

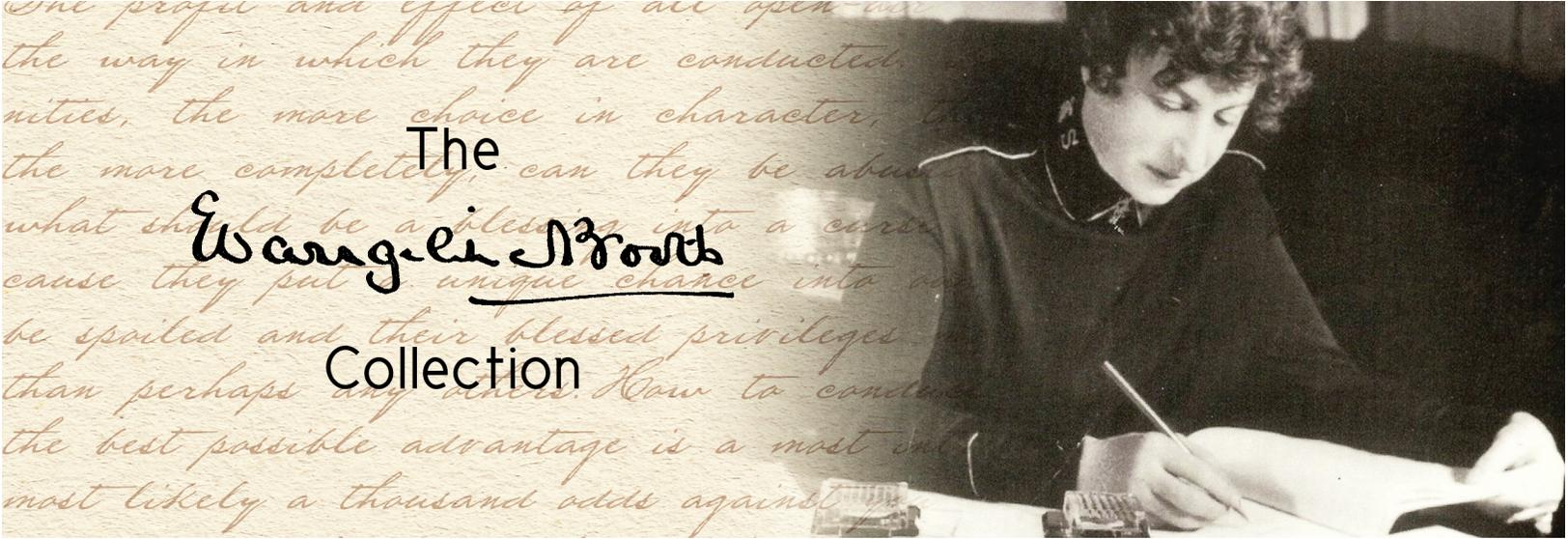
PITY ALL YOU LIKE, BUT FOR GOD'S SAKE GIVE!

Does anyone forget for one instant between dawn and twilight that across the Atlantic the sun is rising and setting in blood. Utter exhaustion, gaunt hunger and unspeakable thirst fill the trenches. Up from the earth and down from the sky Death's horrible missiles widen the agony of destruction. Among the trampled wheat, men's lives are harvested; back from the fields of death, long, crowded trains carry permanently maimed young manhood. Night after night the Heavens are red with the burning of homesteads. Through the destroyed and pillaged cities and utterly wrecked countrysides, women driven almost insane, with their terrified little children, are wandering, Day and night groans and lamentations of the bereft and suffering continually ascend. The highways and hidden-ways are crowded with the weary, terrified travelers fleeing hither and thither from the indescribable tortures and horrors of war that heave up as a great surge behind them. All these horrors, and many more, are not numbered by tens, but by tens of thousands.

