SOLDIERS BECOME CIVVIES IN RECORD SPEED BACK HOME

Parade Mania Furnishes Only Delay in Conversion from O.D.

LOCATING JOBS FOR MEN

Labor Conditions Improve So That Unemployment Problem Will Soon Be Thing of Past

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.]

AMERICA, May 22.—All returning divisions are being demobilized with a speed that is breaking past records and estimates every day. Only overwhelming passion to parade holds up the disbanding of outfits—and even parades do not clog the machinery to the extent it was once feared they would.

The entire 77th Division of New York was demobilized within a week after its great home-coming parade on Fifth Avenue, and the 28th Division, after showing itself to Philadelphia, is now scattering back to its home towns in Pennsylvania—every man with his $60 discharge bonus and his railway travel allowance at the 5 cents a mile rate.

So it goes at all the demobilization camps in the country, thanks to the working of the machine which the War Department has built up to hasten the transformation from O.D. to civies.

To receive the discharged soldier as quickly and as satisfactorily as possible back into the civic body, the War Department, through specially organized branches, and Merchants' Associations and Chambers of Commerce and military welfare organizations are co-operating in all the large centers. The smaller towns have committees specially appointed whose sole duty is to get employment for soldiers.

Create Soldiers' Employment Bureau

New York is typical of the large cities, and here the War Department and the Merchants' Association, probably the most powerful organization of its kind in the world, and all welfare organizations maintain a large co-ordinated Soldiers' Employment Bureau. Here employers list jobs available and every effort is made to fit soldiers to jobs and to find suitable work for every applicant. The city is being systematically combed for positions and employers are urged to go the limit, and *many have done so.*

These large city organizations are strictly for the purpose of finding employment for soldiers who were residents of the cities before entering the service. Men are urged to return to their home towns for employment, so as to spread the absorption of returning fighters into the industrial machine over the *entire country.*

How smaller cities and towns are taking care of their men is shown best perhaps in the record of Montclair, N. J., where out of 127 men applying for jobs, 110 have been placed.

It cannot be denied that considerable numbers of fighting men are unemployed. This is due to several factors, such as the character of jobs offered, the fact that men always do not fit places available, and some employers, be it said to their shame, want to take soldiers back at their old jobs at pre-war pay, instead of paying the higher rates which current prices and conditions make just. Unless forced to do so, soldiers refuse to accept such offers.

Dissatisfied With Old Jobs

Then, too, many soldiers are not satisfied to go back to their old jobs. They want something better, their ambition having been stirred by their army experiences. One soldier who held a humble clerical position before the war states that he is now competent to manage his former employer's business at a salary of $5,000 a year, and he wanted nothing less. But he finally admitted that the way to prove his greater worth was to take his old position and show it there. His case is typical of many. The employment problem is thus complicated because many men are not so tractable and refuse to prove their greater worth to old employers in old jobs.

On the other hand, a number of employers do not seem to understand that a soldier comes back to him with more ambition, greater pep and as an all-round greater asset for his business, if given proper chances for development. This problem is understood and is being tackled by the various employment agencies with promising results so far.

Industrial Conditions Better

Of course, industry over here has been in an uncertain state since the armistice. However, conditions are improving daily as peace approaches. In the opinion of industrial experts, the country will not be faced much longer with the unemployment problem—and it even seems likely that there will be a scarcity of men to fill all jobs offered.

In the meantime, Congress is again threatening to pass a bill with all sorts of alluring inducements to get soldiers to turn farmers and make the arid lands of the West, the cut-over timber lands of the North and the swamp lands of the South bloom like the biblical rose. The compliment to our ability to do the impossible is touching, but to date returned soldiers have not written clamorously to the newspapers in approval of this plan, and Broadway shows no signs of a khaki-colored exodus to No Man's Land.

UNHEARD OF EVENT STARTLES ALL A.E.F.; TOP NOW SPARKLES

Of all the dire means of getting even with the Top that the buck has ever dreamed of as he did his Sunday guard trick, Company C of the 304th Field Signal Battalion has picked the winner.

