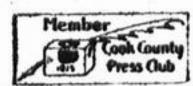
### Downers Grove Reporter nough time for two lifetimes. We have a good bunch of

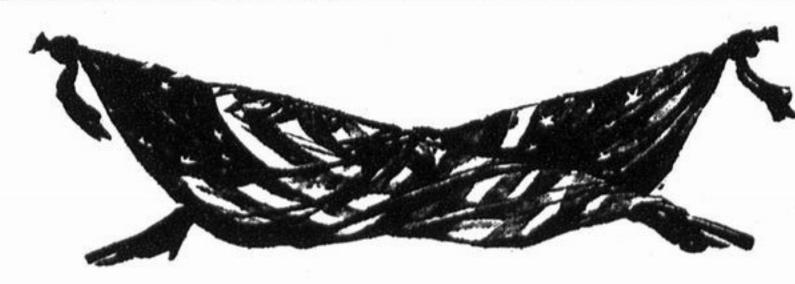
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#### C. H. STAATS, EDITOR

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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

#### **BOYS ENJOYED** JULY FOURTH

Somewhere in France, July 14, 191 Dear Mother:

This is the best paper I can scoul up and writing conditions are poor so just the letter will have to go this and feeling all here. I have all your too much ahead now letters and am going to answer all I can without Mr. Censor taking of fener.

Our trip was very nice, only now and then a choppy sea and of course there was nothing but simply water for scenery but being new it was not tiresome. We saw very pretty scenery in England and some old historie places. Our Lieutenant took us or a sight seeing walk one morning. France is a beautiful place as far as scenery is concerned. We can get fruit and some candy to cat providing you have the required sum of centimes and francs. About the young ladies,, there are some that compare with our American girls. The English girls are no good at all. The French may be prettier but that is

This is a religious day in France and there being no place for every domination to attend, Father Wright gave a regular free for all Sermon before the Mass so those that didn't belong to the Catholic Faith could be spiritually benefitted by the lecture He is a very nice man to all the boys and tries to help us in every capaci-

4 read your clippings now and then, and the Bible, but time is no loafer with us soldiers But Mother Dear, be there with a bigger before, for now I know Mother is to a soldier. "Me cherished word to them than God to most; for they only know their Mother. The pictures I have from home are always looked at and kept away from harm.

I sure would like to see our old allowed. The only pets ar they don't figure in that way. One aimed at my digestive or gans but missed and kicked me in the hips, but no harm. (The Tribune tells, REUBEN DIENER that one in Manly's Battery was kick ed in the head and knocked fifteen feet.) The only way we can make a horse understand is to either beat it or to say "Allay," meaning go on.

The French are trying to learn English as hard as we are to learn French, so we get along.

The last "Reporter" sure had a bunch of names of the fellows from and it surprised me, but it shows the Americans are coming to life. The Grove must miss all the noisemakers and night paraders.

Dear Folks:

once a week.

some pictures of yourself for the only ones I have are over a year old, Imagine a year ago and today! Things hurt, surely change quickly. Well in a year more I'll be back and maybe a lot treated kindly now.

glad. There are about fifteen in our middle of the night when a rush order army as the officers ride around in regiment. One likes to meet those we comes in. have been parted from best of all.

as though I were not nearly as old in the Reporter that Frank got. Who now, with lots of love to all at home, as 21 years. Still I am, and creeping is there now? Hope the old gent. will on close to another birthday away take it easy now. He has put in e-

from home. I hope you folks are all well and contented and that your war garden was prosperous as hoped. Say the quicker the war will end, and I got one of your letters on canning thats what we are over here for. We OVER THERE cherries, etc. and you had nothing on will have more aeroplane work than me for I was eating them while I we are looking for now, but that suits came from my own Mother. "Christmas Dinner in Berlin-or at Home" is our motte! (Very good Eddie.) I whole let better than I expected, and must finish or Mr. Censor will lay we sleep in wooden barracks, which

Dear Folks:

than not send any I'll do this way. whole lot of white bread.

