

War Emergency Union Activities

SOLDIER LETTERS

Derman, Germany.
January 2, 1919

Dear Aunt:—

Here I am back again with the 149th and guarding the famous Rhine. Of course you know that our commissions have vanished in thin air, but the war is over and we are all patiently waiting for that day when our faces are turned to the West for good. The Statue of Liberty will have to turn around if she wants another look at me. The boys came through this last nightmare pretty lucky and, though a few of them made the extreme sacrifice, the casualties as compared to other regiments were pretty light. There are a lot of them in the hospital with the "flu."

There is no use getting too optimistic about the time we leave for home as no one knows. Some of the boys have gone so far as to say we would be here for at least six months and though it seems a long time and is mighty hard to wait I am more inclined to believe that than the other tale. They absolutely cannot get troops out of France as quickly as people think and we are not even in France. We are the farthest away from the port of embarkation of any troops and it is my opinion that they will take them first.

I received your Christmas box just before leaving S — — — and it certainly helped my Christmas as I spent it on a lonesome French box car with hard tack and corn willy to eat for a banquet. Well, if everything goes alright I will have my feet under the table next year.

Also am enclosing some views of S — — — so you can see what a great old place it is. It surely is a historic old school as Napoleon and all the famous veterans of France received their schooling there.

The castle dates back as far as Richelieu and was occupied at one time by Richard-coer d' Lion whose tomb is nearby in the abbey of Fontevraud, alongside Henry II.

I must close now as I have a few more letters to write before getting to work.

With lots of love and hopes of a happy New Year, I am as ever
Your boy,
Paul.

Derman, Germany,
December 30, 1918.

Dear Brother and Sister:—

Just a line to tell you I am O. K. and back with the battery, minus the commission. The armistice caught us just in time to muss it up, but believe me it was good news at that and I am mighty glad its over. The sooner they shoot me towards the States the better.

While at S — — — I had my map shot and am sending you one. You can hang it up alongside Washington, Napoleon, etc.

You had better start out early this spring batting 'em out because I feel pretty confident that I am going to be home to play some golf this summer and I'm sure going to trim you.

We were put on the reserve corps as officers and there is some talk that we may get our bars yet but it sounds kind of fishy to me. At least I have the consolation in knowing that I went through the school with a pretty fair mark, 82.8, and, as 70 passes you, I had a pretty comfortable margin. It is a pretty stiff course and they throw figures at you so fast they almost make you dizzy. On our way back to the battery, we passed through Metz, Trieres and Coblenz and the difference between these towns and the French are very noticeable. Why a person would never know Germany was in a war to look at them. The stores are all full of wares and one can drop into one of the largest hotels in town and get a big steak and potatoes for a lot less than you can anywhere in France.

Will write again as soon as possible and hope I can tell you we are on our way home.

Love to all.

Your brother,
Paul.

Notice To Winnetka Golfers

All residents of Winnetka using the Skokie Playfield Golf course are invited to a public meeting to be held at Community House at 8 P. M. on Thursday, February 20. The purpose of the meeting is to bring together all users of the golf course and the members of the Park Board, with the idea of exchanging views as to ways and means of improving the course and the rules of play. One of the matters for discussion will be the desirability of an organization of the Winnetka players.

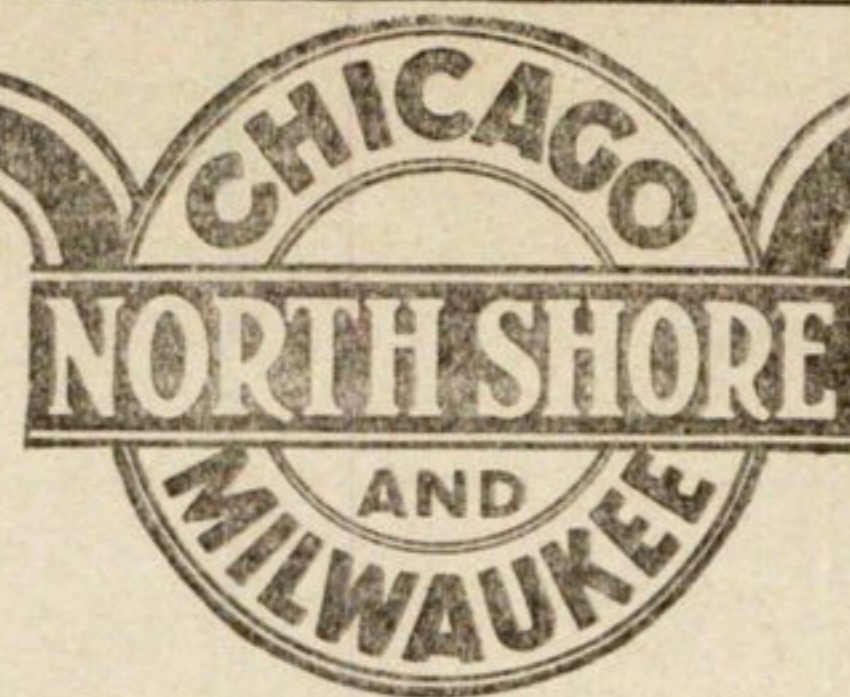
Winnetka Park Board,
By William S. Elliott,
President.

Jest and Joke

A joke is often rougher and less delicate than a jest, as a practical joke, but jest often suggests more of lightness or scoffing than a joke, as to turn everything into jest. Joke is the word to use where action is implied, while jest is generally applied to something said.

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