Lined up in a hollow square with 1st Sgt. Joe Mulligan in the middle, where he couldn't getaway, they made a speech at him and then handed him a real diamond ring.

For once, the report avers, the Top had nothing to say, and there was nothing to do but put on the sparkler and *dismiss the company.*

Moral:—If you can't get on your Top Kick, buy him a diamond ring; that'll make him mad.

VICTORY BUTTON FOR CIVVIES' LAPELS

A.E.F. Dischargees Will Get Marks of Service for Future Wear

Further details on the issue of "Victory buttons" to be worn in the coat lapel of the civilian clothes of discharged soldiers, are contained in a War Department circular which has just been received in the A.E.F.

Inasmuch as the Government desires to maintain uniformity in these buttons and to prevent their wear by unauthorized persons, extraordinary precautions were taken to prevent the design from becoming public before the Q.M. gave them out. So far as is known, none of the buttons has been received in the A.E.F. It is expected, however, that a consignment will arrive shortly for issue to those men who obtain their discharge in Europe.

As previously announced, the button will be of silver for those wounded in action and of bronze for all others. They are now being issued in all discharge camps in the United States.

How to Obtain Them Afterward

Men who were discharged in the States before the buttons were available are able to obtain them by mailing their original discharge certificates or true copies to the nearest military post or camp. A recruiting station can give them out. When a true copy of the discharge certificate is forwarded, it must have been executed by a civil officer empowered to administer oaths, and it must contain all matter appearing on the original certificate.

It is presumed that the same procedure will apply to those men of the A.E.F. *discharged in Europe, although there has* been no official announcement to this effect.

Officers who issue discharge buttons will note the fact by indorsement on the discharge certificate or true copy. All discharged Army personnel, including field clerks and Army nurses, who have honorable records are entitled to wear the button.

PRIZES FOR ESSAYS ON 'HOME—THEN WHAT?'

500 Francs for Best Answer from A.E.F. Offered by Comrades in Service

To stimulate the spirit of self-expression among members of the A.E.F. with respect to the thoughts that occupy their minds on their duty to themselves, their families and their America on returning to civilian pursuits, Comrades in Service has offered three prizes on the best essay or article, to be entitled: "Home, and Then What?"

Papers are limited to 1,600 words, writing on one side of the paper, either typewritten or in legible handwriting. First prize is 500 francs, second prize 250, and third 100, the winning essay to be published in a leading American magazine, and the revenue therefrom to be paid the writer.

With the signing of the armistice there came a realization of the fact that America's Army, made up almost wholly of civilians, would return to civilian life, there to be a guiding force in the progress of the United States. The Comrades in Service movement has been devoted to driving home this fact. Already there have appeared published letters showing that soldiers are seriously considering this problem.

Papers Must Be in June 15

Papers submitted, which will not be returned, must be in the office of Comrades in Service, Elysée Palace Building, Paris, or office of Comrades in Service, Army of Occupation, Coblenz, Germany, not later than June 15, 1920. The award will be made by July 1, 1919.

The contest is open only to enlisted or honorably discharged men of the A.E.F. The writer will place his name, grade, organization and home address on his manuscript. Judges will be a representative each from the Chicago Tribune, the Daily Mail and the New York Herald.

THE POINT OF THE SCARLET CHEVRON

Dallas, Tex., holds up her hand claiming the first soldier-mayor of the war's aftermath, in the person of Capt. Frank Wizencraft, late of the A.E.F.

* * *

The sight of an ex-member of the A.E.F. in full uniform washing windows in Market street, Chicago, the other day caused enough of a stir to get into international cable news. Well, we can't all be mayors.

* * *

Lexington, Ky., sends word that over 9,000,000 gallons of whiskey still remain in bonded warehouses of the Seventh Internal Revenue District. Sounds more like the Seventh Heaven.

