

March 2, 1918
Houston, TX
8:30 a.m.
3 cents

Miss Gainor Roberts
210 West Tenth Street
Dallas, Texas

Gainor, sweetheart, do you really like that picture? You know I came near not sending it because it looks so funny around the eyes. It looks sorter like the morning after the night before, and then they didn't put it into the kind of folder they were supposed to. But if you like it, why then I'm glad. I sent one home and they seemed to like it. At least, that is what Mother said in a letter I had from her yesterday.

Honey, I'll tell you something if you won't tell anyone about it. Maybe you know, but anyway I had a letter from Etta yesterday and she told me that Fritz was going to marry. She didn't say when, but the way she talked it must be going to be pretty soon. The folks don't seem to like it much either. Please don't say a word to anyone about that, will you not.

Well, I'll be looking for you to come down some of these windy days. I to (sic) am glad that March is here because it won't be so long now until June. I mean it won't seem quite so long. Our exams begin a week from tomorrow. I begin on the following Monday and get thru Wednesday morning, so you see I have four exams in three days. That gives me four days in which to rest up. I sure am going to have to study these next few days though. If I could become a millionaire in the next few days, I would be able to come home and stay for awhile. Oh honey mine, if I only could. Don't be surprised if I do happen to blow in about March 14, but then I guess that is to (sic) good to be true and I'll have to be satisfied to wait until June.

Well, I'm blowed up again. We now have two US Army captains here, and the new one is a man who sure means business. He went to the last training camp and hurt himself, so he couldn't go on and so he is here now. His name is Tisdale and he has been coaching the basketball team for the last month or so. He formerly played forward on the Yale team. Well, he wants to reorganize things and make one company composed of Juniors and Seniors only, only enough Sophomores to fill up, if necessary. These men are all to room in the dormitory in which I am now in. Any freshmen who is now in it will have to move. I have been made first lieutenant in B Co., but if I take that I will have to move out of this dormitory and into the one I was in last year and I simply don't want to do it. It may be possible for me to get transferred to C Co. There I would like it better, but of course would have to move to the far dormitory. The thing is I don't like the captain of B Co. and no one else does as far as that goes, and then I don't like the dormitory. I told the "Captain" tonight when we had the meeting that I would rather be a private and remain where I am than have to move, even though I would be considered a first lieutenant. I told him that that didn't mean anything to me. But he wouldn't listen to me, so tomorrow I am going to try to get transferred to C Co. and if I can't do that I think I will resign. I am not that anxious to be an officer, anyway. What would you do?

Some time later. Well honey, we beat A&M tonight 27 – 26. Talk about being exciting, honey, I never saw anything like it. We were ahead during practically the entire game. At the end of the first half, the score was 14 – 11 in our favor. The second half we stayed ahead until the last few minutes when A&M tied the score. The game was played in the Auditorium and it was pretty full, so you can imagine the yelling that went on, especially when Rice tied the score again after A&M had gotten two points in the lead. Then came the critical moment. A&M fouled and Rice failed to throw basket. Then it looked as though A&M was certainly going to win because they went right down the field with the ball, but missed goal and also fouled. This time Timmons for Rice threw the goal and just as he did the gun went off for the end of the game. Honey, I am not quite over it yet. And then, we had some more excitement. This high school bunch don't like Rice and always root against us, and whenever they get a chance they come out here and paint scores on the main gate entrance. Well, that was what they did tonight, but they painted the football score on it. We have now made 20 – 0 out of it. See no one thought they would come out since they didn't win, so only a little bunch was out here and they ran the bunch off, but couldn't catch them because they were in autos. It wasn't long before that street was lined with boys loaded with rocks. We stopped every car that came by until one came along that wouldn't stop. And I pity the boy whose car it is because he has no more windshield and his car is full of dents, maybe some of the occupants also. We sure got that much satisfaction, and also we know who some of the culprits are so tomorrow night if they show up at the game, their name is mud and their hair is ours.

It seems like it's always something between Rice and A&M, but it sure is lots of fun. Now, tonight, we have painted that score all over town on autos, windows, streets, sidewalks, and then we come out here and find a little more fern. I guess that by tomorrow, the boys here will be "raring to go" at A&M. If we win tomorrow night, the championship is ours. If we lose, we tie with A&M.

Honey, I got a letter from Galveston and they say that I can get in the M.R. in my Freshman year. I only lack a credit in physics and that is what I would have to take at SMU. I kind of hate to do that and will have to think it over first.

No, it isn't spring fever that is keeping me from studying. Honey, I sure am glad that you aren't tired of listening to my troubles. I only wish that I could tell them to you and not have to write them. I wish you were here so we could go to the game together tomorrow night.

With lots of love,

Otto