

Earle Willis Bunker (3/9/1897 – 8/1974)

Diary for 1919

Lincolnville Historical Society Collection

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Transcriber's notes are set off with [brackets].*

JANUARY 1919**Thursday, January 16**

As usual we had our hike before rehearsal. Tried over some pretty difficult stuff this morning. When I got back to the barracks I received one good calling down from the Capt. Close order drill from 1:30 – 2 o'clock. At 3 we gave a concert in the square. Played for retreat afterwards. After supper we went to Montigny by truck. We played for a masquerade dance. At intermission we had doughnuts & hot cocoa. Got back to the barracks at just 11:30.

Friday, January 17

Got out & played reveille march before daylight. Took an hours hike before morning rehearsal. After dinner we had close order drilling in the rain. At 4 o'clock I reported at 3rd batt'l hdqrs for "Court Martial". Guess I'll soldier from now on. Quite a bit of 1st class mail came in tonight. Spent the evening playing whist.

Saturday, January 18

Was pretty busy from breakfast to 9 o'clock getting ready for inspection. Stood inspection in the field just outside the barracks. At 2 o'clock we played for guard mount; finished just in time to play an hours concert in the square before retreat. After supper the Company fell in to go down to the 26 Div show at the Y.M.

Sunday, January 19

Reveille was an hour later this A.M. & we didn't have to play R. march. Went to the head of the mess line as we had to go away at 8. A truck carried us to Is en Bissigny where we played for church. We had an open air service out in the field. Our old Chaplin Moody was there to speak to us. Since he left us he had been back to the States & of course had a good deal to tell us. In the P.M. we went to Chaffourt & played for another service by Chaplin M. After supper we played for the 3rd service but it was just as interesting as the 1st one.

Monday, January 20

Reveille march at 6:15. Had an hours hike from 8 – 9. Rehearsal at the Y.M. from 9 -11. At 1:30 we fell in with the company & had close order drill. At 2:30 we played for guard mount & from 3 to 4 we gave a concert in the square. Played retreat as usual. Gave a concert in the Y.M. after supper.

Tuesday, January 21

A number of the horns froze up during Reveille march. Hiking from 8 to 9. Rehearsed the rest of the morning. No drill in the P.M. Played for guard mount at 2:30 & gave a concert in the square from 3 to 4. Played retreat as usual. Bought some cookies & chocolate at Y. Witnessed several good boxing matches at the Y.M. in the eve.

Wednesday, January 22

It was pretty cold this A.M. at Reveille March. Got our barracks bags ready & turned them in at 9 o'clock. Went to Chaffourt where we played for guard mount & battalion review in the morning. After dinner we played for battalion parade over a rough field. On trooping the line we had to jump several ponds. Some got across alright but others broke through the thin ice & fell headlong. Skinny fell flat & his bell went in one direction & he in another. The ground looked something like this [sketch of ground and water]. Went to movies in Surrey after supper.

Thursday, January 23

As usual we played R. march again. Nothing doing this A.M. so got a chance to read a little. Had an early dinner & went over on the hill & played for a Reg. review by Gen. Cole. It was spitting snow & some of the horns froze on us. Brad & I spent the eve at the Y. Saw a very good picture.

Friday, January 24

There was no R. March this A.M. Was pretty busy up to 9 o'clock cleaning up & making my pack. Took a hike this morning with regulation packs. Rec'd orders that there would be no more writing home until further notice. No drill in the P.M. so got a little time to play cards. Finished a good book "The Son of Farspair".

Saturday, January 25

Glad to hear there was no inspection this A.M. At 8:30 the Band fell in & went to Epinant to play for a review of the 103rd M.G. battalion. Maj. Bowen's men made an excellent showing before Gen. Cole & Gen. Hale. Coming back Maj. B. asked for "Dollar Doughnut Bunker". I'm sure I don't know how he got wind of it. Col. Arnold fell down stairs & was injured so severely that he died on the way to the hospital. Had a fine bath this P.M. Played poker a little while this evening.

Sunday, January 26

Got orders to go to Langres to play for the Col. Funeral. Cleaned the barracks made our packs & left Sarrey at 8 o'clock. We went to a large base hospital just outside of L. It seemed good to see so many Am. nurses around. After the services we boarded the trucks again & road to Damblain. After supper B. Trundy & I went to the town dance & had a fine time. Brad & I found some straw about 12 o'clock & enjoyed a few hrs. sleep before morning.

Monday, January 27

It was quite a surprise to awake & find several inches of snow on the ground this A.M. Brad Burnell & I scouted around this morning & had a madame to cook us up a nice dinner. We finally got her to fix up a couple of beds for us but much to our disappointment an order came out at supper time that we'd leave at 1 A.M. so had to give up our room. Went back to the billet for the night. Some of us found an upper chamber in a deserted building which was quite comfortable after we put about a couple bales of straw over the floor.

Tuesday, January 28

Morning found us still in Damblain. Played cards all the morning. At dinner we got orders to leave at 2:30. We got beaucoup straw in the cars & at 3 we pulled out. Our supper consisted of hard biscuits & canned bill. Had a creepy feeling come over me when we pulled through the tunnel where some of our Div got killed a day ahead of us. Our car was pretty crowded but we managed to get a little sleep now & then.

Wednesday, January 29

Didn't turn out until 8 o'clock. Coffee was served at Cravart. Our meals consisted of iron rations for the day. We struck Vierson about 6 o'clock where we spent a pleasant hour. Went over to a Red Cross hut & had a regular feed of sandwiches, hot choc etc. Passed through Tours during the night.

Thursday, January 30

Arrived in Ecominoy about 8 A.M. where we detrained. After a 7 kil. hike we arrived in Laigne en Belin. It seemed strange to look out on to green fields where only a day before we could see nothing but snow. We had no dinner but had a good supper. Was some glad to see "Stack" back from school. Got 8 fine letters from home this P.M.

