

FOLKS AT HOME WRITE TWICE AS MUCH AS WE DO

A.E.F. Postal Service Says So, and Has Figures to Prove It

HUN HELMETS BOOST WORK

It's a Busy Life, All Right, for Large-Thumbed Sorters of Yanks' Multitudinous Mail

If the mail clerks of the A.E.F. decide to hoist their own distinctive shoulder insignia it will be a thumb, a right thumb that looks like an ordinary thumb that has been flattened out with a hammer.

Overlaid from its birth, the Army postal system has never been free from the pressure of new growth. In July last year the Army took over from the Postal Department the job of handling its own mail.

In July, 1918, the Army in France filled 29,000 sacks with its letters and packages. In December, 1918, the A.E.F. postal system was distributing 132,000 sacks of mail.

Homebound Helmets by the Sackful Just as an incident in January's postal business the port of Bordeaux loaded 15,000 mail-sacks full of German helmets on homeward bound boats.

The A.E.F. mail system is modeled on the back-home way of handling mail. There are 24 long railroad lines over which A.E.F. mail coaches, in charge of A.E.F. soldiers, pass daily.

German Mail Cars Used In addition to former equipment, 20 new German mail cars have just been taken over by the A.E.F. and are now running daily over various lines.

As an example of the way it works, the Third Army mail coach, left Coblenz at 10:34 a.m., February 20. The coach arrived at Paris at 9:45 a.m. the next day and its contents were unloaded and distributed by 10:30 a.m.

Flapdoodle and Bunk To the Editor of THE STARS AND STRIPES: The folks at home say that the gold service chevron should not be worn by the A.E.F. because it differentiates between the soldier who came overseas and the soldier who did not.

Paging Jim Hall The mail hustlers admit they are good at puzzles by this time. At Bourges the other day they received a letter addressed to: "Mr. Charles Pollard, number 4 in the front rank."

Little, But, Oh, My! To the Editor of THE STARS AND STRIPES: It is to laugh—that proposed abolishment of the service stripe by those "jealous stay-at-homes" and their petty politicians who shape the destinies of the Land of Liberty for which we of the A.E.F. have been fighting.

Grand Opening of the Season's Novelties Interpreters for All Languages We are only human, and we have had a great sufficiency of flapdoodle and bunk. We do not want our honors and distinctions taken away through meanness and jealousy—after we have earned them.

When Private Brown got back from France THE first thing he did after antipiling the best dinner that ever came out of the Brown kitchen, was to stroll down town and buy a new hat.

WAR OF THE CHEVRONS WAXES HOTTER STILL

But A.E.F.'s Protests Against Pending Legislation May Be Needless

The proposal made by the House Committee on Military Affairs to settle the burning chevron controversy by abolishing all chevrons, gold and silver alike, has inspired an avalanche of letters to this newspaper.

To the Editor of THE STARS AND STRIPES: I notice that Congress wants to abolish our service stripes because they would make painful distinctions between the lucky men who came to France and those condemned to service at home.

It would be a good idea to abolish also all wound stripes, because doubtless many of the Home Guards would have been wounded if they had only had the chance.

WHAT WILL MOTHER SAY? To the Editor of THE STARS AND STRIPES: And to the gentlemen who framed the Bill: You have slapped us in the face. A mail stripe. Not much, is it? A mother who has given will not care if her son returns, after a year of going over the top, without any distinctive marking.

AS TO LIBERTY BONDS Delivery of Third Liberty Loan Bonds, paid for by a soldier of the A.E.F., by allotments of his pay between April 1, 1918, and January 31, 1919, will only be made after the personal adjutant of the soldier's unit has furnished a statement showing that the par value of the bonds subscribed for has been deducted from the soldier's pay.

Blames Mr. Shell Proof To the Editor of THE STARS AND STRIPES: I am a soldier of many years' experience and have seen my unit shell proof in this war, and all I have to show for it is a gold service bar. I prize my one stripe as much, if not more than any other part of my uniform or service badge.

