

FROM OUR SOLDIERS

Seaman Ben C. Allen
The following is from Seaman Ben C. Allen:
Mrs. Wm. C. Hammer asked me some time ago, to write to The Courier setting forth some of my experiences in the Navy. Now that the war is over and the censorship lifted, will endeavor to write a brief little history of my twelve months stay in the U. S. Navy.

destroyers turned back for New York, leaving us with one cruiser and eight transports. Soon our watches changed to four hours on and eight off, which was a great improvement in my estimation, but nothing changed the rain. It came down in torrents every day. Submarines seemed to be as scarce as hen teeth. None showed up; presumably the rain kept them under although we were continually getting wireless messages from all directions from other ships stating that submarines had been sighted, giving latitude and longitude. If one was sighted ahead of our convoy we changed our course. Days passed in this manner. On the ninth day we were met by eight destroyers in the Bay of Biscay, when our cruiser turned back for New York, the destroyers taking up their respective places—one just on the horizon in front of the convoy, one on each side and one bringing up the rear just on the horizon. These were to ward off German raiders, while the other four ran circles about the convoy of transports and mingled between them. Three days later we pulled through the mine fields single file, into the Loire river in France. Going 30 miles up this river we landed at St. Nazaire on Sunday afternoon, where thousands of French women and children lined the dock and cheered as the transports passed through the locks up into a basin where the troops and cargo were taken off.

LIFT OFF CORNS!
Apply few drops then lift sore, touchy corns off with fingers
Doesn't hurt a bit! Drop a little Freezone on an aching corn. Instantly that corn stops hurting, then you lift it right out. Yes, magic!
A tiny bottle of Freezone costs but a few cents at any drug store, but is sufficient to remove every hard corn, soft corn, or corn between the toes, and the calluses, without soreness or irritation. Freezone is the sensational discovery of a Cincinnati genius. It is wonderful.

from France we were met by 11 destroyers, making a total of 13 destroyers. Our cruiser then turned back for the States. This time we landed at Brest, which is one of the oldest towns in France. When on liberty there I had the privilege of exploring an old castle, the foundation of which was laid 45 years B. C. This castle was used as a prison in the war between England and France, also in the French Revolution. The guide who took about six of us through, carried a light in front, the rest of us following. We first passed down a narrow passage, with walls 6 feet thick. First we came to a place where there was a small opening overhead, covered with small iron bars. Our guide explained that this was where the judge stood to read out a prisoner's sentence, the prisoner being down in the dungeon where we were then standing. Next we came to another opening overhead, which was a hole in the ceiling about 6 inches in diameter, through which food was thrown down into the dungeon just like corn to hogs, every man getting what he could in the dark. We next came to a Roman well in the center of the castle, where all the prisoners except those in cells got their water. The guide then showed us a cell where an English spy was to have been confined for 12 years. He was placed in the cell and the door filled in with cement and rock just the same as walls of the castle, the only opening to the cell being a small hole in the ceiling about 6 inches in diameter, where his food and water were lowered down in a small bucket by a line and refuse hauled out in same manner. He was not even given clothes or a bed to sleep on. During the seven months which he lived, he picked a hole 2 feet square in the wall with a small rock he got loose. Father on we came to a torture machine in the form of a chair placed between two posts, with a screw through each one. These screws were placed so that when the prisoner was seated and strapped in the chair, they would be even with his temples, and were screwed tighter and tighter each day until the man was driven crazy or died. Next we came to what was known as the water dripping machine. It was a chair placed under a pail of water, the criminal being strapped in a chair and the water permitted to drop on his head until he lost his mind. We next crawled through a little tunnel, then went down in a basin 60 feet deep, the bottom of which was covered with iron spikes. The criminals who were condemned to immediate death were taken to the top of this dungeon and forced to jump into it on the iron spikes 60 feet below. This basin was then flooded with water and a flood-gate opened which permitted their bodies to wash out to sea, the castle being built on the edge of the water.

At the end of four days all troops were off and a good many wounded had been placed aboard our ship to be brought back to the States. Beginning our journey homeward we were preceded out to sea by two mine sweepers, conveyed by two hydroplanes, four torpedo boat destroyers and one observation balloon which was made fast to a converted yacht. Soon the hydroplanes turned back as did the observation balloon, the destroyer remaining with us for two days when it also left us just after dark one night. The day we ran into one of the worst storms I had seen so far, but lasted only twelve hours. We were, as on previous trips, continuously receiving warnings of submarines, which necessitated our frequently changing our course. Never ran a straight course over five minutes at the time, and the zig zag course from France to New York, therefore added several hundred miles to the trip. Nine days from the day we left Brest, France, the Cape Hatteras light ship off the coast of North Carolina was sighted, one Saturday night. We then turned up the coast for New York, following a lane patrolled by torpedo boat destroyers, reaching New York on Monday. The first thing we saw in the papers was that the Cape Hatteras light ship off the coast of North Carolina had been shelled and sunk by a German submarine. Had we reached one day later, we would in all probability had some target practice.