Friday, January 31

No reveille this A.M. At 9:30 we had some rehearsal at the Y.M. "Hack" sure started something too with all his new ideas. We put on an hours concert in the square this P.M. Played retreat. Several fine acts were staged at the Y this eve. The small band furnished the music.

FEBRUARY 1919**Saturday, February 1**

Ans. Reveille at 6:15. Nothing doing this A.M. except inspection. Brad & I put in our names for a pass to Paris. Fixed up a room under our sleeping quarters for a sort of recreation room. It has a stove a table & benches & makes it very comfortable to write, read or play cards. Gave a concert at the Y at 3 P.M. Played for some time. Movies this eve. Spent the rest of the eve fixing my horn.

Sunday, February 2

Reveille at 7:30. The small band played for church this A.M. Bought a new hat for 16 fr. Twas a splendid day so King & I went on a walk. Retreat at 4:15. After supper we went up to the Y where we played an hours concert. Some lady entertainers were expected from Le Mans but much to our disappointment they didn't show up. "Sully" gave me a delicious piece of apple pie this P.M.

Monday, February 3

Was pretty busy until 8:30 cleaning equipment & making my pack. Went out in a nearby field to await for Gen. Cole to inspect. Stood around half of the A.M. until finally the Lt. Col. came & did the inspecting, said the Gen. was sick & unable to be present. Got back just in time for dinner. Played guard mount & retreat this P.M. After supper we hiked about 4 kil to give the 3rd batt'l a concert. Sold a pr. of high boots tonight & bought another for 125 frs.

Tuesday, February 4

Reveille at 6:15. Played for battalion review in a rotten field. Couldn't get a great deal of music out of my horn today until I pull a pkg. of cigarettes out of the bell. Played for guard mount this P.M. Joiner our new D. Major sure put some pep into the march after retreat. Spent all our extra time today washing up our equipment. Got some 1st cl. mail this afternoon. Hiked to St. Jervais tonight where we gave an hours concert.

Wednesday, February 5

After breakfast we cleaned up the billet. At 9 we fell in & hiked to a parade field about 4 kil where we played for a regimental review by Gen. Hale & Gen. Cole. Our new drum major wielded the stick & although it rained hard all through the review we made a very good exhibition. The Gen. complimented us on our appearance & music as well. Several fellows fainted while standing at attention. Had dinner at 1:30. At 2 the Lt. Col. inspected the Band in the billet. Played retreat at 4 o'clock. After supper I played whist until about eleven & then wrote a letter to Reynold. It was 1:15 before I got to bed.

Thursday, February 6

At 8:30 we boarded trucks and went to the 104th to play for regimental review. It was an hour & a half ride over. We put on a good appearance but we missed our D.M. Joiner. Came back directly after the review & had a late dinner. Played for guard mount & retreat this P.M. Spent the evening playing whist.

Friday, February 7

Went over beyond St. Gervais this A.M. & played for two battalion parades. Just about the time we started it began to rain in great stile & it continued throughout the two parades. Played for guard mount & retreat in the P.M. Eighteen of us left by truck for Econimoy. All the bands of this Div were represented.

Saturday, February 8

First call at 7:15, breakfast at 7:30. At 9 o'clock we assembled in an open field where we had our 1st rehearsal. We had another rehearsal at 11 & one at 1:30. There was over 200 out this P.M. Went down to Econimoy in spent the rest of the afternoon & eve. Some of us went in to a Café & had a feed.

Sunday, February 9

Didn't get up until 7:30. No rehearsal so laid around all the A.M. It was a pretty cold morning so I enjoyed the fireside. Trucks arrived at 1:30 & we all went down to Econimoy where we gave a concert in the square. We had quite an audience including Gen. Hale & other officers. Spent the rest of the P.M. at the K of C. writing letters. Had supper at Lambert's Café.

Monday, February 10

Cold & windy. No rehearsal so I laid in bed until dinner time. We had an early dinner & at 12:30 we left by trucks for a parade ground about 6 kil outside of Ecomminoy. Our 200 piece band played for a Reg. review. There was beaucoup officers present as well as 3 or 4 generals. Got back just in time for supper. Ferguson showed up about mess time & had our pay. Was pretty tired so turned in early.

Tuesday, February 11

Fair but cold. As there was no rehearsal this morning I went down to Ecomminoy directly after breakfast. Lambert, Hobbs & I went to a photographers & had our pictures taken this A.M. Spent the rest of the morning at the K of C. reading & playing cards. There was considerable excitement in the square (market day). Had dinner at a café. No rehearsal after dinner so hung around downtown. Spent most of the P.M. at the K of C. Had beef steak & French feed for supper. Went to the Y in the eve & saw some fine movies. Was pretty hungry when I came out so stopped into the café & ordered another feed. Woody boxed at Paris tonight.

Wednesday, February 12

Fair & much warmer. Had a rehearsal this A.M. in the field. Russell took charge of the band this morning. Dinner at 11 & after cleaning the billets we left for Le Mans. It did seem good to get into a city where they had electric cars & pretty girls. My only regret was that I couldn't stay after we'd finished our concert in the square. After the concert our truck brought us back to Laigne once more. After supper I went to the Y & saw the D show once more.

Thursday, February 13

Began to soldier again this morning. Reveille at 6:30. Fair & warmer. Played for a review of the 4th battalion. Following the review we gave the boys several popular pieces before coming in. Had sectional rehearsals after dinner. We got up a little sociable game of poker for a change today. After playing for retreat & the march following we were done for the day. Got an interesting mag. & enjoyed the eve by the fireside in our recreation parlor.

Friday, February 14

Thompson came in this A.M. with a 24 hr. pass for Le Mans. Perhaps I wasn't some glad to get out of a Reg. review & on a rainy morning especially. Twas a little after 12 when we got there so we

had dinner at Hotel de Normandie for the 1st thing. We had french fried green peas chicken etc. Had a shave at the coiffeur's & look up a room for the night. Was fortunate to get a room at Hotel de Paris. Had my 1st car ride since I was in Paris. I went into a number of jewelry stores with Thompson. He found a diamond which he bought after trying several places. Took a good hot shower at a public bath before supper. We dined at Hotel de Saur at 6. It was a four course dinner & very good. We went to the movies & returned to our hotel for the night.

