For our present purposes, the important part of his letter is, of course, the second paragraph. I should like to ask whether you feel there is anything you could do in regard to his suggestion of getting a chair on the Far East established at Cornell. You probably know about the Wasson library. I understand that it is a collection of books gotten together by a man in Ohio who had an interest in China and who has ample means. I had never heard of the library until Professor Latourette spoke of it to me when I was in Ohio last month. He says it is without doubt the best library in English in the United States on China. If this gift to Cornell, grouped with the provision in Willard Straight's will, could be used to found a chair on the Far East at Cornell, it would be well worth while.

I should like very much to get a chance to talk over with you the matter raised in Dr. Latourette's letter, if you have time.

Sincerely yours

W. P. Mills.

Dr. J. W. Jenks
Alexander Hamilton Institute
13 Astor Place
New York City

WPM:RAP

1 Encl.

[3-22-19]

C O P Y

Denison University
Granville, Ohio.

Feb. 29, 1919.

Mr. W. P. Mills,
Foreign Department, International Committee,
347 Madison,Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Mills:

Thank you very much for your good letter of February 27th. I am delighted to hear of your interview with Dr. Jenks and am relieved to hear of his opinion. I am hoping to be in New York on March 27th and by that time unless I should be utterly swamped, I shall probably have done the article of which I spoke to you.

I have been wondering whether it might not be possible to work through Dr. Jenks to get a chair on the Far East established at Cornell. I think I spoke to you of the Wasson library which is already the most complete thing in English on China and which goes to Cornell with an ample endowment to complete it and to keep it up to date. It is the best thing of its kind anywhere and will probably be in Ithaca by June. It happens that no work whatever is given at Cornell on the Far East, or at least was not the last I knew. It also happens that Willard Straight's will left a sum of money the amount of which I do not know, to Cornell to be used, as I recall it in terms of the will, to make the university "more human". Mrs. Straight, I believe, has charge of determining just what form the gift is to take. I am wondering whether in light of the Wasson library and Straight's interest in the Far East that the gift might appropiately be a chair on the Far East. It occurs to me that Dr. Jenks because of his connection with Cornell, his acquaintance with Mr. Straight, and his interest in the Far East might well be the person to suggest the matter to Mrs. Straight. I am very eager, as you know, to see more work offered in this country on China and Japan and I am wondering whether you would deem it wise to approach Dr. Jenks and if so whether you would be willing to see him, if possible, before he goes to Paris. I know it may seem a bit presumptuous to suggest this but the idea may be worth following. I would like to write to Dr. Jenks myself but I have no personal acquaintance with him.

I shall hope to see you on the 22nd.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) K. S. Latourette.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005059

did you prod. in all ways—
Your Calcutta was beautiful.
You have set a high level
to live up to.
With dear affection
Yours sincerely
Francis M. Wilcox

564 PARK AVENUE

March 22d

Dear Dorothy
Before I sail for England
I'd like very much to see
Middle of April (Three
very pass port, & accommodation
on board an Egyptian steamer)
I would like to see you —
I shall have to go to Buffalo
for three or four days early
in April. but wish you could
stay in Lee. Aiken Street

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005060

THE WORLD'S WORK | THE NATURE LIBRARY | DOUBLEDAY PAGE & CO. | COUNTRY LIFE IN AMERICA | THE GARDEN MAGAZINE

THE COUNTRY LIFE PRESS GARDEN CITY, N.Y.

March 24, 1919.

Dear Mrs. Straight:

When I was in London I met Mr. Bland, who wrote "Houseboat Days in China," which Major Straight illustrated. Like most of his other friends, I did not know that Major Straight had the gift of drawing added to all his other abilities, and I was very much impressed with these pictures.

Mr. Bland was eager to get out a new edition with a dedication to Major Straight; and the English publishers, Messrs. Heinemann, were anxious that we should bring out this edition in this country, taking the sheets from England and binding them up here.

I am sending you a few pages and the dedication herewith, and should be very glad to know if our publication of this book would be agreeable to you. If, by any chance, there is some reason why you would not wish to have it published, I hope you will let me know; but if you would like it, we will import sufficient copies to meet the undoubted interest which the announcement of the book will create. If you will let me know your wishes at your convenience, I shall be very glad to act accordingly.

Very sincerely yours,

F. N. Doubleday

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

FND-C

TELEPHONE, VANDERBILT 442

OFFICE HOURS, 9:30 TO 4:30
SATURDAY, 9:30 TO 12

MLLE M. L. AMYOT
TEACHER'S AGENCY
AEOLIAN HALL
35 WEST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK. Mars 24 1919

Chère Madame,

Je vous remercie bien sincèrement de m'avoir envoyé ces billets pour le théâtre Français malheureusement, moi même je ne pourrai en jouir étant invitée pour demain soir, mais donnerai à quelques unes de mes jeunes filles, grâce à vous passeront une bonne soirée.

Il y a toujours des amateurs pour les distractions.

Puisque l'occasion se présente, Chère Madame laissez moi vous dire combien toute ma jeunesse a été avec vous durant les tristes jours que vous venez de traverser. Je me me ferais pas permis de vous écrire pour vous exprimer

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005061

toutes ma douloureuse sympathie, je ne vous connais pas assez pour cela; mais j'ai tant entendu parler de vous qu'il me semble que je vous connais depuis toujours, depuis que je suis en Amérique, et pour cela ai pris double part à votre chagrin. Si encore cela pouvait aider à quelque chose!

Croyez, Madame à mes remerciements et à ma grande sympathie.

M. L. Amyot.

Straight, Willard D-Deceased

WAR DEPARTMENT.
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON. MAR 24 1919

Mrs. Dorothy W Straight,
Westbury, N Y

Dear Madam:

The War Department desires to ascertain the wishes of the families of officers, enlisted men, and civilian employees regarding the permanent disposition of the bodies of those who have died overseas.

The original plan of the Department was to deliver the body in every case at the home address of the deceased to the person legally entitled to dispose of the remains. A desire has been expressed, however, in numerous instances to have the body remain abroad, and General Pershing is likely soon to enter into negotiations with the French and Allied Governments with the view of establishing permanent cemeteries for members of the American Expeditionary Forces. Marshal Petain in a most courteous letter has informed General Pershing that "France would be happy and proud to retain the bodies of the American victims who have fallen upon her soil."

A bill is now before Congress for the establishment of "Fields of Honor" abroad, which will insure future care by the United States Government as national cemeteries are now cared for. Burials have been made heretofore in cemeteries of the Allied nations or at or near the battle field in land set apart for this purpose as a cemetery, and religious services in accordance with the rites of the Protestant, Catholic, or Hebrew faith have been held at the grave.

In case the remains of a deceased soldier are returned to the United States they will be interred either at the former home of the deceased or at a national cemetery, according to the wishes of the one authorized to direct the disposition of the remains, and all expenses, including transportation, casket, shipping case, flag, and the preparation of the remains for shipment, will be paid by the United States. Hire of a hearse and other burial expenses incurred at the home of the deceased may be paid, on application by the relatives, by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, Treasury Department.

In order that the proper disposition of the remains may be made, and that such disposition be directed by the person entitled to do so, the War Department will recognize the right to direct the disposition of remains in the following order:

In the case of an unmarried man—

(1) Father; (2) mother, if father is dead; (3) brother, if both parents are dead; (4) sister, if both parents are dead and there are no brothers.

In the case of a married man—

(1) Wife; (2) parents or children and other relatives in order set forth above.

It is desired that the information indicated on the inclosed card be furnished concerning the person named thereon at the earliest practicable date. If the card is received by some one not authorized to direct the disposition to be made of the remains, please deliver this circular and the card to the person who is entitled to do so.

The Department is unable to state when it will be possible to begin the removal of the remains of the soldiers, but the information requested is being collected at this time in order that there may be no delay when the time comes for such removal.

In returning the card please use the inclosed addressed penalty envelope, which requires no postage.

Very respectfully,

P. C. HARRIS,
The Adjutant General.

3—6708

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005062

Dryden N. C.
March 31 - 1909

Dear Mrs. Straight:-

I am feeling great anxiety for fear you or the children are sick.