* * *

The Salina Journal is now complaining that the overseas mail service is too swift. Many Christmas packages mailed five months ago are now being delivered to the addresses, when a delay of a few more months would bring them in just in time for next Christmas.—Kansas City Star.

* * *

The "Back to the Land" project sponsored by the U.S. Department of the Interior for returning soldiers, revised to call for an outlay of $400,000,000, will be presented and pressed for passage at the coming special session of Congress. Legislation is pending in the Legislatures of 32 States, looking to co-operation with the National Government, and California and Oregon have actually passed such laws, carrying large appropriations.

* * *

"The La Touraine, which sailed from St. Aignan," says a special dispatch from New York to the Portland Oregonian. Fine. She'll probably land at Kalamazoo or Des Moines.

* * *

"Bull Kills Congressman."—Headline in Paris edition New York Herald. Nothing strange about that. The wonder is that more Congressmen don't die of the same thing.

* * *

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and Mrs. Rockefeller have started for Europe to engage in reconstruction work.—Cablegram. Well, if old Omar Khayyam could have carried around with him the same wad that these two reconstructionists have, he might have had his dream of reshaping things to the heart's desire fulfilled.

* * *

Maj. Charles Gillen, a former member of the A.E.F., has sued the Newark Street Railway Company for one cent, which he claims it overcharged him. Who says the A.E.F. hasn't learned something?

THEY'RE "JUFFROUWS"

Put up that dictionary, Dr. Watson; another great mystery has been solved.

A couple of weeks ago THE STARS AND STRIPES blushingly confessed that it didn't know what Dutch was for mademoiselle. Now, thanks to Cpl. Jeacques Bresler, of Company A, 72nd Engineers, all is made clear.

Hollander mademoiselles are "juffrouws," an abbreviation of "mejuffrouw" or "jongenjuffrouw."

Now we could run up to Holland and make a date—if we only knew how to pronounce it.

DECORATED DOUGHBOYS

A review of the 1st Division was recently held on the parade grounds of the bridgehead close to Montabaur, division headquarters. The division passed in formation before the commanding general. Fifty-eight members of the 2nd Division were decorated with Croix de Guerre at Anhausen. The honored soldiers were mostly members of the 9th and 23rd Infantry.

The Commander-in-Chief was a guest of the Third Army the day following, being received at Headquarters in Coblenz by Lieut. Gen. Hunter Liggett and a guard of honor.

435,472 YANKS HAD 7-DAY LEAVES UP TO 10TH OF MAY

Great Majority Took Permissions After Signing of Armistice

17 AREAS WERE UTILIZED

Uncle Sam Paid Room and Board for His O. D. Nephews at 769 Contract Hotels in France

Up until May 10, 435,472 soldiers had been sent on duty status leave, with all expenses paid by the Government, to the 17 leave areas. Of these, 361,194 men took their leave after December 1, 1918.

The daily average number of soldiers in the areas for the week ending December 7, 1918, was 7,501. This was increased to 27,011 for the week ending March 22, 1919, the largest week in the areas' history.

On March 1, 17 leave areas were in operation, with a total capacity of 32,795 Yanks. The area at La Bourboule was closed on January 15, and in April, five more leave areas were closed on account of the homeward movement of troops. Still four more areas were closed the first part of this month and there are now eight remaining, with a total capacity of 19,825. All the remaining areas will be closed by June 15.

The American permissionnaires were, for the most part, carried on special leave trains. On December 1, 1918, five trains were in operation, with a weekly train mileage of about 3,400 miles. By March 1, these trains had been increased to 39 special leave trains, making 78 single trips, with a weekly train mileage of about 31,460 miles, and carrying 77 per cent of all American permissionnaires on duty status. On April 8, the number of trains had again been increased to 57 specials, making 114 single trips, with an average weekly special train mileage of 35,800 miles. They then carried 90 per cent of all the permissionnaires on duty status in the A.E.F.

Big Movement of Troops

During March, the in and out movement of soldiers to the 17 areas was equal in actual numbers to 70 per cent of the largest overseas movement from the United States to France during the war and in 91 per cent of the homeward movement of soldiers to the United States during March, 1919.