Saturday, February 15

Had a fine room at the hotel. Coolbroth & Thompson slept in a big double bed & I slept in a single bed alone. Didn't get up until 8:30. We got breakfast at a café. We walked from one end of the city to the other taking in all the important places. Our pass expired at 12 and as there was no train back until 3:57 we went to the APM & had extended. The 3 of us took lunch at Hotel de Saumon. I went into a music store this P.M. & bought a few supplies. They had a "Musette" in the window which I bought for souvenir. Caught the 3:57 back & Laigne & got in just in time for supper. Was pretty tired so went to bed early.

Sunday, February 16

Rained nearly all day. Spent the best part of the day in our little recreation room beside the kitchen. Played cards until dinner time as was nothing on. With a good book the afternoon went quickly. A. Lambert went to the hospital this A.M. but we hope to see him back soon. Went to St Gervais in the evening where we played for church services. Wrote a nice long letter to V. & went to bed.

Monday, February 17

Raining yet. Most of the fellows went to the bath house this A.M. but as I took one just a couple of days ago I remained here & improved my time by writing letters. 18 were ordered to report at 11 to go to Econimoy again for the Div. band. Was glad to see that my name was not on the list. There is only about a squad left so I think we will have it fairly easy. Had fine mag come this noon so enjoyed the P.M. by the fireside. Went to the Y in the evening & heard four lady entertainers. Was some surprised to see Canty & Barnes come strolling in just about 10.

Tuesday, February 18

There was but five left to stand Reveille this morning. I couldn't get my watch fixed in Econimoy last week so I went at it myself this A.M. with my pen knife. It was quite a job but I finally got it a ticking & it has been going ever since. Hired a wheel this morning and went to E to get my pictures. Went to a café & ordered a double dinner. I was pretty hungry & easily got outside of it. Got my photos & returned immediately on my two wheel ice cart. Found two fine letters waiting for me when I got back. Bill Cobb returned from his 14 days leave. Went to the pictures in the evening "Me and God".

Wednesday, February 19

Reveille at 5:30 this A.M. Had breakfast at 5:45 & the Co. left with packs at 6:30 to take part in the Reg or Div review I should say. The few band fellows that were left here went on K.P. with exception of myself. I busied myself cleaning up the billet & spent the rest of the A.M. playing pinochle. The boys didn't get back until after supper. According to all reports it was a fine review & old J.J. Pershing gave the boys a good talk. The band didn't return tonight as we expected but reported back to Econimoy. Set up until 12:30 reading.

Thursday, February 20

Didn't have R until 7:30. Nothing going on this A.M. so played pinochle until dinner time. The boys who played in the Div band reported back again. Went up to the Y this afternoon to the

movies. Played retreat tonight for a change. There was a change of pictures at the Y tonight so I went again. Played "Black Jack" a while & went to bed.

Friday, February 21

Went out & Played for a Reg. review. It seemed pretty good to see Col. Hume back with us again. It began to rain about the time we got back. Most of us were glad to see it rain so hard; we got out of playing for a football game. Played cards all the afternoon. Received a couple nice fat letters tonight. Read until 12:30 & went to bed.

Saturday, February 22

We celebrated today by lying in bed until noon. The best of it was we had no Sat. morning inspection. It cleared up this P.M. & was real pleasant. Played for retreat & a march afterwards. Went over to third battalion after supper & played a concert. A little French boy went through the manual of arms for us. He had Sergt stripes on, 2 service stripes & made a fine little soldier. Gave all his commands in Eng. which pleased the audience very much. Haskell went "over the top" tonight. He got in about 2:30 with his baritone all dented up & nose on him like a piece of raw beef steak.

Sunday, February 23

Reveille an hour later this A.M. Had corn meal mush for breakfast. Went up to the bath house this A.M. & took a good hot shower bath. Put in for a 14 day leave to visit Bordeaux Tours Lyons and Perpignon. Wrote a few cards this afternoon. Went to bed early. About 10:30 Joyner, our new drum major came in a bit under the weather. He kept us all awake until 2:30 A.M. We finally got disgusted & took him down & ducked him under the pump. It sure was a wild night.

Monday, February 24

Not much doing this morning. Played cards awhile & practiced on my Sax an hour. Went over to the drill field this P.M. to play for a Football game between Hdqrs Co & G. Co. It was a very interesting game each team scoring a touch-down. It began to rain pretty hard but the game continued just the same. Went into a barber shop tonight & had a hair cut & shave. Made some hot chocolate before going to bed.

Tuesday, February 25

Rained nearly all day. We had oatmeal with milk & sugar this morning for breakfast. Geo. Dole went to the hospital this A.M. Practiced a bit before dinner. Banks issued us all a razor military brush & toothbrush today. Put my name in to go to school here in France. Had flap-jacks & cornstarch pudding for supper. Went to the Y this eve to the movies. Was pretty tired so went to bed early.

Wednesday, February 26

Cold rain all the A.M. Had oatmeal with milk & sugar again this morning. Not much doing this morning except individual practice. Cottage pudding for dinner. "Skinny" & Hall came back from their 14 day leave. We had 23 out at retreat tonight. The Capt. took a snapshot of a bunch of us in front of the cook-shack this morning. It rained tonight so I staid in & played cards.

Thursday, February 27

Went over to the drill field & played for another battalion parade today. Of course it had to rain as usual. Nothing doing until 3 P.M. when we played for guard mount. Nearly everyone was present for retreat. We made quite a noise coming down the street after retreat. We played "Quality Plus". Got my orders to go to school at Rennes so was pretty busy until bed time getting my clothes in shape.