I sent for your consideration a sketch of Willard's early childhood and also some photographs taken several weeks ago. Do tell me you are well. I couldn't bear to have anything happen to you.

Sincerely
Margaretha. Morley

Miss Wesley
Mrs Grimes

I was at the League for Women Service in Grand Wilmington Dec. when Mr Willard was there and when you had conferences with Mr Willard. Mr Willard was not to be published but which was not to be published to you you see dictate the impersonal portions.

Have you thought of writing to the Chairman who was at Cornell with Willard. He might have letters & his remembrance of Willard. would add interest to the Reminiscences & letters.

Now might be provided to have included upon other Chinese

564 PARK AVENUE

1st April -

Dear Dorothy

Have I had a walk yesterday night. I have thought much of you & your work on Willard's letters. Are you wise to have typewriting & to do the mechanical work. Would it be as well if you had an expert stenographer & type writer. Like that charming girl who

You say is better. With you to Willard & Wilkinson - by me

Sources.
I know not the reason why
T. R. Smith did not publish
Willard Allen in The Century.
because he refused to do so
without your written consent.
T. R. Smith Editor of the
Century is anxious to publish
the book after it is written.
I hope you will have a
delightful quiet Summer.
My own belief is if you would
do the work you duly

and whatever writing you did
have it gone over by say a
man like the editor of Asia,
who has it into literary form -
I should have unpersonal
critical touch, which no one else
could give - You could get all
the help you need. I was wonder
-ing if you inserted in all
the Century magazines a request
for the loan of any of Willards
letters that I might not
reach some people -
It would be an milestone
piece of work for Cornell
a final memorial. I hope

89 Pineapple St.
Brooklyn
April 2nd 1919.

Dorothy darling Your sweet little
note is rec'd and will be treas-
ured as a remembrance of you
and dear Willard. You both
have had so many and important
cares I have been greatly touched
by the kind thoughtfulness to myself
an old old woman whose life
has been full of sorrow and the
many troubles of a narrow life -
The superb flowers are a delight
to us all as they with music have
been to me the greatest joy of my life
Wishing that the future may bring you health
and your dear little Children the comfort

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005064

You deserve for all the time
you give to others I am
Most affly
Aunt Agnes —

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

Tours, France,
April 3, 1919.

Captain Walter Lippmann,
Care "The New Republic,"
421 West 21st Street, N.Y.City.

Dear Captain Lippmann:-

Your letter of February 7th came while I was absent on leave in Italy, and it is only since then that I have been able to endeavor to trace your lost baggage, and so far without result.

Like you, I feel a particular interest in finding that parcel containing Willard Straight's sword, and I shall do my best to locate it. I am going down to Brest in a few days and will take it up personally there.

I still feel Straight's death as one of the great losses of the war, and I shall always miss him. Friendship for him is the bond that keeps many of us in close touch.

I have looked forward to seeing you back, and regret that you are missing the great and critical times just now.

With best wishes, I remain

Faithfully yours,

Frank McCoy

From
Brig.General Frank R. McCoy,
A.P.O.717, France.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005065

[4-3-19]

COPY

The following articles lost from baggage of Capt. Walter Lippman, who sailed on the Celtic:-

"Sword, two rifles, two canes together as part of my baggage, not put aboard. Can be identified by leather case of sword marked "Major Willard D. Straight, Adjutant General's Department."

Requests that search be made and articles forwarded to Mrs. J.B. Harriman, Care Morgan, Harjes, Paris.

(Blank filled out containing the information in Mr. Lippmann's cable and letter, and handed to Lieut. Lewis, of the Lost and Found Bureau. General Manager's office.

[4-3-19]

COPY

April 3, 1919.

Memo. for GENERAL McCOY:-

Our lost Baggage Department has so far been unable to trace the missing package containing the articles mentioned by Captain Lippmann (belonging to the late Major Straight).
They are keeping after it and will make prompt report.

ms

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005066

200 West 59th St. New York City.
April 4, 1919.

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

Much to my surprise, the enclosed communication came from your husband last night, and in accordance with his request I am sending you a copy of it.

The day after you were here, my husband was suddenly taken ill, and I am still waiting for his complete recovery before going to California. What this delay will do to my proposed book remains to be seen. As I had allowed myself only three months for writing it anyway, I may be compelled to postpone its publication.

Now that Major Straight has established connection with us, it may be that I shall be able to get something personal for you before I go away. I hope to go sometime next week, however, and Miss Harrison tells me that you are out of town.

Sincerely,

Margaret Harrison Lewis.

AMERICAN YMCA

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

April. 5 1919.

Wartes Lance.

My dear Mrs. Straight:-

At the risk of seeming to
renew upon grief, I can
not fail to send you but
a word of my deep sympathy
in the news of your husband's
untimely passing, which Dr.
got to say. Has only just
reached us in this remote
district.

I shall regard it a

TO THE WRITER: SAVE BY WRITING ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS PAPER
TO THE FOLKS AT HOME: SAVE FOOD, BUY LIBERTY BONDS AND WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005067

[4-5-19]

AMERICAN YMCA

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

_____ 191

a privilege, to be permitted
to serve upon this informal
message as a small tribute
of one of your husband's old-
time College friends of the
dim & distant past - in the
days, when, with many others,
I learned to respect & admire
the great talent - & ability of
Willard Straight, who has
been such a staunch & good
friend to us all collectively,

TO THE WRITER: SAVE BY WRITING ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS PAPER
TO THE FOLKS AT HOME: SAVE FOOD, BUY LIBERTY BONDS AND WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

[4-5-19]

AMERICAN YMCA

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

_____ 191

and to many Jus-tudi-
vidually.

Will you permit me to say
what a great shock the Cable re-
ceipt of this news was to me.
& to need the feeble expression
of admiration & affection for the
untimely passing of one of our
greatest young Americans, in the
making? I am

Very Cordially Yours.

Frank Ehrich

TO THE WRITER: SAVE BY WRITING ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS PAPER
TO THE FOLKS AT HOME: SAVE FOOD, BUY LIBERTY BONDS AND WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005068

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

War Risk Section, APO 717.
Tours, France, 12 April, 1919

Mrs. Willard D. Straight,
Care American International Corporation,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I am enclosing herewith copy of letter which I received yesterday from General Pershing in reference to the work of the War Risk Section in France.

The organization and success of the work which General Pershing commends were very largely due to the splendid services of Major Straight, and for that reason I thought perhaps you might be interested in having a copy of the letter.

Very sincerely yours,

Robt. Lee Bullett Jr

St. Paul's School. Concord N.H.
April 12.

Dear Dorothy.

I was glad to hear from you. Our thoughts have met often I know, for Willard is so often in my heart. We really never see anything in the papers from Paris without longing for his constructive help there. With all one's grief that larger grief keeps pace. It is like Willard that you can feel it too.

I did not know the book. but I have always been interested in the S.P.R. & knew

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005069

the people well who work along these lines of experiment. So I wrote to Miss Perry in Boston & enclose her answer. The Seven Purposes shall get there we are within reach of libraries in some. when we get home. I wish we could talk about it all. It is only at the beginning, - but wonderful things have been done, & the more one realizes their interest the more one believes the fact is opening.

Dorothy dear - send my love to you

Sally Fairchild.

TEACHERS COLLEGE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE DEAN NEW YORK

4/10/19

My dear Mrs. Straight:

I have tried for days to see the ray of sunshine that is said to lie behind every cloud but the blow that has fallen on you almost passes my comprehension. The fitness in the order is one of profound pity that in a world like this and at a time like this such things should be inevitable. At the same time I can't help feeling that you are the object of congratulations as rarely comes to anyone. The fact that you had a brave,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005070

true, patriotic husband and father of your children, a man who in a few years has attained a position in business, in the community - and in the nation that few — very few — ever reach, a man whose life is untouched by any stain whatever, gives you a right to rejoice. It is the greatest blessing of life that we forget our trials and sorrows and remember only the satisfactions that we have enjoyed. Some day when the poignancy of your grief has past you will find yourself living over — not these sad days — but other & happier experiences in your life. When that time comes what a wealth of riches you can show for your children! For this sake you must keep alive the splendid example of American manhood so nobly exemplified by your husband. He has died, a martyr to his country's cause that your children & my children may continue to enjoy that equality of opportunity which he demonstrated in his life as the scent of American democracy. At a time when he has made the supreme sacrifice, it is not for us to fall down or refuse to carry on. His death is really a clarion call

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005071

[encl. 4-12-19]

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
France. March 28th, 1919

Major George V. Triplett, A.G.D.,
Chief, War Risk Insurance,
Services of Supply,
American E.F.