On April 1, Uncle Sam had in all leave areas contracts with 769 hotels for quarters and rations for the soldiers that were sent there.

To make all these good times possible for the Yanks it was necessary to have a special personnel assigned to the areas. This consisted of 1,697 enlisted men and 236 officers, including a Headquarters Detachment, Quartermaster Department, Medical Department and the Military Police Corps. The Y.M.C.A. personnel in all 17 areas having charge of the entertainment of the soldiers, totaled 699 on April 1, of which number 293 were men and 406 were women.

Bureau Grows With Work

The Leave Areas Bureau, at the time of organization, consisted of a personnel of three officers, two field clerks, two enlisted men and two civilian typists. It was increased until it now has 11 officers, eight field clerks, nine enlisted men and three civilian typists, a total personnel of 31.

With the closing of the leave areas, there is not a single section of France that the American soldier on leave has not had the chance to see. The castles where the famous kings once lived; the top of the Alps, and the blue Mediterranean. Whatever his lot or choice, the Yank who has had his leave has been able to take in at least one great sight.

BLUE OR GOLD STRIPE, HE HAS HIS STORY

Badges Tell of Service With British or French Before America's Entry

They're making their appearance all over the A.E.F., those little blue and gold chevrons, denoting service, respectively, with the British and French previous to America's entry into the war. On the Rhine, throughout central France, and at the base ports they appear—mingled, of course, with the gold stripes authorized by the American Government.

In many cases the men were over here when the war broke out; in others, the men either were in Canada or slipped across the border from the United States and enlisted. Many of them will never go home again. Some few have returned; but a great many are still in the A.E.F. working quietly at their tasks and waiting for the time to come for their outfits to quit France.

The small gold and blue chevrons indicate the hardest kind of service, under the most trying conditions. There isn't a wearer of one of these chevrons that couldn't unfold—if he had a mind to—a yarn or two about his experiences in the early days of the war that would be a spine-thriller. Indeed, there have been several of the blue chevron men who are entitled to sport the Victoria Cross, Great Britain's highest honor for valor.

A Bridge Near "Wipers"

There is one such incident, for instance, that happened in "the bloody salient," Ypres, about the time many of the "First Hundred Thousand" were still alive.

It happened one night when the Germans, in all the pride and magnificence of their early war strength, were delivering a tremendous attack on the British lines. An artillery ammunition train was being rushed up to feed the guns—the creaking, mud-caked limbers 50 yards apart, and a stalwart sergeant—an American—riding 50 yards in front.

As he crossed an exceedingly narrow and rickety bridge, an ambulance, carrying wounded, and driven by another American, started to cross. The sergeant turned, saw it, and shouted a warning. But it was too late. Already the first limber had galloped on.

The Yank driver grasped the situation immediately. In battle, ammunition has right of way. *Nothing can take precedence.* He waved his hand gaily at the sergeant and deliberately drove his ambulance through the railing into the canal and was drowned with the men he was carrying. What was his life and the lives of the two or three wounded he carried in comparison to the lives of the thousands waiting for that ammunition?

"Ammunition Up"

Another incident in the same column led by the sergeant: Having reached the guns, each limber dumped its load and started back. An American lieutenant remained in charge to bring up the last limber. As they rumbled back a turn in the road showed one of the vehicles wrecked by a shell. A gunner's head—it was the head of an American—protruded from the tangled mass of wheels, torn and twisted harness and dead horses.

The lieutenant stopped and attempted to drag the man out. The gunner looked up at him, both hands clutching a great wound in his chest, and sobbed out: "Don't mind me. Fritz! Ammunition up." And he sank back, dead. His last words maintained to the utmost the Field Artillery traditions: "Ammunition up."

RHINE LEGENDS

2.—Reinhard and Elizabeth

[EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the second in a series of legends of the Rhine dealing with spots in the American occupied area with which Yanks are most familiar.]