We had a good time on the 4th. the Colonel being the one who entertained. Races and ball games fea- alright. You don't see a single auto tured the day. The Second Battalion or motorcycle in private use here. I won from us. At evening we had haven't seen one yet that wasn't driwrestling and boxing and comedies. I saw a real pretty souvenir on the 4th. for Mother and will try to send g. A.

letters from now on but can't write at will as when at home. There isn't much more than one's health to talk of any more because Mr. Censor is very careful about what is said. If they would just tell us what we can write instead of what we can't-then thought Laran was bad, but French I'd make this a little lengthy.

Now and then we boys help out the peasants on little odd jobs after we are off duty. Don't forget to send the Reporter once in awhile so we can nee what is going on in a civilized

There are so many soldiers in here writing that the fewer letters at the same time to any one family the bet-Some of those cards, clippings, etc. were very good, Mother. You asked about what I did with the big scrapbook you made. As you suggested ! eft it in Camp Logan for those who ollow. Many a fellow beside me en-

We got all our letters at once, last week-some stack! All the fellows were so glad to get mail. So am I. So do your duty too!

> Love to a waiting mother. Manley (Alderson)

# WRITES BOYS

Dear Sister:

Germans have been criven back and I will do my best and write you at many prisoners and machine guns cap- least once a week. Write me a long tured. I don't think the Downers Grove letter and let me know how everyboys were in this drive but do not thing is. Was John B. out to our know. They were not in that sector house or Hallenbacks, and how awhen last I heard. I know that Fritz bout Irene, did you hear from her July 29, 1918, will get hit hard at the hands of the lately or whats doing? If you see any Downers Grove boys. They are the of them, tell them that I am getting Writing again, that sounds as the boys who will tear right in. I regret along fine and am in just the place it was many times but its scarcely the fact that I'm not with them, A I wanted to get. I will certainly learn storm blew up last night and tore off a lot here. It will seem a long time,a Dear Mother you must send me half of the "Y" roof while we were month, to wait for an answer but listening to a lecture. It broke up the we can't help that any.

July 24. Some days have elapsed thing that is scarce is candy. But all since I started to write. Worked Sun- kinds of smokes are cheap here. There sconer for the Boches are not being day until 8:30 p. m. and Monday the is a fine road running past our barsame. We sure have work to do especi- racks and there is no speed limit here. I met some of our home town boys ally when there is a drive on at the and they sure take advantage of it. a couple of days ago and sure was front. We even get roused out in the There is sure some class to the U.

My health is just grand and I feel quit at Mertz and Mochels. I saw it time so I will have to end here for

We have a good bunch of fellows

to work with from all over the U. S. and they are all good sports so you may be sure we have good times and live together like one big family. For several days I have been looking over the engineers in search for Roy Haller and Newton Miller but have failmight be in this camp because there are a lot here from Vancouver, Wash. Well I guess I better close.

With love from. Brother Rube (Diener)

#### PRIVATE AUTOS IN FRANCE ALL USED FOR WAR WORK

Somewhere in France, July 14, 1918 Dearest Mother:

Today is big French holiday, which you have probably read about in the papers, and we have all day to ourselves.

At last we are at a real aviation camp. We had a very enjoyable and interesting trip on the train from our first camp here, where we only stayed a few days.

We are in active service now and work six days a week, and no more Wednesday and Saturday afternoons off like in the U.S. A. It is real work now and the harder we work read your letter-just as though they me fine. I have met a lot of Chicago boys here, that have been here for

The camp is very pretty and is a time. For myself, healthy, wealthy this aside to rest his eyes as he has I like much better than tents, as they are a lot warmer. The food is just July 6, 1918 as good as when we were up at Camp Greene, which I really did not expect. As you will notice this letter is The American army gets all the white written in pencil. Ink is very far away bread as all the other armies have and haven't time to get it so rather that dark bread. The French think a

The conditions in France certain! show that there is a war going on ven by a military man. So we can consider ourselves well off in the U.

There are a lot of curious things I will be more consistent writing to see here and I saw a lot of things that I never dreamed about before The scener, here can't be beat. I'll have to learn to talk French thats BERTHA DIENER all there is to it as when you go to town you have a heck of a time trying to tell them what you want. I is ten times wors. I am getting acquainted with the French money, and once you get on to it, its very simple. The paper money when it gets up to \$10 bill, is almost as big as a newspaper and a dollar's worth of French money weighs a couple of pounds

mail next week, as the mail comes and most of the boys have gone thru here about once a week or so, it deglad to get some, as it is almost 2

nonths since I got the last letter.

