



Y.M.C.A.

WITH HIS MAJESTY'S
CANADIAN FORCES
ON ACTIVE SERVICE



PATRON MILITARY SERVICE DEPARTMENT
H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT
GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA
HEADQUARTERS NATIONAL COUNCIL
Y.M.C.A. OF CANADA
15 TORONTO ST
TORONTO

FOR GOD, FOR KING, AND FOR COUNTRY

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WESTERN DIVISION
313 I.O.O.F BLDG., CALGARY

Written at Camp Hughes, Sewell Man. Camp

1916

Written by Joseph Co'y 254; B.C. B'tn 196th Western
Universities

Dear Mother and brothers and sisters and etc-----
I am in Sewell, Manitoba now and since I just finished a rotten supper which consisted of halibut without salt or pepper and tea without sugar or milk and bread without butter, I have nothing else to do but to write you a letter. (For breakfast and dinner I stuffed myself with the coffee they gave us, - coffee without butter sugar or milk.)

When Harry handed me that huge flour sack full of stuff before the train pulled out of Vancouver I nearly swooned when I saw the size of it, but, since the train was soon to leave I decided that I did not have time to swear and if I wasted time swearing I would miss the train, so I took reluctantly what I would gladly have left.

Now I must say I was mighty glad I was given that funny sack full because the truck the C.P.R. doped us with on the train was simply rank and, instead of eating it, I threw it out of the window



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Co'y _____

B'tn _____

and ate what was given in the sack. It lasted me all the way and I still have some cakes left. By the way what on earth made you give me a jar of pickles? I could not use it and did not feel like using it so I have it unopened with me still and do not know what to do with it. I also have an unopened tin of sardines left and I do not know what to do with it either. You should have known better than to put plums in a ^{paper} bag and place it in the sack the way you did. Half an hour after the train left Vancouver I took the sack to see what was in it and almost every plum was squashed and the juice was dripping out on the floor of the ~~train~~ ^{car} until I put my hand into the mixture of juicy squashed plums and threw them out of the window.

The scenery throughout the whole train journey was ^{simply} swell and I enjoyed every bit of it but the long three days and three nights riding on the train made me somewhat tired of it and so I was not very sorry when it was over. After we arrived at Sewell - which is only a few miles from Winnipeg - I was wondering at the moderateness of the weather and began to think it was not much different from Vancouver.



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1916

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Co'y _____

B'tn _____

weather and that those who say it is tough weather were full of prunes, - but the very first night I certainly got stung when we went to sleep in our canvas tent at night the weather ~~was~~ was beautifully cool but at about midnight when I woke up! when I woke up - ! I say when I woke up the biggest rainstorm and thunderstorm and lightning-storm and the toughest windstorm - all at once and all together - that I ever experienced in my life came howling and beating against the tent and the tent inside was wet, the clothes of some of the fellows was soaking wet but, although I felt rain sprinkles on my face I was not wetted. Before we went to sleep we left the tent door open and when we woke up we certainly had a hot time to close them and keep the heavy-pouring rainstorm out. The fellow who closed them had to stand out in the pouring rain to do it in his night shirt and so he got soaking wet. The next morning however when the Duke of Connaught reviewed us, the sun shone brilliantly. You can never tell what sort of weather we may get here. We had an easy time here so far. Tom and Iles. came down to Vancouver station to bid me good-bye but they never found me and so I pulled out without seeing them. I know they were at the station because some of those who were on the train knew them both and saw them.

(over)

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Do not get sore at Mr. Prydne Jack because there is no reason for it. If you get any important mail matter from anybody tell me all about it and any mail addressed to me put it in an envelope and do not forget to put 3 cents on it and send it to me.

I want you to answer this letter and I will write some more when I receive your letter. Tell Rachel not to be lazy and refuse to write the letters to me or to anybody for you. The letters she writes for you on important business matter should be well punctuated and not foolish and should be good English. Ask the kids how they liked their exams.

From your affectionate son
Joseph.

When Harry gets the rent from Kajiki tell him to make out a decent receipt and do not lose it.

Mrs. S. Seidelman
1735- 2nd. Ave. East
Grandview
Vancouver



BC