Friday, February 28

At 8 o'clock Jennings, Mar & I said good bye to the boys. Left St. Gervais on the 9 o'clock train for Tours. Our train pulled in at just about noon so we went up to the Y.M. for dinner. Spent the afternoon looking around town. Bought a few souvenirs des Tours. I had supper at the Y.M. Went into a fine café & spent the eve. An orchestra (ladies) furnished some swell music while we watched the cinema. There were beaucoup girls there who drank & smoked cigarettes just as the soldiers. Found a fine room & turned in about 10 o'clock.

MARCH 1919**Saturday, March 1**

Turned out at 7 o'clock. Had some fine French toast a coffee with sugar & cream at the Y.M. Toasted my feet in front of a large fireplace until nearly noon. Checked out of Tours at 11:45. Had quite a job to look after our baggage. Went through as far as Augers & got off with the idea of staying all night. The M.P. wouldn't let us stay over but gave us a pass to go up town long enough to get paid. After going thru "beaucoup" red tape Jennings and I finally got 2 mos pay. I was handed a 500 fr. note which was the 1st one I've seen. Run across Geo. Dole. He got a pass from the doctor at the hospital & was downtown taking in the sights. He was as deaf as a stump. Came back to the Red Cross had a lunch & went out on the 8 o'clock.

Sunday, March 2

J. & I met a "Y" man & sailor who were going our way so asked them into our apartment. We pulled into Le Mans at 12 o'clock. As luck would have it we got into 1st cl. coaches & managed to steal a little sleep. Arrived Rennes at 5:45, found a bed in a French barrack & we spent the A.M. making up some of the sleep we lost the night before. Registered at the University of Rennes this P.M. One of the Prof.'s directed us to a room which we found to be very comfortable & attractive. I took dinner in one of the finest cafes in town. (Six courses I believe). Went downtown to supper & from there to the skating rink. I went on four times & didn't fall. Came near asking one of the fine looking girls to skate with me but lost my nerve. Came home early.

Monday, March 3

Had breakfast in our room at 8 A.M. The maid even asked if we'd have our shoes polished. Bought a French book at the Y.M. to use at school. Got a shave & massage at the coiffeurs. We had a fine dinner this noon. Rained nearly all the afternoon. James & I tried our luck in the shooting gallery; we sure smashed up a few pipes. Went down to the skating rink for a short time in the evening. Set up & wrote cards until after 12 o'clock.

Tuesday, March 4

We had our cocoa & toast in our room as usual. Went downtown this morning & did a bit of shopping. Got back just in time for dinner. At 3 o'clock we students assembled at the facility of law. Here we received our instructions in our courses. After supper J & I went downtown again. I heard the crowd skating so I couldn't resist going in too. I had a very pleasant evening skating with the girls.

Wednesday, March 5

Had an early breakfast this morning & left the house at 8. At 8:30 a small class went to their "premier lesson francaise". I was one & enjoyed the lesson very much. After our French lesson we all went to the faculty of science for a lecture by one of the F. prof. Came home for dinner & Went back downtown for the afternoon. Went down to the rink again tonight. The lights went out while we were skating but soon came on again.

Thursday, March 6

Had a young fellow for a teacher this morning. We took our a, b, c's for a starter. We carried on a bit of conversation too. At 9:30 we all assembled at the faculty de science to listen to a lecture on histoire et philosophique by M. Darbon. Another lecture followed. It was on histoire modern by M. Rebillon. Went to the rink a little while in the P.M. & found one of my Melle friends. We walk all over the city & had a real nice talk. I took my first music lesson tonight from 6 to 7. My teacher was a peach & we got along very well together. Went down to the rink again cesoir & found my little melle there. I took her home & missed my car.

Friday, March 7

The maid brought our breakfast to our room at 7:45. Finished just in time to catch the 8:10 car for school. My lesson in French very well this A.M. I cut one lecture & did a few errands before dinner. Had a shampoo & shave at the coiffeur's. Studied awhile after dinner & went into the shooting gallery & broke up a few things.

Saturday, March 8

We overslept this morning & just caught the car by running. Our lesson in French was quite interesting this morning. Listened to a lecture on art from 9:30 to 10:30. Had some important business so cut the 2nd lecture. Went downtown after dinner & made a little call. Martene & I studied French. At 5 o'clock all of us students assembled at the hotel de ville where we were dined [?] by the mayor & the professeurs of the college. They passed beaucoup old champagne around too. Went down to the rink again tonight & went home with "Mart" afterwards. It was rather late when we got home. Was some surprised to find that we had been locked out. "C" came down & let us in.

Sunday, March 9

Was pretty tired this morning so didn't get up until 10:30. James & I played a few duets on our Saxophones just before dinner. Had a fine dinner today. At 3 o'clock 3 nice French girls came to see "Mike" James & I. We took up the rugs & had a fine time dancing. At 5 we had tea. The girls left about 7:30 but left an invitation to come to the house on the following sun. We had dinner at 8 & set around the table & talked until 10:30. After writing a few cards I turned in for the night. P.S. the girls had their fortunes told in the garden this P.M. We had quite an argument on women at the table tonight.

Monday, March 10

There was no French class this morning so I went directly to the lecture room. We had the 1st 2 periods taken up but nothing the 3rd period. Studied for a while after dinner & went downtown. Run into "Mart" so took her to walk. Left her about 5:10 & went to the "coiffeur's" for a shave. Met Camille at 6 and we went to the music store & picked out a piano to have sent to the house. Bernard teased me quite a bit tonight about the girl he saw me with this afternoon. Went down to the rink again tonight but came home early.

Tuesday, March 11

Went to one lecture this morning & came home; put in quite a bit of work before dinner. After dinner wrote a few cards. At 2:30 our piano came so did a little practicing this afternoon. Mike got some strings for his violin so came in & played a few duets with Jennings. After supper Mike, James & I went downtown to the pictures. They had a very good orchestra at the movies.

