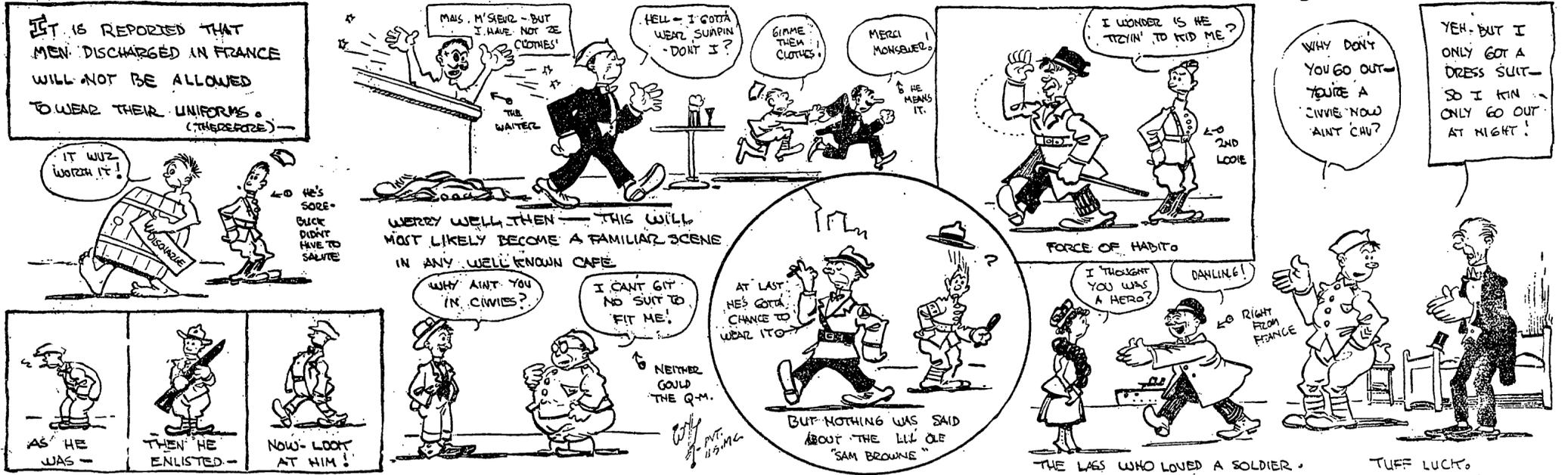


# CIVVIES AND THEIR WEARERS

## By WALLGREN



### WHERE A.E.F. GETS ITS MOVIE SHOWS

Film Center in Paris Imports New Stuff, Gathers Even Newer Here

HAS AUDIENCE OF 60,000,000

Personnel of 1,596 Includes Yank Camera Experts Detailed to Keep Reels on the Circuit

Pictures amid the deep drifts at Archangel, where the Yanks, in warm boots, hoods and furs, huddle in the snow-banked huts; pictures in the balmy Riviera, where the leave men can sit out under the moon of a soft, Italian sky; pictures at scintillating Brest, westernmost jumping-off place for the Goddess of Liberty and parts beyond; pictures in Coblenz, Germany, heart of the American bridgehead; pictures in Russian prison camps, where the Yanks can be entertained while helping in the distribution of food; pictures in Constantinople, Turk stronghold for many centuries; pictures, even, at Vladivostok, bleak Asiatic terminus of the trans-Siberian railroad, where American troops are helping guard the vast mountains of stores, and pictures on the high seas.

There is no sector of the A. E. F., indeed, which does not sense the pulsing of the personnel in a little, dingy, white building situated in a historic quarter near the Madeleine, Paris, headquarters of the Community Motion Picture Bureau, Y.M.C.A., A.E.F. And here, as at many other points, Yanks specially trained in motion picture work are helping entertain their comrades.

Here big U.S. Army trucks are constantly seen loading and unloading supplies of films. Here are busy employees, sorting and packing. Here one sees the great piles of circular metal boxes which hold the long miles of film that go on daily. Here, too, is a staff of people mounting and correcting films, there another group winding the shiny, celluloid ribbons, and further along in the editorial and file rooms are being made selections of programs, the decisions of which furnish a vivid lesson in the geography of Europe.

And daily there come in from all parts of the A.E.F., in France, Italy and Germany, division secretaries, taking up the materials to provide recreation for the American soldiers. There is never material enough to satisfy everyone, but the amount is increasing week by week.

