

LETTERS OF INTEREST FROM OUR SOLDIERS

Letter from Lieut. Jim Yokley, to his mother, Mrs. J. A. Yokley, Mount Airy, N. C.

American Exp. Forces.
Aug 31, 1918.

Dear Mother:

Have been too busy visiting places of interest throughout this section to find time for writing the past few days. As I am living in a tent, cannot write at night on account of not having lights other than candles. Am getting rather restless on account of having nothing to do, waiting orders for assignment in this a rest camp, expect however to leave for permanent station some time tonight or tomorrow.

Spent the day Friday at a Chateau near here, one of the most beautiful spots I have seen in France. The baroness who lives there is an American by birth and has recently turned over to the Y. M. C. A. half of the Chateau as a rest place for officers on leave. This will accommodate about sixty officers and I can imagine few spots more conducive for genuine rest than such place. The whole estate comprises about nine thousand acres, but the grounds around the Chateau enclosed within a high stone wall, I should think comprises about two hundred acres. At the entrance is a court enclosed within walls. A walk directly across the court leads to the main park magnificent in its landscape effect. To the left is the Chateau, a magnificent stone structure some eight hundred or more years old, but before reaching the Chateau there is an inner court or garden with magic beauty, surrounding the Chateau is the old moat with its draw bridges, which we have all read about in histories. Very few conveniences are found with in the Chateau, but it is marvelous in its rich furnishings and tapestries. A hall rich in its every beauty extends the length of the building which is near one hundred feet, ascending the rotunda from the inside, which is up a very narrow spiral stairway, one sees the stations where the guards of former times were posted and the stone floors worn hollow covering their beat. From the windows here one has a wonderful view. In the park in one direction you see the Peacock strutting. In the fields in another the deer and cattle are feeding, and in still another direction lies the city of about ten (10) thousand inhabitants, delightful in its quaintness. This is something so odd and entirely different from anything we see in the state that I could spend hours in describing its beauties. Mrs. McKivier's who is a friend of the Baroness and the Y. M. C. A. representative in charge is one of New York's four hundred. She was very charming and is a delightful entertainer. If I am not ordered away before tomorrow I expect to take tea there tomorrow afternoon.

Have been taking many trips over the country visiting the villages and Chateaux nearby, all of which are immensely interesting, but this I suppose, is one of the finest in this vicinity. Visited an old church a few days ago, begun in the seventh century completed in the twelfth. It is marvelous to see the construction and architectural grandeur of these old buildings. And the roads are a delight, all macadamized and perfectly smooth with beautiful and well kept trees to each side. How I long to have a car and nothing to do but travel over the country. Am enjoying a bicycle however, and am having lots of fun trying to converse with the natives. Am getting so I can find my way about and get ample to eat. The water is not fit to drink, therefore when not in camp, always drink wine. One would think the supply would become exhausted, but a view of the vineyards expels this idea. They are magnificent and you see them wherever you go. Every plot of ground holds its vines whether large or small. They let the vines grow only waist high, and plant them about three feet apart. They are cultivated in the row the same as garden truck, and the grapes are not permitted to get too much shaded by the leaves.

Hope to be receiving mail from home soon, seems funny not to get mail. I hope you are all getting along fine as I know you are. Don't worry in the least over me, as the nearest I get to a gun is when I see one going by occasionally. Just as safe as if at home, and enjoying life as much as ever. Tell Clara that I have yet to see the good looking French girl. Best wishes and love to all.

JIM.

A letter from Monroe Lowe now in France to his mother Mrs. Taylor Lowe, of Lowgap, N. C.

Somewhere in France.

My Dear Mother:

Just a few lines to let you know that I am still living, but will say that I have had some close calls since I have been in France. But I still feel that I am going to be one of the lucky ones and get back to the old U. S. A.

I am in the Hospital now. I got a light dose of "Hinnie's gas" but not enough to do me much damage. So I am feeling pretty good again and am anxious to get back and get revenge.

I think the war will soon be over for at the rate Hinnie is going now they will soon have to rally round

the Kaiser in Berlin and then I guess he will have to say "Kamarad."

I have written you several letters but I haven't received one word from the states since I left, so I am getting quite anxious to hear from you all.

