

21 Lake Place New Haven Conn

Chinook, Alta.  
Dec. 29, 1916.

Dear Folks:-

I sent a letter yesterday with an Xmas present of twenty dollars. I hope you received it O.K.

I am enclosing a few clippings re National Registration which is being inaugurated. This step you will remember was in England the step that preceded Conscription and it thought by many to be for the same purpose here. Canadian leaders have promised 500,000 men for overseas but only some 300,000 odd have responded

so far. Thousands of Americans have left Canada fearing conscription. We know many who have left - some of Canadian & English blood. Needless to say will stay here.

Went the English awful fools the way they are answering the peace proposals of Germany? Instead of meeting guile with guile and diplomacy with diplomacy they are virtually working right into the German's hands in throwing away any chance of appealing to the sympathy of the neutrals. As an Englishman said to me (Mr. Roberts) "When you come right down to it, it is absolutely of no importance what

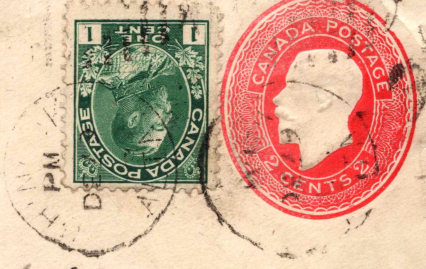
the neutrals think"!! I don't that an Englishman for  
you. Mr. Cason (you remember he is English) preached  
last Sunday a peace sermon on the text "Peace  
on Earth Good Will to men." It was sermon of  
exhortation for <sup>the</sup> inflexible fighting spirit of the most  
uncompromising <sup>sort</sup> spirit. Instead of choosing martial  
hymns of the same sentiment he choose all peace  
hymns. Well after the sermon I ~~felt~~ would have felt like  
a hypocrite if I had joined in "Joy to the world the  
Lord is come." and I even felt ashamed to stand with  
the rest song, but really I suppose Mr. Cason's actual  
thoughts if he analysed them carefully and developed them  
logically would not be to say the worst incompatible with  
mine but the expression of them would certainly emphasize  
a very different phase of what might perhaps be the same  
conviction.

By the way Mrs. Cason has a little girl baby born Xmas day, the  
first is also a girl.

Please give my love to Auntie & Uncle George. We need  
their Christmas card. I congratulate them on the news of their  
grandchild. I was very glad to hear the news.

Willie

Newspaper clippings from  
W. H. Belden Chimney Alberta.



Mrs W. H. Belden  
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New Haven  
Connecticut  
U. S. A.