Cannes Carlton Hotel Bathrooms with every room. Extreme South—Special terms for Allied Officers. Tel. Central 96.16 BARCLAY Tel. Address AREFO 96.34 18 & 20 Avenue de l'Opera MILITARY, CIVIL AND SPORTING TAILOR APPLY FOR OUR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE

Officers' Khaki Shirts Furnisher to Men A. RAGON Ladies' Pajamas 32 Avenue de l'Opera, Paris

New-Skin Never More Cracked, Chapped, Itchy, or Raw

Au Printemps Boulevard Haussmann, Paris Monday, March 3, and following days. GRAND OPENING of the SEASON'S NOVELTIES INTERPRETERS FOR ALL LANGUAGES

How They Are Shipped If trains are to be used for transport, the American superintendent of the Midi Railroad, a first lieutenant in the Transportation Department, stationed at Base Headquarters, arranges for the necessary number of hospital trains and train crews, and also with the French authorities for the dispatching of these trains over the French roads.

Some Who Rate Both To the Editor of THE STARS AND STRIPES: Surely they don't think in the States that we shall look upon the silver stripe as a brand of failure! As for the continual excuse offered by the silver strikers, such as, "It wasn't my fault that I didn't go to France," isn't it very much like saying, "I didn't have a chance to win a medal so why should you give those brave boys one?"

How They Are Shipped (continued) Each hospital train is made up of 16 cars as follows: Nine ward cars, a staff car, a pharmacy car, a supply car, a personnel car, an infectious ward car and two kitchen cars, one on each end of the train.

How They Are Shipped (continued) The regular transport cars that are being used to convey the troops back home, there are two hospital ships—the Comfort, which will carry 403 litter cases, and the Mercy, which will carry 475 litter cases.

OVER 19,000 SICK OR WOUNDED SPED FROM SINGLE PORT

2,900 in One Day, Bordeaux's Record Since Armistice Signing

RIDE IN TRAINS TO DOCKS

Hospital Ships "Comfort" and "Mercy" Supplemented by Regular Transports

More than 19,000 patients have been evacuated from the base hospitals in the vicinity of Bordeaux and dispatched to the States since the signing of the armistice. As many as 2,900 patients have been evacuated in a single day.

CUT 'EM OUT, SAYS REDLEG To the Editor of THE STARS AND STRIPES: I note with great pleasure that a law is about to be passed prohibiting the wearing of service chevrons. I only rate two now and I am sure that I shall not have more than five by the time I return. They are a nuisance.

How They Are Shipped (continued) The first going-home step is the notification received from the Army Transport Service by the Medical Department that there are accommodations for so many litter cases, so many sick cases and so many other Class B cases on a certain ship, this information being usually given 24 hours in advance.

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Military Band Instruments BESSON & CO., Ltd. 198 Euston Rd., London, Eng.

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GOOD YEAR

When You Return to New York STAY AT THE HOTEL McALPIN or the WALDORF-ASTORIA

A substantial discount and every possible preference and attention to men in the Uniformed Service.

The Pocket Self-Filling

THIS little lever fills it! Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pen Simply raise lever, immerse nib in ink, low pressure—and this type of the World's Best Pen is filled and ready for use.

STATE EXPRESS CIGARETTES No. 555 VIRGINIA No. 444 TURKISH

When Private Brown got back from France THE first thing he did after antipiling the best dinner that ever came out of the Brown kitchen, was to stroll down town and buy a new hat.

When Private Brown got back from France (continued) He set a great store by his hat—Perhaps that's why he always wore Mallory.

When Private Brown got back from France (continued) When you get back, you'll find plenty of good Mallory Hats ready for you—at the best shops, as always.

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SHAVE WITH A SMILE BY USING DURHAM DUPLEX A REAL RAZOR -- MADE SAFE

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Additional packages of blades containing 5 blades or three blades. AT ALL A.E.F., Y.M.C.A. and SALVATION ARMY CANTEENS