"THE BARRACKS WHEEZE"

BY PRIVATE CHET SHAFER
(310th Sanitary Train, Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Mich.)

Nothing
In
Quite
So
Disconcerting
To the
Conscientious,
Well-meaning
Private
Than
To
Unlimber
A
Snappy
Salute
Before
Dismounting
That the
Leathern
Pads
Affecting
His
Attention
Are
Hoisting
The
Colors
Of
Another
Private.

Someone marks up a lot of also rans every time a hike is finished in double time.

Devere said the only snaps he had been able to locate in the army held down the cover of his gas-mask bag.

MILITARY DEFINITIONS
Review—The Army Once-Over.

The "falloover" was reading a letter from the girl.
"Oh, Eben!" it ran, "I will be so curious to see you in your uniform. My, but I'll bet you are handsome!"
Eben shifted his glance over to the suit of Blue Denim.
"And she gets her ideas from the covers of the magazines."

HE, ANOTHER INVETERATE FATIGUER, OFFERED THAT HIS GOES WERE HIS O. DENIMS.

Tubby said his wrist watch didn't keep good time—it was too fast.

Even the fellow who knows the buttonhook puzzle by heart, and is a shark at sums and no slouch on dominoes is having his troubles solving the gas-mask.

BUT NO SOLDIER IS BURNING ANY MIDNIGHT OIL OVER AN INCOME TAX STATEMENT.

Money talks, but it seldom enters into an army conversation.

War recognizes two great authorities in Moss and Hoyle.

SECOND LIEUTENANTS ARE DEPLOYMENT AGENCIES.

VIRTUE IS REWARDED IF HARD WORK HITS SAFELY OVER SECOND.

Some fellows' idea of philanthropy is helping two pairs.

When the order comes this year to—

"Swat the fly"

It will be done in four counts.

Not
All
Of
The
"Hard
Guys"
Come
From
Flint,
Mich.

In writing home your first letter after arrival, the following terms may be used advantageously in telling of your assignment:

Installed in the infantry.
Arranged in the artillery.
Clubbed in the cavalry.
Housed in the hospital.
Ambulance in the ambulance.
Allotted to the aviation.
Obtained in the ordnance.
Mixed with the machine gun.
Acted in to the ammunition.
Billed for the balloon end.
Aid
Equipped for the Q. M.

A quarantine is about as welcome as a countermanded order.

DEATH, AS A LEVELER, HAS AN EFFICIENT AIDE IN KITCHEN POLICE.

NO DOUBT WHATEVER

SENTRY—"Halt! Who goes there?"
HE OF THE HANDBAG—"None of your business. Close your trap or I'll smear you all over the landscape. Dyagitme?"
SENTRY—"Pass, friend."

Learn French

LESSON 3

The French vowel sounds, as studied in Lessons 1 and 2, are as follows:

Sound	English example	French example
a	father	la
è	met	lait
é	fate	café
ee	beet	oui
o	softer	donnez
oh	go	eau
oo	boot	vous
uh	fe(r)n (lips as for oo, tongue as for ee)	de
		du
ăh		franc
ŭ	angry	sinq
uh		un
o		bon

In the last four, the "nasal" vowels, the breath comes out through nose and mouth at the same time.

The French have one consonant sound that is rather rare in English, the buzzing sound of si in the word vision. This sound will be represented by zh. It occurs three times in the name of the great French marshal, Joseph Jacques Joffre, pronounced zhohzèf zhah zhofr.

WORDS AND PHRASES

French	Pronunciation	Meaning
j'ai, zh é,		I have
il a, eel a,		he has
nous avons,	nooz avo,	we have
vous avez,	vooz avé,	you have
ils ont,	eelz o,	they have
avez-vous;	avé voo?	have you?
un couteau,	uh kootoh,	a knife
un verre,	uh vèr,	a glass
un journal,	uh zhoornal,	a newspaper
une fourchette,	ün foorshèt,	a fork
une tasse,	ün tas,	a cup
une marchande,	ün marshând,	a (woman) dealer
une pièce de deux francs,	ün pyès duh duh frâh,	a two-franc piece.
la monnaie de,	la monè duh,	change for (a coin or bill)
bonjour,	bozhoor,	good morning, good day
au revoir	oh rvwar,	good-bye
madame,	madam,	madam
combien?	kôbyâ?	how much?
voilà,	vwala,	there is, there it is
mais,	mè,	but
non	no	no

Notice that before some words "a" is un uh, while before other words it is une, ün. All words before which it is un, uh, are called "masculine words," and all those before which it is une, ün, are called "feminine words."

EXERCISE

1. Try to understand these sentences, and pronounce them carefully: J'ai un couteau, il a deux couteaux (the plural of French nouns usually sounds like the singular; the final s or x is silent), nous avons trois couteaux, vonus avez quatre couteaux ils ont cinq couteaux.

