Pfc. W. H. Bloomingburg (33, 639, 693) D.M.D. – bks. 27 O'Reilly General Hospital Springfield, Mo.

Springfield Dec 11 6:30 PM 1943 MO.

Miss Sallie Loving 5817 – N. Washington Blvd. Arlington, Va.

Dear Sallie,

I have a gold-brick job this week. Right now I'm supposed to be answering telephones so while sitting here I'm doing a little writing. I worked hard last week because I was on the upper respiratory section and we filled up several new wards with fellows from tech school & some air cadets at a college downtown who were victims of a sort of flu epidemic. It's because of the changeful weather we're having around here. For a while I helped take care of a pneumonia patient in an oxygen tent which was pretty good experience. This week I'm working in the Medical Clinic and to put it bluntly I'm just loafing.

Last Sunday afternoon some people took us riding down in the Ozarks which are about 40-50 miles south of here. They're not real mountain ranges but they're just big hills with deep ravines running all between them. There was a picture out a few years ago called "The Shepherd of the Hills" which was based on a book of the same name written down here in the Ozarks about real people who lived there. I'm reading the book now but wish I had read it before taking the trip.

Christmas is just around the corner but it sure doesn't seem like it. I'm not doing any shopping this year for 2 reasons. I don't know what to get anybody and I'm never off when the stores are open. I want to do some <u>window shopping</u> though. It wouldn't be Christmas without that.

We got a letter from <u>Miss Lynn</u> the other day with some pretty good pictures enclosed. I was surprised that they turned out so good. I didn't know you were so <u>photogenic</u> Miss Loving. You might get a job as a model if you tried and might some day be the "Cover Girl" on Esquire.

We've been enjoying that newscast you've been sending us. Its got the county paper beat all to pieces, at least so far as things we're interested in go. Do you ever get to Charlottesville now? I guess the gas situation is pretty serious there now. I can't figure it out here, some get gas & some don't.

On Sat. following Thanksgiving we saw a good high school football game and last week I saw a pretty good high school basketball game. It was between 2 small high schools out of town

here and what they lacked in skill they made up in spirit & fight. I can't get the spirit though like I could when I was rooting for my own high school.

We got a card from Alice Pere. It seems like when you speak of the devil he always shows up. Just the other day we saw someone who reminded us of Alice and we talked a little bit about her and behold, today we got a card from her.

I guess there's not much to write about. If I waited for much to write about I wouldn't get much done I'm afraid. I just heard that a couple hundred patients from overseas just came in. That means more work than ever now. I guess you have a pretty big correspondence going now so although we want you to write whenever you can, we know you're pretty busy now. Two or 3 times a week will be enough.

Love,

Wendell