My Dear Major:

Now that active operations have ceased, it gives me great pleasure to convey my sincere appreciation of the efficient manner in which the business of War Risk Insurance has from the beginning been conducted. With comparatively small personnel assisting you and laboring under additional severe handicaps, you, nevertheless, have met every demand made upon your department and have achieved splendid results.

As a factor in sustaining the morale of our Army, the work of your Section, in assisting to lift the financial burden off the shoulders of countless numbers of soldiers having dependents, deserves great praise. The writing of one and one half billions of dollars of insurance; the putting into effect of an allotment system representing a money value of three and three quarters billions of dollars; the huge educational campaign aimed at acquainting our men with the lasting benefits to be derived from War Risk Insurance; the efforts made to secure the prompt settlement of claims; the measures taken to protect the individual soldier by means of insurance, etc., have worked untold benefits to our soldiers and their dependents at home.

The War Risk Section organized by the late Major Willard D. Straight and Colonel Henry D. Lindsley, is the greatest, single war-relief organization ever instituted in any Army. The painstaking, scrupulous care taken by members of that Section to keep complete and accurate account of the soldier's liabilities to his dependents, resulting in the quick payment of such obligations with its consequent alleviation of distress, is in itself worthy of the highest commendation.

In the name of the American Expeditionary Forces, I desire to thank you and the Officers and men of your Section.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) John J. Pershing.

to better service and truer devotion than ever before to American ideals.

Once the physical strain is lightened I know you will rise and cheerfully undertake the book & two — both that to which you have so devotedly given yourself and that other task which he has left unfinished. Hence where & sympathize with you in your trials and ache to find a hand, I rejoice in the strength of your character and have full confidence in your ability to carry on the best phases of your husband's life work.

When you feel like it please let me have a visit with you.

Sam Faithfull Yours
Dan Russell

[Dean Russell]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005072

a heart that pretty nearly over balanced it. He was ambitious more for his friends than for himself and he would turn aside from personal ambition every moment of the day if he could see any opportunity of being kind or useful to a friend. Whatever he had to do with he made himself a part of; an essential part and he seemed to be the fairy god-mother of most things. The loss of Willard's spirit to India House is only a concrete example of what a great and general loss he was."

RHE

On board S. S. Bizi Maru
Kobe-Shanghai.-
April 18th 1919.

My Dear Mrs Straight.-

You will, I am sure, be pleased with this tribute to Willard by Joe Grace in a letter to me:

"We both have a number of friends and many acquaintances but none of them quite measure up to Willard's standard. He had vision and also worked hard. He had a fine brain and

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005073

I've met so many people out here who have spoken with deep and unfeigned regret of Welland and from J. Carleton Bakes. the Consul general at Mukden I had a letter telling me how sincere was the sorrow of many persons in Mukden where he is so well remembered. I hope to go there on my trip through China. We arrive in Shanghai tonight.

Due to the East habit of eating upon ones time and to an ~~illness~~ illness my trip already has been prolonged far beyond my expectation.

"Asia" I find is well known and well regarded in Asia. In Japan I sought to establish some medium of increasing its Japanese circulation and advertising but there is no trustworthy mechanism for service of this kind for foreign periodicals and unless the situation in China

[11-13-19] [2]

is very different than I expect the only means of obtaining the circulation and advertising the magazine should have would be through a good reading room and to room in the field for several months and possibly after here. The magazine published in the East get a good deal of both.

At Tokio I read

Prof. Dewey who is to write three articles for Asia and he will [illegible] I believe to devote them to the labor question. Japan's relation to the international labor movement - a most interesting and [illegible] and responsible topic, and to one of two of the phases of the situation in which Japan has become [illegible] the light by the way. I think it is the best possible con-

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005074

-tribulation at this time. Japanese writers are rather uncertain quantities.

In Tokio I saw Miss Gilbreath who told me she was constantly receiving letters about that ever-interesting situation. We seem nothing of but it is undeniably interesting with the Japanese military party the always disturbing element. The Hara Ministry in Japan is the most democratic the Empire has ever had ~~and~~ but is being hard fought by the military caste which is opposed to the League because it may ~~to~~ be the end of conscription. The militarists therefore are evidently seeking to convince the people that Japan has many enemies and this, in turn, is thought by many to be responsible for the recent newspaper outbreaks of anti-American now apparently abating but

[4-13-19?][3]

widely printed in the Japanese press.

Any impression is that the prestige of America is high among the ~~best~~ people of the East. It contrasts sharply with that America seeks commercial preference for its ~~business~~ merchants. Break of its over absurd weight. Ambassador Morris is effective his writings of the Allies to a limited extent of re-establishing railroads

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005075

communication in ~~Russia~~ Siberia was a good piece of work and if Stevens succeeds as I believe he will, unless the Allies scuttle, ~~that will~~ it will be one factor constantly working for tranquilization and against lawlessness for control of the railroad or rather sections of it has been the big graft ~~prize~~ prize for leaders like Semenov. Kalmikoff and others.

Trusting that you and yours children are well and looking forward to seeing you soon after my return to New York in June — I hope — I am

Faithfully Yours

Robert H Patchin

Mrs W D Straight

New York.
16th April 19.

My dear Mr Straight

On my return to the city yesterday I learned with great personal pleasure & satisfaction that the D.S.M. had been awarded to major Straight in recognition of services rendered so unselfishly and with such exceptional ability to his country. Please allow me to add my little word of congratulation to

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005076

you. I know the joy & pride you feel.

very sincerely yours.
James G. Rider.

Country for a few days though terribly disappointed you are not coming here for Easter. Beatrice says you have promised to come for a week in May and we are going to hold you to it!!

We saw in the papers that Willard had been awarded the D.S.O. Isn't it splendid and you must be proud of him every day! Mr. Tiffany told me the other night that Churchill, the head of the Military Intelligence who is back said that they all realized more and more that

[April 17, 1919] Thursday.

1341 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE,
WASHINGTON D.C.

Dearest Dorothy-

I have just heard from Beatrice that Whitney and Michael have had such a wretched time and I am so sorry! Did they get influenza again after Elisabeth - poor[illegible]? It is so awful to have them sick and they have had such a long seige of it - poor Lambs then it is so worrying for you and Beatrice says you both so badly again! I am glad you are going to the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005077

no one could take Willard's place on the peace conference - that he had the combination of vision and action that no one else had. Of course you have heard this many many times but it is interesting to see how many different people feel it. A day never seems to go by that I don't meet some one who knew Willard and loved him and Charlie and I are very proud that he counted him one of our greatest friends. Every time we go to the farm I think of those wonderful, wonderful days we all had there together. Ah! Dorothy what a world of memories you must live in now! I keep thinking how glad you must be to see Daisy Harriman and hear all the details of everything. Have you any more plans about going over?

one thinks she is so pretty and has such lovely clothes. Of course I don't feel as if I could ever get things like her. Fletcher well. Don't you think he is hard to know?

We are all very busy with a rummage sale for the Diet Kitchen. It goes on all week and all day we sell somebody's clothes, etc. Somebody else and it is

April 5

1341 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE.
WASHINGTON D.C.

I lunched at Beatrice's to-day to meet the ladies of the Chilean Commission and they were so attractive and sweet. Beatrice was perfectly wonderful - she and Lily Polk talked Spanish and made them so happy. I think Beatrice loves it here. She is so gay and popular and very

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005078

really most amusing and the amount of money we take in is astonishing.