Will close for this time with love and best wishes to all. MONROE.

Letter from Roy Brannock to his father Mr. Bud Brannock of Mount Airy.

Dear Father:

We have landed in our French home and I guess we are here for awhile. This sure is a nice place that we are at now. All we have to do is work and sleep. I have been sick for a couple of days with grip, but am all right again. Here is hoping that every body at home is well and enjoying what I would like to have, that is some good biscuit and country butter and honey, but just wait until this war is over and I am coming straight back and eat you out of house and home. We get plenty of grub over here, but I want some biscuits, that's all. When you write be sure and send a paper, for I want to know all about what is going on in the old home town. Write me a long letter, for I can't write much from here. Your loving son,

ROY BRANNOCK.

Letter from Joseph G. Greenwood, now in France to his mother Mrs. M. A. Greenwood, Mt. Airy, Route 5.

Somewhere in France.

Dear Mother:

I arrived over here safely, and am well. I have seen many things since I left the old U. S. A., and would like to tell you about all I have seen but time and space will not permit my telling you of what beautiful and historic things I have looked upon. So I will wait until I come home and then I will have lots of news for you. I took another \$5,000.00 insurance, and had it made payable to you, so you may look after it. Guess you have the other insurance papers by this time. Has Sam Alford come over here yet? You must write Jim and give him my address. Tell Will and Orion that there are lots of beautiful girls over here. It will still in Newport News, and where is Will Taylor? You must not expect to hear from me very often for a while, for there are many things to be straightened out first. Think it soon will be so I can write as often as I want to. We haven't any Y. M. C. A. yet, and stationery is very scarce. I don't want you to ever worry about my safety, for I am real safe here. You must excuse short letter. I will write you a long letter next week. You write me all the news, and answer at once for it takes a letter a long time to come over here. Hope you are well, and getting on fine in my wishes to you all. Your son,

Pvt. Joseph G. Greenwood.

Letter from Sgt. Louis S. Burton to his mother Mrs. Herbert Burton, of Mount Airy, Route 2.

Somewhere in France.

Dear Mother and Dad:

You will think I am a long time in writing you but better late than never, am in Southern France, have been on the move all the time. I cannot tell you where I am, my letters are censored twice and I have to be careful what I put in. The Old Country looked just lovely, it is a much nicer Country than France. The towns and villages in France are very old. The trip has been a good one. The weather has been just fine all the time. I have just got in this place after 27 hours in box cars. It was a little crowded, but we made out very well. Am very tired tonight, have done a lot of hiking with all my equipment and it is a hard job. I will write to you often when I get located, we will move from here real soon. My letters will be short but sweet, hoping this will find you all well. From your son,

Sgt. Louis S. Burton.

Letter from Alvin Lee Hiatt now in France to his brother, Mr. B. F. Hiatt of Mt. Airy.

Somewhere in France.

Dear Brother:

I will again write you a few lines to let you hear from me. I am well at present, and getting along fine, except I haven't heard from you since I have been in France.

I am on the front now doing my part for the Germans. Say bud, if you haven't forgot me, please write to me, for I certainly want to hear from someone of my people back at home, in the good old U. S. A.

Say bud! you ought to be here, for it's just like Christmas times, to watch the fighting go on. It is the most fun and excitement I have ever seen in all my life, the only thing that bothers me very much are the Yellow Jackets, they are worse than the Germans, for one has just stung me on the arm. So please write me soon. This from your loving brother.

As ever,

ALVIN LEE HIATT.

WORK OF AMERICAN NURSES IN FRANCE.

In a recent number of the Red Cross Bulletin, Miss Jane Delano, director of the department of nursing American Red Cross, says:

American nurses are covering their profession with a glory that will live forever, is the report that comes from France, with the entrance of American troops into the midst of martial activities abroad.

"Decorated for Bravery" is the echo that reaches us, bringing with it a thrill of pride in the women who are so splendidly upholding our national traditions abroad.

For they have upheld our highest ideas, and are earning the honors that are being bestowed upon them. They have not sought the recognition that is coming to them, but have done their duty as they saw it with a serene courage almost divine.

