card prescribed by G.O. 63, 1917 series, and wear his identification tags.

He will have to undergo an inspection to show that he has these marks of identity, that he is of neat appearance, that he has sufficient funds, and that he is physically well. At the inspection he will be instructed to observe strictly any prescribed price limitations in the place to which he is going, in order to prevent a rise in prices that might embarrass other men.

Men on leave will carry with them their complete individual equipment with the exception of arms, ammunition, gas mask and helmet. Except when on Class A leave, they will register, in their own handwriting, the address at which they may be reached, in case, say, of a hurry-up order to their units to get ready for embarkation.

CASH PRIZES FOR BEST O. D. LYRICS; FIRST, 500 FRANCS

Continued from Page 1

in mind is jotted down on his manuscript. Thus a lyric patterned after the meter of "Over There" should say so. This does not mean that the quest is for parodies of popular songs, although parodies are not barred from the competition.

All Lyrics must be addressed to the Lyric Contest Editor, THE STARS AND STRIPES, Paris, American E. F.

The tiny and attractive Theatre Albert Premier, Paris, where until recently an English stock company held the boards largely for the entertainment of Canadians and Aussies on leave, has just been taken over by the Y.M.C.A. as a sort of laboratory and show-window for the show business of the A.E.F. There, vaudeville acts and comedies produced by this or that outfit will be exhibited to Paris and, incidentally, pruned and whipped into shape for a round of the one-night stands.

In charge are Oswald Yorke, the American actor, and James Forbes, the playwright who wrote "The Chorus Lady" and "The Show Shop." This dramatic hot house of theirs will get the sundry productions ready for transplanting. The crying need at present is for trained actors, for it is no secret that the dramatic profession back home never responded in sufficient numbers to supply one-tenth of the needs of the A.E.F. If we are to have many good traveling companies, all actors of professional experience now in the ranks of the army are urged to write at once to Mr. Yorke at 10 Rue de l'Elysée, Paris, expressing their willingness to go on this sort of detached service. Also all actresses—for many lights of the stage are hidden here under the white uniform of the nurse or the blue uniform of the Red Cross.

The Paris theater will be open to the public beginning next week. Unlike the movie house in the Rue de Chanzy in Le Mans, there will be no admission charge to soldiers, but inasmuch as the auditorium is small, admission will have to be by ticket—the tickets being handed out at various soldier centers in Paris.

"A Buck on Leave" is the name of a lifesize musical comedy put on by the M.T.C. Reconstruction Park 722. From the proceeds of this production 25,644 francs have already been turned into the War Orphon Fund. The C.G., S.O.S., has approved plans for a tour by the company, all proceeds to be contributed to the Orphans' Continuation Fund. Such a tour is not so simple as it sounds, for whereas the transportation problem of most A.E.F. shows can be solved by a couple of salvaged trucks, the company of "A Buck on Leave" numbers 110.

On January 30, the Motor Transport Corps will produce in the municipal theater at Dijon their new revue, "Comme Ca," and the producers hope the audience will not walk out on them this time. When they ventured on a similar revue last August—it was called "Over the Top With the M.T.C.,"—at least half of the audience got up and left in a body before the show was fairly started.

It wasn't the fault of the show, however. Not long after the curtain rose there came a rush order to get out a convoy, and all the members of the corps in the audience were obliged to go to work. They worked for 48 hours, toiling on at night by the light from the lamps of a circle of touring cars, and by midnight of the first night, those lamps revealed the curious spectacle of men laboring over the machines while still grotesque with the rouge and burnt-cork of their make-up. For when the show was over, the actors joined the detail.

Very few of the spectators who cast languishing glances these nights at the captivating prima donna of "Snap It Up," the revue being played with such success by the 29th Division Vaudeville Troupe, would ever have believed it possible when they saw the same person up beyond Verdun driving a wheel team in the Artillery. As for Ray De Jongo, who was a wireman with the Engineers in the same outfit, he is now shaking a wicked hoof in the pony ballet of "Snap It Up." De Jongo spends his time between performances and rehearsals meditating what he will do to the imaginative artist who painted those posters which assured every passing youth that if he enlisted the Army would "make a man" of him.

