

## HEARD FROM OUR SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

### Hope to be Eating Our Hardtack on German Soil Soon, Writes Yank

Louis I. Via, son of Francis Via of New Paris, O., in a letter home says he has seen No Man's Land and describes it as looking like one big mass of jelly. "Maybe we will be eating our corn beef and hard tack on German soil, before long," he says. The letter follows:

"Since I last wrote you, things have changed quite a bit. We have left our camp and now we are up in the mountains in what is supposed to be a quiet sector. It no doubt is, compared with some other parts of the battle line, nevertheless the booming of the large guns and the crack of the infantry rifles and machine guns keep one from getting a peaceful rest at night.

"It is very hard for us to realize that we are actually up at the front line after having so much target practice in the states. But now when ever we

### DONALD JOHNSTON IS NEAR FRONT

"I find on reading my various 'verboten' that to write an epistle of interest to you will be impossible," said Donald B. Johnston, in beginning a recent letter to his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Melville F. Johnston.

The letter follows:

American E. F. August 16, 1918. "Dear Mother and Father: "I take my pen in hand to write an epistle of interest to you, but find on reading my various 'verboten' that such a proceeding is impossible. The things we are prohibited from telling in letters are multitudinous and one is hard put to it to find anything at all to write about, but here goes.

We crossed the Atlantic ocean on a boat and landed in Europe, in France to be more specific. It was a fine day, and I was put on duty near the pier, where we had good food and there I managed to get a bath in the ocean. Later we marched to a camp some distance from the port and designated as a 'rest camp', from the fact that only one third of the companies worked at one time. For me it is a rest camp and I can use a little rest very well, I assure you, since it is almost my first few days off actual duty since I entered the army.

The country here is very charming although poorer than most parts of France—its chief beauty lying in its verdure, due to a damp climate. The houses are of the customary stone construction with slate roofs and iron trimmings, but bespeak a poverty that is not remarkably attractive.

Becoming Real Soldiers. Our lieutenant has been good enough to see to it that we are allowed a walk each day through the countryside, but cannot allow us to stop and visit in the villages or churches here and there, as I would like to do. These little trips are the best thing we have yet had for the morale of our company for we have been closely restricted practically since we entered the army.

It hurts me that I cannot see more intimately the beautiful things about us. If I could only go and see the ancient villages, churches and farmsteads about our camps in what leisure hours may be granted me, as I did in 1911 and 1914, I am sure it would help me do better work. We hope that in the near future this privilege will be granted us as it has been in other regiments.

We have no idea as to where we are to go. I have a large map of France and presume that our future field of operations is located somewhere within its confines. The thing that is pleasing to me is that at any rate, each day brings me nearer to actual participation in the work here. I hope soon to learn just what role I am to play in the 44th Engineers.

I have found a fine fellow to be my companion at arms here in our Headquarters Co. His name is — and he is a man. He has intelligence and understands what he sees about him, has ability to take hold of a job and put it through and is a pleasant companion. We seem to understand each other and are good friends. The rest of the company are all fine boys, a good natured companionable crowd and we get along very pleasantly together.

We grumble a lot which proves we are becoming soldiers, so they say, but we take it out in growing and there's an end of it. Our officers are O. K., and we all know that we are especially lucky as to that. I am well and happy and will write again as soon as there is anything to write.

Your loving son,  
Donald Bond Johnston.  
Corp. Headquarters Co., 44th Regt.  
Engineers, Am. E. F.

### Acids in Stomach Cause Indigestion

Create Gas, Sourness and Pain How To Treat.

Medical authorities state that nearly nine-tenths of the cases of stomach trouble, indigestion, sourness, burning, gas, bloating, nausea, etc., are due to an excess of hydrochloric acid in the stomach and not as some believe to a lack of digestive juices. The delicate stomach lining is irritated, digestion is delayed and food sour, causing the disagreeable symptoms which every stomach sufferer knows so well. Artificial digestants are not needed in such cases and may do real harm. Try laying aside all digestive aids and instead get from any druggist a few ounces of Bismarck Magnesia and take a teaspoonful in a quarter glass of water right after eating. This sweetens the stomach, prevents the formation of excess acid and there is no sourness, gas or pain. Bismarck Magnesia (in powder or tablet form—never liquid or milk) is harmless to the stomach, inexpensive to take and is the most efficient form of magnesia for stomach purposes. It is used by thousands of people who enjoy their meals with no more fear of indigestion.—Adv.

### KEEP ON WRITING LETTERS TO SOLDIERS

Parents and friends of soldiers must keep on writing letters. Many parents have grown weary writing because their sons wrote home that they are not receiving letters. This delay is due to the mail service, but the letters will reach the boys in time. Exercise a little patience.

The government is expediting soldiers' mail now. A commission has returned from France with plans to hurry-up the delivery of mail. Millions of letters reach France with every boat. Soldiers are scattered over a wide territory. It takes time to sort and deliver the mail.

Parents can rest assured that their letters will reach the boys. So keep on writing. The boys want the letters. General Pershing has asked the parents to keep on writing. The government is reforming the mail delivery system in France. Have patience and this gigantic task, just as every other one, will be solved.

### Draftees May Apply for Officers' Training School

Men included in the present draft may make application for entrance to Field Artillery Central Officers' Training School at Camp Taylor at the Indianapolis office, 1004 Merchants Bank Building. Application slips can be secured by mail, and must be filled out in full. The examining committee headquarters is at Camp Taylor. Further information on this subject can be received at the local Commercial club office.



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