On Board S.S. Tahiti, 100 miles S. of West of San Francisco.
Feb. 4, 1914, 4:30 P.M.

My dear [Name],

This is the evening of the first day, so I will begin my letter which I cannot mail for days, and after I have mailed it, it cannot leave the post office until March 6th, and you will get it about March 20th. I am certainly getting further out of the world than I ever did before. After another day, our wireless will not reach San Francisco, and we meet no ships in the voyage, and there is no cable at Tahiti, so that I do not know how long we are out of reach of everything but for about three weeks I imagine. This is the only line which stops at Tahiti. It has only one which stops there about every 25 days, so you see that life is not very swift. We found quite a little sand on getting there. We went through the Golden Gate, which we went through at 2:00 A.M. The wind was from the North West and kicked up a good many white caps, but the ship seems to me unusually steady. But the ship seems to be almost lost in the drinking. Nevertheless, something must have been for dinner. I took a nap and didn't care for dinner, but we walked 25 miles on 10 miles. He walked his legs from 4 to 6, but ate a good dinner, as did I.
In fact I had an enormous appetite, and as for the food it tasted pretty good. Indeed my guess is that we are going to be very comfortable on this ship. It seems that she is noted for her steadiness, and thus for her actions justifying her reputation. She to remind me very much of the United Fruit Ships, except that she has more cozy lounging places. I am writing this letter in the library, a little room about 16 x 20, with nice easy couches, 4 writing desks, easy chairs, plenty of interesting books, and, above all, warm. The heat tastes good. I am the only occupant and I think that I am going to have a pretty good time in it. We have 45 first cabin passengers, 42 second cabin, so you see we have oceans of roomy which also makes it comfortable. In fact it seems far much better than I expected. Already by she seems to be much improved. We had a double room at the Palace, and I think he slept last night more than I did, though I did not wake up until 5:20. At 9 o'clock I left him.
in the room going to bed, so he evidently intends to sleep tonight— I think that he will not know himself within a week.

I have spent the evening talking with a man who lives in Tahiti. He says it is a beautiful spot. That the water is a purple blue, and that the horizon is a circle of coral reef. That the island is volcanic, mountainous in its center, is a mountain 1000 feet high which they call the crown because it looks like a crown. That the trees are so very green. That the principal exports are phosphates, copra, coral and pearls. He is evidently in the phosphate business. He says they have an island 4 or 5 miles around in which the phosphate is 400 feet thick. His name is Walker. He says we arrive at the town of Papeete about 4:30 P.M. and remain until 5:30 the next day. That the hotel is unusual but the beds are clean. They have good roads and automobiles. I shall therefore spend the night on shore and have an automobile ride. I hope I can find something that I
or somebody will want - since this is to be a 12 day letter, I think I had better stop now, for the first day, or else you will not have time to read the whole. So good night.

Feb. 5 - 1914.

It is the evening of the second day - 5:40 p.m. As we have dinner at 7:30 I shall be able to write this installment before dinner. We have both at 7:30, breakfast at 8:30, and luncheon at 1:30.

The trouble with me is that the things taste so good that I eat so much that I have no appetite. But that is better than eating when you are not hungry.

Who wanted us dinner last night better food than I expected - in fact a better ship than I expected. Very steady, even though we have had white caps ever since leaving the Golden Gate, but to day they were not as large as yesterday. The ship has a registered tonnage 237,000. You see that the Olympic has a tonnage more than ten times larger - at today's noon we were at latitude 33°35'N, longitude 125°47'W. That's gone 368 miles.
At 7:30 am. the temperature was 40° and 1:30 P.M. 48° - I thought I would like to know how the temperature changes on this trip, so I bought a thermometer - you know that when this ship started it was winter. It will pass through spring, summer, and when it reaches Australia, March 2, it will be the first month of fall. It turns out that we follow a course that no other vessel line follows, a stop at islands which no other vessels stop at, we are tramps, so that we are in the untravelled parts of the world. Also master is a fine photographer and so we expect to get a fine collection of views. He says that he understands that the best pictures in the world can be taken in New Zealand, on account of the atmosphere.

