



HISTORIC BRIGHTON

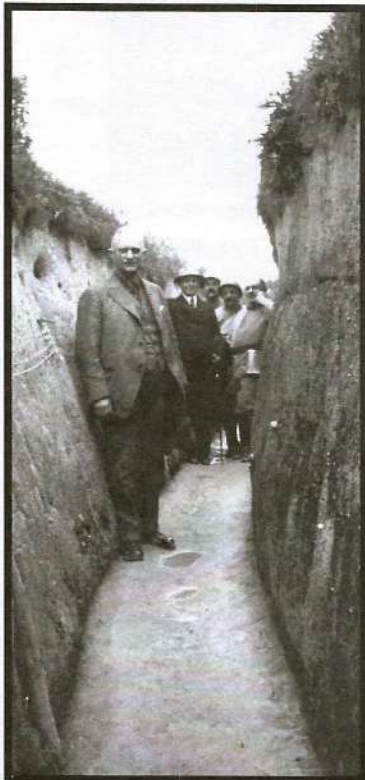
CELEBRATING OUR TOWN'S HISTORY AND
EDUCATING OUR COMMUNITY ABOUT BRIGHTON'S PAST

Volume 18

Summer 2017

Number 3

GE in trenches of
France as Kodak
readies for war



David Hochstein
performs with
Auntie
Red Emma's
anti-war group,
then enters the
war in 1917



See pages 4 and 5

Newsletter and Journal

In 1914 begins **The Great War**
which becomes
The War to end Wars
which becomes
**The War to Make the World Safe
for Democracy**
and finally after 25 years is called
World War I
The United States Enters in 1917
This is the centennial year

The Curtises of Brighton: A WWI Fly-
ing Ace and a 14-year-old Nurse's Aide



On the march in 1917



Centennial of Brighton's Harley School

A COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL
for
ROCHESTER

Would you like to give your boys & girls the
advantage - educational, cultural & re-
-creational - of a good boarding school &
still have them living at home? *1917*

for information apply to
Miss Louise Warner-Daniel, Harley School, 242, Oxford St.



Harley School
was founded
in 1917 by
Harriet Bentley and a
group of mothers who
set out to establish a
school for four-year-
olds modeled after
the schools of Maria

Continued on page 2



Harley School continued Montessori. Originally called The Children's University School of Rochester, it hired a teacher from New York City. The school was intended to be democratic, with scholarships for less privileged children, and to work as a cooperative. The original tuition fee was set at \$8. The school opened on Oxford St. and later moved to Park Ave. With the Spanish Influenza outbreak in 1918, the school was shut down and in the fall of the same year Harriet Bentley fell ill and died within a week. In 1924 the school was renamed as 'Harley' in her honor, incorporating the first three and last three letters of her name.

In 1926, the school purchased 32 acres on Clover Street in Brighton from Kate Gleason. The land, an orchard of old apple trees, sloped gently down to Allen's Creek. After a farmhouse was removed and a large barn given a hefty renovation to accommodate students and teachers, Harley welcomed 90 pupils in nursery through upper school that fall.

Harley now boasts a 25-acre campus composed of a newly remodeled main building and an athletic center known as the Fieldhouse which contains an indoor swimming pool and multiple tennis courts. The grounds hold two soccer fields, a playground, and a landscaped courtyard. All are bordered by a creek. A distinctive element of the building is the Arts Wing, which holds several art studios including a glass blowing workshop and pottery studio. The Cheson Commons is a relatively new building dedicated primarily to robotics, woodworking, and humanities.

For further information on Harriet Bentley, consult *Epitaph, Newsletter of The Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery* v. 22, n. 1, Winter 2003, "The Legacy of Harriet Bentley (1885-1918) Founder of The Harley School," by Patricia Corcoran



Portrait by Maser

THE HARLEY SCHOOL

A Country Day School for Boys and Girls

Louise M. Sumner: Director

Telephone: Monroe 5570

The football team practices in this 1928 ad for The Harley School in the Chatterbox Revue



Trolley exiting at Babcock Dr. brought city students to Harley

Dexter Perkins was longtime chairman of Harley Board



Dexter Perkins (1890-1984), longtime chairman of the board of the Harley School, was an authority on United States diplomatic history and chairman of the history department at the University of Rochester from 1925 until his retirement in 1954.