Not far above Coblenz, and directly opposite the celebrated Castle Lahneck, where the last of the Knights Templar died in the heroic defense of their stronghold against the overwhelming forces of the Archbishop of Mainz several hundred years ago, there rises the equally famous castle of Stolzenfels.

Stolzenfels, which is perched on the summit of a lofty rock, 500 feet above the Rhine, is now the property of the ex-Kaiser, though he himself never lived there. The present structure is built on the site of a castle which arose in 1242-59 at the instance of one of the Electors of Trèves, Arnold von Isenburg.

Old Stolzenfels once was held by Archbishop Kuno, one of the most cruel and grasping potentates in Germany. He sent a man named Kurt, one of his staunchest henchmen, and as grasping as himself, to take charge of the castle, directing him to levy merciless tribute on every boat that went up or down the river. Kurt, full of glee at his assignment, proceeded straightway to the castle, fortified it strongly, and kept armed boatloads of men constantly at the water's edge, ready to push into mid-stream whenever the sentinel above signaled the approach of a vessel.

Sometimes Kurt exacted little toll, but more often he robbed the poor boatmen of nearly everything they had on board, and if they offered the slightest resistance his followers would slaughter them and fling their bodies overboard.

Gradually the piles of loot in the strong rooms of the castle grew higher and higher. There were great chests of money, huge piles of gold and silver jewelry, drinking vessels, rich armour, necklaces, bracelets, rings and precious stones of all sorts. There were big heaps of provisions and countless suits of costly silks and other fabrics. Kurt's eyes took on a covetous gleam as he walked among these treasure stores, and he began to devise ways and means of acquiring some of them himself before the arrival of his lord, the Archbishop, who had written that he was shortly to favor the castle with a visit.

Now, there came to the castle an Italian necromancer named Manso, who had heard of the treasures of the strong rooms and had determined to possess himself of as much of it as he could. He visited the castle and announced himself to the superstitious Kurt as a divine alchemist who possessed the power of increasing tenfold any riches which might be turned over to him for that purpose. Kurt fell readily for the Italian's schemings, determining to steal the increase. Gradually he handed over all his own wealth, and most of Kuno's, in spite of the repeated remonstrances of his beautiful daughter Elizabeth, who hated Manso and feared his influence over her father.

The Italian disliked her also, and, as Kuno's visit neared, frightening Kurt, who had turned over everything to the Italian, without as yet having received even a small portion of the promised increase, he conceived of a plan to slay her.

Came the day when Kuno, with great pomp and display, entered the castle. He summoned Kurt before him and declared that the next day he would visit the storehouses *to see for himself just how much* treasure had been collected. Kurt was in despair. Then it was that Elizabeth, concealing her intense loathing for Manso, visited him in his high tower where he kept his tubes and retorts, and, sinking to her knees, begged him to save her father.

The Italian's eyes gleamed wickedly as he told her that there was only one thing which would restore to the vaults the archbishop's loot. Gladly she *promised*, but her face blanched when she was told that only the self-destruction of a virgin could bring back the riches. By such a sacrifice, however, untold happiness would fall to Kurt, The girl promised brokenly to slay herself with a flaming piece of wood which Manso said he would have ready for her at midnight that night.

That night, without telling anyone, she directed her trembling steps to the tower, knocked at the necromancer's room, and was admitted. Manso, in black hood and mantle, spangled over with hideous devices, was busy over his big retort, from which issued bluish-yellow flames.

But, although Elizabeth thought her movements had been unobserved, a brave young knight of the castle, Reinhard von Westerburg, who loved her, had noticed earlier in the evening that she was in a distracted mood. While pacing up and down the battlements that night he saw her steal out of her father's apartments and glide into Manso's tower. Distrusting the magician, he followed her, and burst into the room just as the alchemist was advancing toward her with the fiery brand.

With an angry cry, he flung Manso to the floor and rushed over to Elizabeth. Sobbingly, as she lay in his arms, she told him of her intended sacrifice. He soothed her and led her back to her father's rooms, bidding her be of good cheer; that all would be well on the morrow. The Italian, meanwhile, had disappeared.

