

# TRENCH AND CAMP

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### WHY ARE WE HERE?

Nations or men at war have real things at stake—real things, like food, shelter, safety! Professors may argue over theories, but men fight for things. We are fighting for the dearest possessions of mankind—a man's life. We have always been protected from ravishing wolves and marauding robbers, but all the cattle on a thousand hills are not worth a little child. To protect their children Belgium's men laid down their lives, and our children's lives are now in peril.

The freedom of the seas is an old and dearly loved right of nations, but it is not as old, as important, nor as faithfully guarded as life itself. International treaties were supposed to be honorable and sacred, but they were not as honorable as motherhood, nor as sacred as chastity. Look at Poland and Lithuania, where thousands of young women and girls were herded together by the Germans into foul stockades for the foulest purposes.

Look at Belgium, where neither youth nor age, neither sex nor condition were spared in Germany's brutal march to success.

From the waters of the Irish channel the voices of drowning babes

cried to America, but from the soil of Belgium the crucified children cried to Heaven.

And what the Germans did in Belgium and Poland they praised the Turks for doing in Armenia, and the Bulgarians for doing in Serbia.

These atrocious outrages on humanity sprung from the heart of a nation that knew not God, for the Germans have dethroned the God of Love and set up in His place the Devil of Lust. They have crushed all noble sentiments in the heart so that nothing might interfere with the cold calculation of the brain. They have set up an empire on the soil of others, and they will establish unbreakable control over the soul of man unless America takes up all that Russia laid down, and then adds her own ideals and length.

To win this war is to make womanhood safe, to give childhood the promise of old age, and to insure old age a peaceful eventide. It is to cast out the demon of cruelty and to re-establish the empire of honor and kindness and civilization among men.

To lose this war is to lose all that mankind has won in the struggle of the ages, and

**WIN WE MUST!**

### THE SALUTE

Sometimes a great truth loses its impressiveness because of an unfortunate, even awkward presentation.

For instance: Officers frequently tell their men that a soldier is a good soldier because he salutes properly. They mean that a good soldier salutes properly because he is a good soldier. That is something quite different. The salute does not make the soldier; the soldier makes the salute.

Properly executed, the salute reflects discipline and devotion. Carelessly given, it reflects lack of discipline and lack of devotion.

The salute should be automatic, but never mechanical. It is the individual expression of an individual's part in a great military—more than that, a great patriotic—undertaking.

The soldier sees the commissioned officer, sees in him the authority of the nation, the authority to command. The soldier brings himself to the salute and, without words, says more eloquently than he could in words, "You are chosen to lead; I will obey." The officer recognizes the soldier by the salute and says, without a word, "I realize my responsibilities and will endeavor to fulfill them."

Day in and day out, this exchange of greetings goes on whenever officers and enlisted men meet. Day in and

day out there should be this consecrating of one's self to the cause under whose banner all are serving. The salute should be solemn, ceremonious—as one British officer put it, a magnificent thing! Why? Because it implies so much.

In stress of action, the instant salute calls one to self-control. For while it becomes automatic, it summons the one who is rendering it to an attitude of attention. In that attitude orders can be comprehended and music every fibre of one's being comes into play in the properly rendered salute.

The good soldier reverences the flag. He does not pass Old Glory with head bowed and a covert glance. He does not pass by the Stars and Stripes seeking to evade the reverence due. His head is erect; his chin drawn in; his shoulders squared, and proudly his whole being proclaims his thought, "That is my flag."

When he passes a commissioned officer, he salutes proudly, because the officer to him is more than his commander, the man who must be obeyed. He salutes not only the man in authority, but the source of that authority—and that authority is the United States of America, which the flag symbolizes.

### Something Different

"We still go on with the entertainment," said a colonel of an American regiment a moment after the "lights out" order had been obeyed. "We can have an air raid any night, but I hope we have a chance to hear Mr. Sothern."

So Edward H. Sothern, great American actor, resumed his recitation from Hamlet before American soldiers gathered in a large building back of the lines "Over There." Upon resuming he called the attention of the soldiers and said, "The fact that at the moment the Germans began to rain down bombs he was reciting the line, 'Oh, what a rash and bloody deed is this!'"

**DO YOU KNOW THESE?**

How are you on army abbreviations, now that you have been in the service for . . . . . (fill in the number of months on the dotted line)?

Here are a few: M.G.B.; A.L.A.; A.W.O.; K.P.; C.O.; M.F.; O.D.; H.C.; Q.M.; G.O.; S.C.D.; B.C.; F.S.; T.M.B.; F.A.; F.H.; C.G.; T.B.; S.T.; A.T.; O.T.S.; M.O. Do you know any more?

**CANNING THE RATTLE**

On night patrol duty between the Americans and German lines the Yanks were now wearing knitted woolen helmets instead of "tin hats." It was found that the steel helmets made a rattle when they came in contact with barbed wire and this noise brought a fusillade from the enemy.

## CANTONMENT TYPES

THE ERSTWHILE MILLIONAIRE

THEY are in every camp, these chaps who formerly rode in limousines but now lift one ten-ton hiking shoe after another on a long hike. Their silk and fine linen was once laid out by Jymes, the family serving man, but now they have to personally preen their common khaki just like any garden variety doughboy. And inspection is just as terrible to them as if they had not one time been so lapped in luxury that even getting shirts and collars ready for the laundryman was done by some hired hand. They are showing more money struck from them, they are men. And it's not an easy task to be one, when a limitless pocketbook tempts a fellow into thinking he's a sort of superman.

