

November 15, 1917
Houston, TX
3:30 p.m.
3 cents

Miss Gainor Roberts
210 West Tenth Street
Dallas, Texas

Dear Gainor,

It sure isn't long now until Thanksgiving is it? I sure will be glad when that time comes. The whole school is already excited over that game. All that we want is a pretty day. The team and rooters will do the rest. The way things are now. I am not going to be able to sit with you all during the game. We are all going to have to march out in company foundation and sit that way during the game and then march back to the dormitory. Of course there is a big chance of that being changed or at least of me not being with the Co. They are going to try to do all that is possible to prevent a fight. We all are fearing one and we don't want it. At first they had decided to take the Owl out and put it in the middle of the stand and then see we would be sitting all around it. But we talked them out of that because that would be nothing more than a challenge. So we are going to do our best, treat A&M as white a possible and then if they start anything they had better look out for Rice and Camp Logan because the soldiers are with us, that is the majority of them are, at least so they say. You never can tell though whether these Yankees are really in earnest or not. The team leaves tomorrow night for New Orleans where they will play Tulane. We are not going with them in body but we sure are in spirit.

Last Saturday, when we played Southwestern, we should have beaten them a whole lot more than we did, but in the first place, the regular men didn't start it off and then Southwestern knew our signals. You see their coach had referreed (sic) several games for us and he evidently (sic) got on to them because the whole team says every time they would call a play some SW man would say, "All right, here it comes right thru here and then they would all be waiting for it." Anyway, we beat them and bad at that.

The team is also going up to see Texas and A&M play whenever that is. Oh Gainor, you have no idea how coach is preparing his team for that one game, but it certainly does mean a whole lot.

Ethel told me all that she had planned. I have forgotten what it was for Friday night, but we are going to have the dance either on that Friday night or Saturday night, not Thursday night because if we win, it is our desire to "take in the town". Ethel and Boo were both out to the game last Saturday, and then we went to a picture show that night. I wanted to phone them tonight but I didn't get a chance. I sure want to go to the dance because it may be my last one here and I would like to dance with you again. Why Gainor, I haven't taken you to a dance in years. I can't even remember the last time.

I wrote Gibbons a letter before I ever left Dallas in answer to the one he wrote me, and I never did hear from him anymore.

I sure would hate to say how many pounds I have lost. You won't know me at all. I look like an invalid and feel like one about half the time.

I should say that music is pretty. Last week when they had the parade two of the military bands played it and it sure was fine.

We are going to have a parade tomorrow afternoon, better come and look us over.

I am sending a Thresher along with this paper. I have something marked on the inside. Be sure and read it because them is our sentiments.

Well tomorrow we lose four more of the boys who have been drafted. Others are leaving before long. By the time this aviation bunch gets away, I am afraid we will have to close up school or have it for Freshmen only because that's about all that is going to be left.

Last week, the Freshmen Biologists had a "pop quiz" and I wish you could have read some of the answers. I was grading some of the papers. That is another boy and I graded them. Some of them were regular folks. Where they could have answered them in one sentence, they would take pages and then wouldn't answer them write (sic). And spelling, why they would spell (male) mail, etc.

I joined the ROTC today. That is I have taken out first papers. Haven't had the physical examination yet, but we'll get it probably next week or so, and then we'll have to sign up.

As ever,

Otto