We have been going to lots little gay parties lately - dancing, bridge etc. and this is certainly a most amusing place. We see quite a lot of Hoyt friends the Dillinghams, who are so nice. Sunday we are all going out to that lovely spot on your property with the children Hilda eggs and picnic.

I am going to find out all about you from Daisy but do write me too. I am sending you two of the most foolish little things for Easter but you may find them useful or some notes or writing.

Some day will you send me the poem you wrote. Good night and God bless you, dear

Scott. [Lindley]

[1919.]

Paris - April 22nd

TELEPHONE
PLAZA 2646

850 MADISON AVENUE

Dear Dorothy: I should like to be able to tell you how lovely it was at Suresnes early Easter morning, and I wished with my heart that you could have been there instead of me, to feel the quiet and inspiration of it. The lines of white crosses & the sun shining on them, & the brave souls which have gone on.

It might comfort you to know that I took out some white flowers for Ralph's grave & your husbands.

If ever there is anything you want done over here, please write me, the least thing would be a joy to do for you - my heart goes out to you.

Very sincerely Dorothie Osborn

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005079

really most amusing and the amount of money we take in is astonishing.

We have been going to wee little gay parties lately- dancing, bridge etc. And this is certainly a most amusing place. We see quite a lot of Hoyt friends the Dillinghams, who are to wire. Sunday we are all going out that lovely spot on your property with the children Hide Eggs and picnic.

I am going to find out all about you from Daisy but do write me too. I am sending you two of the most foolish little things for Easter But you may find them useful or some notes of writing.

Some day will you send me the poem you wrote. Good night and God bless you, dear

Saint. [Lindley]

[1919?]

Paris - April 22nd

TELEPHONE PLAZA 2646

850 MADISON AVENUE

Dear Dorothy: I should like to be able to tell you how lovely it was at Suresnes early Easter morning, and I wished with my heart that you could have been there instead of me, to feel the quiet and inspiration of it. The lines of white crosses & the sun shining on them, & the brave souls which have gone on.

It might comfort you to know that I took out some white flowers for Ralph's grave & your husbands.

If ever there is anything you want done over here, please write me, the last thing would be a joy to do for you - my heart goes out to you.

Very sincerely Josephine Osborn

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005080

No. 526 - 44th Ave. San Francisco
April 24th 1919.

Mrs. Willard D. Straight.
New York.

Dear Mrs. Straight:

The enclosed clippings concerning the death of Prof. Henry Morse Stephens may contain more detail than your eastern papers would be likely to give. I am, therefore, sending them to you, knowing how interested you would be to hear all that you could learn about his startlingly sudden departure from life's activities.

It seems strange to think of it, now, but the very last time I talked with Prof. Stephens, at

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005081

the recent D. A. R. Luncheon (where he made the address) we spoke of the late Major Straight.— He recalling his severe illness at your house in N. Y. some two or three years ago and your unbounded hospitality on that occasion.

He said: Willard called him his "adopted father" and really felt in that relation toward him for having urged him into his career in the Orient.—

He thought it a very strange co-incidence when I told him I had been asked to adopt both of Mrs. Straight's children when they were guests in my house in the Sierra Nevada Mts.

and she so evidently near her death.

When I told him I had not seen Willard since he was ten years old. he tried to describe what manner of man he was. and then, he suddenly broke off, saying: But. you must write to Dorothy and ask her to send you his picture - and her own." He said he "had had a letter from you asking him to write a sketch of Willard's life, which he intended to do."

It seems tragic, now. to think that both pupil and patron are gone! So suddenly! So greatly missed!—

I intended to

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005082

follow Prof. Stephens' suggestion at once. Mrs. Straight. but seeing a news item that you were at Aiken, S. C. I thought I should wait until you returned to N. Y.

I should certainly prize most tenderly pictures of you both, and of your Children if I may ask so great a favor. I can never forget Willard's helpfulness to us in buying our rare Oriental in those dark days of distress preceding Mr. Libby's death.

With deepest sympathy for your life's loss, believe me, dear Mrs. Straight.

Faithfully Yours.

Josephine A. Libby-

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005083

[copy]

New York, 4/28/19.

Sketch of the late Willard D. Straight's life at Cornell University.

Willard Straight entered Cornell University in the fall of 1897, being registered as a member of the freshman class in the college of architecture. He completed the four year course and was graduated in June, 1901, with the degree of Bachelor of Architecture.

He satisfied the requirements for admission to the University by taking all the entrance examinations - an unusual and rather difficult thing to do: almost all students enter Cornell by favor of a school diploma or certificate. His entrance papers receive high marks as he was admitted without a condition. Throughout his course at Cornell, Straight maintained a standing that proved him to be one of the best students of his class and of his college.

Straight, then seventeen years old, arrived at Ithaca, in September, 1897, in the company of Frank Sutherland Baker of Rome, N. Y., who was a member of the sophomore class of that year. Proffessor Charles H. Hull, who knew Baker and who afterwards became a warm friend of Straight's, relates that the two men stopped at his home on their way up to Buffalo Street from the railroad station to rest for a few minutes on account of the heat of the day. Baker was a member of the Cornell chapter of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity. Straight joined that chapter soon after his admission to the University, and while he lived in Ithaca he made his home at the chapter house, which is at the junction of Stewart Avenue and Edgemoor Lane, just off the campus.

While doing his work faithfully and getting high marks in the school of architecture, Straight found time also to take part in a number of the enterprises that the students themselves conduct. He contributed sketches to The Widow, the students' comic periodical, and articles of various kinds to The Era, a more sober publication which was then issued every Saturday. He obtained his reward for that work toward the end of his sophomore year, when he was

elected to membership in the editorial boards of both Widow and Era. About the same time he was elected Art Editor of the Cornellian, which was published every year by the Junior Class. He supervised the pictorial side of that annual for the academic year 1899-1900 and contributed twenty-nine drawings of his own. In his fourth year, Straight, was Editor-in-Chief of the Era.

Meanwhile he had been winning the recognition of his fellow students in other ways, and had received the distinction of membership in two select organizations - the Savage Club and Aleph Samach.

The Savage club of Ithaca is an offspring of The Savage Club, of London. It originated in the visit of the Cornell Glee and Banjo Clubs to England in 1895. Through the courtesy of the late Henry Morse Stephens, then professor of history at Cornell and a member of the Savage Club, the Cornell singers and players had been made the guests of the Club in London, and they had received permission to found a similar club in Ithaca. The Ithaca club includes in its membership both town and gown, both faculty and student members. The qualification for membership is ability to sing, recite, play or do some other "stunt" of an entertaining nature, and the club's chosen function is the entertainment of distinguished actors who visit Ithaca while the university is in session. Straight was a member of the Savage Club of Ithaca in his Junior year and its president during his senior year.

Aleph Samach is a small society, membership in which is held by a few students in the junior year, being handed down from class to class. It is regarded by the undergraduates as an honorary society becsuse admission to it is the reward of usefulness in some undergraduate enterprise, athletic or journalistic.

Straight belonged also to Bench and Board (now extinct), a club that existed in order to give its members one stunning banquet in the junior year. It had a counterpart, called the Mermaid, in the senior year, and Straight was a member of that club too.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005084

In the Spring of 1901, the Cornell students, in order to raise money for the support of their athletic teams, gave a circus. A number of ingenious undergraduates, of whom Straight was one, devised a variety of shows to attract small change from the pockets of students, faculty and townspeople. The circus was so successful that it was repeated yearly thereafter, and, under the name "Spring Day" became virtually a fixture in the university's calendar.

Straight's energetic sharing in student activities led to his election to Sphinx Head, one of the two societies which are made up of the most widely known, self-sacrificing and respected men of the senior class of each year.

His wide circle of friends at Cornell included a number of members of the faculty. He formed an attachment particularly with the aforementioned Professor H. Morse Stephens, the result of which was a lifelong friendship between the two men. Professor Stephens, an Oxford man, liked the society of American undergraduates, and used to entertain periodically at his lodgings on the campus a certain small group. Of this group, Straight was one.