There are no supermen in the Army, though—just men. The erstwhile millionaire is helping reduce every alleged supplan—from money, power, position, to the level of a common and yet divine manhood. In the O. D. Brotherhood he is dependent upon elemental qualities and not on the artificial props that coin can cop. If he is a good fellow, his mates learn that he is, sanely, and with uncanny intuition. If he's temperamentally a snob—and would be if he were penniless, they get next to that, too. If he uses a pull, if he sidesteps the disagreeable details—they're next to him in no time. No man is a hero to his valet, and no rich man is awe-inspiring to his bunk mate, although the fellow in the cot next his may have once taken tips from him, as a waiter.

The fellow is helping to make the new American Army the perfect experiment in democracy. He's invaluable. Without him, it would be democratizing the democrats; with him it also is democratizing the aristocrats.

## France And The German Menace

By CONYERS REARD

The foreign policy of France during the past fifty years has been directed mainly towards the purpose of self-preservation in the face of persistent German hostility.

Ever since Prussia established her domination over Germany by the defeat of Austria in 1866, Prussia has taken the attitude that France was an enemy to be watched and, if possible, to be crushed. It was that attitude which brought on the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. For although the imperial aspirations of the French emperor, Napoleon III, no doubt prepared the way for war, it was Bismarck whose cunning actually provoked it.

many and Austria were untrustworthy friends. France on her part courted Russian favor by advancing large loans to the Russian government. The outcome was that in 1891, Russia and France signed a treaty of alliance which at once rescued France from her isolation and created a combination of powers sufficiently strong to prevent the domination of Europe by Germany and her two allies.

### Triple Entente Defensive

Between 1891 and 1904 these two groups of powers divided pretty equally between them the fighting strength of Europe. Unfortunately for France, however, the defeat of Russia in her war with Japan in 1904 destroyed this balance of power and enabled Germany to assume at once an aggressive policy.

**People's Protest Ignored**

The result is well known. France was thoroughly thrashed, forced to pay an enormous indemnity and to submit to the loss of two of her most loyal provinces, Alsace and Lorraine. It was to no purpose that the provinces, almost to a man, protested against separation from France. Prussia had no more concern then than she has now with the rights of peoples.

Had it not been for England she might have been more successful than she was. But England, realizing the magnitude of the German menace, now stepped forward, settled her outstanding quarrels with France by treaty, adjusted old differences with Russia, and in 1907 had definitely aligned herself in a Triple Entente against Germany's Triple Alliance.

The purpose of this new combination was frankly defensive. It was designed primarily to discourage Germany from her dreams of conquest. And for seven years it served its turn. But in 1914 Germany felt herself strong enough to measure swords with it.

Having defeated France, it was Bismarck's main purpose after 1871 to keep her weak and isolated. To that end he joined forces with Russia and Austria in 1873. A few years later, when Russia withdrew from this combination, he formed a triple alliance with Austria and Italy. So far as Germany was concerned, this alliance was directed mainly against France. Bismarck's sole maneuver was to establish old differences between France and England. So France for nearly twenty years, thanks to German machinations, was left without a friend in Europe.

The immediate occasion of the present war was Germany's support of Austria's attempt to brow-beat Serbia. When Russia undertook to defend Serbia's interests, Germany declared war on Russia.

### Struck France First

With France, Germany had no quarrel at all, and France, in spite of many just grievances, certainly gave her no cause for quarrel. But she struck first at France, fearing that France would support Russia; and she struck at France through Belgium because France, supposing that Belgium's neutrality would be respected, was weak—est along her Belgian frontier.

France then had no choice but to take up arms to defend her own people and her own fair land. Her cause was just if ever a cause was. That is why it commended itself to justice-loving America.

That is why we made it our own.

### A MILITARY ESSAY

#### BUGLERS

The babe of civil life was the pestiferous tomos on the back fence. Now we have, instead, the bugler. We used to leave shoes at the cat and go back to sleep. Now we swallow hard and cultivate goose pimples. There would be good money in a moderate-priced exterminator for buglers. It would have a ready sale.

Once there was a soldier who invented a trick for hurling at buglers. The patents are impending. This soldier has already won his monument—A bugler marks a man a slave during quarantine. Buglers are buglers. There is no other definition. The world will never be completely happy until the last one has been cornered and shipped to the Smithsonian institution.

C. S.

### FRENCH BOY LIKES GUARD-HOUSE

For a breach of discipline a French boy-driver had to be locked up in the guard-house overnight by the American military authorities. The boy came out next morning looking very pleased. They asked him why he was so happy. He said he liked the American Army Hotel, the food and bed were good, the helpers attentive. He thought he had been entertained as a guest in some new sort of military hotel.

### SEE PAGE 1

On the first page of every edition of Trench and Camp you will see this "Army News for Army Men and Their Home Folks." You get the paper first, read it and send it to the home folks. Do you get the idea? The mail will be gathered up and sent to the post office soon. Address this paper to the home folks now.

