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



## LETTERS FROM DOWNERS GROVE SOLDIER BOYS

July 28th, 1918.

Hear Irad

&ceps a fellow humping and with the drill evenings make a long day.

the Captain of "D" Company since the second week I was here. For the past ten days, while the Acting Sergeant Major of the fourth flattalion has been home on a furlough, I have taken his place and now that he is back I exwert to have a little more time for personal affairs, such as keeping in touch with the home folks.

The last three days, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and today, have been the hottest we have so far experience ed. I understand that the thermometer registered 110 in the shade yester day and that one of the fellows from "L. Company pretty nearly went butty backing for some shade.

building and three floors of the Sears here and on Friday night by the up and down the Missouri valley. The They were not anxious for us to go, ing is used for school, mess hall, and Raha schools. two floors for barracks Here C. Land our barracks for every detachment of a military capacity for the next school. with this he was put at the head of a served us with tea, as is the custom his vast army

North Kansas City. Mo. two months ago will be sent to camps real work of the war is going on, over apple turnovers we heat it down town throughout the United States, where in France so throttled and ground un again. There was a dance on down ever needed to take care of the vast, der the heal of Imperialistic Germany, at the American bar. We stuck our transport system of a modern army. The students here are crazy to get heads in, but that was about all. One Some will go as truck drivers, some, into the real thing and most of them of the Engineers was at the plano but publication with fair success of finish | mechanics, others as experts on igni- are trying to get into a branch that the darned thing was too much out of ing it. This job I am now on surely tion, lubrication, rear axles, carbeura, will get them over and into it in the tune to get any satisfaction. The tors or other parts of an automobile, shortest possible time. It seems a scene reminded me of the stories t to repair, assemble and drive. They funny thing that the minute a man have read of a saloon scene, from I have been working in the office of will be sifted into every branch of the gets into the army he wants to go "Rigoletto" alias, "Deadman's Gulch." service which has any use for auto-right over, but it is the truth. We The bar with the wild woman serving motive power and which branch hasn't hadn't been here u week until they drinks and the men walking the dog in this age of gasoline. The Quarter- were all scheming on finding out and foxtrotting. The room was filled master's Corps. Infantry. Artillery, which branch was most needed "Over with smoke, all of that I saw at a Aviation, Signal Corps, all will draw There" and then to specialize in that, glance and I did not stop to notice men from this school.

ated just before we came, was an excited that we are not in it to "pull great deal and met a good many. But ment. So successful was it, however, for the defense of our own glorious which must be filled, so we did not that a second class was inducted into country and its future. Many of the stay at all. It was about 7:30 then. service and a third will follow.

drill with rifles. Here is where my coming sectoral manufacturing industries to by and others with the company. Both quiet reigns at 19:30.

K companies have their home. In the is over, I hardly know what will hap past 12 years, refused to be natural terrupted supper and while they fin-Sears building are D. L. and M. one to pen. I have put in my application for ; ized when the aliens of the camp took ished, the madame gave us a number affeor The company moms are a little entrance to the Fifth Officers Train-out their first papers. That night he of books to look at very interesting crowded but we all realize that Uncle ing Camp and it has been indorsed by was caught and plentifully daubed as I can read it better than I can talk Sam is in this war to win and that he our Captain. If I do not pass the ex. with yellow paint on his naked back, it. example the first of the commodity amination I expect to be held over in chest, head and face. Not satisfied Incidently, during the evening she

are nearly over. I don't think that manders for the O. T. C. were exam- Indians. It sure showed where the graduation day can be more than two ined by the Major last week. When hearts of these boys lav.

it came my turn to step into the office and "on the carpet," my heart missed several beats and I almost forgot to salute as I came to attention in front of him and the two Captains that composed the Board of Examining Officers. My knees shook with pure nervousness and the desire to appear as if that was an every-day occurrence. Two of the many things I thought of while being questioned were the captions of Briggs' famous cartoons. "An xious Moments," and "When a Feller Needs a Friend." They were surely appropriate.