The tour of the Tank Corps Follies was cut short by a mysterious order which led every member of the company to suspect they would soon be playing to the audiences in the demobilization camps back home. However, all-A.E.F. members are more or less expecting to go on tour in the States some time or other. The show folks in the 27th Division, for instance, naturally expect a return engagement on Broadway, and they count on their new musical farce "Let's Beat It" to beat even the phenomenal Broadway run of "You Know Me, Al," the piece the 27th produced back home before the division sailed for France and glory last spring.

Speaking of parodies, there is one being sung around Tours these days to the tune of "They Wouldn't Believe Me." It runs something like this:—

And when they ask us
How dangerous it was,
We never will tell them,
We never will tell them.
We spent our pay
In some café,
And fought wild women
Night and day—
'Twas the awfullest war we ever knew.
And when they ask us
(And they're certainly going to ask us)
Just why it was we did not win the Croix de Guerre,
We never will tell them,
We never will tell them—
There was a front, but damned if we knew where.

SEARCH IS BEGUN FOR ORPHANS IN INVADED REGIONS

Red Cross Investigators Seek Thousand for S.O.S. Adoptors

CONTINUATION FUND GROWS

Sum of 12,249 Francs Received During Week Swells Total to 218,802

Representatives of THE STARS AND STRIPES Orphan Bureau of the American Red Cross have begun the work of investigating the condition of the children of the devastated and recently freed areas of France and of choosing the 1,000 orphans from these regions who will be adopted and added to the A.E.F. family under the big fund subscribed by the S.O.S.

First reports of the investigators indicate that the conditions are as bad as was anticipated, and that the difficulties of reaching the children are greater. Trains are just beginning to be run again in many places, and at present their use is confined wholly to military needs and to getting food and other supplies to the civil population.

So far as the children, and their elders, too, are concerned, there is nothing to be had now except what arrives and is distributed from day to day. Money, at the present moment, would be of no use to them.

Hundreds of square miles are included in the devastated areas. In these regions are tracts which were No Man's Land for four years.

For miles bordering either side of No Man's Land proper, are areas which were subjected to less heavy shelling and bombing.

Thousands Pouring Back

And now, to the comparatively few who remained, are being added thousands who began pouring back on the heels of the retreating Germans in November. Instead of finding at least a semblance of the homes they left in their flight before the invaders, these people have returned, in hundreds of cases, to a bleak countryside, shell-scarred and with not so much as a wall standing.

These are the conditions the orphan investigators are meeting. Only a few of the roads, necessary for military purposes, have been rebuilt. The Germans, in their retreat, mined every highway and destroyed many railway lines and bridges. Mail service is practically unknown.

To pick a thousand children from the tens of thousands who appear at present to be almost equal in their needs will be the task of the investigators. To do it they are enlisting the aid of the civil authorities.

Whether the money can be spent now or not, the Red Cross committee will begin, as soon as possible, the allotting of the children to the units which contributed the francs for their support. If it is found inadvisable to begin paying money to the children upon adoption, owing to the fact that the money would be of no particular use to them in a country where there is nothing for sale, the payments will be deferred. Or it may be possible, when the transportation difficulties are remedied, to buy necessities and ship them in to the mascots.

FR. 12,249 LATEST BOOST FOR CONTINUATION FUND

Contributions ranging from three to 2,200 francs boosted the War Orphans' Continuation Fund 12,248.82 francs this week.

Co. C, 312th Labor Battalion, came in with 3,200 francs. Battery A, 51st Artillery, C.A.C., put in 1,199.98 francs, and Co. F, 6th Engineers, gave 1,594 francs.

Field Remount Squadrons 305 and 325 took up a collection for the Continuation Fund amounting to 996.70 francs, and the instructors and officers of the Third Corps School got together for a similar purpose and assessed themselves 830.04.

Members of the A.E.F. who are bound for home continue to turn in their STARS AND STRIPES subscription coupons to the Continuation Fund. The sum of 347.25 francs was realized from this source during the week.