At Cornell almost every student acquires a nickname. Straight's was "Izzy". Its origin is uncertain.

There is no record to show that Straight, as a student, "went out for" anything that he did not succeed in getting. As a member of the senior class he had "made" about everything on which the student sets his heart - membership in a fraternity, the favor of his teachers, prominence in undergraduate activities, an honorable place among the leaders of the student community, and finally that summit of the student's ambition, membership in a senior honorary society.

His " write up" in the 1901 Class Book was as follows:

"Willard Dickerman Straight, Delta Tau Delpha, Aleph Samach and Shpinx Head, comes from Oswego on the Lake and has taken a course in Architecture. He intends, however, to adopt the profession of Journalism and has taken up the Era for a starter in the right direction. Since this the Era comes out intermittently and the circulation has increased so that the people on the campus at least know of its existence. His artistic work on the Widow has been its drawing quality.

Izzy is prime mover in all new and flighty schemes and as a member of the Savage Club and all the banqueting societies has furnished amusement for the crowd."

Eads Johnson.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005085

The Cyclopedia of American Biography

Enlarged Edition of

Appletons' Cyclopedia of American Biography

THE PRESS ASSOCIATION COMPILERS, INC., 17 Madison Avenue, New York

April 28, 1919.

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

Dear Madam:-

A biographical account of the career of your husband, the late Willard D. Straight, would be appropriate in the forthcoming volume of the revised edition of Appletons' Cyclopedia of American Biography. We wished to include it in the last volume, Mr. Straight had sent us data of himself, but as he went abroad before any of the editors could secure an appointment with him, its publication was deferred to a future volume. The inclosure is a copy of a notice of the last volume (8) which appeared in the New York Times "Book Review"; it will enable you to determine the character and scope of the work.

The account of Mr. Straight would serve as a permanent record in the authoritative biographical medium, and we should like you to cooperate with us in making his representation as complete as the others. I have been directed to prepare a preliminary sketch, and would appreciate your giving me an appointment concerning it at your early convenience.

Very truly yours,

John W. Fay

Associate Editor.

HEADQUARTERS EASTERN DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT JUDGE ADVOCATE
GOVERNORS ISLAND, N. Y.

April 25th 1919.

Dear Mrs. Straight:-

I was on duty at these headquarters at the same time Major Straight was an Adjutant General here and because of my legal training and interest in outdoor life, in which the Major seemed also interested, I had the opportunity to be associated with him and arrange for him quite a lot of his personal correspondence and papers pertaining to personal affairs. He also gave me occasional advice concerning studies, etc. My work seemed to please him and when he left for Fort Sill, and finally for France, I believe he intended to have me commissioned and serve under him in the War Risk Bureau abroad, if I did not succeed in becoming a Judge Advocate in the meantime. The Major's death was a great shock to all who knew him and I felt I had lost a kindly advisor and the Army knew it had lost one of its finest officers. I am 25 years old, and having just taken the examinations for admission to the Bar, am about ready to return to civil life and enter my profession. I live at Port Ewen, N. Y., not far from the Colonel Payne estate at West Park.

I hope you will not construe my writing to you as imposing upon my relations in the Army with Major Straight, but, before returning to civil, and before connecting with any law firm or organization, I feel that you will not consider it improper if I write to you in this way and say that if at the present time, or in the future, you should have occasion to use the

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005086

services of a young man of my training, either in a confidential position or professional way, I should like to be considered by you for such a position, as I feel that I could justify any confidence that might be placed in me. When the war broke out I was connected with the law firm of Hon. James Jenkins, Ulster County Judge, Kingston, N. Y., and should you desire I could refer you to any of the Judges or other men who know me and could inform you of my character, etc.

If you should desire a personal interview at any time I could arrange to call at your pleasure or keep any appointment convenient to you. A communication to this office will reach me.

Very respectfully,

Wm Bois J Gillette
A. F. C., U. S. Army.

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

April 29th

4

MEMORIAL FOR PROF. STEPHENS TO BE ERECTED

Friends of Late California Educator to Build a Costly Hall

COMMITTEE IS APPOINTED

Traveling Fellowships for History Graduates to Be Provided

Friends of the late Dr. Henry Morse Stephens of the University of California, and representatives of organizations in which he was interested, have decided to erect a $300,000 Students' Union at the University, to be known as the "H. Morse Stephens Hall." The committee also will establish a fund to support one or more traveling fellowships in Europe for University of California graduates in history. Fifteen hundred dollars would be provided annually for this purpose.

TO REALIZE DREAM

Stephens Hall will realize Professor Stephens' most cherished dream. For many years the professor had striven for the establishment of a common meeting place, in which the undergraduate life of the University campus might center. It was his plan to include in this building a large room for student assemblages, committee rooms for the various student activities, space for the campus publications, office rooms for the administration of student athletics and a restaurant for students.

The traveling fellowships also were near to Professor Stephens' heart, according to the members of the committee. Himself a graduate of Oxford University, he had long been interested in the sending of American scholars to his Alma Mater under the terms of the Rhodes trust. He had often remarked upon the need for more scholarships of this nature, and was interested in increasing the opportunities for training in Europe graduates in history from the University of California.

TO PURCHASE PAINTING

It was announced at the University yesterday that the members of Professor Stephens' classes would undertake to provide funds with which to purchase a painting of him in oils. This painting probably will be hung in the auditorium of Wheeler Hall, the room in which he delivered his lectures on general history.

Memorial exercises honoring Professor Stephens will be held during the first week in June, at the time of the 1919 commencement. The memorial exercises will take place in the Greek Theater.

The committee in charge of assembling the contributions for Stephens Hall and the Stephens fellowship has been named as follows:

Justice Warren Olney Jr., chairman; Dr. Jessica B. Peixotto, W. E. Creed, Robert Newell, Farnham P. Griffiths, Ralph P. Merritt, secretary and treasurer.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED

The executive committee was appointed by President Benjamin Ide Wheeler, who presided at the meeting of the H. Morse Stephens permanent memorial committee, composed of the following:

President Wheeler, chairman; Senator James D. Phelan, Rudolph J. Taussig, Guy C. Earl, James K. Moffitt, Justice Warren Olney, Judge W. W. Morrow, W. E. Creed, Professor Herbert E. Bolton, Robert Newell, Judge J. F. Davis, Ralph P. Merritt, Farnham P. Griffiths, W. C. Crittenden, Professor K. C. Leebrick, Dean Charles Mills Gayley, Dean William Carey Jones, Professor Jessica B. Peixotto, Frank F. Hargear, president of the associated students of the University; Miss Ruth Ware, president of the associated women students of the University; Miss Sara d'Ancona, representing the Sigma Kappa Alpha history honor society for women; Eugene Prince, representing the Phrontisterian history honor society for men; Morse A. Cartwright, secretary.

Additional proof of the esteem and love in which the University held Prof Henry Morse Stephens—

(J. S. Libby)

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005087

I found this letter among my papers today (May 1st.), & realize that it was never sent to you. What a complicated route it has been! I'm ~~sending~~ "ROACHAMBEAU" now.

Love to you, M. S.C.

le 6 Decembre 1918

[May 1, 1919]

When one frets over the seemingly interminable gray, stormy voyage that we are having — one feels ashamed, remembering the men who were in the trenches for more than four years!

And there have been other long, gray, stormy waitings too — much, O, much harder to bear!

There is a theatrical troupe aboard, including three mee Lilliputians and a lion-tamer with his three lions!

I should like to say that I'd rather be personally conducting the lions, the

Dr a misconception
Pole made the
to letters and
because out
the mail was
in there
so misrepresented
with this
Mans' mail
gone up
from Highway
braved all
even one
pirate
That
Spoons
and we
Son't it

out in Africa in which
most touching reference
how important they
there where perhaps
only delayed over
The English had
the African Armies
portance of the Mails
that consolation they
lines defending it—
robbers, and always
dangers to get
letters through the
isolated ones.
the do written letters!
me to comfort us—
pocket right now
— You sweet a thousand

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005088

Lilliputians, my "Jeanie" and the rest of an entire menagerie — than to be leader of a party of women on a crowded boat;

Some of them will never learn, if seems — and I haven't much patience with their foolishness, I'm afraid.