Wednesday, March 12

James wasn't feeling very well so laid in bed this morning. Mike & I went to school. Had French the 1st period & a lecture on "Liturature francaise" for 2nd period. Cut the 3rd & came home. Went

downtown to school this P.M. & did a bit of work. Came back & put in a little practicing on the piano. Melle Monart came up to the house just before supper & we got her to play for us. Was pretty tired so stayed in & went to bed early.

Thursday, March 13

Had French this morning with the assistant. Went down to one lecture but wasn't feeling very good so didn't start the second. Came home for dinner after which & did some practicing on the piano. Went into the skating rink for a little while this P.M. As I was having a lesson at 6 I had supper at a café. My lesson wasn't extra good. At 8:30 James Mike & I went to the Anglo-American Club. There was a good crowd there & I enjoyed the evening very much. Got acquainted with a nice bunch of French girls as it was an informal affair. They had light refreshments.

Friday, March 14

The assistant had us again this morning. The second period we had prof. Bahou on art. Left the 3rd period & went to the bath house. Had one fine bath in a real bath tub; took a (friction) too which made me feel like a new man. I stayed in all the P.M. practicing. Geo, Mike, James & I went down to the pictures in the evening. Saw Pearl White in a very interesting picture.

Saturday, March 15

We had the prof. this A.M. in French & we covered quite a bit of ground. It was too pleasant to stay inside all the morning so after the 2nd period I went out for a walk before dinner. Met Camille & we came home together. Stayed in until 5 o'clock practicing on my Sax & also the piano. Bought 5 tickets for the circus for tonight. Went up to (my) café & had an egg sandwich & a piece of apple pie. Paid for my board this P.M. James took a girl to the theatre but the rest of us enjoyed the evening at the circus. Was glad to get some mail from home today.

Sunday, March 16

Didn't get up until about 9:30. After breakfast I went back to bed. Spent most of the morning cleaning up my Saxophone. Right after dinner we all went down to Mona's house. Mike took his violin I took my sax & Jennings took the music. We sure made a wonderful trio. There were about 14 present & we danced nearly all the afternoon. At 6 o'clock we had tea & of course we had to dance awhile after supper. Came home about 7 & had supper at 7:30. Wrote a couple letters & went to bed.

Monday, March 17

Didn't have breakfast until 8 A.M. but managed to catch my car for school nevertheless. Went down to the commissary after the 1st period & bought some jam & sugar for the house. James went down to Law class directly after dinner so I stayed in & practiced. Went downtown the latter part of the P.M. but back for supper. Mike James & I went down to the rink after supper. M & J went home with girls but I came home alone.

Tuesday, March 18

James wasn't feeling well so laid abed all the A.M. I went to one class & came up to the Y.M. where I spent the rest of the forenoon studying & writing letters. After dinner I practiced for a short while & went down to the rink. I also tried my luck in the shooting gallery. Was pleased to get some more mail today. After supper we all stayed in & went to bed early.

Wednesday, March 19

Had the prof. in our French class this morning. Went to one lecture from 9:30 to 10:30 & then came home. Practiced until dinner time on the piano. Went down to the commissary directly

after dinner & bought some choc. Called into a coiffeur's on my way home & got a shave. At 5 o'clock I went down to "Maria's" house & had tea. I took down her "bonjour phillipine". I had real nice call. It was a rather nasty night so didn't go out.

Thursday, March 20

The assistant had quite a bit of fun with a Lieut who went to sleep in class. Only stayed to one lecture this A.M. Went downtown after dinner. All the students met at the "faculty de arvit" where we received computation of rations & also listened to a short lecture. Before going to take my music lesson I got a shave & massage. Had a pretty good lesson. Took supper at a café and went to the club in the evening. Two short plays were recited in Eng & they were very good. Went home with Mona.

Friday, March 21

Geo & his mother returned this A.M. after being away for 3 days. Went to my French class at 8:30 but missed out on the 2 lectures that followed. Mlle Dermise was up to dinner. I asked her up to the room & she tried over a number of pieces on our piano. Practiced about an hour on Sax this afternoon. Got a couple letters one of which contained 25 francs, which I was quite pleased to receive. Geo, Camille, Mike, James & I all went to the pictures tonight.

Saturday, March 22

Went to French class the 1st period but didn't go to the lectures as I wanted to take a bath. Bought some music for violin, cello & piano which Mike, James & I tried over after dinner. At 4 o'clock I went to a reception of the students at the Faculty de Droih [?]. After hearing a number of speeches by the faculty I went into another room where I had some light refreshments. After supper Camille, Mike, James & I went down to Mona's house & had a bit of music. Played until 10 & then had tea.

Sunday, March 23

After eating breakfast I went back to bed & slept until 10:30. Got up just in time to shave & clean up before dinner. After dinner about 20 of us congregated at Mlle Dernice's house where we enjoyed the afternoon immensely. Of course M-J-B trio had to play for the crowd. James & I played several duets on our Sax too. Mlle "D" had a pianist to play while we danced so we got along very well. We met some new girls today who were very attractive as well as good dancers. The dining room was very attractive where we had our tea party. Everyone had a colored hat which on opening revealed a little verse. After tea we went back to dancing. Got home about 7:30 & had dinner.

Monday, March 24

Didn't go to school this A.M. Improved my time by practicing on the piano & writing a few letters. After dinner we all went downtown & drew some new clothes which we took to the "tailleurs" to be altered & pressed up. Not much doing so I came home early & put a little practicing before dinner. After dinner Mike took his violin down in the dining room & entertained. I came up to my room wrote a letter & went to bed.

Tuesday, March 25

Jennings & Mike went to school this morning but I stayed at home & practiced. Went downtown with Camille soon after dinner. Bought a new pair of gloves. Went up to the school for the mail but was disappointed again. On my way home I went into the tailleur shop on the corner. "Dede" was very nice this afternoon. Came home early & studied French until supper time. After supper we all went to the pictures together.