This week's contributions to the Continuation Fund were:

Pvt. Wm. Stopper, Co. H, 54th Pioneer Inf.	10.00
Army Field Clerks' Mess No. 2, G.H.Q.	550.00
Field Remount Squadrons 305 and 325	996.70
Miss Olive Woodall	19.90
Battery A, 51st Art., C.A.C.	1,199.98
Anonymous	3.00
Instructors and Officers of Third Corps Schools	830.04
110th Regt. Engrs.	595.19
Co. B, Engrs.	500.00
S.O.S.	50.00
Wm. Brady, Co. K, 116th Inf.	50.00
Lt. J. F. Hall, 331st Inf.	5.00
Lt. R. H. Waller, 317th F.A.	250.70
Co. B, 5th Field Signal Bn.	21.50
Anonymous (three donations)	250.00
Capt. W. E. Munk, Co. B, 308th Engrs	52.00
Mrs. Francis R. McNok, Youngstown, O.	500.00
Pvt. R. W. Schofield, Hq. Co., 63rd Inf.	5.35
Base Hospital No. 14	219.96
Subscription Coupons Cashed	347.25
Captain Truax, 40th Service Co.	715.00
Co. C, 312th Labor Bn.	3,200.00
Woman's Club of Fall River, Mass.	469.20
Hood Rubber Co. Girls' War Relief Club,	25.00
Mrs. Peter Enzor, Pelican Rapids, Minn.	10.00
Mrs. James Marshall, Fall River, Mass.	470.80
D. J. Kerper, Hartford, Conn.	136.25
Co. F, 6th Engrs.	1,594.00
Three Ladies, care Mrs. J. N. Harwood, Cambridge, Mass.	130.00
Previously acknowledged	206,552.91
Grand total	218,801.73

HOW TO HELP THE 3,444

The War Orphan Campaign of THE STARS AND STRIPES closed on December 16, 1918, with 3,444 French orphans adopted by the A.E.F., and assured of a home and comfort for one year.

Nearly all the members of the family lost their fathers in the war. A few are children of French soldiers so seriously wounded that they will be permanently disabled. In addition, many are refugees from the districts of France invaded by the Germans.

A Continuation Fund has been established to provide these orphans with assistance beyond the single year; to help educate them and give them some of the material advantages they would have had if their fathers had not died fighting for the freedom of the world. The extent of these benefits to them will be determined by the size of the fund.

It is hoped to make the Orphan Family of the A.E.F. an enduring monument to the sisterhood of France and America.

French laws prohibit adopters from taking their proteges to the United States under any circumstances.

LINA AND THE LOOT

This petite Toulouse can—and does—sing "Au Clair de la Lune" for Lieut. H. F. Gossett.

CONFERENCE AIMS AT SPEEDY PEACE; POLICY OUTLINED

Continued from Page 1

but by general agreement, with compromise when necessary. Speed in reaching the first great goal—peace—will be the aim of the Conference.

Among the most pressing questions, and one which affects the members of the A.E.F., is the Russian situation. Already three methods of handling it have been presented for consideration: first, armed aid to that element in Russia which is considered still an ally of the Allies, to put down the Bolshevists and permit the formation of a stable government through the country; second, practical and efficient cooperation with the groups in the peaceful centers in terms of munitions, material and supplies; third, a "hands off" policy, with an understanding with the Bolshevist leaders that depredations and military activity shall stop, but without official recognition of a Bolshevist government.

International Labor Question

Another feature of the conference considered worthy of a head on the first "order of the day" is the question of international labor. "It is felt," one statement explains, "that there can be no real political peace under the threat of economic competition which might destroy the safeguards of labor." The results of the great labor conventions that have been held recently are to be carefully considered by the conference, and such action taken as will assure not only a square deal for the worker but protection for the countries that would suffer from the abnormal conditions created by the war.

The Russian question and Bolshevism touch conditions in Germany, but although fear is still expressed in some quarters concerning the situation, late reports indicate that the Majority socialists, who claim to have for a program the creation of a government similar to that of the United States with a president with powers such as are held by the French executives, are gaining power.

No announcement has been made as to the length of time of President Wilson's stay in Europe, but it was stated before he left America that he intended to be in Washington for the opening of Congress.

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FRAU BERTHA'S TOY PALACE IN WOODS NOW BRIGADE HQ.

Continued from Page 1

about; but if they did they were either about as successful as they were in the late unpleasantness, or they bore their trophies away with them; or (and this is inconceivable) they hid their success under nom de plumes.

Leading off from the reception hall in one corner is the Krupp-Böhlen suite, two small rooms (all the rooms are small—indeed, the great charm of the place lies in the fact that everything is in rustic miniature).

Who or What Is "G.B."?

Just below the top of the canopy of the vast bed and stretching across its foot is a decorated panel on which are painted some German hieroglyphics, together with the mysterious letters, "G.B." Just what do they mean? Everybody around the place has taken a guess. Some assert the letters signify "Gros Bertha"; others insist they stand for "Gräfin Böhlen" (Countess Böhlen).