It is 175 places around the promenade deck & 185 around the next deck below. Before breakfast I walked around the promenade deck 13 times, before lunch around the other deck 13 times, before sitting down here I went 13 times around
the other deck—Syche will have to abandon his pretense that he can’t sleep nights, as he slept over 8 hours last night, went to sleep in the morning & I had to wake him up for his bath.

Before you finish reading this letter you will probably discover that there is not much variety to it, or to our lives on it, but I will give it to you as it comes. Today we had a fine drill to the extent of calling the crews to the boats, but nothing was done with the boats—

I think now I will retire to a comfortable corner & read a book on Australia, also some tales by Louis Becke entitled "The Call of the South." He wrote by

Reef & Palm.

Feb. 6.—It is the evening of the third day—5.40 P.M. Dinner is at 7 instead of 7.30 as I told you yesterday. So I have some time to talk to you. The fact is I am so very busy that I am pressed with writing—I am visiting with people who live all over & reading up about Australia.
New Zealand so that I haven't a spare moment. Last evening I played bridge with Mr. Clarkson of Christchurch. New Zealand. Mr. Walker of Governors' Innond, whose residence I have not yet learned. I spent two hours today talking with Mr. Clarkson, who is apparently a large wholesale hardware dealer in N.Z. He thinks their government is nearly as perfect as possible. I see it all in life, everything is done for what is conceived by the majority to be to the advantage of the majority. One thing that seems to be desirable is that no one shall be very rich. I think that they have it fixed so that none will be. E.g., if they think that a man owns too much land for the good of the state, they buy it of him. But so far they have paid him what it was worth. Of course when the majority think it is to their advantage not to pay full value, they will stop doing so. That is my remark, not Mr. Clarkson's. He tells me that one
The remarkable things they make in N. Y. I have rugs or blankets - none like them in the world for wearing - so I shall get some - whatever size he can get them out of the Custom House. - It seems that the man in Wellington to whom N. B. Trask gave me a letter is the late Prime Minister of N. Z. - I heard.

Our speed today was 323 miles - at noon we were at lat 28° 53' N. long 128° 30' W. We are now about opposite Hermosillo M. G. a little South of Solventon. New Orleans yet it is still cool. At 7° 30' A.M. 3° at 1° 30' P.M. 5° at.

I don't want you to imagine that all my letters will be as long as this, but while I can, I will write.

There are a few tourists on board like us but most on business trips.

It is still cloudy. The only sun we have seen was in San Francisco.

But the sea is getting smoother.
Today only an occasional Whitecap, she seems to be able to sleep day or night - I made my 13 rounds before lunch + if I am to do it before dinner I must start - I can't see how you or the girls could be sick on this voyage 
& up to date I have not met a single smell, although you could probably track one to its lair.

Feb 7 - It is the evening of the 4th day
6:30 P.M. - Temperature 73° and 60° 7:30 P.M. 18° 6:30 P.M. 68° Run to day 321 miles Lat. 24° 6'.0' Long 131° 29'.0' - My temperatures prior to day have been 30° too low, except last night some of the colored juice in my thermometer was stuck in the top, but I have turned it down & it is all right now. I checked it up. We are as far south as the Hawaiian Islands, the strait between Florida & Cuba. I think Whitecap has a better scheme than I on this letter business. He has a loose leaf journal. The mails this letter known as a letter, while I have to
as double work. This morning as I was walking before breakfast I saw three whales sporting about 1/4 mile from the ship.

Today I set back my watch 13 minutes making a total as far since leaving 8/7 161 minutes - Thursday 38, Friday 10 today 4/3. The usual change was so great because San Francisco train is railroad that true train we have a crazy man on board.