Wednesday, March 26

Thought I'd go to school again for a change this A.M. I went down to the commissary after the 1st period & bought some sugar for Madame Le-Briton. Went up to call on Mona but unfortunately she was out. Came downtown soon after dinner & got a shave. Went up to Mona's again at 3 o'clock & staid until 5. She asked me to have tea with her which I finally consented to do. She played the piano for me & I had a very pleasant call. Improved my time after supper by studying French.

Thursday, March 27

Took an examination in French this morning. Didn't go to any lectures this A.M. but came home early to practice until dinner time. Made Mlle Mona a short call this P.M. At 3:15 I went to the pictures with Geo, Camille and Guy Morin. At 6 o'clock I took my music lesson & had dinner at a restaurant & went to the Theatre in the evening. "Mlle Prentemps" was very attractive & some of the music was very good. We had nine in our little theatre party. Got home at just 12:45.

Friday, March 28

Was pretty tired so didn't go to school this morning. Went downtown about 9:30 & made an appointment for a setting with the photographer. All the students assemble at the faculty de droit at 1:30 where we had our pictures taken. At 2:30 James, Mike & I had our photos taken at Bernard's. At 4:30 I took Mlle Mona to a musical recital at the cinema. The music was exceptionally good. Got a little mail tonight. Was pretty tired so didn't go out after supper.

Saturday, March 29

Went to French the 1st period but missed the next period & went down & took a bath. Got home just in time for lunch. Mike & I went on a sightseeing tour this P.M. with a fellow from the Y.M.C.A. Went through the art museum, palace of justice & visited many places of importance around Rennes. At 5 o'clock Mike & I went into a café & played billiards for nearly a couple hours. We had a new fellow to dinner tonight. Stayed in & practiced tonight.

Sunday, March 30

Didn't get up until about 10:30; the bed looked to good this morning. I found on looking out of the window that there was a light snow fall during the night. Was busy until lunch cleaning up & getting ready for company in the P.M. We had a little dancing party the 1st of the afternoon but later played some very interesting games. The games were more like our familiar game of "Post Office". The girls seemed to enjoy themselves as much as the boys did. Stayed in after dinner wrote a few letters & went to bed.

Monday, March 31

Went to class at 8:30. Was fine day so take a walk through the summer garden. Met a swell looking girl but didn't dare stop her. She set my heart a pumping with her pretty smile. Directly after lunch I went down to the café & played billiards. Walked around town a couple hours & met Mike at 5. We went into the café & played billiards until about 7:15. Got home just in time for dinner. Stayed in after supper & studied.

APRIL 1919**Tuesday, April 1**

Got up & shaved before breakfast. Went to class at 8:30 to 9:30. Didn't stay to the 2nd lecture but went down to the commissary instead. Went downtown after lunch & played billiards for awhile.

It was a splendid afternoon so I did a little walking. At 5 min. to 5 I met Camille in front of the theatre & we went to dancing school. We had just a fine class, 8 boys & 8 girls. Got along very well. Returned home just in time for dinner but went down again. Mike, James, Camille & I went out for a short walk this eve but we returned early. Had my picture taken again this afternoon.

Wednesday, April 2

Went to French class at 8:30. Took an oral exam to go into a more advanced class. At 9:30 went to a lecture on Literature. Didn't have anything the 3rd period so came home. Reported at the hospital directly after dinner but as there was no signs of the mumps the Dr. let me go. Had a class at the faculty de droit from 2:30 to 3:30. It rained for a short time this P.M. but cleared off before night. Came home early & practiced on the piano. Studied after supper. Geo. was operated on this morning.

Thursday, April 3

Went to French class from 8:30 to 9:30 & attended one lecture at the faculty de science. Came home early & put in a little practicing before dinner. After dinner Madame Le Breton, Mlle. Mona, James, Mike & I all went down to the hospital to see Geo. After supper went to the pictures where I got acquainted with a little peach. She was selling tickets.

Friday, April 4

"Got Paid" Our French class this A.M. was quite noisy for some unknown reason. The 2nd period we went to the Faculty des Lettres to an illustrated lecture. After dinner I met Mlle Mona & her mother & we took quite a walk together. Went to a fortune teller's where I heard some very nice things. "She said that I'd marry a girl with beaucoup d'argent. She will be a brunette & very pretty. I'll marry very soon after returning to the states & later be father to two wonderful children. She told me many things about my family that were true. She told me correctly how many we had in the family & that one had recently been married.

Saturday, April 5

[Blank]

Sunday, April 6

Had breakfast at 8:30 & Went back to bed. Got up about 10:30 & wrote a bit before dinner. Geo. came up to the house for dinner but had to go back about 7:30. Of course Mona & Denise came up as usual. We played a game called (Menter) which proved to be quite interesting before the afternoon was over. The girls went about 7:30 & we had dinner. Studied a while after supper & then went to bed.

Monday, April 7

Went to class at 8:30. After the first lecture I came up to the Y.M.C.A. where I did a bit of studying. Practiced a while on the piano in the P.M. but went downtown later on. Was quite pleased to get a couple checks at the office. Twas too late to get them cashed at the bank so went for a short walk in the Park. Went down to Mlle Mona's house at 5 where I met (M) & her mother. We went to her music teacher & arranged for taking lessons. Stayed in & went to bed early.

Tuesday, April 8

Came down to school early this morning. Had two lectures at the faculty of science. After the 2nd period I went to the bank & got my checks cashed. Rec'd a nice letter this A.M. direct from home. Put in a little time studying after dinner. Went down to dancing class at 5 o'clock. I was the only Am. there but I had a good time nevertheless. After supper I went to the theatre with Camille, Guy Morin, Gibbs & "Mike".

Wednesday, April 9

Went into an advanced French class this morning. They began to call the roll so I attended 2 lectures at the Faculty de Science. Took a little walk in the park after dinner. At 5 I went into the Café & played billiards with "Mike" until 7:15. Stayed in & studied all evening.