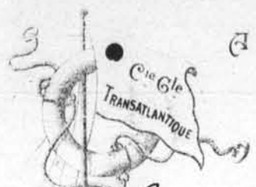
Is it because you would have liked to have come on this boat to France that you are so constantly here in my thoughts?

The precious little clock has ticked around nearly a week — and there has been hardly an hour that I have not remembered you, and hoped and prayed that all was well and good news from your husband.

Thank you for [illegible] "micy-creame" [illegible] the one thing I would like if ever I [illegible] will go overseas [illegible] be a very pleasant companion. [illegible] package of will [illegible] Stocking, as you [illegible]

— — What a holler this ship is! And there aren't [illegible] If it were to [illegible] near — to pray [illegible] to write — and [illegible] writing of people are [illegible] me. of the [illegible] hanging. [illegible] great [illegible] [illegible] reading a report

[5-1-19] [2]



A Bord de "ROCHAMBEAU"

le 191

people – more or less in-
differently – and then suddenly
one, and everything is
different! You begin to take
a renewed interest – even
in public speaking! – and
life seems clarified by its
mists and problems, and
is worth while once more.

That is how you helped
me – even when I didn't
see you.

Would you write to me if
ever you had time and
cared to? My "home" in
Paris is 9 rue de la Grande Chaumiere
Paris, VI ème.

Much love to you from this tossing
gray waste of waters.

from Marguerite S. Cockett

[Dr. M. S. Cockett]

My dear Mrs Straight.

Thank you so much for asking me to the Fortnightly
I am always so interested in the club & the discussions
I had rather hoped to be left on the list during
the winter but suppose that it was against the
rules as I couldn't be present. I have been in bed
all winter but am finally a bit better although no
promises of be allowed up as in sight.

I think so much of you often & you especially as
my cousin but Col. R. G. Cholmeley Jones comes in so
often to see me and speaks with such affectionate

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005090

admiration of your husband - It must have been a great thing for anyone to have worked with him - My uncle Joe Gilder was never so broken up about the loss of anyone - My dear Mrs Straight I cannot express my sympathy but send it you nevertheless -

Most sincerely

Dorothea Gilder McGrew

24 Gramercy Park

April 29 1919.

COPY OF LETTER FROM ARTHUR HENDERSON

The Labour Party

33 Eccleston Square
London, S. W. I.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

This is to introduce Miss Mary Macarthur (Mrs. W. C. Anderson), Secretary of the Women's Trade Union League, Chairman of the Standing Joint Committee of Industrial Women's Organisations, Chairman of the Workers side of the Women's Trade Union Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Munitions, Founder and Honorary General Secretary of the National Federation of Women Workers, Honorary Secretary of the Central Committee of Women's Employment to the Local Government Board. Further Miss Macarthur was the first woman endorsed by the National Executive of the Labour Party to stand as a candidate for Parliament.

Miss Macarthur is travelling in the United States of America for the purpose of studying economic and social conditions, and I shall esteem it a personal favour if anyone to whom this is presented will give Miss Macarthur every facility for pursuing her investigations.

(Signed) ARTHUR HENDERSON.

LONDON.
19th March, 1919.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005091

DINNER COMMITTEE

ROBERT E. BRUÈRE
LINCOLN COLCORD
HERBERT CROLY
JEROME DAVIS
MARY E. DREIER
WILL DURANT
JOHN FITCH
PERCY STICKNEY GRANT
H. B. HOFFMAN
BEN HOWE
FREDERIC C. HOWE
MARIE JENNEY HOWE
MARTYN JOHNSON
HERSCHEL JONES
AGNES BROWN LEACH
ROBERT MORSS LOVETT
MRS. PHILIP LYDIG
MRS. HENRY MOSKOWITZ
HENRY R. MUSSEY
MRS. A. GORDON NORRIE
MARY SHAW
MARY SIMKHOVITCH
JOHN WILLIS SLAUGHTER
GEORGE SOULE
GEORGE P. WEST
GAYLORD WHITE

149

THE COMMITTEE OF FORTY-EIGHT

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND A DINNER

IN HONOR OF

MARY MACARTHUR

AT THE

HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA

7TH AVENUE AND 32ND STREET

ON FRIDAY, MAY 2ND, 1919

AT 6:30 P. M.

SPEAKERS:

MARY MACARTHUR
"THE BRITISH LABOR PARTY"

F. L. STRIVINGS
(PRESIDENT NEW YORK STATE COUNTY FARM BUREAUS)
"THE AMERICAN FARMER"

TOSCAN BENNETT
(EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, CONNECTICUT LABOR PARTY)

JAMES P. BOYLE
(PRESIDENT NEW YORK STENOGRAPHERS AND ACCOUNTANTS UNION)
"THE AMERICAN LABOR PARTY"

DUDLEY FIELD MALONE
"LIBERALISM IN AMERICA"

SEATS AT $2.50 EACH MAY BE RESERVED BY APPLYING TO THE COMMITTEE OF FORTY-EIGHT, 15 EAST 40TH STREET

TELEPHONE VANDERBILT 4186

INFORMAL DRESS

(OVER)

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005092

Signal Corps, United States Army.
Telegram.

PARIS, FRANCE

Received at 191

101R BC 38 OB

SAVENAY MAY 4 1 19

MRS BORDON HARRIMAN

CARE OF MORGAN HARJES PARIS

A-301 HC SAVENAY PVT BENNETT ACCOMPANIED BY SGT FLYNN EVACUATED TO THE UNITED STATES ON THE FIFTH VIA STNAZAIRE ON SS FLORIDAN PERIOD

COOPER

505P

Form 125 B 3—2191

M. E. RAVAGE
41 UNION SQUARE

May 5th, 1919.

Dear Mrs. Straight:

Last Saturday I had luncheon with a number of our school principals in an effort to get at our problem in its educational phase. The enclosed outline is a partial report of the discussion that took place, and I am sending you a copy of it in the hope that it may interest you.

I am looking forward with much pleasure to seeing you to-morrow evening.

Yours sincerely,

M.E. Ravage.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005093

May 6, 1919

Dear Mrs Straight

Your letter was very wonderful to me. I cherish it as one of those worth while things that come not often in life and I have stored it up in my mind and feeling to draw out and think of when things about get intricate and appear difficult and important — and it's time to know that only two or three things in life are important and last forever. Your note made me feel this because I knew from it that I had caught something of the real spirit of Willard Straight.

Often I see him now, very clearly. Especially I see that wonderful laughing, amused, sympathetic, kindly generous line of his face that ripples about his mouth in an expression of unalterable sweetness. I see that dominating everything about him — even the very

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005094

splendidness of the freedom of his bearing, the fineness of his head and the brigness and freshness of his spirit that fairly shone in his face - he always seemed to me like the clearest crystal sparkling water of a mountain spring in early morning in his unchanging freshness.

Somehow I seem to feel his power and inspiration very personally and intimately - even more now than when he lived - for he seems to be free now from those limits of time and appointment, of the barrier of business engagement and the claims on him that made one feel then that one must be satisfied with only a glimpse of himself caught on a fleeting chance, that hundreds of others with much better claims and important affairs must always really have him.

But now in the times I see him - when I'm low and discouraged or angry and

[5-6-19] [2]

disappointed, jealous or [illegible], or fearful or hesitant or lacking in [illegible] courage, or hard and unthoughtful and ineffectual - he seems to help me in to his real inner self and to give me some of it. And all the time, while he is doing this for me, he seems to be doing it for many others who are thinking of him, just as intimately and personally as for me, and [illegible] not jealous

I'll [illegible] thank you awfully for sharing them and I think I'm glad his spirit is inspiring you as it is mine. And I see how he is giving himself to you as the very essence of all he is doing for the many who think of him and I understand how perfect now and before, your companionship is.