Dr. Perkins was the author of 17 books, many of them on the formation and conduct of American foreign policy. He was regarded as a leading expert on the Monroe Doctrine, about which he wrote several volumes.

He was born in Boston, graduated from Harvard in 1909, and earned his doctorate in philosophy there in 1914. After his retirement, he became the first John L. Senior Professor of American Civilization at Cornell University and held that chair until 1959. He also continued to write and lecture at institutions in this country and abroad. His memoirs, *Yield of the Years*, appeared in 1969.

Dr. Perkins was an official United States historian at the 1945 San Francisco Security Conference that preceded the organization of the United Nations. Later that year, he was first to teach a new course on American History and Institutions at Cambridge University. He also taught at Uppsala University in Sweden and was instrumental in creating the Salzburg Seminar in American Studies in Austria, presiding over annual gatherings from 1950 to 1961. During his long association with the American Historical Association, he served as both president and secretary.



Hollister house on East Avenue was used as a Harley dorm for out-of-town students 1941-1949

Photos and text courtesy of Ron Richardson



Left: Artist Kathleen McEnery Cunningham was an early Harley parent.

Right: Dexter Perkins was photographed by Ansel Adams when both were employed by the UR



The Brighton Curtises, of Elmwood Ave, in WWI



Agnes Bartlett Curtis



Agnes Bartlett Curtis

“She was truly a woman of the century. Born in 1902, she lived through two world wars, playing a part in both....”

Thus began a tribute to Agnes Bartlett Curtis by Marie Hanson in 1998. Marie continued:

“She married Ted Curtis in 1924 and they had three children. Her family became, and remained always, her paramount concern and interest. She held it together during their long stays in Hollywood...where she regularly tutored her children under the guidance of Columbia and Allendale... Then during WWII, while her husband was becoming a general, the family moved to Washington. There she became the assistant director of the Eastern Division of the Red Cross, in charge of recruiting, training, and placing nurses’ aides, increasing their number from 400 in 1942 to 44,000 by the time she resigned her post at war’s end...

“Her experiences in WWI in France with her mother and stepfather, Dr. Fitch, at a base hospital in France had a profound effect upon her life. During that time, the 14-year-old Agnes was called upon to assist the overworked nurses. This resulted in her abiding interest in things medical, particularly nursing. [In Rochester] she volunteered every Thursday as a nurse’s aide at Rochester General Hospital, and ultimately became a patient advocate in the Emergency Department... In 1973, Agnes was invited to join the Board of Directors of RGH, becoming the first woman to be so honored by any hospital in Rochester.”

Major General Edward Peck Curtis began his career as a lieutenant in World War I. His six aerial victories made him a flying ace.

Thus begins the Wikipedia article on General Curtis. Wikipedia continues:

“Born in Rochester, New York, Edward Peck Curtis was a graduate of St. George’s School, Newport, Rhode Island. He attended Williams College, where he was a member of the Kappa Alpha Society, before dropping out to join the American Field Service with the French Army in 1917. He then served as a Major in the 95th Aero Squadron after the United States entered the war.

“Edward Curtis served with the U. S. State Department in Russia after World War I. He then became an employee of Eastman Kodak Company, where he rose to become director, general manager of the international division and vice president. He retired from Kodak in 1962 after 42 years of service and remained as a Kodak board member until 1969.

“In World War II he served as a Major General and Chief of Staff, U. S. Strategic Air Force in Europe. In 1943 he received the French Legion of Honor and the United States Legion of Merit for his part in the war in Africa. In 1956-1957, he served as Special Assistant to the U. S. President for Aviation Facilities Planning and was instrumental in planning for the Federal Aviation Administration and the Federal Aviation Act of 1958.”