#### No Stale P'pics for A.E.F.

There is a mistaken notion in the A.E.F. that the pictures the soldiers see are ones that have been seen by the home folks long ago. And that is not true, this is the way the bureau operates:

Its branch bureau in New York has three projection rooms, in which are being shown constantly to 50 editorial experts the best of the productions just being released from the studios. Those selected are bought, copies struck off, depending on the number on which they are to be shown, and sent by swift transport service overseas to Paris. From here the film is re-distributed to branch offices at Tours, Chaumont, Coblenz, Marseille, Brest, Verdun, Bordeaux, St. Nazaire, Brest, Le Mans, Antwerp and Rotterdam, and from these points it reaches out into the hinterland, the films being apportioned according to the number of troops in any particular area.

At Tours there are mobile units of from 50 to 60 ambulances on which are being carried Delco lights mounted permanently in the ambulance. The picture machine is attached to the apparatus in the car by a joint table so that it can be set up anywhere, in a building or outside, the power turned on, a group of O.D. spectators gathered and away we go.

Pictures shown range all the way from current events, known as "Overseas Weeklies," through nature, educational, geographical and industrial films, to the big spectacular productions. Among the current events depicted are those portraying the landing of returning troops at New York and other ports. The landing of the 27th Division, for instance, is to be shown shortly all over the A.E.F.

#### Yanks Like Comics and Mary

Comedy, with silly threads of sentiment running through it, is proving the most popular with the soldiers. Among the best of these being shown is Douglas Fairbanks in "Habit of Happiness," and in "Rescue Meets in," Norma Talmadge in "De Luxe Annie," Constance Talmadge in "Up the Road With Sally."

There is the big feature, "My Own United States," founded on Edward F. Kelly's "The Man Without a Country," and, of course, it need scarcely be mentioned that W. S. Hart and Charlie Chaplin, the latter especially in his screen, "Soldier Army," are the favorites.

And Mary Pickford, of course, can never be forgotten.

Russian prisoners are shown films of educational and industrial nature. At present they are seeing films showing the great logging operations of the Pacific Northwest, and according to the guesses among the doughboys who have been able to pick up a few jaw-shattering adjectives, those depicting vast astonishment and wonder are in order whenever they logging operations are thrown on the screen.

Modern picture outfits are now on the way to Poland and Bohemia and to various parts of Germany.

This month the bureau is celebrating

### IN DEUTSCHLAND UNTER OLD GLORY

There is one solemn moment in the brisk and business-like life of the Third Army in Coblenz. That is when Old Glory, flying solemnly over the topmost fortifications of Ehrenfelsstein, is lowered in the evening, while the clear bugle notes of retreat echo across the Rhine valley.

All Yanks snap to attention and stand at salute. On the bridge of boats, on the promenades along the Rhine, in front of American headquarters, outside the old imperial palace, beside the colossal statue of the first William, they stand rigid, their eyes fixed on the old fortress across the river.

The second of the two big Y huts which have been in process of erection for weeks in front of the old Kaiser Palace is now in active service. What makes this important in the eyes of the Third Army Yank is that the building is a cafeteria, which means no more standing in line for meals. Army regulations provide that the food shall not be bought from the Germans, except fruit and certain kinds of vegetables. Consequently, there has been a mighty run on the Y.M.C.A., the Y.M.C.A., the Red Cross and wherever else food may be sold or distributed.

During March the Y.M.C.A. served 197,975 meals at its other canteens, including one at Cochem.

They are perfectly good American schools, but you would not think so to read the names of the educational centers operated by the Third Army in Coblenz. Here are the principal ones: Kaiser Wilhelm Iteal Gymnasium, Kaiser Wilhelm Iteal, Hilda Schule, Ursula Lyceum, Kaiserin Augusta Gymnasium.

Street vendors of maps have no such trade in Coblenz as they have in Paris and other cities of France. In Coblenz you get that map, and you get it for the asking. They are printed and given away by the 29th Engineers, G-2-C, who have many shelves loaded with maps of the occupied area.

A general was busted in the 32nd Division just before it started for the coast—General Gloom. He was placed in command of the 15th Field Artillery Brigade, comprising the 32nd, 32nd and 32nd Regiments, which had come over originally with the 32nd Division, and had been transferred to the 2nd in the Argentine. Someone spread the report that the brigade was not going home with the rest of the division. Funeral services were held over the regiment, the division and played dirges as numbers of the regiment buried their shoulder ornaments. There was some talk, indeed, of adopting "L.I." as the new insignia of the Lost Brigade.