Not even the nervous strain of air raids, the danger of scattering shrapnel, the brain-confusing sounds of wounded and dying men in hospital wards, accompanied by the dull, insistent roar of the big guns, can daunt their American spirit. On, on they go, taking no account of time, physical fatigue or the horror of their surroundings; unconscious of the imperishable traditions they are building up, caring only that they have the privilege of being there.

Nurses are Fearless.

As one nurse, stationed in a base hospital in the French sector, expressed it, "We are glad to be here. To have missed this opportunity would be something to regret always." Not a word of the hardship, the worry, the danger, only a clear note of cherished privilege. "Our nurses in France are frequently placed in more advanced positions than formerly—positions not without danger, but when volunteers are needed for these posts it is only a problem of choice," said Dr. Finney, recently in Washington for a conference concerning the nursing situation; "every nurse wants to go." He adds that they are utterly fearless.

"The American nurse is the best trained nurse in the world, and is deserving of the highest honors we can bestow upon her," said a famous French general recently.

And the American nurse receives her honors with a modesty in keeping with the dignity of her profession and 'carries on.'

Recognition of her services is coming from the four corners of the earth. Her Majesty, Queen Marie of Roumania, has personally decorated ten Red Cross nurses with honor brevets. One of these nurses receiving this brevet wrote of the interest and appreciation which the queen expressed on that occasion.

"Her Majesty received us," the letter reads, "on the day we left Jassy. She wept as she talked to us, and said that altho broken-hearted at Roumania's failure, she was still struggling. 'You know,' she added, 'you and I are Anglo-Saxons; we don't give up!'"

In England the Order of the Cross of Queen Mary "for devoted service" has been bestowed on four Red Cross nurses; one other nurse was individually decorated by the King, and the Royal Red Cross Medal of His Majesty, King George, has been presented to four others, one being given for distinguished service at a Casualty Clearing Station "somewhere in France."

The extraordinary bravery of the two nurses recently recommended for the British War Medal will go down into all history to glory American womanhood.

Wounded by the explosion of a bomb from an enemy airplane, badly shocked and suffering intensely, they stuck to their posts. One of the nurses was struck in the face by pieces of shrapnel, some of it cutting her eyelid; the eyesight of the other was destroyed by a fragment from the same bomb. All night long he one nurse, less wounded, stood by, assisting the doctors in the operating room. The sweater she was wearing over her uniform, for warmth was cut in many places. Her watch a real American Ingersoll, was broken and cut completely from the strap on her wrist.

General Pershing, in a personal letter to each, praised the exceptional conduct they displayed on that occasion. "Such bravery on the part of two of our compatriots," he said "calls forth our deepest admiration and is a source of inspiration to us all."

First Nurse Decorated.

Another Red Cross nurse has the honor of being the first American nurse to be decorated by the President of France, and is the only one

who has two such decorations. The day the American hospital at Neuilly opened she left Paris and volunteered her services. She worked twenty two hours a day when the first casualties came in, and sometimes in forty-eight hours had not more than an hour's sleep.

The French government has enrolled many American Red Cross nurses in its honor book, called Le Livre d'Or, and has lately bestowed by ministerial decision the Epidemic Vermillion Medal (a special French medal) on an American nurse.

Field Marshal Haig, the British commander-in-chief, has recommended twelve more American nurses, serving on the western front, as deserving of special mention.

Solemn Ceremonies

Over Body of Czar.

Amsterdam Sept. 23.—Solemn ceremonies over the body of Nicholas Romanoff, former emperor of Russia, have been held at Yekaterinburg by troops of the "People's Army," according to the Izvestia, of Moscow.

The body had been buried in a wood near where the emperor was executed and it was located thru information provided by persons acquainted with the circumstances of the execution.

The work of exhumation was done in the presence of many representatives of the supreme ecclesiastical authorities of western Siberia as well as delegates of the "People's Army," Cossacks and Czech-Slovaks. The body was placed in a zinc coffin encased in Siberian cedar and placed in the cathedral at Yekaterinburg under a guard of honor composed of commanders of the "People's army." It will be buried in a special sarcophagus at Omsk.

Mr. Schwab Sees New Social Era.

New York, N. Y.—The true artistocrat of the future will be the man of integrity having in his heart the love of his fellows, possessing a sturdy character, said Chas. M. Schwab, director of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, at a New York club the evening of a day recently when he was received with great enthusiasm by the workmen in the Standard shipyards on Station Island.