Thursday, April 10

Had the assistant in French class this morning. We took up conversation this P.M. From 9:30 to 11:30 I had lecture at the Science building. Came downtown to study but changed my mind & went to the pictures. After supper Mike, Gibbs, Camille & I went down to the Anglo American Club. Jennings & Tribble took part in a little play. Went into the Am. Café & had a couple of drinks before coming home.

Friday, April 11

From 8:30 to 9:30 we had French & from 9:30 to 11:30 lecture courses. Staid in all the P.M. Wrote a few letters & spent the rest of the afternoon studying & practicing. Was pretty tired so went to bed early.

Saturday, April 12

Was present at the 1st period but missed out on the lectures. Mike & I went to the bath house at 9:30. After bathing (M) & I went into the café by the theatre & played billiards until dinner time. Went down to Inspection at 1:30. After having a shave & haircut I came home. Geo had returned from the hospital & was playing cards with Mona & Denise. I played until 4:45. Had tea & then I took the girls down to dancing school. It was raining so I didn't go out after supper.

Sunday, April 13

Didn't get up until 11:30. I did have time to shave however. Had company for the afternoon. Mlle Denise & her mother & Mlle Mona & her mother came up to make us a call. We played cards a while, danced a little & had tea. Geo, Camille, Mike & I played pinochle all the evening. Went to bed at 12 o'clock.

Monday, April 14

Had breakfast at 8:45. Went down to class but found that my lecture was at 8:30 instead of 9:30 as expected it to be. Rec'd a bit of mail this A.M. Met Gibbs at the Faculty de Droit & we went down to the commissary & bought a few supplies. Mona came up to the house this P.M. but went to the hospital with the Madame at 2 o'clock to see Geo. Mike, Jennings, Camille & I played Pinochle until 4 o'clock. Took a music lesson at 5:30. After supper I played cards until 10 o'clock. Got my photos from Bernard's this P.M.

Tuesday, April 15

Had a lecture from 9:30 to 10:30. Went up to the office for mail. Got a shave & met Mike at the café at 11:15. We played billiards for about an hour & came home to dinner. Mlle. Mona came up to dinner & stayed all the afternoon. We played cards until 4:30 & then went down to dancing school. Had a great time today dancing the Fox Trot. Got home just in time for supper. Camille, Geo, Mike & I played pinochle until 12 o'clock.

Wednesday, April 16

1st class this morning at 8:30 & from 9:30 to 11:30 I had lectures at the faculty de science. Came home for dinner & took the 1:45 car back. **Camille** & I went up to Mlle. Berts where we spent a very enjoyable afternoon of dancing. She passed around champagne & white wine. Perhaps that is the reason I had such a good piano lesson at 5:30. After supper Mike, James & I went out to a little party. We played until 10 o'clock & had to walk about 2 miles to keep away from the M.P's.

Thursday, April 17

Had no class so slept most of the morning. Practiced on the piano a short time before dinner. Went down to school & got paid at 1:30. Went to the pictures in the afternoon with Denise, Mona, Madame Le Briton, Mike, James & Gibbs. Mike & I went to the café after the pictures & Played billiards until supper time. After supper Geo, Camille, Mike & I played a couple games of pinochle.

Friday, April 18

Enjoyed a good long sleep this morning as I had no class. After dinner Mike & I went out to Cesson with Geo & Madame Le Briton, Mona, Denise & Tribble where we spent the afternoon. I was too tired to go downtown after supper so staid in & played pinochle with Geo & Camille.

Saturday, April 19

Got up early this A.M. & went down & took my bath. Went up to school after the mail & was quite pleased to find a pkg from home. Took a stroll in the Park & wrote a few letters. At 11 o'clock I met Mike at the café & we played billiards until dinner time. Went to inspection at 1:30 & signed the payroll. Came back home & fixed up for dancing school at 5 o'clock. I had a very enjoyable time. After dancing class Camille & I went to a cafe & had a little drink. Staid in & played cards all the eve.

Sunday, April 20

Laid abed all the morning. Mona & Denise came up this P.M. as usual & we played games. Had tea about 6 & I went downtown with Camille. Went to Mona's house to supper & came down to the theatre with her. Camille & I could not get seats downstairs but was fortunate in getting seats in a box. "Manon" was an opera in 6 acts & very interesting. The music too was exceptionally good.

Monday, April 21

Got up directly after breakfast & went down to the commissary. Went up to school & found quite a bit of mail. Hung around the Y until 11 o'clock & went up to the café & played billiards until dinner time. Met Mona & her mother on my way up to the park. I brought my books intending to study but changed my mind. Mona & I spent a real nice time in the park. Played pinochle again tonight.

Tuesday, April 22

Had only one class this morning. It was a lecture by M. Bahou from 9:30 to 10:30. Went up after the mail & came back to the café where Mike & I played billiards until dinner time. Took a music lesson at 1:45. It was such a fine afternoon I went down in the Park & wrote a few letters. Had supper at 7:30 & went to bed early.

Wednesday, April 23

The alarm clock awoke us at 3:30. We made cocoa on the gas stove & reported at the station at 4:30. The students had 3 special cars so there was plenty of room. Went to Mt. St. Michel in the morning which was a most interesting sight. We all took dinner at Hotel Poullard. We left Mt. St. Michel & after some delay arrived at St. Marlo. We had supper & put up at the dormitory of the college over night. After supper some of us walk over to the (Y.M.C.A) Casino. The Y girls cleared the floor a little after 11 o'clock & I enjoyed several fine dances. Got back to the college at just 12:15.

Thursday, April 24

At 8 o'clock we had a light breakfast & reported at the Casino at 9 o'clock. Prof. Bahou took us all around the walled city of St. Marlo in the morning & it was quite interesting. The old salt breeze from the ocean sure was great too. Many went over to Dinart by boat in the P.M. but I preferred

to take in the dance at the Casino. There were over a hundred girls there and they sure could dance. The majority of them were French girls but exceptionally good looking. Had a small orchestra & I danced all the P.M. Took the 6:15 train back to Rennes. Had sort of a box lunch on the train.