The captain was telling us about him this evening - He is an African and is being deported by order of the court. He smashes things - is now in iron in the hospital - we also have a stowaway - him the captain makes act as one of the guards of the crazy man - in the steerage we have a man who almost had selenium burned when he came on board.

He tried to climb the masts - he is better now - at 5/7 we had three stowaways to put off. The weather
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<th>Monday</th>
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got work in S.F. There are thousands
of idle men there - a result of some
of the uncertainties of the Wilson
administration - a serious gones
are being made by the passengers for
pre-press. This morning I played
a game of deck quoits against
my fisher who has lived in Auckland
N.Z. for 60 years. He beat me 21 to 18.
I watched a game of cricket on deck,
very stupid game to me. Not up to
one old cat which I played when
a boy. This morning Bych was
too sick for breakfast although
the sea was as smooth as it
could be. I think it was due
entirely to his excessive eating.
He seems an enormous eater to me.
Besides eating very fast. He is 52 years
old. Sometimes I think he is a
little older than I - Blobaster is 45.
A crew on the ship thinks
he is Bych's son - Blobaster is
a great addition to our party.
He is a graduate of Northwestern—entered in May 2 class but graduated in the one below.
I forgot to tell you before that we had an earthquake in S.F. At night I was lying in bed looking at the chandelier, which hung on a chain, then suddenly it commenced to swing back and forth, about 5 inches. The coat hangers in the closet were swinging. But I couldn't notice a thing else. The floor above was concrete. Alfred said that they never mentioned earthquakes in the newspapers unless something fell down. Said this must have been one. Though he had not noticed it. Tomorrow we shall be within the tropics. No, I think we are now— I must leave for dinner.

February 8th 5:45 P.M. It is the evening of the 4th day. Run 322 Mi. Latitude 19° 17' Longitude 134° 3'. Temperature 73° am. 70° 4 P.M. 74°. It has grown warm fast today.
though it is still cloudy. This morning we had service in the Salon. The captain reading. He is a very good man. Name Evans. R. N. R.

I sent you the following by ninder today -

Gough St. Duluth. Latitude

Nineteen seventeen longitude one

Thirty second. Temperature seventy two.

Everything fine." The operator said

that he wouldn't get it off until tonight

as he cannot call over 300

miles in the day time on account

light winds. I'm not sure he can

get 6 P.M. tonight, but thinks he

can. I had a long talk today

with Clarkson, the ardent New Year

cracker - says if he wanted to make

money he would not stay in N.Y.

five minutes. But he likes it because

they are all Equal. It is not only in

right but in possessions - that

he prefers to living elsewhere.

With more - I agreed with him

that a man should spend his
life where he got the most pleasant contentment. He came from a humble origin and conditions there have doubtless given him more than he expected, which may account for his belief. But conditions in U.S. have given me more than I expected but that is no reason why I should believe in putting everybody into a processed bed. This room is close, so I will leave you and go on deck. Think there are two people in the ship for their five to six beside the two - the rest are business people.

Feb. 9 - 1914 - It is 2:30 p.m. of the fifth day and we are not yet half way to our first stop, viz: Papeete on Tahiti. Run 315 M. - Latitude 14° 25' N. Long. 136° 15' W. Temperature from 75° - 78° P.M. 78. The moreoni man told me that he got off my message to you so that now you must know exactly where I am. He relayed it through the U.S. transport "James"
The route Manila to San Francisco.

The weather is absolutely perfect—so soft & delightful & the sea is a pure blue. I am going to get an idea of the South Seas before I return. We are in them now although we are not yet "below the line". Indeed we are not as far south as Panama—so far you & the girls would have enjoyed the trip. The Captain says it will be as smooth all the way—everyone agrees that this is the best time of the year for this trip & only I even the Australians, compared the great natural beauty of New Zealand— I have given a pretty good study now & I think it must be quite a workable place in a material way. This morning all the officers & stewards dressed cool in their white uniforms, but I have not changed yet.
Sprints are going on on the deck about sea. Most of the passengers are soldiers. The sea is not much wider. I am impressed with speed. I really believe that he is older than I am, in fact not in years. I don't have to grow grey as much as he does. But he is a great sleeper. Also vast. Now I must go to stick the paper bag.