In the morning Manso's mangled body was found at the foot of the cliffs below the castle. He had fallen over in an attempt to escape unseen. The riches he had inveigled from Kurt were found intact and handed over to Kuno.

Shortly afterward wedding bells pealed from the chapel of the castle. Elizabeth had become Reinhard's bride.

ROUEN DESERTED BY ITS YANKEE GUESTS

William The Conqueror's Descendants Now Have Town to Themselves

It's apple blossom time in Normandy, but Rouen, ... capital of the historic province famed for its cider, its red cheeks and its storied spires and battlements, is deserted by the Yanks who watched those blossoms fade through two seasons.

For it was here in the city of the sorrow of Joan of Arc that America's first units, the base hospitals attached to the British Second Army Corps, that cared for the men who fell at Cambrai, were stationed. Now they have gone and Tommy and the Aussie hold sovereign sway as did their less friendly ancestors when they held the town and imprisoned the Maid of Orleans in the old tower still standing in the midst of Rouen's quaint old houses.

At Rouen on the Seine, Yankee Stevedores loaded the great barges that carried supplies to Paris through the long months while America's fighting units were pounding the parade grounds and smashing targets in preparation for Château-Thierry and the Argonne. Now the building that was once the American Y.M.C.A., and which still shows the Red Triangle over one doorway, has returned to its pre-war-time status, and sports a smart shop where the descendants of William the Conqueror can barter and buy.

The trees are fairly bursting with the blossoms that have been sung to the merry lilt of the one-step all over America, and whole forests of lilac bushes cover the hills. A few stray Americans wander the streets with musette and guide books and catch sly smiles from the trim W.A.A.C.'s who welcome the variety of khaki without brass buttons which doesn't dare sport a swagger stick.

But the Yanks have gone from Rouen, and long before another year swings round the British will follow them, and Rouen will be the same quiet old French town when next it's apple-blossom time in Normandy.

GOVERNMENT MAY OPEN UNIVERSAL TRAINING SCHOOL

Educators Advocate Year of Study Under National Supervision

ALL YOUNG MEN TO ATTEND

Program Would Be Divided Between Study and Physical and Military Courses

Trailing closely the widespread discussion in the A.E.F. and in America on universal military training, and coincident with cable news that the Secretary of War has reduced the West Point courses to three years, with entrance requirements remaining the same, comes a program combining military training and education for American youth from the Educational Corps Commission of the A.E.F. University at Beaune.

Declaring that the need for educational reconstruction is a world need, on which are dependent the peace and prosperity of every nation, the program outlines the following objectives:

1. Essential elementary knowledge, training and discipline.
2. Occupational efficiency.
3. Civic responsibility.

To train young men for civic responsibility and vocational efficiency the program suggests a full year of instruction, discipline and training to be carried on directly under the auspices of the national Government, and probably best under the immediate control of the War Department, with the educational department, for which a special chair might be created in the President's Cabinet, sharing responsibility for the curriculum and its execution.

Draft of All Young Men

Male youth would be mobilized by a complete draft, only those seriously crippled physically and the mentally incompetent being rejected. One fundamental aim, of course, would be to make all physically fit.

The youth would not be allowed, under the plan, to begin training before reaching 17 years and six months, and he should be required to begin it before passing his twentieth year. This option would permit most boys in high schools to complete their courses before entering training, and it would also permit those going to precede their college work with this year of training.

The program suggests that it would be advantageous to fix at least two dates, such as January 1 and July 1, for the beginning of the courses.

The boys would go to a school at great centers of training—National Civic Institutes, the program calls them—and, though the purpose of this year of Government control and direction would be educational, the student would be required to devote approximately one-half his time to exercises for physical development and to military training. The remaining half would be devoted to such courses of study as he might select, the widest range of choices being provided.