Then the band was hustled out again, for the men heard they were to return, after all. The band played glow waltzes, and the insignia was resurrected. General Joy took command.

Up in the Rhine hinterland, where the snow until quite recently lay thick in the valleys of the Yanks, 2,000 strong, who take this opportunity to serve notice on the A.E.F. generally, that although the war Division, to which they belong, is supposed to be Texas and Oklahoma plainsmen, cow punchers and Indians, they themselves, hail from New England, and what is more to the point, from the district surrounding Boston, effete city of the East.

Some of these New Englanders found their way to the division through transfers from other branches of the service, while the majority joined their present organizations at Camp Mills, L.I., after completing training at Tufts, Franklin Union Institute, and other educational centers around the East.

In addition to the New Englanders there are about 5,000 soldiers in the 90th from Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois. They joined the division at Camp Travis, San Antonio, Texas.

"Milwaukee Ave." announce street signs in Munsterbach and Bismarck, two of the innermost outposts across the Rhine. The streets of the billet villages have been re-labeled and bear Yankee names. The troops which have been occupying these billets come from the 32nd Division, originally Wisconsin and Michigan National Guard.

White ambulances on their sleeves, small Third Army details daily patrol the roads of the neutral zone, the ten-kilometer No Man's Land between American Germany and Germany proper. The patrols take a swing over the roads to see that doughboys do not stray into the zone.

"Anyhow, there will be lots of fruit in the fall," say philosophers in the Third Army as they see the fruit trees a solid mass of blossoms. The numerous apple, pear and cherry trees of the Rhine-land are in full bloom, pointing to an abundant crop. And the vineyards are promising well, too.

To the many newspapers and magazines of the Third Army has been added the Indian, the publication of the 2nd Division. The paper is named after the divisional shoulder insignia, which has an Indian head in the center.

"Where is the recruiting office?" inquired a doughboy strolling into Third Army headquarters at Coblenz. The M.P. on the information desk went through all his directories; he rushed to several offices; nobody knew where a man could be recruited. Finally the information was dug up from the recruiting lieutenant had his office out at Evacuation Camp No. 9.

The first issues of the Amroc News, the daily paper of the Third Army, were distributed by G.I. girls directed by Mrs. Florence McDonald, newspaper writer.

The Fourth Corps Flare caused publication with the launching of The Amroc News, stating in its swan song that it had been taken over by the daily, The Flare soldier editors, Sgt. Carl H. Bruns, Sgt. S. J. Adams, Pvt. Ray E. Chapin and Pvt. Leslie T. Fay, all joined the staff of the new journal. The Flare was published at Coblenz, Germany, the last issue being No. 18.

Furries of snow, and sometimes two or three inches of snow, fell on the plateau back from the Moselle valley the last days of April and the beginning of May. Around Morbach, on the hills above Berncastel, members of the Field Artillery units of the 90th Division saw traces of snow for ten days.

Over the very luxuriously appointed Kurtheater at Neuenahr, formerly Rainbow Division recreation center and now a Fourth Corps leave area, there flies a very beautiful American flag. When the Y.M.C.A. took the place over, the German in charge was told he or one of his henchmen would have to raise and lower the flag daily. The German protested mildly—but the thing is being done.

Yanks on leave in Coblenz write right on the thine—so to speak. On the excursion boats they're handed post cards and told to pen messages home before they get off the boat; if they help convey the proper atmosphere to the folks back in the States.

### GERMANS SEE REAL AMERICAN CIRCUS

90th Division Show Has Indians and Cowboys, 'n' Everything

Rain, snow and mud failed to stop the presentation of the 90th Division circus at Cues, across the Moselle from Berncastel, division headquarters, two days last week. There were three inches of snow in part of the division area, even though it was May Day, but 15,000 soldiers from the 90th and 84th Divisions and Seventh Corps came to sign and sit in the rain to watch the performances.

A big parade opened the entertainment. There were decorated floats, bands, a calliope, clowns. By a little nature taking, there were also some wild animals. There was a 150mm. gun, camouflaged in loud colors, mounted on a truck. The truck regiment heard that one of its drivers had permitted the carnival committee to load a 150mm. gun on a poor little two-ton truck. With visions of a ruined truck bobbing on its last pins, he tore out to rid the world of such an incompetent driver, only to learn the gun was of wood.

