

Downers Grove Reporter

Issued every Friday morning from the office of the Downers Grove Publishing Company, Belmont and Forest Avenues, Downers Grove, Illinois.

C. H. STAATS, EDITOR

Entered at the Downers Grove Post Office as second class mail matter. Advertising rates made known upon application. Subscription rates \$1.75 per year. Single copies 5c.



**"And The Star Spangled Banner Forever Shall Wave,
O'er The Land of The Free and The Home of The Brave."**

INTERESTING LETTERS FROM LOCAL BOYS

"Somewhere In France"
March 15, 1918.

Dear Mr. Staats:

Just a few minutes ago I finished reading completely the last Reporter which I have received and wondered if you realize how much we appreciate it. The only way we have of recalling and again anticipating "the days of real sport" is by mail and the Reporter ranks with my first class mail and I read it just as thoroughly, believe me, I enjoy reading the social and military life of Co. H, I. R. M. and if they show as much pep as your articles point out I wish they could be over here and instill some into us. After being in this country for seven or eight months it has become a pretty tough life and all we hope for now is to get friend Bill by the neck and come back where we can get up and go to bed without bugles.

At present I have the honor of being blessed with a month of guard duty and last night I got in walking post and trying to get a little sleep during my few hours off. Yesterday morning we went on a short hike only about fourteen miles and after doing my hiking on a truck for six months my gun kept getting heavier and heavier until my back began to bend and my knees weaken. This happened on the going trip and from our direction I figured that we would end up in about the prettiest little town I have had a chance to visit and that we would be allowed to fall out for a while and rest. We were going fine, just the way I had it doped out and were just at the edge of town when "squads left about" and back to camp we had to hike with only ten minutes to rest on the way. Our guide coming back was a fellow a-head six feet and a half in length and he barely stepped it off which kept all of us little fellows running about two thirds of the time. In the afternoon Gen. Pershing was to have been here but he did not look me up so I did not see him.

Last week I was lucky and made two trips, each about ninety miles, along wonderful roads and thru mighty pretty country and as both days were bright and warm I really enjoyed them and they helped a lot to break the monotony of our regular duties. Scattered along the roads practically all the way are large villas, country homes, owned by the very best people of France and altho they are surrounded by either a high stone wall or hedge, every now and then we could look thru. They are very well kept and have large grounds with a massive old fashioned mansion set back near the rear. I remember one that I now have in mind had several large rosebushes in bloom and fruit trees in blossom. I think

we have it on you as far as weather goes if nothing else. Today is clear and the sun is shining brightly, we have been on duty this morning with no overcoats and at present, about 2 o'clock, it is warm enough to leave our blouses at our bunks. The night is cold however and our blankets still feel mighty good.

The bugle calls again, as usual.
Bob Carpenter.

March 12, 1918.

Mr. Jim Perkin,
Downers Grove,
Dear Friend:

It has now been over a month since I received your welcome letter. I do not just remember if I have written you since we received our Xmas boxes or not but I feel pretty sure that I did. We have so many things to do and so little time to do them all in we hardly know what we do or don't. At any rate you can see I have had you on my mind. Jim words can never express to you and the people of D. G. what you have all done for us boys, and we all thank you many, many times.

We are still — Sam, George, Dwight and Harry, the — week but do not — yet or npt. They are missing some wonderful experiences and I guess they would give anything to be here.

The weather here is beautiful and springlike very different from what you people at home have been having. Our winter has been indeed very mild but quite damp. This dampness of course makes us subject to colds etc., but the army hardening process has put us in such a condition that we are now almost cold proof.

G. Nash is still around wishing he had the old Cole here as the French roads can't be beat and we would like to try them out. Fred Edwards is in the hospital getting a sprained ankle fixed up. Haven't heard but guess he is getting along alright. The Burns boys have not been in Camp for over a week now so have not seen them. We have moved twice since Grant wrote you so you see we are on the go most of the time. Our time is limited so will have to close. Give my best regards to any inquiring friend and keep a good share for yourself and Mrs. Perkin.

I remain, your friend,
Gilbert R. Lacey,
Bat. C, 149th, F. A.
Am. Ex. Forces,
Via New York.

Camp Logan, Texas,
April 7, 1918.

Dear Friend Walt:

As I haven't written for some time I thought I'd drop you a line and let you know that Downers Grove's representatives in Camp Logan are still here, but every one of us are more than anxious to get out of here and on our way over, and I think the prospects are pretty good for an early

start. I am, and I know the rest of the fellows are, getting rather impatient, when some of the D. G. boys are already in the fight, and I assure you that the call to break camp cannot come too soon, although we'd like to get back to D. G. for a few days before we go over.

Since you heard from me last, I have transferred to Motor Truck Co. B, 108 Supply Train, and certainly am well satisfied. The only thing I lack in the Reporter, nearly the most looked for piece of mail of any of the D. G. boys in the service. I certainly would appreciate it very much if you would forward me a copy of the Reporter, as from now on I will be separated from the rest of the D. G. boys in the 33rd Division and I don't want to miss any one copy. Our train is supposed to leave here soon for the north to get its equipment of motor trucks, as the ones we have in this camp will not be used "over there." So I may be able to get to D. G. before leaving for the point of embarkation. For the present you can send the Reporter to Camp Logan, and it will be forwarded to me until I send you a new address. Thanking you in advance and hoping that everyone in the "Best Town on the Globe" is O. K. I am,

Yours truly,

Corporal J. Richard Hawkins,
Truck Co. B, 108 U. S. Supply Train,
Camp Logan, Houston, Texas.

