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Olympics!

Berlin, Germany
Tuesday, August 4.

Dear Home Folks,

Once more again, I stop a little, to take stock + let you know about "me" — I'm quite a little "me" in ^{this} huge city and among the throngs here in Berlin.

I can't remember where I left off. We had a quick trip thru the Zwinger art museum in Dresden, with its Sistine Madonna as its prize picture, but first no end of others which are gems. I bought quite a number of post cards pictures of the ones I liked best + they'll help to freshen my memory when it grows hazy. The guide explained all about the Sistine Madonna before we entered the room where it occupies a ^{place} room by itself, for he said he wasn't allowed to lecture in there.

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There wasn't a word said as our group of about 20 went in there, nor while we stayed there. No one feels like talking as they look at it -

Our hotel at Dresden was comfortable + the landlord a very fat German, quite typical - They had a little low bodied dachhund - ^{an expensive} animal - called "Shusty" - at least it sounded like that - Little Shusty ran away from the maid up in our hall as she tried to get him, but she explained that there were "zwei kleiner Katze" (2 little kittens) down the hall that he liked to play with + "Shusty" waded her nearly every time she made a grab for him - at the same time making good progress towards the Katze. Her good natured, patient, + persistent, efforts were just funny.

Some of the crowd saw the Olympian runner make his exchange of torches there in Dresden, + I planned to, but missed out - We had coffee at 4 + then took a 6 o'clock train for Berlin, if you'll believe it we rode in a first class coach. It was lots more comfortable.

We were taken to a small hotel on Friedrichstrasse not far from Unter den Eichen. + bunked in 4 in a room. 2 twin beds, then 2 cots which had been put in extra. I drew a cot. Had a late dinner, then our letters were distributed. (I got 3 from Noyra, Wilma, + Emily + was I glad!) + we all read those so didn't get to bed till after one - What a night! The cots new old army cots - they had brought in. + the most uncomfortable bed I ever lay down on in my life.

To make a long story short, in addition a number of rooms had bed bugs. So the next day, those of us who desired were moved — C. + I. Love a lovely room now out farther in in a 4th floor apartment, with a German man (teacher) + his wife + father in law — + get our breakfasts with them. They're delightful + we're very happy. Eighteen of us in all are in this district + all take our lunches + dinners at the same restaurant nearby.

Well to generalize — The weather is so different from Michigan — I'm wearing my wool suit + top coat + tonight it's almost cold. It rains a little every day + some times hard, but no one seems to mind it at all.

2.

I'm crazy about the track events & the whole atmosphere of the Olympiad; setting, people; athletes; color; music; cosmopolitan make up of crowd; stiff German soldiers standing at attention, at places where needed - the German salute, 'Ei', etc. —

The good hot dog sandwiches with extra long dogs taste awfully good - & you see people munching on them during performances.

I'm sending a German paper - home today you can get John Behrens to help you out on reading what you want to get -

I saw Hitler today as I was coming home on the street car. His automobile passed our car, rather slowly & I had a good view of him. He looks just like his pictures

Everybody, everywhere, on the car + on the street was saluting him. & he had arm extended too, recognizing the greeting of the ~~card~~ crowd - It's surely a thrilling sight, Berlin streets are all dressed up for this occasion.

Last evening all Poconians were banquetted at a beautiful hotel dining, Esplanade, in honor of Mr Jay Nash ^{of N.Y. Univ.} one of their directors. It was a swell affair. Nearly every one in evening clothes - a beautiful, immense dining hall - round tables - gorgeous chandeliers - men waiters - 1 for each 8 - They had a few speeches - & then dancing followed, but C & I left before that. The food was delicious - not an elaborate menu, but all dishes were excellent.

So it goes. - Will be leaving here next Monday, I think. C + I visited the Zoo this Am. - I had a good time. Walking + viewing the animals for 2 or 3 hours straight. I'm getting very good on the hoof. + notice such a difference now in comparison with my flabby self when I started on this trip. It has taken a month to make a change & now I can see how much more I can stand.

Guess you're having hard times enough in
U.S.A. - heat + drought - I'd never know
what a terrible siege of heat you endured.
It doesn't seem possible! Well I hope
things are better by this time -

I'm going to bed now + how we do
sleep - we tramp so much daytimes -

My clothes are getting rather shabby -
especially that blue straw hat. Am
having half soles put in my brown
shoes. Have worn them almost thru.
Emily will be home in a few days now
+ wish you all be happy then!

With love - to me + all
yours - Genevieve.