Friday, April 25

Had class again this morning. Found quite a bit of mail at the office. Mike & I played billiards at the café this noon. Wrote a letter & practiced my piano lesson after dinner. At 4 o'clock I met Mona & Madame Le Breton at the Park. I spent the evening playing cards with Camille & George.

Saturday, April 26

Had French class at 8:30 this A.M. From 9:30 to 10:30 we had a lecture at the faculty de science by Prof. Bahou. Came home early & did my practicing before dinner. Mona came up in the P.M. & I did the entertaining as Madame Le Breton was out. At 4:30 we went down to dancing school. Several were missing but I had a good time. Played pinochle until 10:30 & went to bed.

Sunday, April 27

Didn't get up until 11:15. Had lunch at 12:30 after which I did some practicing. Mona & Denise came up for the afternoon & we played cards. I had an early supper and met Mona at the Place du Marie at 8:15 with her pa & ma. The 4 of us went to the theatre together. We had a box all by our lonesome. The play was very good. The orchestra made quite a hit as did the leading singers. Got in at just 12 o'clock.

Monday, April 28

When I awoke this morning it was snowing. I got up & went to class at 8:30. Missed the 2nd period & went down to the commissary. Spent the rest of the A.M. at the Y.M. Went to my regular law class at 2:30 but as there was no teacher we had no class. Took a stroll in the Park where I stayed until 5. Came down to the café & played billiards until 7 & came home to supper. Turned in shortly after supper.

Tuesday, April 29

Went to the coiffeur's & got a shave before going to class this A.M. Came home & practiced a little while before dinner. Took my piano lesson at 2 o'clock. As it was raining I spent the P.M. at the Y.M.C.A. At 5 o'clock I went to dancing class. After supper we had our regular evening card games.

Wednesday, April 30

Commenced our study of French again this A.M. after a two weeks vacation. Had one lecture at the faculty de science. At 11 o'clock Mike & I went into the café & played billiards until dinner time. It was rainy & disagreeable in the room after dinner so I went down to the Y.M. where I spent my time reading & writing a few letters. Turned in early.

MAY 1919**Thursday, May 1**

No French soldiers were allowed outside of their barracks today & we were not allowed to go to the theatre or remain on the streets. Fortunately there wasn't much excitement in the streets as it rained nearly all day. Didn't get up until 11 o'clock. Mona & Denise came up to see George & I this P.M. Of course it was the custom to kiss the girls on May 1st which we didn't neglect to do. We

played cards & had a very interesting afternoon. After the girls went Geo & I played pinochle. Went up to my room after supper practiced a bit & went to bed.

Friday, May 2

Went to class from 8:30 to 9:30. I cut the second period & took a bath. Came home & practiced before dinner. Mona came up to dinner but went downtown directly after eating. Got paid this P.M. at 1:15. Spent the afternoon writing letters at the Y.M.C.A. Geo, Mike, Camille & I all went to the movies tonight.

Saturday, May 3

Took an exam in French this morning. Went down to the café & played billiards again this morning. Practiced a little while after dinner & came down to the Y.M.C.A. where I wrote a few letters. After supper James, Mike & I took a trip to the "underworld". We danced with girls from the 4th category & at intermission we drank with them. Got tired of the place about ten o'clock so came down to the singing gallery. Got home about 11:30.

Sunday, May 4

Didn't get up until 11:30. After dinner I went out in the country to the ball given by the dancing teacher. Geo & Camille both went. There were nearly 200 present & we had a very enjoyable afternoon. Danced from 2:30 until 7. I had most of the my dances with Mona. I went to bed soon after supper but Mike & James went to "Carmen".

Monday, May 5

Had to get up at 7 o'clock this morning. All the students including officers lined up in front of the Faculty de Droit for P.T. at 7:45. Went over & the park & read until 9:30. After stepping in for role call I went down to the commissary & bought some things for the madame. Had law class at 2:30. Went out in the park again & staid until it was time to take a lesson. Took a piano lesson from 5 to 6. After supper Geo & I played pinochle.

Tuesday, May 6

Got up again this A.M. at 7 o'clock. At 7:45 we all assembled at the faculty de Droit where we took a few Gymnastics exercise before class. I got James to ans my name at roll call at the 2nd period because I had a date with Geo. Met Geo. at the Place de Marie at 10 & we got tickets for Lakine. Bought some shoes (civilian) for 80 frcs. which I wore to dancing class at 5. Madame Le Breton & Couillard, Mona, Denise, Geo & I met at the Theatre at 8:15. We had a lodge all by our lonesome where we could enjoy ourselves quite well. The music was wonderful & the eve passed very quickly.

Wednesday, May 7

Again we took a few gymnastics before classes. Went to French class at F de Droit & one at the F de Science but skipped the 3rd. Mike & I went up to the café & played billiards until dinner time. Rec'd 9 letters today in the mail. Had a class in Law from 2:30 to 3:30. Went for a walk in the park & later came downtown. Met Geo & we spent the afternoon playing billiards. Got back just in time for supper. The table was set out of doors for the first time.

Thursday, May 8

Had drill again at 7:45. Went to French class from 8:30 to 9:30. Came downtown & met Geo. We went to the café & played billiards all the morning. After dinner I came downtown with the boys. Mike & James had a law class so I went into the cenarna [?] for a short time. Came out about 4:30 & went up in the park where I met Mona & Denise. We went for a little walk with Madame Le

Breton & Madame Morin. I took them all into the Café glacier & set up the drinks. There was a fine stringed orchestra playing which was very agreeable to listen to.

Friday, May 9

Exercises as usual. Went to the 1st class & came downtown. Met Geo & we went & made Mlle Denise Morin a little visit. Played billiards for a short time before dinner.