Central Falls News
Mr. G. C. Yow and family, of Gibsons, N. J., visited Mrs. W. L. Thurber Saturday and Sunday.
Mr. Joe Giles, of Worthville, visited his sister Mrs. J. C. Allred Sunday.
Mrs. W. E. Summy and son Everette are visiting Mrs. Summy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Rollins.
Mrs. Eli Pritchard and Mother Mrs. Annie Vancannon and Mrs. Pritchard's grandson, Clarence Luck, of Ashboro visited Mrs. W. L. Thurber Sunday.
Master Freddie Cook was badly scalded last Friday when the stick of wood on which the sea kettle was sitting broke into. He is getting along nicely now.
Miss Moleta Yow, of Greensboro, recently visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Yow.
Miss Ulah Hinshaw, of Burlington, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Hinshaw.
Mr. Lester Yow, of Blowing Rock, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Yow.
Mr. Güler Rollins, of Thomasville, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Rollins.
Mrs. W. L. Thurber visited Mr. and Mrs. Wise, of Worthville Monday.
Mr. Garland Rollins broke his arm cranking a car Saturday.
Mr. W. L. Thurber is a business visitor in Greensboro today.
Don't hoard idle money. Put it to work. Money invested in War Savings Stamps pays big dividends.

PRINCE ALBERT
TALK about smokes, Prince Albert is geared to a joyhandout standard that just lavishes smokehappiness on every man game enough to make a bee line for a tidy red tin and a jimmy pipe—old or new!
Get it straight that what you've hankered for in pipe or cigarette makin's smokes you'll find aplenty in P. A. That's because P. A. has the quality!
You can't any more make Prince Albert bite your tongue or parch your throat than you can make a horse drink when he's off the water! Bite and parch are cut out by our exclusive patented process!
You just lay back like a regular fellow and puff to beat the cards and wonder why in samhill you didn't nail a section in the P. A. smokepasture longer than you care to remember back!

It took seven days this time to coal the ship, take on supplies and troops. Starting on our fourth run to the other side, we were placed in a convoy of eight transports and escorted out to sea in the usual manner. When about 48 hours out of New York at 1:00 a.m. one of the twin propellers flew off of our ship and striking the hull made a terrible report. We thought sure we were torpedoed, but upon investigation discovered the trouble. The signal men then flashed the news to the flag ship and it immediately signalled us to turn back for New York, owing to the fact we could not maintain the standard speed with one propeller. Retracing our course without a convoy, the next afternoon about 3:30 a submarine periscope appeared about 800 yards away. A crowd of us boys were standing on the after part of ship talking when our attention was called to the periscope which was camouflaged. Just then one of the six inch guns overhead on the gun deck opened fire. It almost lifted me off my feet. Thought sure my teeth were all knocked out, and the explosion did jar the filling out of a fellow's tooth standing near me. My ears felt like the drums were burst. No one had to tell me or any one else to move from under that gun. The gun cotton burned me all the way on my neck at hands. By the time a second shot was fired I was standing on my toes had mouth open and ears plucked up with my fingers. They fired eight shots, the last one hitting right at the periscope, it then threw up a great spray and when the spray had cleared away there was no periscope to be seen. The next day we were met by destroyers and conveyed into New York, where we unloaded troops and supplies then went into dry dock at Brooklyn Navy Yard. A few days later I secured a five-day furlough home. In a month the U. S. S. Man-

Colorte
COME to us for a bottle of Colorte and use it on last year's straw hat. Makes it look just like new or will color it most any shade you want, to match a new dress. In sixteen colors:
JET BLACK, BURNING STRAW, BULL BLACK, BROWN, CARDINAL RED, BROWN, YELLOW, VIOLET, RAY BLUE, LAVENDER, GAY BLUE, OLD ROSE, VICTORY BLUE, GRAY, BASS GREEN, NATURAL. Check your favorite colors from our color card.
STANDARD DRUG CO.

For safety sake ask for "Bayer Tablets of Aspirin."
TALCUM SOLD AS ASPIRIN TABLETS
Millions of tablets sold to dealers by a Brooklyn manufacturer who was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary for selling talcum powder tablets as Aspirin Tablets—Bovensel!
When you seek relief from Headache, Neuralgia, Earache, Toothache, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Colds, Gripe or Influenzal Colds always insist upon the genuine
Bayer Tablets of Aspirin
The Bayer Cross on Genuine Tablets
Proved safe by millions
Adults—Take one or two tablets, anytime, with water. If necessary, repeat dose three times a day after meals.
20-cent package—Larger sizes also. Buy only original Bayer packages.
American Owned Entirely!