"We are about to enter," said Mr. Schwab, "if indeed we have not already entered, a new social era for the future one which few persons today ever dreamed was possible. It is an era which means that the aristocracy of the future will not be one of wealth or of birth but of the man who does something for his fellow men and his country. It will be truer life of democracy than in the past. There will be no sharp distinctions between rich and poor. The merely rich man will have no credit in the community if he is of no use to the world."

Mr. Schwab said that during August 350,000 tons of shipping, dead-weight not launching, were put in commission. He would be disappointed if the August record should not prove to be one of the smallest attained in the yards.

To the shipworkers Mr. Schwab said: "Let us see this job through, and when the war is over we will hold up our heads and say with pride that we are American citizens."

Registration is Above Estimate

Washington, D. C.—When Provost Marshal-General Crowder made his estimates of the number of men who should register on September 12 many persons thought the figures too high, that sufficient allowances had not been made for various losses, and that, in consequence, there would be disappointment when the registration figures were given out.

Greatly to the surprise and gratification of officials, as it will be to the general public, the registration outran the estimates. The aggregate number of men in the United States subject to registration was estimated at 12,778,758. Official returns indicate that the registration will at least be 12,870,000. Some states exceeded, and some fell below the estimates. This was probably due to the shifting of population through economic influences and war needs.

"It is very plain," says the P. Marshal-General, "that practically every living man of the new registration ages has come forward. There is no shortage between the number of those that exist alive, and the number that registered. This is where we have scored a national triumph. If Registration Day means anything, it means that this nation is unanimously in the war to win—and to win it completely, decisively and forever."

WILL REPRODUCE GERMAN POSTER.

Enemy's Publicity Guns to be Turned on Him by Liberty Loan Bureau.

Washington, Sept. 23.—A poster issued by the imperial German government in an effort to belittle the United States contribution to the war and bolster the failing spirits of its people has been reproduced by the Liberty Loan Publicity bureau and copies will be distributed in this country during the fourth Liberty Loan campaign which opens formally next Saturday.

Intended solely for consumption within Germany the poster will get far wider circulation, resulting in the enemy's publicity guns being turned on him. The poster was forwarded by an American in Switzerland.

"Can America's entry make a decision in the war?" is the poster's title. And, with diagrams showing a small American army and a small merchant marine, the pamphlet inferentially answers, "No."

"Russia's army of millions could not down Germany," argues the poster. "America threatens to send transports of one-half million men, but it cannot ship them." These words are inscribed on a scroll held by a cadaverous looking Uncle Sam alongside a Russian soldier appearing immense in comparison. At the time the poster was displayed thruout Germany last July, more than 1,000,000 fighting men were already in France and this number will soon be doubled.

"England's sea power and England's merchant marine have not decided the war," says the poster. "America cannot increase her gross registered tons for 1918 by more than two or two and a half million tons; our U-boats sink twice as quickly as England and America can build." These lines accompany a diagram, of Uncle Sam holding a tiny boat, contrasted with a big ship representing England's merchant marine.

The poster also shows a great fleet of ships more than twice exaggerated, represented as necessary to transport a single regiment. A French poster appealing to the French to save food in order to hasten the transportation of American soldiers is reproduced by the German sheet with the comment: "Also the allies are beginning to have their doubts." Alongside the translation of the German poster the circular issued by the loan publicity organization presents statements of facts refuting the enemy allegations and concludes with Secretary McAdoo's assertion that fourth Liberty Loan is the barrage which will precede the victorious thrust of our army.

Alaska Fisheries products big.

Seattle, Wash.—The value of the fisheries products of Alaska will be greater this year than ever known in the history of the territory, according to those who are versed in the industry. The most important single item is canned salmon, but included in these products are all that might be grouped as the products of the sea and include fresh, smoked, dried, cured, and pickled fish, clams, fish-meal, sealkins, walrus, ivory and whale products.

According to official reports of the United States Department of Commerce the total valuation of all these products for the 11 months ended May 31, the latest report available, was \$45,718,719, which was almost double the amount for the same period of 1917 and considerably more than double the amount for the similar period of 1916.