Our barracks are right close to a big Y. M. C. A. and they have a piano here too. I wish I would have brought music with me but I never though I would be able to get at a piano here. I will have to get along without it but some of the boys here have music, so I can borrow some of it when want to. They also have moving pictures here two or three times a

I haven't been to town here yet, but I don't think I will go until next week Sunday as there is a lot to see I had such a surprise, I had just come ARE CONGENIAL around here. You ought to have the letter I wrote last week by this time Somewhere in France, but it may get there the same time July 19, 1918 as this one. I won't be able to write as often as I did in the U.S. but We receized good news today. The please write as often as you can and

We can buy all kinds of things at the Y. M. C. A. real cheap. The only Packards and Cadillac 8s.

You didn't tell me that Mr. Graves Well it is getting close to dinner I remain your loving son,

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#### IN TRAINING AS **NURSE IN SOUTH**

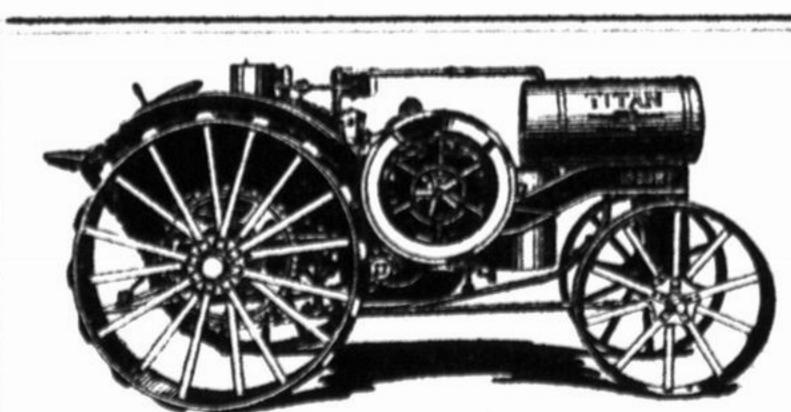
August 14, 1918 Base Hospital, Camp Wadsworth, S.C.

I have been off night duty almost two weeks and have been on the go We have hopes of getting some ever since. I am in a surgical ward some operation. Most of them are the nicest kind of lads, when they come a murmur out of them. Last week we had an awful sand storm. It blew so you couldn't see in front of you and the trees swayed so their tops nearly touched the ground and yet there was no noisy rushing of the wind. We had another one this afternoon but it was

not so had and it didn't last so long. We have been drilling three nights a week. We who just came off night luty and a few new nurses belong the awkward squad. I'll surely twist my heels off doing a "face about" and etc. It tickles the boys so and they come to the drill grounds to watch us. After we get on to things drilling will be a pleasure. Tuesday off duty and was told a lady wanted to see me. It was Mrs. Puffer and the Dr. was with her. They had just been here a few days, coming from Boston, My I was glad to see them It was so nice of them to hunt me up se soon. I went to the Doctor's tent with them and we had dinner together. Capt. Puffer will be here three weeks more before he goes across but Mrs. Puffer will leave in

a week or two. August 20, Thirty-two nurses left our camp yesterday for overseas. I wasn't fortunate enough to be in that bunch. It surely caused some excitement as it was the largest bunch that ever left here and hardly left enough of us here to run with Believe me am kept busy as there is so much office work to do and so many papers to take care of besides reading to do. There is a certain time for everything to be done too. I am enjoying this in spite of my hard work and find it is doing wonders for me. Well, we head nurses were moved into the latter dormitory and have enough single rooms nicely furnished and electric lights. In about two weeks twenty more are going overseas and I hope to be one of them.

Love to all. Sister Bertha.



Those who were at the Tractor demonstration on the Jacob Klein farm last Thursday, saw the simplest to operate, nearest to being fool proof, best of power at draw bar or at belt, of any of the 10-20 Tractors built today. It was not a demonstration of experts handling our Tractor but of those who never handled a Tractor before. Little Henry Pfaff was chief engineer and proved to those who saw him operate the Tractor and 3 bottom plow that it deesn't take an expert to operate it.

The 10-20 Titan takes the place of three men and nine horses in the field and can be operated on less than the wages of one man.

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