TERRIBLE BEYOND EXPRESSION

Our Belgian officer writes: "Our poor corps in Belgium have been utterly scattered. Many places where we have had corps there have been battles. I am hoping that all our dear officers and soldiers have been saved — brands literally from the burning. Here in Quaregnon it has been terrible — beyond all expression; more than 300 houses destroyed and so many civilians killed; not only men and women, but their little children. As yet, none of our Salvation Army comrades have been touched. We have been protected in a marvelous manner. We can say with David, 'The Angel of the Lord encampeth around those that fear Him and plucks them out of danger' (French translation). God has done that for us. The battle continued from Sunday morning at 11 o'clock to Monday evening. The bombardments did not cease a moment; while it was on we had thirty of our comrades, with their little children, in our large cellar.

"I am so glad that I remained at my post to aid and encourage not only my Salvation Army comrades, but also the population. The people were completely panic-stricken. I do not know how it has happened, but the Lord has enabled me to rest in a great calm and without any fear. Lieutenant and I have been enabled to go among the people, comforting them and taking help



to them even when the balls have whistled by or ears. Oh, how God has protected us! That night of August 23rd will never be forgotten by me.

HORRIBLE SIGHTS

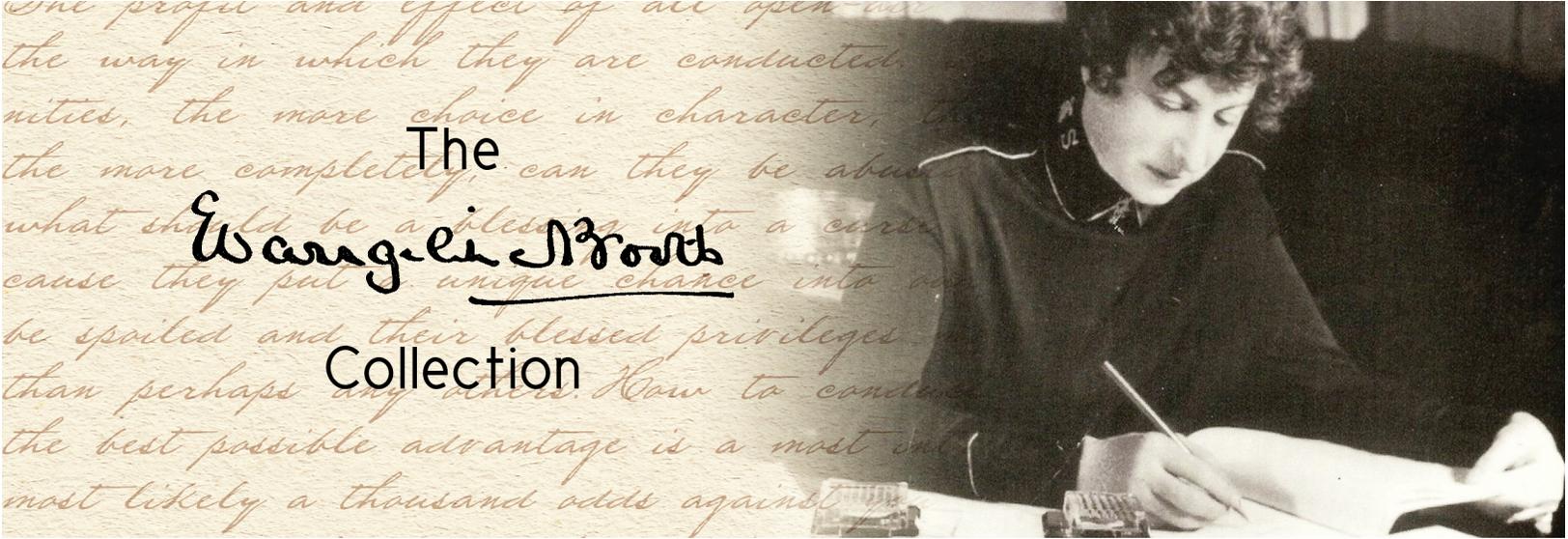
"The day after the battle – what horrible sights! Dead bodies in the streets, the wounded, and from all sides poor maddened people flying to save themselves with their little children – all the people weeping. I could never describe what I have seen. How is it possible that such things could take place in this age of education? And now the misery is here for the poor workers. It is already seven weeks since the men (colliers) could work. The food has been seized, and more often than not wasted by the invading troops. The future is very dark for these poor people."