The sole window of the bedroom overlooks a glorious view down the valley, with its ragged sheets of mist about the mountain peaks, mass on mass of greenery, the glint of the torrent below, and, on the left, on another eminence across the valley, the remains of a ruined castle, perhaps another stronghold of the great lords of Sayn who flourished hereabouts in the 13th century.

Another wonderful view of the valley can be obtained from a veranda leading off from the dining room, whose walls also are lined with deer horns and shelves containing plates and steins. Among the latter is one in the bottom of which a music box has been cunningly hidden, and strains of "The Count of Luxembourg" tinkle forth when the guest lifts the stein to his lips. And on the stein is a caption which, translated broadly, says:

The bird who doesn't drink, who doesn't sing,
Who has no tales of love to tell,
That bird, let's pity him, for he is S.O.L.

The General's Study

Off the dining room is the general's study, beautifully furnished with a great fireplace and easy chairs. Here, as everywhere about the place, one comes upon sprigs of poetry and quaint sayings, painted on the mantels, on the beams of the ceilings, over the doorways, and even in the bedrooms. There is one in a bedroom upstairs that every soldier in the A.E.F. would like to see repeated in English in a general order. It abjures one never to be in a hurry about getting up in the morning, that it leads to complications, particularly ill-temper!

The rooms, above and below, are all lighted by electricity. There are electrical stoves in case the supply of wood for the ornate German stoves gives out, and then there's hot-water heat as a further precaution. Catch the Krupps catching cold! There is a white-tiled bathroom for the officers and another for the men. There is a meat cooler, built according to Hoyle, with double walls and heavy doors; and there is a house telephone. The stable, oddly enough, has only three stalls in it, and, as these aren't enough to take care of the headquarters horses, an additional stable is being put up in a little grove not far from the lodge.

There is a barber shop in connection, and a pressing establishment; in fact, nothing has been overlooked, not even to the dog kennels, of which there are four.

There is one other interesting feature—the cabinet in the attic with its glass drawers, each of which contains the lower jaws of the deer killed in one year, all beautifully mounted and enameled, with the place where the animal was shot, and its weight. The collection apparently was started in 1914. In 1917 13 kills were prepared; in 1918, none. The Krupps were too busy making shells.

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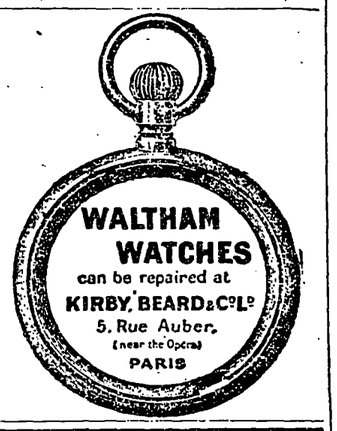

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DEAD LETTER PILE UP NEAR 4,000,000

Uncertain Addresses Keep 800 Busy Night and Day at C.P.O.

The percentage of A.E.F. mail which, for one reason and another, is delayed in reaching the person for whom it is intended is smaller than it used to be. Largely this is due to the fact that the people in the States are doing better on the addressing end of the correspondence game. But the amount of mail arriving in France which is misaddressed, the address of which has been torn or obliterated, or destined for men whose whereabouts is temporarily unknown to the P.E.S. is still considerable.

Just now 800 officers and men are working night and day seven days a week at the Central P.O. at Bourges trying to keep abreast of the tide of arriving mail of uncertain ownership.

One department of the Central Post Office comprises an A.E.F. dead letter office, and Christmas mail and Christmas packages, the latter mutilated or with illegible labels, have brought the total number of pieces of mail in it up to the four million mark.

Boy, Page Colonel Smith

While the difficulty often arises from the fact that men's change of address has not been reported to the Central P. O., where there is a card for every man in the A.E.F., often the sender is to blame. A cable recently addressed to "Colonel Smith, Paris, A.E.F.," naturally was a problem for the clerks. When Paris sent it to Bourges there was no way of telling to which of the dozen or two "Colonel Smiths" it belonged. The same thing often happens with enlisted men's mail.

All such mail is held for reclassification at the Central Post Office until it is certain that no record of change of address is available, when it is returned to the sender, or, if no sender's address is given, to the Dead Letter Office at New York.

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