Right: Rochester General Hospital when it was still “City Hospital” (before 1912)

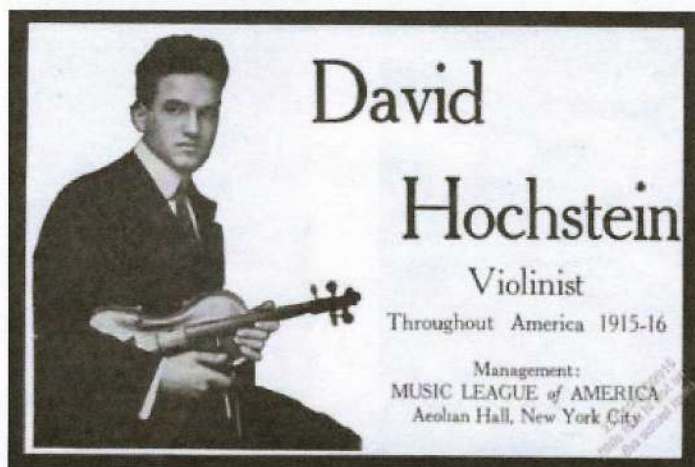


Snoopy as the WWI Red Baron and the Red Baron’s plane



David Hochstein in 1917

By Lisa Kleman



In September of 1917, the New York Herald announced that Rochester's David Hochstein, a preeminent violinist, had been drafted into the military, along with a slew of other musicians, all "doing their bit for their country." David, who had had tuberculosis a few years earlier, was eligible for an exemption, but he shocked friends and family by waiving the exemption and joining the army. One year later, he would die in the Battle of Argonne, and in the months and years afterwards, the citizens of Rochester memorialized him with ceremonies, plaques, and the creation of the David Hochstein Music School Settlement, which exists to this day as the Hochstein School of Music and Dance.

Brightonians might be interested to know that as early as 1926, David's older brother, Hymen Hochstein, lived in Brighton, with his wife May and children — David Dana (named after his uncle), Joseph, and Cora — at 215 Oakdale Drive. Residing here for decades, they were a part of the Brighton community. Hymen passed away in 1949, and May in 1958. For many years, Hymen served on the board of the Hochstein School. And, surely, we can imagine that this family carried the memory of their much-missed brother and uncle, David Hochstein.

Those who knew David wondered why he chose to enter the army. It is a question still asked to this very day. Besides general fears for his health, he had his musical career to consider, which was successfully taking off, the result of years of investment and serious study. Also, his aunt, Emma Goldman — yes, the anarchist — was a nationally known lecturer and political activist with a strident anti-war point of view. She and David were close, and his decision shocked

her and David's family. Emma considered whether the "popular maelstrom had caught him" and that, as a result, he couldn't resist.

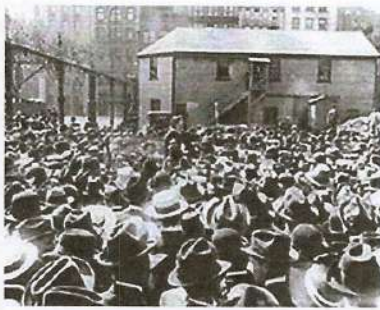
David certainly had reasons not to go to war, but he was alive in a particular time — 1917 — the United States had just entered the great and horrible European war. And David was alive in a particular place — New York City (primarily), with its alternating surges of clamor for war and outcries for peace. And he was living among a particular group of friends and colleagues — musicians and violinists who had fled their native European countries, seeking haven and work in the United States, and who had stories to tell of what they'd left behind.

A maelstrom, indeed.

David Hochstein was the third child born, in 1892, to Jacob and Helena Hochstein, both Jewish, who had emigrated to Rochester in the 1880s from Czarist Russia, escaping the terrible pogroms and raids. Jacob had been a teacher and was fluent in six languages. Helena, nee Goldman, had come to the U.S. with her sister, Emma, to join an older sister, Lena, who had settled in Rochester a year earlier. Helena and Jacob married, had three children, and raised them in an idealistic, intellectual, and musical household on Joseph Avenue.