The three-ring circus was watched from a ring of grandstands. The acts would have done credit to professionals. The division, being from Texas and Oklahoma, has a considerable percentage of cow-punchers and Indians who exhibited their stunts, but the mud made much trick riding impossible. There was a stage holdup, with much shooting of blank cartridges. There was a midway, called Loco Loco, where specially printed T-O money could be spent in dozens of ways.

It was a big day for the children on the streets. Hundreds of German civilians had reached high in the vineyards on both sides of the river to see the show, their umbrellas seeming like huge toadstools among the vineyard stakes.

#### BERLIN NOW ON A.P.O. LIST

Yanks meet A.P.O. 916. It signalsizes the last step in the business of pursuing the Boche to his lair. A.P.O. 916 is Berlin, Germany, and it means that "Deutschland's capital has been annexed to America's postoffice map.

The new office in Berlin is established to serve the postal needs of the increasing number of Americans in and about the city. These include Red Cross and Y.M.C.A. workers in German prison camps, and the several American and Allied commissions in Berlin in connection with the problems of peace, shipping and food distribution. Couriers come in daily from Coblenz.

This is the eighteenth Yank postoffice operated on German soil. The others are in the Army of Occupation.

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### WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE A.E.F. ANYWAY?

Before you toss off that little war-book of yours and book yourself for the Chautauqua circuit, test your knowledge on these questions.

- How do the American losses, in proportion to the number of troops engaged and their length of service in action, compare with the French and British losses?
- In what fortnight of the year 1918 were the heaviest American losses sustained?
- What was the proportion of American troops to the entire Allied force which fought the counter-offensive of July 18-August 6, and to what extent did American initiative lead to that counter-offensive?
- When was Marshal Poch placed at the head of the Allied forces on the western front, and how far did his authority extend?
- Where were the first Americans killed in action?
- Why was G.I.Q. at Chaumont?
- What American divisions saw service with the British?
- At what European ports were American soldiers landed?
- What was the American strength on the Italian and Russian fronts at the time of the armistice?
- How many American airplanes were flown at the front prior to the signing of the armistice?
- Against what countries did the United States declare war?
- How many American troops were lost through the submarine warfare?
- How much made-in-America artillery material was in use in France by the time the armistice was signed?
- What proportion of the American wounded in action were returned to the front or declared fit for front line service?
- Which American divisions suffered the heaviest casualties?
- Which American division took the most prisoners?
- What proportion of American soldiers who sailed for overseas duty saw service at the front?
- How does the proportion of officer casualties in the A.E.F. compare with the proportions recorded for the British and French forces?
- Of what advantage to the Allied cause was the taking of Belleau Wood?

Oh, so there are some questions you can't answer, are there? Well, same here.

#### GEN. LIGGETT IN COMMAND A.E.F. HAS CAMERA CLUB

The next war, or, putting it into diplomatic phraseology, future emergencies, won't catch the enlisted men of the photographic division of the Signal Corps, A.E.F., unprepared. The men have organized an Overseas Camera Club to keep in touch with each other by exchange of prints through a central office, and to furnish such technical and business data as the members may desire.

Any A.E.F. photographer is eligible, whether he served in the photographic division or not. The club has the endorsement of General Russell, Chief Signal Officer, A.E.F.

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### WHOLE THIRD ARMY IS PAID IN MARKS

And Now Cubical Domino Wielders Howl for Paper-Bailers

If an American paper dollar is worth—or was a couple minutes ago—6 francs, 15 centimes, and 100 francs is worth 2 marks, what is the value of 100 marks changed into Luxembourgish munitzen?

Answer: Keep off the cubical dominoes. Whether it was for the accommodation of Army entrepreneurs or to reduce the work of exchanging the doughboys' francs into marks is not announced, but at any rate every outfit in the Third Army was paid off in marks and pfennigs this month. The result was more or less astounding, even the lowliest buck possessing vast quantities of wealth, especially quantities of one quartermark, sergeant, senior sergeant, was heard to remark, "Ye gods! Ye gods! My kingdom for a paper bailer!"

"There's only one way this trick-rate business is like the good old American dough—if you're broke in German money you're just as broke as if the money you just spent had been the rainproof, non-slip jack of burg-and-egg days," one sergeant drab ruminated.

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