

BOYD CABLE—A PREFATORY NOTE

from Mr. Boyd Cable by the publishers, and they venture to include it here, entirely without the writer's consent (since that would be impossible to get within the necessary time), and fully realizing that the letter was not written with a view to publication. They feel that it will give the reader an intimate view of the author, such as no amount of description or explanation could do.

“ . . . Many thanks for all the trouble you have taken trying to place my stories in magazines. It certainly is odd that British in U. S. A. are not more interested in the war. I only hope the States won't have one of its own to be interested in, but honestly I expect it within very few years.

I am very glad you like “Grapes of Wrath” and hope the further chapters (which Smith, Elder & Company tell me they have sent you) will equally please. I may not tell you where I am or what I'm doing since the Censor forbids, but may just say that since I came out again I've seen plenty of the Somme “Push” and have been able to make “Grapes of Wrath” the more accurate and up to date in details.

Now we're all awaiting the Spring with full anticipations of going in for the last round and the knock-out to Germany. We're all very confident she can't stand the pace we've set for next year.

We're having some bitter weather—fierce cold and wet and snow, but we're putting up with it, more or less cheered by the assurance that the