The entire family played instruments together, but as a toddler, David showed musical aptitude. He began taking violin lessons at age five and then studied in Rochester with the Symphony Orchestra conductor Ludwig Schenck in 1900, with Charles F. Boylan in 1903-1904 at the new Sibley Building, at East High School where David became concert master, and with Alois Trnka in Rochester and in New York City. At 16 years of age, David made his debut at Carnegie's Chamber Music Hall, and followed with other NYC venues, with impressive reviews: "Mr. Hochstein, though a mere boy, is making a great impression in New York, executing the most difficult music with great ease and purity of tone, and almost any achievement may be confidently expected of him" (*Hempstead NY Sentinel*, 1/28/1909). By the end of the following year, and as a result of support first from Emily Sibley Watson and eventually from George Eastman, David spent several years in Europe, studying with Otakar Sevcik in Vienna and with Leopold Auer in St. Petersburg.

David Hochstein in 1917 (Continued)



Emma Goldman
at Union Square, New York, 1906



Emma

ROCHESTER VIOLINIST PRACTICES IN CAMP

David Hochstein Given
Furlough for Concert.

Hermann Dossanbach, conductor of the Rochester Orchestra, has received a telegram from the Music League of America, through which David Hochstein books his concert engagements, that the young violinist, who is in training at Camp Upton, Yaphank, has been given a furlough and positively will appear at the orchestra's next concert on Monday night, December 17th, in Convention Hall.

Emma Goldman Out to Hear Nephew Play

David Hochstein, Violinist, and Hans Ebell, Pianist, Make Impressive Debuts Under Music League.

Emma Goldman and several hundred socialists and their friends went to Aeolian Hall last night to hear her nephew, David Hochstein, violinist, and Hans Ebell, pianist, give a joint recital under the management of the Music League of America.



DAVID HOCHSTEIN

Concert Violin Virtuoso, Will Play With
THE ROCHESTER ORCHESTRA
Monday Evening, Dec. 21
8:00 to 9:00

MOTHER EARTH

Emma Goldman
MAGAZINE

Tenth Birthday Celebration.
MUSIC AND DRAMA. TONIGHT.
At Berkeley Theatre
22 West 44th Street.



EMMA GOLDMAN
SUGGESTS THAT
U. S. STOP WAR

NATION ON EDGE AS THOUSANDS ARE DRAFTED IN NEW U. S. ARMY

Meanwhile, David's Aunt Emma Goldman was achieving her own kind of notoriety. After having worked in the garment industry with its low pay and long hours, and after reading about the infamous 1887 Chicago Haymarket affair and the resultant hanging of the convicted anarchists, Emma was radicalized, moved to NYC, and became a well-known political activist. And then, in 1901, President McKinley was shot and killed in Buffalo by Russian immigrant Leon Czolgosz, who named Emma Goldman as an inspiration. Emma was arrested and interrogated by the police; the newspapers made her a focus for serious and sensational coverage; however, it was soon clear that she barely knew Czolgosz and was not involved in the assassination.

All the furor excited by this high-profile crime was hard on the Hochsteins because Emma often stayed at their Joseph Avenue home, but, nevertheless, Emma's relationship with her sister Helena remained strong and loving throughout their lives, and this love and closeness extended to Helena's children, especially David.

In 1914, as war erupted in Europe, David Hochstein returned to New York from Europe to embark on his professional musical career. In December, he played in Rochester for the first of three concerts with Hermann Dossanbach's Rochester Orchestra. Aunt Emma came to his concert (afterwards writing that "David's violin charmed the audience"), and also gave two anti-war speeches in Rochester (at the Victoria Theater and the Progressive Working People's Lyceum).