"When the English soldiers came here the Lieutenant and I prepared tea for them while they dug trenches. After the battle, when the Germans came, we lodged many of them in our hall and did what we could for them. Then I thought of all our dear Salvationists who are in the different armies – English, German, French, Austrian, Russian, Belgian. Oh, how glad I am that I remained at my post to help my comrades! On the Sunday during the bombardment the cry went forth: 'Let all those save themselves who can do so!' I went outside to see if there was any serious danger. Then I said to the people: 'Come with us in the hall; I will take care of you as much as I can.' They came, and were content to be with their officers. They said: 'If it be necessary for us to die, well, we will be with our officers; it will be better for us to be with them.' Thus they remained with us, and God has protected all. Blessed be his holy name!"

THE ARMY AT WORK EVERYWHERE

In each European country the Army's agencies are battling against fearful odds to bring help and comfort to the stricken people.

From Sweden, commissioner Ogrim reports a wonderful work of succor among thousands of Finns, Russians, Germans, Swiss, etc., who were repassing through Stockholm to their different rendezvous and are stranded there without money and without friends.



Commissioner Oliphant is working day and night in Switzerland in co-operation with the authorities. Though a neutral nation, Switzerland has mobilized all her forces.

Lieut.-Colonel Treite is feeding the starving people in Berlin, and our officers in Germany are as ministering angels among the wounded and heart-broken in the sorrow-stricken Fatherland.

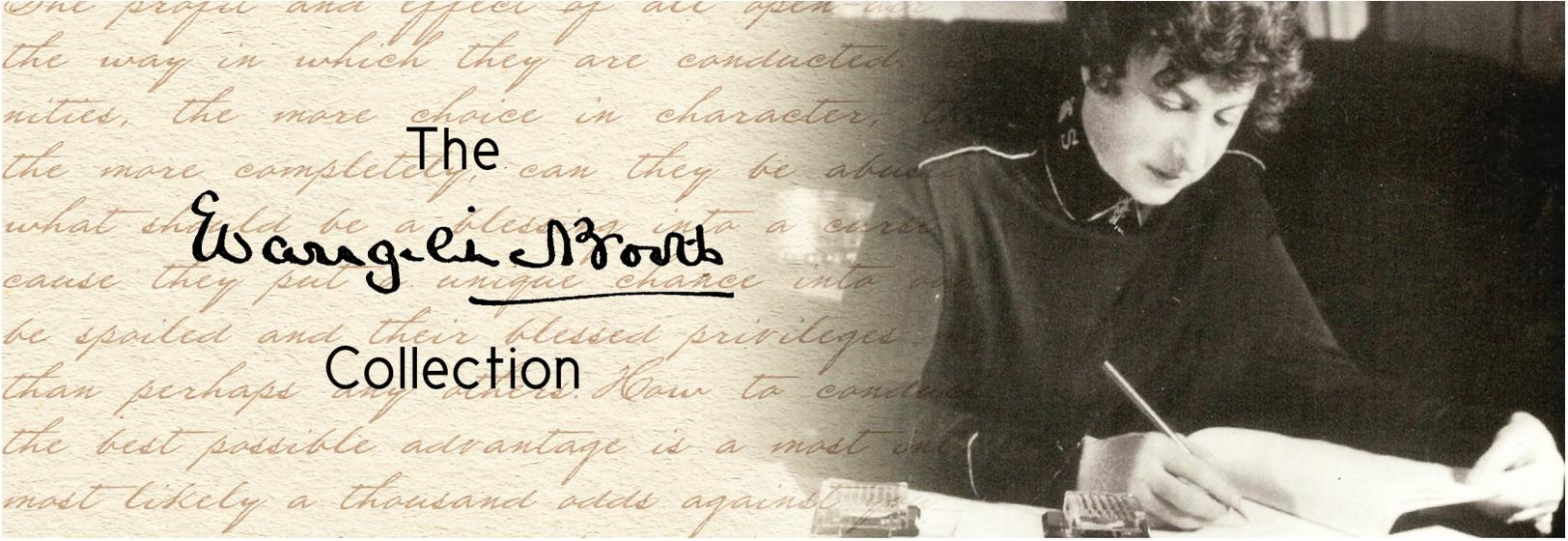
In France, Brigadier Murray – daughter of General Murray – and her contingent of officers are struggling to the limit of their ability to hold up the Salvation of the Lamb of God and the consolation of Jesus Christ 'midst surroundings which it would baffle any language to describe – sometimes in the hospitals, sometimes on the field with the dying and wounded, just behind the tide of battle.