P. S. Since writing this, and while waiting for pay day and status, I went over to see Billy Shannabrook, who just arrived from Camp Grant. He is the same old Billy, and it certainly was more than a treat to see him. I've been told that Ballard Miles and Stephen Sacksteder are here too, so the best little town on the globe is certainly getting to be well represented.

Pittsburg, Pa.,
April 10, 1918.

Dear Bro. Walt:

I am starting this letter today with no intention of finishing it until Sunday at least. I honestly believe that outside of the men at the front, we are the busiest unit in the army. From first call at 5:25 a. m. to 9 p. m. our schedule keeps our noses to the grind stone.

During that time we have seven hours of class work, viz: recitation and lecture periods, and about an hour and a half of drill. At 7 p. m. we march over to the Schenley high school about four blocks away, for study until 9. So you see we have very little time to ourselves except from Saturday noon to Sunday night at ten. Of course this is all for a purpose. This is only supposed to be an eleven weeks course. The Carnegie Institute of Technology has been turned over to the Government for this course to make us Radio Mechanics. There is another bunch taking some course also. I don't know the exact nature of it. They are giving us now the theory of electricity, and dynamos and motors etc. Later we will get the practical application of it by constructing wireless stations, and their operation.

Our duties after finishing, I understand, will be on the wireless apparatus on aeroplanes and also the base stations. We are also continuing the study of telegraphy, as we have to know this in order to properly adjust and repair the radio outfits.

It is very interesting work all the way through.

There is certainly a fine bunch of fellows here too. Our barracks are very good. We are in the hall-room of the Masonic Temple which has been donated for our use.

It turned cold last night and snowed quite hard all day making slush up to our knees nearly.

I don't like Pittsburg as a town very well, altho the people treat us fine. We can go out to dinner nearly every Sunday if we desire, which nearly everybody does believe me.

Well Walt I managed to finish after all as we didn't drill tonight on account of the bad weather. I'm going to mess now. Tell all the boys hello for me.

Yours sincerely,
Arthur G. Coe.

The following two letters are from Grant and Forrest Nash, sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Nash, to their parents. Grant is "over there" and his brother at Camp Lewis, Washington.

(?) France, 3-16-18

Dear Folks:

It is nearly a week since my last letter, but I can't help it. At the end of about two weeks I expect to write several letters and will try and write you oftener until we return to the front which will be in a few weeks after we get to our rest camp.

Wednesday night I had a fine chance to write, left here about six and got back about six, a. m. and believe me I had some work while out.

I got my horse back from the "mange ward" and drove him all night Wednesday, and as I worked at the gun position all day Thursday, my horses were not cleaned until Friday. That one (he is a mean cuss) I had to put a "twist" on to groom. If I



Wheeler Adjustable Screens made for any part of your home at prices less than the common kind. Notice the screw adjustment on the half screens which draws them up tight on any kind of window. Porch screens for all styles of porches. Let us give you an estimate now.



**Electric Washing Machines Electric Sewing Machines
Power Washing Machines Hand Washing Machines
Peninsular Stoves Caldwell Lawn Mowers**

Full line of International farm tools on display next door.
Be sure and see this fine line when in the village.

J. D. GILLESPIE & Co.

61 South Main Street

Telephone 30
Day or Night

(Duplicate Keys made to order on short notice.)

Telephone 30
Day or Night

POTTER MFG & LUMBER CO.

MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS

BUILDING SUPPLIES, LUMBER, COAL, MILL WORK

"REDYBILT"

Portable Garages, Poultry Houses, Cottages, Poultry Equipment, Supplies, Etc.

Yard Entrance on East Curtiss street.

PHONE 15

After 6 p. m. phone 83-J or 89-W.

PHONE 15



In Spite Of The Attractive Appearance of Your Car

its graceful body lines, fine finish and richly upholstered seats, its beauty will be marred by a stubborn vicious motor.

Its attractive disappears, as motor trouble appears.

AVOID ALL THIS

by bringing it to us periodically for inspection.

Save the high cost of charging by paying Cash for your Gasoline, Etc.

ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE FOR
EXPERT REPAIRING
RELIABLE SUPPLIES-DEPENDABLE ACCESSORIES
- GASOLINE - OILS - TIRES -
OXY-ACETYLENE WELDING
STORAGE AT REASONABLE RATES
BATTERIES RECHARGED & REPAIRED
DOWNERS GROVE GARAGE
PHONE 22 - DOWNERS GROVE, ILL.

We are able to supply your wants in ICE CREAM & DRUG SUNDRIES

PHONE US AND WE WILL DELIVER THE GOODS!

HOUSEMAN DRUG CO.

Phone 6 Corner Main & Curtiss Sts.

PLANOS

Refinised, Repaired and Tuned Let us make your old Piano just as good as the day it came from the Factory

Estimates cheerfully furnished

Ed. Mackinsworth

8. Main street one door north of C. Fenner

CHARLES E. HAWKINS & HERBERT J. HAWKINS

Full line of
**International Harvester Co's.
Farming Implements
Wagons, Tools
Etc.**

We carry a full line International Repairs.
Will be pleased to have you call and look over our samples.

63 SOUTH MAIN STREET

Full line of Hardware sold next door.