

132 East 19 St., New York City

June 4, 1919

Dear Dr. Shaw:

When I went off to France in January, you will remember that I carried with me those dreadful letters to the Queens. I could write you a volume about getting them over.

I had them packed along with a splendid ham that I was carrying to a suffering French friend who, according to reports, had been unable to get a really good ham for months. Of course it was an incongruous association for those royal documents, but they stood it like good Americans and came out without a scratch.

It was not easy to get them to the Queens--infact, almost as hard as to get them written and on their way. I suppose if I had been able to devote my time to taking them myself it would have been simpler, but I could not do that. The Queen of Roumania came to Paris, as you might have noticed, and her minister, Mr. Antonesco, after much delay, arranged an interview for me; but, unluckily, it was just as I was coming home from the devastated regions and she was leaving for Roumania, and the notice of the appointment did not reach me until too late. However, you will see by the enclosed letters from Mr. Robert Bliss that the document reached the Queen who was "vivement touchée."

As for the letter to the Queen of Belgium, I found that my engagements in Paris were so pressing that I could not go to Belgium. I wrote to Mr. Whitlock to arrange an interview with the Queen, who had been ill and was unable to see me. Then I ran across Mrs. Vernon Kellogg, and as she was going to Brussels, I asked her to see that the thing got to its owner.

Mrs. Kellogg telephoned me the other day that she had made a report--I suppose to you, in Washington. I felt that since there was no American woman that had been so long and so intimately and so splendidly connected with the Belgians, she was the best of envoys; and she seemed much pleased to be asked.

So you see, dear Dr. Shaw, the letters are where they belong, even if it did take something like eighteen months to bring it about.

I was of course enormously pleased that the Government had recognized your services in the War. I don't know of any woman who did more to rally the country than you. And now, dear Dr. Shaw, don't overwork. We want to keep you a long time yet.

Affectionately yours,