Fourteen men of this company have applications in that have been indorsed by our Captain and we are all on the anxious seat to find out how we passed our personal exam. Somehow or other. I am full of confidence th suppose you're saying now, as usual) and think I will get my chance to go to camp. trace there, however, it will be different. In a few talks with our lieutenants, both graduates of training camps, I have been given to understand that the grind is awful and that I will be doing well to stand up under it. Be that as it may, if I can qualify as an officer I will do so. In a talk given us by our Captain he said it was the daty of every man in the army to prepare himself to step up and take in four months, the job of the man ahead of him and that the United States' crying need of of some of the scrapes he was in. the future of the Army was officers. They have been here over a year and If I can do my bit better in that way most of that at the front. After havthan in any other I want to win a com- ing supper consisting of salmon, pota-Rahe Auto & Tractor School | weeks off. Men who can bere but mission and get across to where the to salad, head and butter, cocon, and

It sure makes one proud of the United whether I knew any of the girls. Prob The first school, which was gradu- States and her sons. They all realize ably I did for I have been around a periment on the part of the Govern. France's chestnuts out of the fire," but my pal and I had a social engagement men are married and like I, have left so we made a social call on Madam Along with the school, about which loving wives at home. This can easily Talischet, the wife of a Major who has know little having attended but three; he seen from the size of the "D" com- been very good to both of us. She has or four days, we have regular infantry puny mail bag, both ontgoing and in two of the prettiest little girls imagin

Co. H. J. R. M. training stands me in Well Dad it is getting fate and this we had been acquainted all our live-North Kansas City, is only a small good stead. From the first I have is my night to see that all the bunch instead of a short time. The Madamfown and was built several years ago been an acting Sergeant and for the is in quarters and make a report to speaks very good English and along by a traction company, which still past two weeks a platoon leader. One that effect to the Officer of the Day, with my French our conversation gets, owns I understand, most of the village, of our platoons here is almost as large. It is after nine and the fellows are be- along first rate. They are a very nice It is only a ten minute car ride from as the entire Co. H. at home, as it is ginning to drift in. Our usual taps family indeed, and it pleased me very the center of Kansas City and has nos | composed of seven squads. Some hour is to on but Saturday and Sanday much to meet them. The little girls albilities of growth. There are now nights we drill each platoon separate nights the lights go out and peaceful Doris about five, and Salence about

ented here and two of them are of large on Thursday and Friday nights of last. That is peaceful quiet reigns some things imaginable. They wanted our week we had parade and review. One nights. One night last week, though, caps, or they call them chapeaux, to The Rabe Auto School, that is the Thursday night we were reviewed by this was the noisest spot in the state put on and were tickled to death Army branch, occupies the Rumley the commanding officer of the school and the hollering was heard for miles when we gave them our hats to wear. Roebuck building. The Rumley build. Major in charge of the Sweeney and cause was this. One of the "K" company men, a Swede born in Germany, here for taps. It was a prearranged As for me, when the present school; who has been in the country for the call but even when we arrived we in-Those whose applications were fa- procession in which most of the six here evidently. They have a very School days for the class now here, vorably acted upon by Company Com- companies joined, all yelling like wild nice place near the cathedral, and we

Will write again as soon as possible Regards to all the old Downers Grove friends, the best little town in the

> Your son. N. Kansas City, Mo.

> > Jane 17th, 1918.

Dear Ruth

I haven't received any mail since I wrote on the 15th, but I will write to you anyway just to show you that haven't forgotten you over Sunday Yesterday was the last day of unrestricted liberty for the company. Now the new order is in effect here and we except on official business and evenings from 5 o'clock to 9 p. m., except 20 per cent of the company designated by the top cutter, short for serg't That excepts Surday but is a long time until next Sunday. So we made the most of it yesterday. From the deserted looks of this barracks at 9:30 overdid it.

Yesterday afternoon, Sunday, my pal and I were down to the Red Cross enjoying the music and having tea and sandwiches for the hig sum of 9 cents. Watched the Paris express come in the train. Came back here for sup- being her birthday. Refreshments we anyway without the big shoes. There Schlauder and Ruth Boland.

