

GREATEST OF ALL

AMERICAN WOMEN PRAISED BY RETURNED CHAPLIN



HE greatest of all creatures is woman and the greatest of all women are the American women" said Chaplin Arthur C. Moore, recently attached to the 39th Division at St. Mihiel and intermediate sectors and who gave his first talk since his return to America at the Red Cross building on Sunday night.

"You need not worry about the French girls," he went on in his address. "I came back on the Zeleandea, a Dutch ship, which bore 2,500 wounded men and not a one of them had married French women.

"Oh, Lord, let me get back to my sweetheart back home," was the cry of the party.

"I was never so proud of what America stands for and what the American women mean to the race as I was after visiting the war zone. I was proud of the "back home" people. I gloried in their courage and their patience. It has been wonderful how they have watched and waited—away from the glamour of it all and bowed down by the grayest of doubts. Their labor has been beyond understanding. I know of a mother, bent and gray who had five sons in the fray and she showed the grandest patience. She had given all that she had. Those who faced the shot and shell had given less than that mother. The devotion and faith of the motherhood of this land was the great moving force back of the men who went over to victory.

NEVER COMPLAIN

Chaplain Moore was for six months back of the firing line. Sometimes he was close enough to have the earth tremble and quake about him. He ministered to many in that last moment before they passed away. He took many pictures and addresses and has written hundreds of letters for the boys.

"One inspiring thing about the men who bore the shock of battle was that they never complained" states the chaplain. "They displayed the most unselfish heroism.

"The old time religion came mighty close home to the men who were near the front. I held meetings in stables and in attics and out under the trees. I always had to give short notice but I never lacked an audience. There were all the men present who could pack around.

Chaplin Moore had one song book which he carried all through his war ministry and which he has brought back, much worn but invaluable to him. It is a Baptist hymnal for the chaplain whose home and family are at Scotland Neck, N. C., but whose preaching charge is at Warsaw, N. C.

"The old songs, the ones the grown up boys had heard and learned to love at mother's knee and which reflect the training the American lads have had, were called for nearly always.

THE CADUCEUS

"What will we sing?" Moore would ask.

"Rock of Ages" would generally ring out and without the aid of an instrument, the mud covered but spirit quickened sons of America, would sing that hymn which holds the tenderest memories for us all.

"Lead Kindly Light" was another favorite as was that soothing hymn "What a Friend We Have In Jesus."

The later hymns with the rag time swing did not have much pull with the boys who wanted to sing from the heart, Chaplin Moore explains.

Mark 10:45 was the Chaplin's favored text in preaching to the dough-boys under the battle laden clouds of France. "The Son of Man came not to be ministered unto but to minister" was a theme of service which seemed to well fit in with the sacrifice of the brave lads who were offering their lives upon the altar of patriotism.

GREW SOBER

During the days of the most intensive driving there was little singing. The men moved along without a song but they had the light of determination in their eyes.

All the noise broke out on the day the armistice was signed. Chaplin Moore was at St. Florant. The city went wild. There were more American flags flying than French banners, the chaplain says he believes. Chaplin Moore stood at the curbing watching the mob surge past. A French officer rushed to him and threw his arms about the Chaplins neck.

"America won the war—you saved civilization" and tears flowed down both the officers cheeks and those of the American.

The chaplain reviews the primitive methods of the French—their high carts and slow way of farming—a hundred years behind the times. The

French officers who have been over here to train troops realize that loss and nearly all of them are coming to America to live after the war, Chaplin Moore says.

AMERICA'S MISSION

"Indeed I realized America's mission most on one evening when I wandered out from the camp in order to shake off the pull of the grind and the sorrow. It was a beautiful autumn day that was closing. I went out to the crest of a hill that overlooked all the country round.

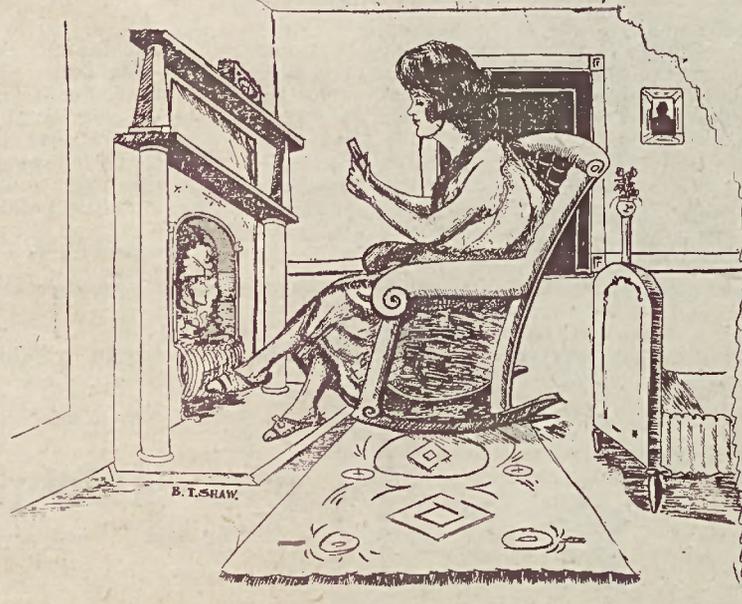
I looked to the east. There lay the fields of France. The winding road seemed to travel for miles through the valley. I saw the Frenchman's lumbering carts. I saw their quaint homes, which have stood for more than a century. There was the atmosphere of age about all the place as the sinking sun allowed the valley to darken.

"I turned to the west. The sun was sinking and was tinging all the tree tops with it's golden glory. To me it seemed symbolical. It seemed to be the light of that western land brightening the world. My heart turned to America in the realization that it is to be our country, where the people have the highest ideals in the world, that is to carry the growing civilization to the earth. It is to be our greatest era in history. We should all grow to meet the call of the hour."

SIX GO HOME

Furloughs were granted, during the past week to the following: Charles Randolph for Oklahoma, Baxter Shipley for Tennessee; Elmer Schofield for Indiana; Ernest Western for Me., Edward Hanley for Mass. and Sgt. 1st class Jenkins to Maine.

THINKING IT OVER!



PLANNING THE FIRST WEEK OF HIS RETURN

Miss Somebodyh as mapped out that she will have functions to employ her soldier sweetheart for about seven days of the first week when he gets home and she is making the generous allowance that his parents can enjoy his companionship for the rest of that period.