A Million Trained Men

At the end of the year the nation would add to its resources, the program points out, 1,000,000 men, trained not strictly in military affairs, but equally in civic knowledge and ideas, and in all the multitude of arts and industries which make for the prosperity of the country at peace, and many of which have been found indispensable in time of war.

In concluding, it is declared that the "great task of achieving real national unity is still before us. The war's crisis disclosed how far we are from this goal, and brought home to us the supreme importance of attaining it. In going about this task, education must be our one great alliance; and the members of the American Expeditionary Forces, in bringing the great enterprise on which they embarked to a brilliantly successful conclusion, are going to have it in their power in the near future to establish in America a system of education adequate to insure the safety and still further advancement of the country."

FINEE THE COOTIE

Information from the base ports and the American Embarkation Center at Le Mans says that not more than one-half of 1 per cent of the 514,102 men examined in recent weeks were found to be infested with cooties. Before the armistice, from 12 to 20 per cent of the troops arriving in France were found to be "lousy." Frequent baths with plenty of hot water and soap and the sterilization of clothing have solved the problem, according to a bulletin from the Chief Surgeon's office.

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A.E.F. AMUSEMENTS

One big feature of the Third Army's entertainment program is a minstrel revue, "Made in Germany," produced by the 340th Field Artillery of the 89th Division. Lieut. Dan Bartlett of Washington University, St. Louis, and Musician Chester Heyn are responsible for the book and lyrics. Heyn was formerly with the "Yellow Jacket," "Little Café" and the Murray-Lane Players.

The production includes a 30-piece band, under the direction of Philip Boughner. Charles Minor, an old Klaw & Erlanger man, is responsible for the stage settings. "Made in Germany" has been on the road since Christmas and has played to nearly every organization in the Rhine and Moselle country.

"The Cannoneers" is an O.D. vaudeville company that has been touring the A.E.F. for three months with a program billed as "A Bombardment of Fun." Tours, Dijon and Bordeaux are among the places where the barrage has been laid down.

The municipal authorities of Dijon have granted the use of their theater once each week to the Y.M.C.A. for the presentation of A.E.F. shows and concerts.

The "Kick 'Em" company is the name of the 20th Engineers' show which has been playing the A.E.F. for nearly three months. The show is a jazzy musical one, with a Hawaiian setting for the big number.

George Smithfield, who produced "Finee Paree" for the Sixth Corps, has been assigned to the Tours Play Factory to produce new musical comedies for the A.E.F.

The Blue Ridge Ambulance Minstrels, of the 80th Division Ambulance Section, have as one of their features a "Shell Shock Quartette." The show, which is absolutely without khaki, is under the direction of Capt. J. B. Wells.

At Base Hospital 91 more than 2,000 soldiers, nurses and officers saw the 7th Division show, "34th and Broadway," whose itinerary includes the Army of Occupation.

"Put It There" is the name of a snappy new musical farce that has been produced by the men of the Motor Transport Corps in Tours.

The A.E.F. is soon to enjoy a riotous comedy, "The Moppers Up," which has been completely costumed and equipped at Tours. The production will be booked over the entire army theater circuit, first playing the S.O.S.

The playwrights at the Play Factory in Tours have produced a new vaudeville sketch entitled "Who's Who.

The 323rd Infantry of the 81st Division label their offering "As You Were, Wildcats." Lieuts. Donnell Culley and Robert Strauss produced the show, and both take part in the performance.

"The Arkansas Travelers," "Everything," "The Runaways," "Snap It Up," "Golden State," "Odds and Ends," "The Loire Variety," "Stop Thief" and "Under Cover" are titles which indicate the variety of shows now playing in the A.E.F.

Doughboy Clarence C. Holt of the 38th Infantry, 3rd Division, who won fame on the Argonne front by staging impromptu vaudeville performances for the entertainment of his comrades, sometimes right under fire, has been obtained by the army entertainment bureau to tour the A.E.F. vaudeville circuit. He is known as the "Human Torch." He does many startling things, such as eating flaming steak that has been *saturated in alcohol, and holding in his* mouth large wads of flaming cotton. The Army has furnished Holt with all the equipment he needs for his fire-eating act.

