Sunday Feb 2-1919.

Dear Sara:- This must be a family letter and it is so hard to write when I don't know what is happening to you all. It is nearly 4 weeks since I left and they let me & myself expect news from & more. I sent a letter to a girl there where mother lives at 132 E 19 & asked me to deliver it: She wired me that it is the first news she had since October! I shall hope for better luck. But everything is behind there. It used to do days to get in communication with Paris & any way recd a telegram that he would be here to see me to-morrow or next day. It takes 5 days to get an answer to a telegram from Switzerland! The trains are as bad as the boats & worse. My milk vessel burned up and yesterday they stole my il was just two days old! I shall have to refill - one of these days I'll never get any where near the value of the contents. However it seems a small matter beside the great misery on every hand. You don't see that in the centre. When the Peace Conference is working full-tilt & get away a little and you are overwhelmed with the figures. Here

Digital Images, 2010. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944. Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

people have to relive things. In spite of the idea of an apartment - The cost of living. Rents go up every night: The places I rented began at 30 francs & jumped to 800 & 2 collections. In Paris $4.00 for a simple dinner & at my best pay 2.50. Eggs are 12 cents a piece & butter fourth 2 to 4 dollars a pound according to the quantity & the customer. Taxis are cheap as ever - 20 are flowers if I have to outfit - you'll wear my nails down to the quick, I repeat; for the price in the windows Carl prohibitive.

In spite very busy, but enjoying my work. Regret when I shall go in a little time in the devasted region. Going first to Lille where I shall make my headquarters. In my title Red Cross. Belgian Relief & the Northern Children's Crusade so in hope may chance to see & hear. A friend of Clotair Mrs Dr Taylor - Minneapolis girl who was at Wellesley - will be with us. She has been here nearly 4 yrs, her husband very ill. Dr Blake - Katherine Mackaye husband & Jean Katherine Wells for first time. She wanted to share me her children - 2

suppose because I'd seen the fair crop I expected pretty ugly to me - but the children are beautiful - Dainty arrangement as before - I go to Paris every day - I the oldest girl in each set - is called Katherine!

I saw Anne Morgan the other night. She & her friend Anne Dike Lefevre in great luxury I go out to their dinners & spectacles. It's pretty to see what they're doing over. There are so many things to see and do. The town is alive with americans and while there are many of whom you are very proud there are some of whom you are heartily ashamed. Many of these girls act and talk as if they were in a Cook's tour - sight seeing and experience is little my idea. The boys swarm here and the poor fellows are so crazy to get home. Things are pretty bad in some of their villeli I fear & there is a great deal of sickness so you hear as much criticism as in America but in the whole it's a pretty good job we've done here & think every one grudges us can get out - the better

I've been nearly one of the Paris colds which is so common - nasty things but I stayed in bed 2 days and kept in & stoppel it - I shall be very careful I do keep warm for as you remember I put all my woollen things in my bags and I have steps. I have a warm room

Digital Images, 2010. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

wo but- the cold is so cold & the dampness is so
great- that- you have to wake constantly or
you are chilled. Jeanne and some
of his helpers live here and that- gives me
advantage & would not- otherwise have.
I am close to our american Embassy Headquarters
quarters and see Babies and others & know
almost- every day. It's like a walk down to the
annex to go from here down the rue de Rivoli
to the Red Cross Headquarters - so many
americans things all of mine men & women
in uniform.
I am getting quite used
to my uniform things & do make a ridiculous
figure in it:
If there anything you'd like
particularly me have let- me know & can
get- some Breton china if you want- time
new shop in rue Scribe - In several things
spoiled & may back already. Em & you
all. Write ask often as you can. The
letters take just-they begin to come about-
April first- & don't write often April fool.

Lingy Dan.

Digital Images, 2010. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.