Back in New York City, in January of 1915, Emma Goldman brought hundreds — yes, hundreds! — of her socialist friends and activists to hear David play with the Russian pianist Hans Ebell, whom David had befriended while in Europe, at Aeolian Hall. In March, David performed at Emma Goldman's *Moth-*

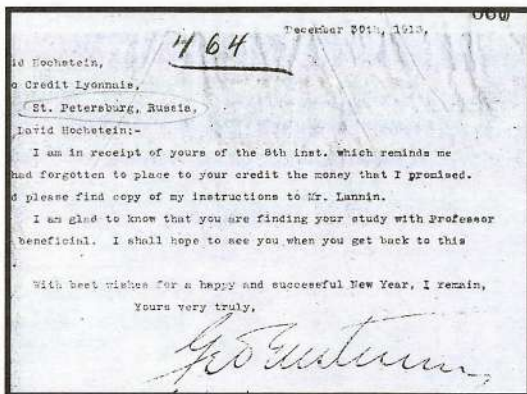
er Earth Magazine's tenth birthday celebration at the Berkeley Theatre. In May, he played with the prison orchestra at Sing Sing Prison for 1700 prisoners, and then in December at a Serbian relief entertainment given by Mrs. John Jacob Astor in her 840 Fifth Avenue home, at which Anna Pavlowa performed a Russian folk dance.

As 1915 rolled into 1916, David was busy and successful. He began the year, in January, returning to Rochester to play again with Dossanbach's Orchestra, performing a piece dedicated to him by a young soldier who was at that time serving at the war front. Throughout 1916 and 1917, David, managed by the Music League of America, performed in NYC and on tour throughout the country, made some records, wrote and published four musical pieces, and maintained a teaching studio.

David Hochstein appeared to be achieving all that he had worked for. But in April of 1917, the United States declared war on Germany. It was impossible not to be involved or concerned. In newspapers of 1916 and 1917, David's concert ads and write-ups and reviews are often placed and nearly obscured by war-related pleas and fundraisers. For example, in the April 8th *New York Sun*, the ad for David's concert assisting the noted soprano Amy Castles at Carnegie Hall is placed just below an ad for a Russian Refugee and War Relief Concert at the Hotel Plaza, and adjacent to a Met Opera House ad with a drawing of a soldier and the headline, "To Our Ally!" and just above a Josef Hofmann ad for an Aeolian Hall recital, "For the Relief of the Poles."

Even if David had attempted to simply focus on his career, war talk would be ubiquitous. New York City at this time was filled with the greatest European musicians, many who were unable to complete tours in war-torn Europe and so had come to New York,

David Hochstein in 1917 (Continued)



Left: Letter from Eastman to Hochstein in St. Petersburg
Right: Letter from Hochstein to Eastman, 1917

My dear Mr. Eastman
I was very happy to know that you were in the audience last night. As I would like very much to call at your office to see you today, I feel that I must stay to spend the day with my mother.
It is often in my thoughts how very kind

you have been to me.
I hope that when I am in Rochester again I may have the pleasure of a talk with you.
Most sincerely
David Hochstein
421 Joseph Ave
December 18th 1917

Letters courtesy George Eastman Museum

the most important musical center in the United States. Some of these musicians included Ossip Gabrilowitsch, Josef Hofmann, Jascha Heifetz, Fritz Kreisler, Mischa Elman, and Efram Zimbalist.

And then in September there was a draft. David was drafted. He went to the examination board and did not mention his former tuberculosis and its continued ill effect on his lungs, thereby waiving his exemption. David made his choice, and his Aunt Emma, while worrying about her sister Helena's fear for her son, admitted that "the choice of military service must be left to the conscience of every man," and that she could not "attempt to impose" her views on her nephew.

The end of the year of 1917 found Sergeant David Hochstein stationed at Camp Upton on Long Island, directing a band and performing in military pageants, such as November's "On the Road to Victory" and December's concert of massed army bands. And like many musicians in the military, he was able to get occasional furloughs for concerts, including two in Rochester in December: The third solo performance with Dossenbach's Rochester Orchestra, at which David performed in uniform, and a week later in Convention Hall at a mass meeting for the relief of Jewish war sufferers, at which David was called back to the stage over and over again by "tremendous applause" (D&C, 12/24/17).

The next years, 1918 and beyond, will be covered in the next issue of *Historic Brighton Newsletter and Journal*.

Lisa Kleman is writing about her relatives, Hermann and Theodore Dossenbach, who were George Eastman's musicians, and who founded the Rochester Park Band, the Rochester Orchestra, and the DKG Institute which became the Eastman School of Music.



Eastman House during WW I

Above: Nurses are entertained as organ pipes are delivered via scaffold.