In Great Britain, Commissioner Higgins and our heroic British officers and soldiers are toiling and sacrificing, giving money and strength, and even their necessary sleep to bring relief and succor to the hungry crowds and the tens of thousands of refugees; and in Denmark my dear sister, Commissioner Lucy Booth-Hellberg, has The Army's halls and Social institutions crowded with the terrified people who have fled from the waring countries.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

It is not sufficient to sympathize and suffer in mind and heart with the sufferers, even to the extent of losing our sleep, and all food becoming distasteful, as it is with me – we must put into practice our deep feelings of compassion and pity, and for this purpose now that is The Salvation Army in America going to do? I am opening a Salvation Army War Fund, to give our officers, soldiers and friends an opportunity to contribute and collect all they possibly can to send to the International Relief Fund, for America must and will do something not only to express how real and deep is her feeling for our comrades, but to do something to appease the awful sufferings which sweep over the European countries as a resistless tide.

Let us, by every gift that not only generosity, but self-sacrifice makes possible, throw in our part to dam the tide of misery let loose upon these unhappy peoples, and provide some protecting bulwark for their utter need and danger in the Niagaras of affliction which have burst upon them.



I am not forgetful that I am continually appealing to my own people in the United States for financial aid, and recognize that upon this tried and proved source of generosity so many claims have already been levied, but never during the years I have been privileged to be in your midst have I been so anxious for your help, and I cannot but feel confident that as ever through this same period will you be so ready to give it.

"DO SOMETHING MORE"

First, because of your recognition of the loss and sorrow which has come down upon our organization as a result of this Armageddon; second, because of your confidence in the equipment, second to none, which long experience has given The Army in dealing with eager masses of people in crises of agony and want; third, because I know that, however much you have already done or may feel called upon to do, you will not fail to do something more at this unprecedented time of stress and anguish across the seas.

The Salvation Army's share in all this travail and terror is widespread. As is now universally known, we are a globe-wide organization; the salvation of all peoples, body and soul, is our aim; national differences are lost sight of in our propaganda, and with our Founder we have cried, "The World for God!" Naturally such a standpoint has its shadows as well as its glory. One or more members of our great Army family cannot suffer without all the others being affected, and international complications and controversies bring both direct and indirect ills upon us. My father said during the progress of another and smaller war, "Whichever side wins, I lose." So it will be with us.

WIDE AND DEEP IS THE NEED

At the present time we have among the warring nations a great many thousands of Salvationists standing by the colors – Salvationists who are actually bearing arms. It is not only the gap left in our ranks by these husbands, fathers and sons which we must face, but those who are left – their aged parents, wives and children; many alas! already become widows and orphans – for whom we must provide. And even wider and deeper than this is our loss, for the heavier bereavement, the greater penury, the more acute suffering is found among the poor of each conflicting nation – those vast and needy communities whose burdens The Army always carries upon its heart.



Their breaking, bleeding spirits we must heal; their hunger we must feed; their defenseless we must ingather, and their desolate and despairing feet we must lead to the world's only Saviour, the Prince of Peace.

Now, with passionate entreaty, I plead for your help, your immediate help, your generous help. The wings of agony and death are swift; our action must be equally rapid. If you can give much, give much. If you can give a little, give a little, and God and The Salvation Army will stretch it to its limit. But give you must! Give you will! The bereaved, hungry, weeping on earth will bless you. And who knows but that those whose lives have already been sacrificed will do so, too?

If any donors wish their gift to be used to ameliorate the painful conditions in any particular land, and will specify the same, I can promise that the help shall go to its desired destination without delay.

EVANGELINE BOOTH
Commander.

(October 31st, 1914)