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THE WAY TO SEE THE PARTY OF THE

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PHONE 15

was music there too. Yesterday morn ing we had our monthly inspection. incidently, we turned in our pistol holsters. The th engineers, two sooner than mine, came into town from the front and some of them. about 36, held a banquet at the hotel St. Catherine, and from the noise they made I grant you they were having some time of their first vacation (\*)

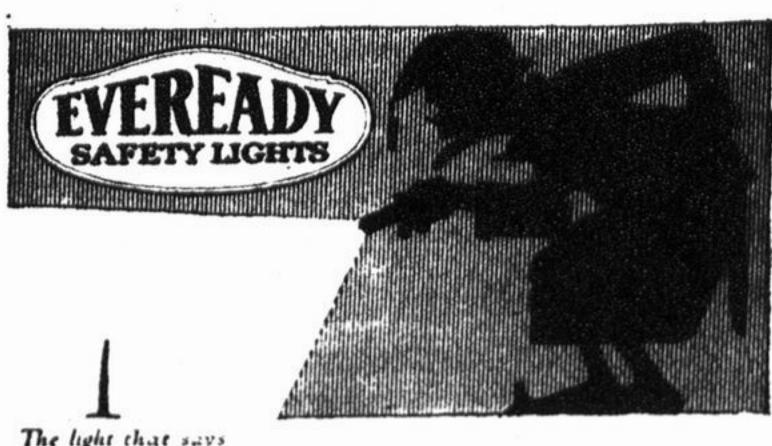
One of the engineers was telling me , six years old, are two of the cutest

enjoyed ourselves thoroughly. The Major himself has not been able to get home from the front since February, so she said, but will probably be hack before we leave. Expert to have a chance to meet him personally. The better class of French people are all WALTER, very nice indeed. Some time ago I to: D. Rahe Army School, went to a party at the home of a French minister and his wife who is a missionary to Belgium. We were well Chateaurous, France, entertained there too. But we may see hard times yet. Anyway am enjoving myself as much as possible during the time I have. This morning and afternoon I will sleep some I guess for I am on guard tonight again. We get about twice a week now. In between times it's K. P. or Q. P. So not much time for anything but work. How is everything at home Ruthie? (How do you like your raise.) Will you see that my dues are paid at Aurora if there are any? I don't know whether or or not there are any while I'm over here but I am going to write Burke and find out and if there is he will write you.

> Lovingly your brother. EDGAR.

Co. D. 415th Ry. Tel. Bu., S. C. N. A. American Forces, via N. Y., U. S. A I received the Reporter the other day, the fourth or fifth I have received.

Camp Tahigua gave a party in hoand several locals. There sure are a nor of their gaurdian, Mrs. Balczynslot of people on one of those trains. ki Thursday, July 25th, at the home Big engine and about 25 coaches to of Miss Vance Gessner, the occasion per after taking a side trip over to the served and a pleasent time was had roller skating rink. I did not try it the present were: Katherine Davis. for I had on my hobnails and my feet Fannie Radell, Margaret Hitchcock. are too big to get into a pair of skates Marie Nielson, Hope Kingsley, Lilian



The light that says There it is!

OOK out for that tack!!

Don't let the dark trip you. Don't stumble over a chunk of night. Don't trip on a chair wrapped in blackness. Don't fall victim to the garden rake; or the baby's tin soldiers that lie in wait for your bare feet.

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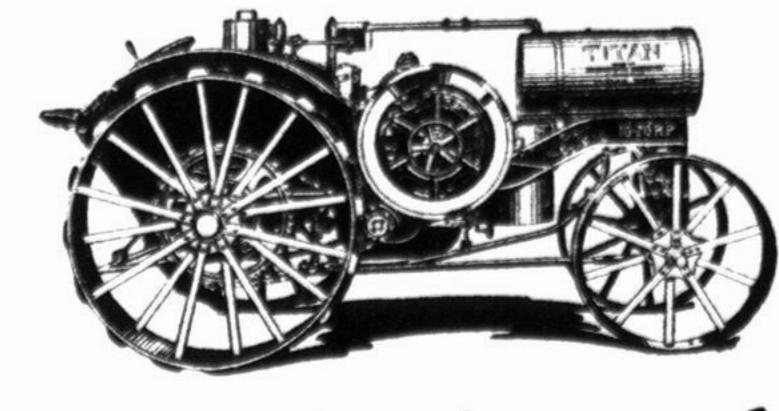


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## Now is the time to do cannot go down town during the day your fall plowing.

You can plow with a tractor when it is too hot and dry to use your horses.

There will be a Tractor Demonstration taps last night. I think some of them South of Downers Grove about the 22nd of August.

Do not fail to see it.

Fer particulars ask

## Hawkins & Hawkins

Telephone 267-J