Please forgive me for writing so. It's hard

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005095

not to tell you the real things
that go on in one's feelings rather
than the conventional. And in
the last months, since so
much went out of life,
So much is coming back
As I feel the spirit very
distinctly of men I knew—
Willard Straight and two
others - putting themselves
into me for carrying on
their own high accomplish-
ment with their own lofty
faith. I hope, I hope
we can do it well in Asia—
And in the very living
of life

Sincerely
Louis D Frothick

955 Park Ave
New York City.

Much for so much
my dear Mrs Straight for
your very kind letter received
some time ago and the message
of sympathy which I needed
so much. As you said, the love,
tenderness and thoughts of mes
friends at such a time, means

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005096

so much. You are to plan as
may thoughts lead I know you
feel you must be brave cheerful
cheerful and kind for the dear
little ones whose lives mean so
much to you and have been
entrusted almost solely to your
love and care. It is a great
responsibility but to plan comes to
many of us. It is so gratifying
to know that the very simplest
gift to send to your children at
Christmas time gives you and them
so much pleasure. Among your
so very few heads each one is
the object of my dear daughter-in-law
I have not been able to go up and
see the children who thanks as I had

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005097

planned. You shall soon feel very much better perhaps & can see them some afternoon before they leave for the country. Thank you again for the very kindly comforting sympathetic and greeting. As well the kind message of the kind sympathy it conveyed. With much love to you and your little family

Sincerely Yrs.
Dorothy Straight.

May 6th 1919.

9 Capt 63d Inf
May 11th

My darling Dorothy

I am sending you this little letter of Willard's which I always kept because of its comprehending sympathy for me, strengthening love for you, dear. This such a beautiful letter, so full of the high soul of which was so marked a characteristic of dear Willard.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005098

I think I know
how you wish
me was not quite
such busy people
as you have
for I would love
to see you sometimes
my sweet Dorothy.
I have an abiding
sense of your
affection though
we met but early
& I am more I

Thank you very, very much
Paul & Dorothy, & send
Corinne Robinson Straight.

Best all
Separations
Fullers, Robertsons,
Straights, Leeches,
Haines & Loomises
Dryers, Lamonts,
Spaniels, Whitneys
Yours

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005099

Form 260 Q. M. C.—11-15-18—1250M.

May 14th, 1919.
DATE

SHIPPING TICKET

WAREHOUSE #8, Washington, D.C.

1	1
No. Sheets	Sheet No.

Reference A.G.O.Order#201, May 7th, 1919. &O.D.S.Order#14-14-801, May 12,19

Ship to Mrs. Donley Straight, 1130 Fifth Ave. New York, N. Y.

Routing x Delivery U. S. Post Office.

Car No.'s x B/L No. x By Registered Mail.

Proc. No. x U. S. No. x 921383

QUANTITY Ordered	Shipped	Unit	ARTICLES	Item Number	Gross Weight	Cubic Meas.	No. of Pkgs.
1	1	ea.	DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL, #1543.				
			FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICES RENDERED BY: THE LATE, MAJOR WILLARD D. STRAIGHT, U. S. ARMY.				

This has been received and Louise has put it in the safe in your room--it will be necessary for you to sign the receipt personally.

STOCK RECORDS Date	By	SELECTED Date	By	CHECKED Date	By	PACKED Date	By
X	X	5/14	W/D	5/14	D	5/14	D

DATE SHIPPED May 14th, 1919. SHIPPING CLERK Daniel Dickman.

Devised by Committee on Standardization on Depot Accounting.
C.

Mr. Donley Straight
Donley Ave
Yonkers
N.Y.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005100

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
HEADQUARTERS SERVICES OF SUPPLY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, A.E.F.
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE.

May 15th 1919

FROM : Chief, Graves Registration Service, American E.F.,

TO : Mrs. W. D. Straight. 1130 Fifth Avenue ,New York City. N. Y.

SUBJECT : Place of Burial.

Major. Willard. D. Straight. Colonel House Mission.

American Cemetery Suresnes (Paris) Seine. France.

I am sure that you will pardon the use of a form letter such as we are sending you to-day, when you try to realize under what great stress this office is working in order to give as prompt advice as possible concerning facts which are of such very vital importance to our sorrowing friends, whose brave men have suffered martyrdom on battle-fields within our sphere of European operation.

It is with great sorrow that I am writing you, and only the urgency of your desire to know, prompts me to push forward this notification when my note is required to be so formal because of the great number to which my name has to be signed.

You have probably already received official advice concerning the death of the one whom you gave to your country and the world for the saving of civilization.

You will be comforted in knowing that his body lies buried in a spot which is under our care and control, and that there will be no danger of its loss or neglect.

We are sending you, herewith, a note which gives general answers to a number of questions which our bereaved friends are often asking, and it will probably give information concerning some of the things you are anxious to understand.

Please be sure of our earnest desire to guard your interests in every possible way, and our satisfaction in being able to care for the resting places of our dead.

CCP/ ejl.

CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Lieut.-Colonel, Q.M.C., U.S.A.

(5-15-19)

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
HEADQUARTERS SERVICES OF SUPPLY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, A.E.F.

G.R.S.)
BULLETIN) INFORMATION FOR THE FRIENDS OF OUR DEAD.
NO. 10-B)

1. THE GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE, a branch of the Quartermaster Corps, is the official organization of the War Department, charged with the acquisition and control of cemeteries in every country embraced within the Field of Operations. It is also responsible for the marking and preservation of all graves. No other organization shares this authority, or has power to effect arrangements or make promises concerning this work. It must be remembered also that this Service does not bury the dead, but confines its operations to the location and control of graves. It is not prepared to give information on other subjects.

2. CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH. The Graves Registration Service does not receive information relative to the circumstances surrounding the death of soldiers, and inquiries under this heading should be addressed to the chaplain of the organization in which the soldier was serving at the time of his death.

3. OUR FIELD FORCE operates within all areas, and every effort is made to perfect identifications and to guard the resting places of our dead. The Government has undertaken to do everything which is humanly possible, in view of the extreme difficulties involved in the stress or consequence of the greatest war in the history of the world.

4. THE EXACT LOCATION OF A GRAVE is communicated, whenever possible, to the person whom the soldier had previously registered as the proper one to be addressed, in case of casualty. The great mass of information to be gathered, verified, and transmitted, will generally account for delays in notification.

5. FLOWERS, FLAGS, ETC. We are frequently asked to accept commissions to place flowers, flags and other gifts on separated graves, but such requests must necessarily be denied because of the wide extent of our territory, the exhausting nature of the work, and the impossibility of reaching a thousand or more burial places under the difficult conditions which obtain. Such requests are also discouraged for the reason that there should be no inequality in the treatment of our nation's dead.

6. MONUMENTS. For the same reason, in addition to the fact that the Government would eventually be obliged to transport monuments with bodies to designated places of final burial, it is not at present permitted to erect any permanent monument; all graves being temporarily marked with a cross or the regulation headboard, such as is used in National Cemeteries in the United States. No other markers can be authorized until the final disposition of the dead has been made.

7. PERSONAL EFFECTS. Personal effects are not handled by this Service. Inquiries concerning the same should be addressed to The Adjutant General of the Army, Washington, D. C.

8. DISINTERMENTS. The exhumation of bodies is at present prohibited by the laws of the countries in which we are operating. No exception can be made until the War Department shall have completed its plans for the shipment of bodies to the States. This applies also to disinterments for emplacement in metal caskets; such action, for military reasons, having been disapproved,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005101

[5-15-19]

9. RETURN OF BODIES to the U. S. will be made in due time, except in cases where a specific request to the contrary is made; which request should be addressed to The Adjutant General of the Army, Washington, D. C., who will issue proper instructions. Due announcement of the return of bodies will be made, and the time cannot be hastened by appeals for priority, precedence, or favoritism in the listing of claims. The final disposition of bodies will be considered and executed as an entire project, at such time, probably after the conclusion of peace, as the vastness and difficulty of this almost inconceivable task may make possible.