Right: Eastman's billiard table was sent to Kodak Park.

Far right: Margaret Woodbury (Strong) as a Red Cross nurse's aide.

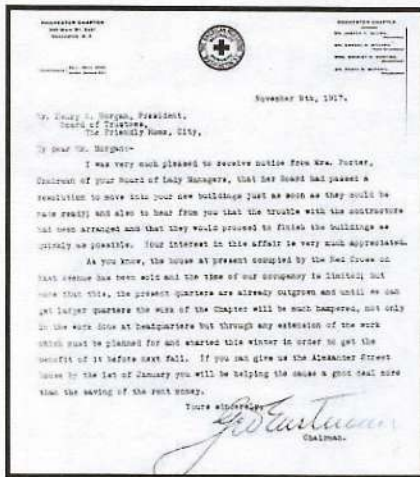


Above: World War I officers luncheon at the Genesee Valley Club. Below: Bloomer Girls at work at Kodak Park

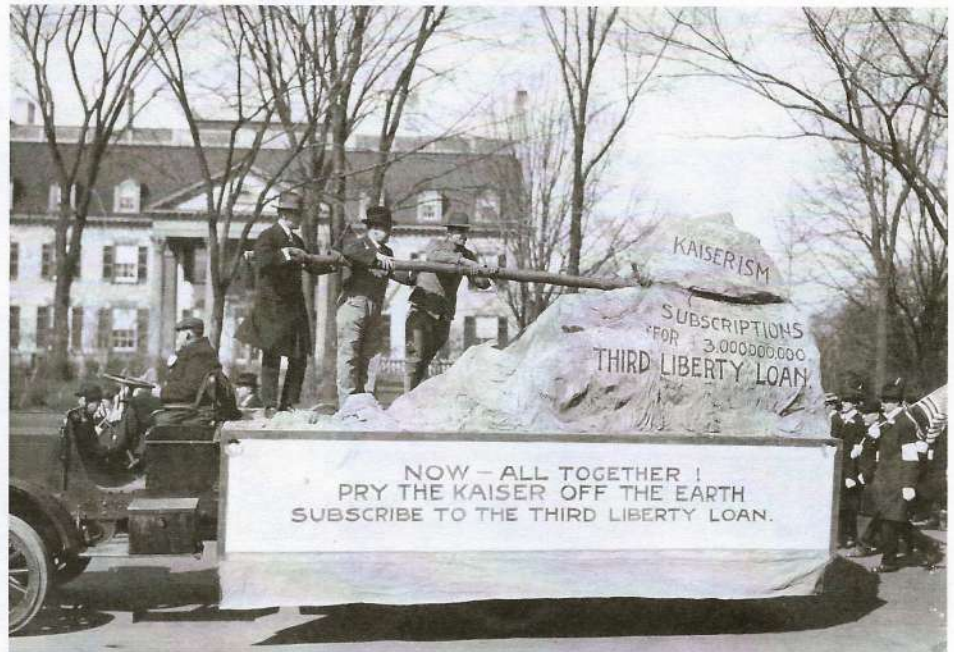


Kodak in 1917

George Eastman headed the War Chest, the Liberty Loan drives, and the Red Cross during World War I. He even rode on the floats that regularly appeared in front of his house on East Ave. In order to procure the former Home for the Friendless for the Red Cross, Eastman gave the home a \$50,000 check toward a new home on East Avenue in Brighton and urged its directors to take in men and change the name to Friendly Home.