The salmon "run" during the summer and early autumn months, so these months witness the greatest activity in the North.

FOR BILIOUSNESS

TAKE A CALOTAB.

The New Calomel Tablet That is Entirely purified of all nauseating and Dangerous Qualities.

Of all medicines in the world, the doctors prize calomel most highly, for it is the best and only sure remedy for the most common ailments. Now that all of its unpleasant and dangerous qualities have been removed, the new kind of calomel, called "Calotabs," is thoroughly delightful. One Calotab at bedtime, with a swallow of water—that's all. No nausea, no griping nor unpleasantness. Next morning you wake up feeling fine—live, wide awake, energetic and with a hearty appetite for breakfast. Eat what you please, go where you please—no restrictions as to habits or diet. Calotabs are sold only in original, sealed packages price thirty-five cents. Your druggist recommends and guarantees Calotabs. Money back if you are not delighted.—(Advt.)

Necessary use Autos Granted.

Washington, D. C.—The Fuel Administration has issued a notice to the effect that automobiles may be used for work connected with the Liberty Loan on Sunday September 29, this being regarded as a work of national importance.

It is further explained that while it is desirable that all pleasure riding on Sundays be eliminated, there has been no intention to do away with the necessary use of the automobile.

Those who must go considerable distance to church or to their war gardens or use automobiles for any kind of useful or necessary work may avail themselves of the privilege with a clear conscience, so far as the meaning of the Fuel Administration's restrictions are concerned. Those who must ride on Sunday are asked, however, to save an equivalent amount of gasoline during the week, if possible.

The Fourth Liberty Loan.

The campaign for the Fourth Liberty Loan begins September 28 and closes October 19. While the amount has not yet been announced, it is generally conceded it will be for a larger amount than any of the preceding loans. The American people therefore are called upon to raise a larger sum of money in a shorter length of time than ever before. There is need, therefore, for prompt action—prompt and efficient work and prompt and liberal subscriptions.

We have a great inspiration for a great effort. The news from the battle front inspires every American heart not only with pride and patriotism but with a great incentive to do his or her part. There is no shifting of the individual burden no selfishness by American soldiers in France; there should be none here. We are both supporting the same country and the same cause—our Army in one way, ourselves in another. Theirs is the harder part, but at least we can do our part as promptly and loyally and efficiently as they do theirs.

Secretary of Navy Speaks at Annapolis

Washington, D. C.—The 640 engineers who have completed the intensive training course at Annapolis and are immediately to take part in the work of the navy in winning the war, listened to an address by the Secretary of the Navy on Wednesday, in which he called the attention of the young officers to the fact that four things upon which the world's attention had been centered within the last few days were closely related. These four things are: The victories of the allied forces, the speech of the Kaiser at Essen, Germany's offer to Belgium, and the Austrian note, the last three inspired by the first. Mr. Daniels pointed out the lesson in the sequence of these events, the obvious one being that military success is the only argument that the German militarists can understand. "The allied advances are alone responsible," he said, "for the offer of peace to Belgium and the proposition of the Austrian Emperor for a conference."

Sentences of Three

Soldiers Commuted.

Washington, Sept. 21.—Three soldiers sentenced by court martial to be shot have been shown clemency by President Wilson, it was disclosed in orders made public today by the war department.

Private Vincent, of the 16th infantry, found guilty of sleeping as a sentinel in France, was sentenced to death but General Pershing recommended, in view of the fact that there was but a single witness to the offense, that the sentence be commuted to dishonorable discharge and three years' confinement at hard labor. This recommendation was acted upon by the president.

Newman Ladenson, a private in the 154 depot brigade, was found guilty of having deserted at Harrisburg, Pa., and sentenced to be shot. The president approved the finding but commuted the sentence to dishonorable discharge and fifteen years at hard labor.

Private George B. Barnes, of the 122nd infantry, found guilty of deserting at Camp Wheeler, Ga., after his regiment had received overseas service orders, was given a death sen-

A Beautiful Woman.

Do you know that a beautiful woman always has a good digestion? If your digestion is faulty, eat lightly of meats, and take an occasional dose of Chamberlain's Tablets, to strengthen your digestion. Price 25c.