Feb. 10th 1914 - It is the evening the 6th day. Run 312 mi. Lat 90 42' N. Long 138° 21' W. Temperature 8 a.m. 78, 1 p.m. 79, 6 p.m. 80. Of course the great event of the day was the receipt of the message from home. It came this morning as I was in the bath room and read as follows: "Temperature twenty below zero. It was transmitted directly from San Francisco, and was read at 12:30 this morning. It was therefore sent through the ice."
2,000 miles. The wireless messages have to be sent at night as during the day they cannot reach over 300 miles on this ship, on account of the rain. I have done so well this time that I will try again toward the end of the voyage. Had a long discussion with the Captain on questions of government. He said that he has been on this trip over 3 years but I was the first American he ever met who had read Bagehot or knew how he was governed. You see we happened to agree on various questions.

It is rainy & misty today, a natural condition around the Gold Coast, the Captain says which we pass through tonight & early tomorrow. He says that we will cross the Equator Thursday. It is not as hot yet as I expected. The Captain says he does not expect that it will go over 80°.
says the hottest day will be tomorrow, the day before we cross the equator. The currents bring cold water to the equator, which makes it cooler than either side of it.

Last night we had a full moon directly over our head. Now I must go and walk before dinner.

Feb 11 - The evening of the 8th day
Temperature 8 a.m. 81 2 P.M. 84
Latitude 5° 5' N Long. 140° 19' W Run 301 miles
we have put back our watches 45 minutes in all - nothing happened today. It has settled down into a monotonous voyage. The sun shines + in spite of the temperature we are very comfortable on the east side of the ship. Where we get the north east trades.

Nicking the pig's eye is an intellectual game wherein they mark on the deck the figure of a pig with an eye - then you ate blindfolded + walk about 30 ft toward
the big mark the spot where you think his eye is- It's not enough to day to make my head feel a little high- It is fortunate there are not many passengers on the boat-

Thursday we expect to pass the equator - I may have something to tell you - Have I told you how the other night - night before last - the full moon was shining over our head at about 11 30 p.m. Stars in an very bright - That is, there are more luminous than we have said they are bright.

Feb. 12 - The afternoon of the ninth day. Run 248 miles. Latitude 0.35°N. Longitude 142° 24' W. Temperature 63°am. 81° - 2 30 p.m. 84°. Put back watch 8 min. Total 103 minutes. The temperature are taken by sticking a thermometer I bought in 7 outside our stateroom window. The room is generally two or three degrees hotter, especially in the afternoo
night - Last night we saw the Southern Cross for the first time, though I expected that it was visible for several nights. We also saw Canopus, a very bright star, which the Captain says is one million times larger than the sun.

I regret to admit that I never before heard of it.

Today, at 2:50 P.M., we crossed the Equator. In a cool place on deck the temperature was 83 - 2. In the sun 98. Despite the high temperature, it is perfectly comfortable in the shade side of the deck, which is the north east trade wind - I never realized before the wonderful cooling effect of a breeze. Byron has developed into quite a good player - a good thing, because then he don't sleep all the time as he did. The idea that he can't sleep is a great joke to make and me.

This morning I woke up at four. He was fast asleep with a sheet spread over him, though
he had his arms out, with the
thermometer at 82°. It was noon
the sun was apparently straight acro-
suver heads. This morning I saw
a sailing vessel, the first ship I
have seen since leaving Golden Gate.
Last night we met the second to this
ship but I did not see her.

