

1:25 P.M.
JAN.
28

JUST GOT YOUR TWO LETTERS, AND
HOPING THE ONES I WROTE HAVE REACHED
YOU BY NOW. I'VE BEEN WRITING AS
OFTEN AS IS POSSIBLE..... AT LEAST
ONCE A DAY. THE LETTERS ARE CHOPPY
AND SHORT I KNOW, BUT IF THERE'S
EVEN ONE SPARE MINUTE, I'LL USE IT,
"REMEMBERING YOU."

MY WORK IN THE CENTER IS FREE-
LANCED. FROM MINUTE TO MINUTE, I
DON'T KNOW "WHAT'S NEXT," BUT THERE'S
ALWAYS SOMETHING TO BE DONE.

WILL ANSWER YOUR LETTER OF
JANUARY 26 8:58 P.M.

FROM READING YOUR LETTER I
COULD SENSE HOW DISCOURAGED YOU MUST
HAVE FELT THAT NITE. THERE'S NO
DISGRACE TO BE A BOXER-PRIVATE. MANY
A TIMES HONORS ARE NOT BESTOWED
ON MERIT..... ON THE OTHER HAND,
IT SHOWS ONE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

BUT "HAPPINESS DOESN'T DEPEND
ON ONE'S POSITION IN LIFE... AS ON
ONE'S* DISPOSITION."

IN THE WORLD AS IN THE SCHOOL

YOU KNOW HOW FATE WILL TURN AND SHIFT

THE PRIZE GOES SOMETIMES TO THE FOOL

THE RACE NOT ALWAYS TO THE SWIFT.

WHO MISSES OR WHO GAINS THE PRIZE

GO LOSE OR CONQUER AS YOU CAN,

BUT SHOULD YOU WIN OR SHOULD YOU RISE

BE EACH, PRAY GOD, A SPORTSMAN.

THACKERAY.

AND AS FAR AS STRIPES, PRAISE OR GLORY GOES: "LET NOT HONOR BE THE CAUSE OF YOUR EFFORTS, BUT THE RESULT OF YOUR EFFORTS."

SOLDIERING IS A TOUGH LIFE. ~~THE EN~~
~~THREAT~~ ^{IT CAN} ~~IS~~ ~~AT~~ EASILY UNDERMINE ONE'S MORALE... AND KILL WHATEVER NOBLE WAS IN ~~MAN~~ ^{A PERSON}, AND YET ON THE OTHER HAND, IT CAN BUILD A YOUTH INTO A MAN.

I KNOW YOU DON'T MEAN THAT "WHAT DO I CARE ATTITUDE." YOU CAN'T! YOU'VE GOT TO CARE. IT'LL MAKE YOU THAT MUCH STRONGER. AND BILL — "NO MAN IS A FAILURE UNTIL HE BEGINS TO BLAME SOMEBODY ELSE."

YOU ARE A SOLDIER, BILL! BUT YOU'VE GOT TO FEEL IT INSIDE OF YOU. IT TAKES MORE THAN PHYSICAL OR MENTAL STRENGTH. IT TAKES THE SPIRITUAL.....TO REVIVE LIFE AND ZEST AND EARNESTNESS. IT ALSO TAKES A SENSE OF HUMOR, ENTHUSIASM, THE WILL TO LEARN; TO BE BOSSSED AROUND, AND YET HOLD ON TO YOUR OWN.

YOU MAY THINK I DON'T UNDERSTAND BUT I FEEL I DO. I'VE READ THE LETTERS OF, AND LISTENED TO MANY A SOLDIER'S HEART-ACHES. I LIKE THE FRANKNESS OF ALL OF THEM. I DO WANT TO HELP; NOT TO JUST GIVE WORDS OF SYMPATHY, BUT WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND CHALLENGE.

YOU SAID YOU DON'T HAVE THE GUTS TO KILL. BUT YOU DON'T NEED THE "GUTS TO KILL". YOU ~~ONLY~~ NEED COURAGE TO UNDERTAKE YOUR TASK.

YOU SAID YOU'RE CONFUSED. I GUESS EVERYBODY BECOMES CONFUSED SOMETIMES, SO THAT'S NOTHING TO BE RELUCTANT ABOUT. EVERYBODY STUMBLES AND GROPEs THOUGH THEY MAY NOT ADMIT IT. I LIKE YOUR FRANKNESS AND HUMILITY.

YES, IT DOESN'T PAY TO BE SENSITIVE OR OVER-EMOTIONAL. OVER-EMOTIONALISM SOMETIMES IS LACK OF MATURITY. HOWEVER, SENSITIVENESS, IF THAT'S A PART OF ~~YOUR~~^{ONES'} PERSONALITY, IS HARD TO DO AWAY WITH. IN FACT, ONE SHOULDN'T. INSTEAD, SENSITIVENESS NEED NOT BE A WEAKNESS. IT CAN BE COINED INTO STRENGTH. IF YOU ARE SENSITIVE TO THE FEELINGS OF OTHERS YOU CAN BE A MORALE BOOSTER AMONG YOUR BUDDIES.

I KNOW OF A FELLOW WHO WAS CONSIDERED A SISSY BUT WHEN HE AND HIS BUDDIES WERE CAPTURED (THEY'RE IN A GERMAN PRISON CAMP NOW) - HIS BUDDIES WROTE AND SAID, IT WAS THANKS TO THIS SO-CALLED SISSY'S COURAGEOUS OUTLOOK THAT REVIVED HOPE IN OTHERS.

I BELIEVE IN YOU BILL. I BELIEVE IN THE BEST WITHIN YOU.

Now, LET'S CHANGE THE SUBJECT.
DID I TELL YOU I FOUND OUT ABOUT
THE CAUCASIAN FELLOW I DANCED WITH
THAT HECTIC SUNDAY NITE.

JUST BY COINCIDENT (THANK TO
GOD) I RAN ACROSS TWO OF HIS
BUDDIES. IN FACT THEY BOTH SLEEP
IN THE SAME HUTMENT WITH HIM,
ONE SLEEPS RIGHT IN THE NEXT BED.
ANYWAY I FOUND OUT
HE HAS A CONCUSSION AND IS
IN THE HOSPITAL.

FELT BADLY. WROTE A LETTER
OF APOLOGY. AM NOW CORRESPONDING
WITH SEVERAL 272nd BOYS. THEY'RE
ATTITUDE ABOUT THE WHOLE THING
IS WONDERFUL SO SPORTSMANLIKE
AND CLEAN.

THERE IS SUCH A ~~THING~~ PHILOSO-
PHY, A LIVING PHILOSOPHY — AS
THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE.

WITH THOUGHTS OF YOU, Bill —
I CLOSE —

ENDERING THOUGHTS —

Harry