2. Make up other similar sentences, using other nouns.

3. Avez-vous un couteau et une fourchette? Oui, madame, j'ai deux couteaux et deux fourchettes, et un verre. Avez-vous une pièce de deux francs? Non, mais j'ai une pièce de deux sous. Ils ont du pain et de la viande. Nous avons du café, du lait et du sucre.

4. Voilà une marchande de journaux (a newspaper dealer). Bonjour, madame. Bonjour, monsieur. Donnez-moi un journal, madame, s'il vous plaît. Voilà, monsieur. Combien? Trois sous, monsieur. Avez-vous la monnaie d'une pièce de deux francs? Oui, monsieur; voilà. Merci, madame. Au revoir.

Cut this lesson out and keep it, and watch for Lesson 4 next week!

SURPASSING SKILL SHOWN

Although French bomb throwing experts consider sixty yards a good distance to hurl a hand grenade with accuracy, large numbers of American soldiers in the trenches have demonstrated their ability to throw them ninety yards and hit the objective three times out of five. Shot putting and throwing the discus materially aids soldiers in hurling grenades and these two field events probably will be given prominence on the athletic programmes in the various training camps in the United States during the spring and summer.

PRECIOUS POSITION

Voice from the Distance—Fall back, ye daft loons! Your posection is of nae value at a'!

Chorus of Kilties—Nae value? Why, mon, we've just drapt a saxpence!—Passing Show.

BIGGEST FLAG?

What is said to be the biggest American flag ever made was recently exhibited in Brooklyn, N. Y. It is 250 feet long and 156 feet high. Each of the red and white stripes in it is twelve feet wide and the stars are six feet in diameter.

EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM WINS COVETED D. S. C.

History will record the fact that a lieutenant and two sergeants in the Rainbow Division were the first soldiers to win the new American decoration known as the Distinguished Service Cross. From the account the American soldiers have been giving of themselves "Over There," these three men will undoubtedly head a long list of American soldiers decorated by their own country, as well as our allies, for conspicuous bravery. Already more than 100 American soldiers have received War Crosses or Crosses With Palms from the French Government.

The first three men awarded the Distinguished Service Cross were Lieutenant John O. Green, Sergeant William Norton and Sergeant Patrick Walsh.

The new bronze cross was awarded them in the name of the President of the United States, commander-in-chief of the army, for "extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy of the United States."

Lieutenant Green is an artillery officer. He had been wounded by an enemy hand grenade and was lying in a dugout. A party of Germans surrounded the dugout and ordered him to surrender. He refused to do so, returned the fire of the party, wounding one member and put the remainder to flight.

Sergeant Norton, finding himself in a dugout entirely surrounded by Germans who were hurling grenades at him, refused to surrender and made a bold dash outside, killing a German lieutenant and two soldiers. He saved the company's logbook, containing considerable valuable information.

Sergeant Walsh, of Chicago, followed his company commander to the first lines in spite of a severe barrage. The captain being killed, Sergeant Walsh took charge of a detachment of American soldiers and attacked a superior number of Germans, inflicting severe losses on the enemy. In the recommendation made by the general commanding the division of which Sergeant Walsh is a member the following sentence appeared: "Although of advanced age, he (Walsh) refused to leave the front."

Sergeant Walsh was detailed by General Pershing as orderly to Secretary of War Baker upon the latter's arrival in France."

FRANCE CALLS TO ME

I.

Across the sea
There comes the call
Of France to me.
I hear the muffled, tender sound
Of little children, underground,
Denied, bereft of everything;
The right to play, to learn and sing.
Dear little child
Across the sea,
I'll come to sing
And play with thee.

II.

From over there,
I hear the call
From France in prayer;
The women calling for their mate,
Now widowed by the Huns of Hate;
Brides, homeless, childless, all alone
Are brooding o'er a pile of stone.
Heroic souls,
I'll come to share
Thy bitter grief,
And blind despair.

III.

From over sea,
There comes sad sound
From France to me:
The painful plea of broken bells,
Now shattered by Satanic shells;
The war-sick wind, that wails and whines
Through battered walls of sacred shrines.
O House of Prayer,
Where God's yet found,
I'll help to heal
Thy wicked wound.

IV.

Beyond the Seine,
I hear the cry
Of France in pain:
The shrieks from shell-hole, trench and wire,
Men crazed by gas and liquid fire;
Dumb agonies from No-Man's Land,
Low groans beneath the surgeon's hand.
O stricken land,
Where evils reign,
Thy call to me
Is not in vain.

HARRY WEBB FAIRINGTON.

FINE! FINE! FINE!

"We are looking fine, feeling fine and doing fine." This is the reply an American officer made when asked upon his return from France how the boys in khaki were getting along "Over There."