

August 11, '40

Dear Parents,

Jamie J. was told that \$50 had been given to the State Dep't by pop[pa]. Thank you for your solicitude, poppa-pie. We also got a quarter's rent allowance (\$100 + [a] few days ago, which has gone down to Lisbonne to be exchanged. So we are keeping the \$50 as such. As soon as we get some money we are going ① to pay off 5000 francs of debts & rent, incurred since June 14 ② buy clothes. If things are good in the exchange line in Lisbonne, we'll get anywhere from 5000 to 10,000 francs for our rent allowance money. Let us piously hope for the latter. Jones' trousers are no longer young. The money will probably be more than 5000, or they wouldn't have troubled to take it down to Lisbon.

Last Saturday we had another party, this time chez' M. Cramer of the Embassy. We stayed at his house for the night, of course. It was a nice party. Sunday Afternoon Jones & I went to see Sacha Guitry as Pasteur. He was greeted with wild acclaim, but we thought him over-rated and the play very negligible. It was all very super-patriotic (having been written in 1919) and consisted almost entirely of encomiums. Still, we enjoyed ourselves as ever. James & I have good times. After the theatre we walked through the Champs Élysées<sup>2</sup> park. Since it was a wonderful summer afternoon, everyone was out in his Sunday best watching the baby play, drinking pop, eating gaufrettes<sup>3</sup>, watching the really enormous crowds, and listening to the German band concert. We stopped a few minutes to hear & see. It was an excellent band, playing nice spangy classical stuff that boom-boomed and trill-trilled all over the park. All the fountains play on Sundays now, which is a pretty sight in the Place de la Concorde & on the Rond-Point.

I have a bunch of sweet peas from the garden. Our neighbors have two baby canaries, toward whose support we have contributed three eggs, now unobtainable save at the Embassy. The little canaries still live under their mama, and are reputed to be amazingly ugly creatures.

We just read The Beloved Vagabond, and finished the words of D. H. Lawrence. I'm about to embark on Flaubert's Education sentimentale. Jimmie & our<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> **Chez** (French): at the home of.

<sup>2</sup> The Avenue des **Champs-Élysées** ... is an avenue in the 8th arrondissement of Paris,... 1.2 miles long and ... 230 feet wide, running between the Place de la Concorde and the Place Charles de Gaulle, where the Arc de Triomphe is located. (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Champs-%C3%89lys%C3%A9es>, accessed 2017-02-12) See archive photo at the end of this letter.

<sup>3</sup> **Gaufrettes** means "little waffles." The word "Gaufrettes" is also sometimes used to mean what Americans call "Belgian waffles." (<http://www.cooksinfo.com/gaufrettes>, accessed 2017-02-12)

<sup>4</sup> End of second page. Further pages are missing, but could be misfiled.



German soldiers marching past the Arc de Triomphe after the surrender of Paris, 14 June 1940. (Bundesarchiv, Bild 101I-126-0347-09A / Gutjahr / CC-BY-SA). The photo was taken 58 days before this letter was written.



August 11 '40

Dear parents,

Jamie J. was told that \$50 had been given to the State Dept. by papa. Thank you for your solicitude, pappa-pie. We also got a quarter's rent allowance (the first) a few days ago, which has gone down to Lisbonno to be exchanged. So we are keeping the \$50 as such. As soon as we get some money we are going ① to pay off 5000 francs of debt's rent, incurred since June 14 ② buy clothes. 18 things are good in the exchange line in Lisbonno, well get anywhere from 5000 to 10000 francs for our rent allowance money, let us please hope for the latter. Jones' trousers are no longer young. The money will probably be more than 5000, or they wouldn't have troubled to take it down to Lisbon.

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We just read The Beloved Daydream, and finished  
the works of P. H. Lawrence. I'm about to embark on  
Flaubert's Education Sentimentale. Timmie & over