

Adrian A. Parsons to Chet Parsons

November 5, 1918

Plainfield 11 – 5 – 18

Dear Chip

I am going to write again theres so many things happening now that it keeps on on the jump to keep up.. You surely are making us proud of you and if we are getting the news straight it begins to look like the end was not very far off, and we will welcome the day that will usher in a world peace,

We are on the eve of an important event. I may not finish this letter until after the election I think an important world event hangs on what will be done next Tuesday.

8" well the election is passed and peace has begun to come it is all wonderfully good. if you have escaped the huns you probably will land back here all right.

If the fighting is over and you will have no more to do over there it will take a good while to get you all back on this side –

We want you to block out your plans for if you desire to run the old farm Bert could be looking for another, there would be no use trying to partnership with him. But if you want to locate some place else he can possibly stay here for it seems like we never can sell the old hill. – and I dont expect we would ever be any more contented – if we went away.

But some changes are very necessary we cannot continue our present stile of living indefinitely.

Well I cant say anything conected for my head is all in a whirl with the hapenings. We swept everything [] controll but it will be a long time before the scars of our political debauchery are wiped out.

I was 72 yesterday the day we won back a part of the US. and the peace telegram came and I thought it the most important day that had come in our history & I would celebrate by cutting out tobacco and It will make me dull for some days, but it is gone for good this time – Horace & Ralph Harry have started across last week I guess. All are well and I cant think of anything to say. I suspect the censor law will be dropped now as it was a part of the democratic machine so you can write all about it. I am happy but tough & cant think head rolling

Dady

[envelope:] Sergt C. A. Parsons/482 Aero Squadron/American Ex. Forces/A.P.O. 774
From A. A. Parsons/Plainfield/Ind.

[postmark:] Plainfield/Nov/8/4pm/18 /IND

Historical Notes:

Chester "Chet" Adrian Parsons (1887 – 1977) served during WWI in the American Expeditionary Force in France from April 1918 – April 1919. He exchanged letters with his father, Adrian A Parsons (1846 – 1929), a disabled Civil War veteran. These letters provide insight into life on the home front and his political views.

"8"" is an indicator Adrian picked up the letter again on November 8, 1918.

"Bert" is Chet's brother Gilbert "Bert" Roland Parsons (1883 – 1959) who had been farming with Adrian.

"the peace telegram" The United Press sent a telegram November 7, 1918 announcing the Allies and Germany had signed an armistice at 11 a.m. that morning (Paris time) and hostilities had ceased at two o'clock in the afternoon. Facts were, the Allied forces had offered armistice terms to Germany, but also given them until 11 a.m. on November 11 to decide whether to surrender. There were premature celebrations throughout the country.

"Horace" is Chet's nephew Horace Stanley Parsons (1898 – 1984). Horace's father was Norman Edgar Parsons (1873 – 1939)

"Harry" is Chet's nephew, Harry E. Parsons (1898 – 1990). Harry's father was Lester "L.W." Wharton Parsons (1871 – 1958)