The sea is a magnificent pale
blue & could not be smoother.
I cannot imagine a smoother
voyage - a man on board who has
made six, in different times of the
year, says he has always found
it like this - it is rightly named
the Pacific - since this boat touched
at New Zealand, where we first
get off, most of its passengers are for
New Zealand, of which they are
native. They are very proud of their
country. It is a much more
beautiful country than Australia.
One curious thing is how much
clearer the sun rises than it did
This morning I think it was by sit & walk - now I must go to
yard. Reynolds, 12.50. As I am in the
Recollections, I seem to be the
Captain.
February 13th. The afternoon of the
first day - Run 32.0 miles. Latitude 4° 19' South
Longitude 144° 31' W. Temperature 9 am 83°
2pm 87°. There is not any where near
the difference between the sun shade
which we have - that may be due
to the excessive moisture - but the
remarkable thing is that, notwithstanding the high temperature, it is
not at all offensive on the shady &
breezy side of the ship - it is in fact
delightfully comfortable, even very
lazy - the sports which we had
so much a few days ago, are
dying out - everybody is lazy - we
walk & stroll along through smooth &
deep blue waters, with sunshine by
day & moonlight by night & wonderful
storms in the skies - it is really a
wonderful voyage, I did not suppose
then - was & one like it in the
world - she is already cursed
no one has been sick since the second
day - This is the truth, the voyage
is not yet half over - I shall get all
the voyage I need - But I am learn-
ing a lot. As I told Syer, we now
know so much about New
Zealand; that it will be hardly
necessary for us to get off there
we shall stop at two important
islands in the South Seas. People
who live there tell me that often
we have seen one we have seen
all - alabaster, who is a fine
photographer, is preparing to take
a lot of photographs, as we are
expecting a good record of our
trip - The only trouble is the
nights which are hot - that
doesn't bother Syer, but it does
me - though last night I had a
fine sleep by going into alabasters
room on the cool side of the ship—after we leave Tahiti I am to have a big suite, therefore hope to be cooler. In about 5 days more it will begin to grow cooler and then in a few days it will be full-"a pretty voyage!

Feb 14—The afternoon of the eleventh day. Run 294 miles—Lat. 8° 56' S—Long. 146° 10' W—Temperature 7 A.M. 80—12 S.M. 88—11 P.M. 82. But watch back 7 minutes.

The (A) day has been by far the worst, as for most of the time there was no breeze—Even the motion of the ship did not seem to make any. And with the air saturated with moisture you can imagine what it was. We had 3 or 4 showers, the first so far—And they make things much worse at the point (A) above I was called (Cat) by my she to see the most perfect rainbow I ever saw. It is a perfect half circle extends from water to Cat water.
It literally has all the colors of the rainbow, and the edge of the water near the reflection in the water near well toward the ship.

Last evening a new red line on the sky showed us the Magellan cloud. It is a piece of the Milky Way, broken off from the rest. It gets its name from the fact that at Magellan's Strait it is directly over head.

The Milky Way begins here at the horizon. It runs about 30° beyond the zenith. All the stars look different here. But it cannot write any more, because there is nothing to say because it is too lovely to say.

Feb 15 - The afternoon of the 12th.

6 day - Run 305 miles, Lat. 13° 44' S.

7 day - 14° 05' 3'' W. Put watch back 6 min.

Total 124 min. Temperature 79° 18.8° 86°.
You see that I survived the awful heat of yesterday - you will note that the temperature is about the same, all the difference is due to the repeated showers and the absence of wind. This morning we found a light breeze which has kept all day. The Chief Engineer said the temperature in his room yesterday was 102 - that the temperature of the water 12' below the surface was 82° - that yesterday was as bad a day as he had ever seen near the Equator. But the voyage in the whole has been fine. Yesterday prizes were awarded to winners in sports - Alabama got two - we are as far South as Lucia. Peru, or the center of Madagascar.

Tomorrow the voyage will be half over. Beathy, long-