Eight non-coms compose a company of soldier actor-musicians who call themselves "The Eight of Us." Opening in Paris in February, they have since been playing in the *Advanced Section, S.O.S., traveling in* everything operated on wheels by the A.E.F., and appearing in all sorts of houses, from open aerodromes to stuffy German movie theaters.

MORE FRANCS FOR FRENCH WAR WAIFS ON MOTHER'S DAY

Men From 64th Infantry Halt Letter Writing to Make Donation

Mother's Day meant more to the men of the 3rd Battalion of the 64th Infantry than merely writing letters. The ideals which they professed in their epistles to their mothers were given concrete expression in the shape of a donation of 1,077 francs to THE STARS AND STRIPES fund for French war orphans.

Chaplain Daniel A. McNeill, of the 64th, forwarded the money with the explanation that he had merely mentioned the kiddies on Mother's Day. Before the outfit goes home the chaplain expects to remit another thousand. This is not the padre's first offense. When with the 1st Battalion of the 54th he induced the men to contribute 2,000 francs for the fatherless youngsters of France.

In Memory of Dead Comrades

Another recent donation to the fund came from the men of Company B, 504th Engineers, who contributed $146 "in memory of the following five men of Company B who died in France during the war: Pvts. Lewis D. Delmore, Milton F. Marks, George W. Newton, Frank H. Welch and Earl Woodin."

A payment of 2,100 francs has been made by the personnel of THE STARS AND STRIPES for the special benefit of their little ward, Marie-Louise Patriarche. The child's first year has just expired, but the new contribution means she will be supported during the next four years.

The recent donations to the Orphans' Fund include several items covering checks and money orders lost in the mails and for which duplicates have been issued. All funds are now being turned over directly to THE STARS AND STRIPES' Bureau of the American Red Cross, which will continue to function after the A.E.F. goes home.

List of Donations

Contributions received since THE STARS AND STRIPES' Bureau assumed full control are:

H. W. Proudfoot, Boston	38.30
Co. D, 408th Teleg. Bn.	300.00
Lieut. John T. Whitney, M.T.O., B.S. 5	25.00
Anonymous	10.00
Co. B, 166th Inf.	38.50
Lieut. F. F. Hanley, Le Mans	100.00
Ralph S. Edmondson, Titusville, Pa.	325.00
James Laughlin III	2,256.00
F. J. Laebbert, San Francisco	50.00
Lieut. Matthew H. Jones	500.00
The Stars and Stripes	2,100.00
Nurses, Base Hospital 81	215.00
Edward Browning	100.00
462nd Aero Squadron	25.00
Ambulance Co. 353	20.00
14th Co., 20th Engrs.	250.00
Hq. Co., 112th F.A. (Heavy)	521.57
J. J. Barragar, 91st Div. M.P.	30.00
Forbes, 89th Div.	10.00
The Foderes Weekly, Brest	225.00
Co. C, 302nd Inf.	667.00
Co. C, 302nd Inf.	391.61
32nd Div.	357.75
Co. A, 110th F.S. Bn.	26.25
304th F.A.	21.75
U. C. Moulton, S.C., A.P.O. 784	11.00
Lieut. J. Loebenstein, 132nd Engrs.	60.50
H. Russell Case, Pasadena, Cal.	332.50
Thomas Parker	152.00
Air Service Print Shop, A.P.O. 717	250.60
Anonymous	10.00
Signal Corps, Nantes	419.57
A Daddy	200.00
Leon L. Bettle	615.00
Hq. Co., 132nd F.A.	2,722.50
Co. B, 402nd Engrs.	885.30
Lieut. John Stone, deceased	501.00
Horace Burdette	13.00
Supply Co., 140th Inf.	25.50
26th Co., 20th Engrs.	20.00
J. A. K.	5.00
3rd Bn., 64th Inf., 7th Div.	1,077.00
Total	16,013.10

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