Letter from GE to Friendly Home-
Courtesy George Eastman Museum



Kodak men line up for patriotic parade

HISTORIC BRIGHTON--FOUNDED 1999

Officers

Arlene Vanderlinde, President
Janet Hopkin, Vice-President
Marjorie Searl, Vice-President
David Whitaker, Recording Secretary
Monica Gilligan, Corresponding Secretary
Michael Brandt, Treasurer

Board of Directors

Matthew Bashore
Christopher M. Brandt
Jessica Lacher-Feldman

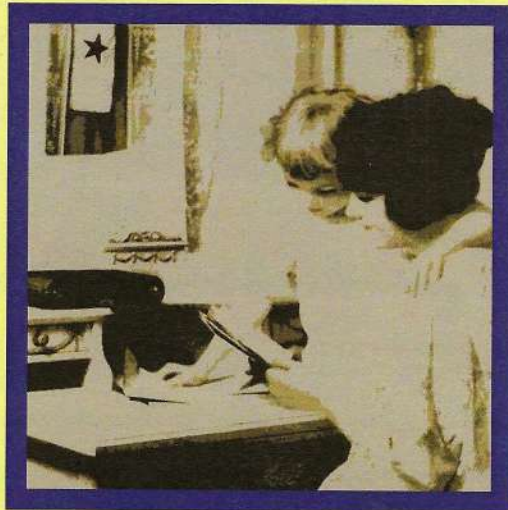
Grant Holcomb
Michael Lempert
Joan Martin
Marjorie Perlman
Ron Richardson
Ray Tierney III
Jeff Vincent
Carol Yost

Elizabeth Brayer, editor
Mary Jo Lanphear ex-officio,
Town of Brighton Historian

email: info@historicbrighton.org
Website: www.historicbrighton.org

Kodak ads

When World War I erupted, Kodak went to war, supplying the troops with that most valuable commodity, the melancholy poetry of 'The Photograph from Home.'



The Letter from Home Begins



Letters and photos from the Front



The Day of His Going

In a million homes, pictures are keeping the story of the war as it touches those homes. John in his first khaki as he proudly marched away, and John, tanned and hardened, as he looked when home on leave.

More than ever the Kodak Album is keeping the home story. To-day that story means history, and more than ever it is important that it be authentic history—that every negative bear a date.

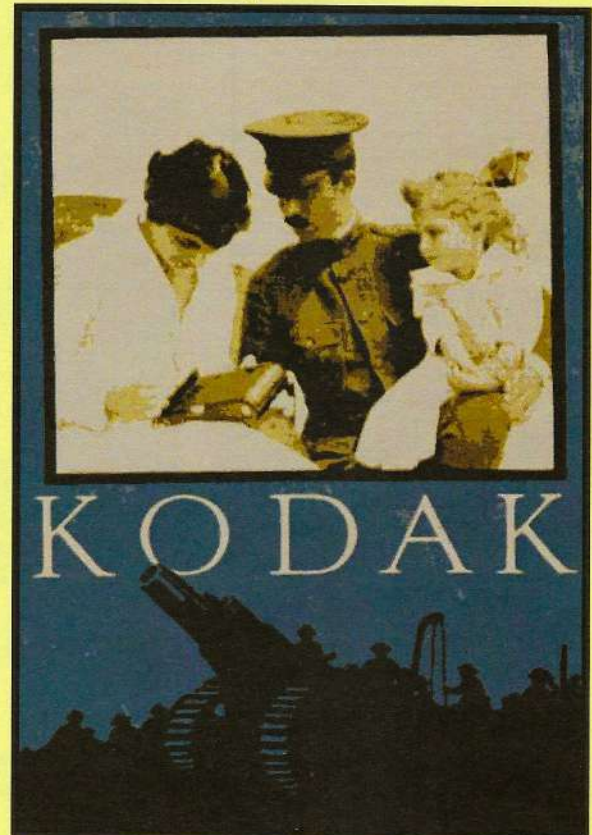
Memory plays strange tricks and one of its favorite vagaries is to fail in the all important matter of dates. But with a Kodak there's no uncertainty. The date—and title too, if you wish—is written on the autographic film at the time the exposure is made. And it is there permanently. It makes the Kodak story authentic and doubly interesting.

It is all very simple, is the work of an instant and there's no extra charge for autographic film.

Let the Kodak keep the dates.

Copyright 1918 by Eastman Kodak Co., N. Y.

EASTMAN KODAK CO., ROCHESTER, N. Y., *The Kodak City*



Right: Lieut. Albert K. Chapman in Army air service during World War I in two-color Kodachrome
Far Right: Albert K Chapman as Kodak president, 1952-1960, chairman 1962-1967