10 While some of these restrictions may seem unreasonable to friends in the first outburst of their sorrow, experience has shown the same to be necessary, and our people are asked to accept the sacrifice which they impose, in the same spirit in which our men on the world's battle-field have offered up themselves, viz., for the good of a great cause.

By Authority:

CHARLES C. PIERCE
Lieut.-Colonel, Q.M.C. , U.S.A.
Chief, G.R.S.

[5-15-19]

G.R.S. .004.5

PHOTOGRAPHY OF GRAVES
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

1. PHOTOGRAPHY OF GRAVES is entirely controlled by the Chief of the Graves Registration Service, American Expeditionary Forces, France. No Photography of graves should be taken except by the special photographers of this Service, who, under the operation of military orders, are assigned to the Staff of its Chief, by the American Red Cross.

2. An officer of the American Red Cross, designated as Director of Photography, is assigned to the Staff of the Chief, Graves Registration Service, for this work, under his direction, and funds are provided through the War Chest contributed by the American People. No funds should be sent to the Graves Registration Service, the Red Cross, or individual officers for this purpose from any private source.

3. Operators are now photographing graves in France, Belgium, Italy, Great Britain and Ireland, and it is expected that within a very few months the finished photographs will be transmitted to the relatives of our dead.

4. Owing to the difficulties of obtaining the necessary technical staff, and the inadvisability of setting up a large photographic laboratory in France, it has been decided to distribute these photographs through the Bureau of Communication, American Red Cross National Headquarters, Washington, D. C., and all applications for pictures should be filed there, as soon as notification of the location of grave has been received by a relative from the Chief, Graves Registration Service.

5. The photographers work under route instructions issued by the Chief, Graves Registration Service, and in the interest of economy and labor-saving, it has been decided that these operators will not be able to make special trips to distant points to take individual photographs in response to urgent request received from the United States or elsewhere. The time so consumed would prolong the period of waiting on the part of many others.

6. It is the desire to furnish the best possible service to sorrowing friends at home, and with this end in view, it is earnestly requested that relatives of our dead will be as patient as possible in awaiting these photographs. It will be appreciated that if requests are forwarded directly to the Graves Registration Service of the Army in France, it will only add to the burden of the work, without achieving the end in view; as, for reasons given above, appeals for priority, precedence or favoritism in the listing of claims cannot be considered, and photographs can only be forwarded from Washington.

By direction of Lieutenant Colonel Charles C. Pierce,
Chief, Graves Registration Service:

MAURICE D. DIX,
Captain, American Red Cross,
Director of Photography,
Graves Registration Service.

R.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
005102

DÉLÉGATION CHINOISE

Paris, May 15, 1919.

Address from:
Chinese Legation,
London.

Dear Mrs. Straight:

Mr. E.T. Williams and I visited your husband's grave this morning which we found in good condition.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,
Hsu-lo Hsieh-fu.

[Sao-ke Alfred Sze]

[1919]

NATIONAL GOLF LINKS OF AMERICA

Southampton Mar 16th

Dear Dorothy.

Your letter has been in my pocket awaiting the day of real leisure when I could really send a reply; and this is the day. I'm glad you feel as you do about Willard. It will help you with the children but more with yourself - which is what we are all anxious about.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005103

Could you only hear all the Expressions of sorrow, and all the words of affection that I hear, about Willard. How would know that amongst his friends and Yours he is Sadly missed, and was always greatly loved and admired. So keep Every memory of him alive and don't lock it all up in your heart.

The Project for 1916 all Stands from the same thought and will be a real word of love. Some day, you will help us Enjoy it, and I hope without Sorrow, Dorothy, for We all know that 1916 was one of Willards real pleasures. We have had many happy days there.

I can only partly answer the last part of your letter as our plans are Still in a very Early Stage of development. It seems likely that We Shall have a

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005104

limited Competition, selecting as Competitors such New York firms as have the Essential qualifications, which include many things, - such as reliability, organization, business ability, Experience, and adaptability. We are now investigating a number of firms, including Bell, Delano & ; and I am glad to have your letter and to know that what they did for you

was all so satisfactory. At least now may be sure

that if we had a Competition and they are invited, it will be a fair one and judged on the merits of the work. It will be a very large and costly building, and you must know how very sure we want to be that no mistakes are made. I wish I were able to send you some more definite word.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005105

It would be wonderful, Dorothy, were I desirous of what you say about my work. I have simple, tried, and true Lord, to keep a level head and a good dabble of courage. The real work was done by those thousands of loyal men and women, Every one of whom I count as friends for life. They have made given me Every think of loyalty and affection that makes such work Easy and a joy.

I fear it will not be possible for me to join you at luncheon on Tuesday, as May 20th is Settlement day for the loan, but if I am able to get away, will surely do so. Some day I hope for opportunity to have a good "Confab" with you

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005106

about the School and other
such matters that are
much in my mind and I
know in yours.

Keep a courageous heart,
my dear, and life will seem
worth while.

Sincerely Yours

Elmer Young

Ans.

May 17th [1917]

847 LINCOLN PARKWAY

Dear Dorothy

Many thanks for your
fine letter & I quite
appreciate the difficulties of
writing - I'm so often caught
that way myself —
Well — John Carpenter came
yesterday & at last completed
setting down the airs of the
four songs - the Brushwood
Boy — the Long Trail - the
Sisling & the Tramp Royal
& the Indian Ocean — & it
was wonderful - when he
sang them they sounded

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005107

exactly right — unfortunately
he has'nt anything left to
do but accompaniments — but
they would be quite all right
to print — just — as they are —
But I think they would be
more complete with some
chords to go with them — so
as Walter Damrosch
volunteered to do that — I'll
have him do it when he
returns from Paris — but
will insist — that it is
strictly under my supervision —
& no flourishes permitted —
I have at last finished
the polo picture of Willard

a / only hope it will mean something
to you — / think it
will sparkle & look as
dead as this — it is
till we when you
print — in a paper
but as such a /
think Rushlight
have finished — I
through you can
you said — it
/ can't do
of all I

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005108

MAY 29, 19

Rue de la grande Chaumiere
Paris.

My very dear Mrs. Straight;

This is just a line to send you my love and to tell you that Hope and I have just been out to Suresnes and made lovely your Major's resting-place for Memorial Day and Mr. Wilson's visit tomorrow.

We hung a green wreath (just like all the others) on the white wooden cross, covered the grave with evergreens — placed a flag — like all the others — and added

there a painted Rein out again & I'm making another big which seems more hopeful. But Rein I've brought that before. So I'll keep the photographs a little longer if you don't mind. Gorhams did the design for the Tablet — (after the design Garrett Rundell & Mrs Delano & Martin & I, all contributed some ideas to-ward) Sadly I thought — so effect. Rat will have to wait until I get to Marion — & can go over to Providence & see the kind people —

This is the longest letter I've written in many a day — I apologize — & just asked me the address where the Bolo picture is to go. As always your friend Cecil C.D.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005109

a rest room built and some cut flowers for you.

The soldiers have rearranged everything and it is all so festive and glorious for to-morrow.

While we were there a funeral procession came up the hill — a U. S. A. secretary — and the Stars and Stripes was draped.

It's an awakening a bit here and a little flag which had to be replaced because the staff was broken, from a private's plane just above the major's.

The wind was so cold we could hardly stand, all of us, and also the photographs which I am making under a parasol over —

Mr. Straight's friends in Paris are the most gracious things to Mary and I like to believe that that relationship can go on without the limitations of distance and absence which we have to endure here —

I am very grateful for this opportunity to be of even the slightest service to you.

Believe me sincerely,

Elizabeth Scherrell Ruffin

May 24th 1919 —

to you than me — but we tried to do it most lovingly and for you.

President Wilson leads the services out there tomorrow.

Both Hope & I send you our love.

Marguerite S. Cockett.

May twenty-ninth.

Dear Mrs Straight.

Ever since I read the tragic news of Mr. Straight's death I have been wishing to send you these letters of his and some word of my feeling. And I have hesitated because I feared the letters might be too poignant a reminder of all your loss —

I am very happy to be able to give them to you

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

005110