

AMERICAN WITH BRITISH TELLS HOW ARMY TAKES BATH

Barrel Tubs and Cold Water, But It Was Great--Thrilling Air Battle During Religious Services.

(Boston Record.)

This is one of a series of letters from Arthur Empey, former U. S. Cavalry sergeant major, now with the British in France, to his chum "Jim," a militiaman just returned from the Texas border. The letters are published as received:

In Rest Billets,
Somewhere in France.

Dear Jim,—Glad to hear your regiment has been ordered home from the Mexican border. No such luck for me though. I signed for duration of the war and suppose I will be stuck out here in the trenches for the next seven years, unless I'm killed or wounded.

Yesterday was Sunday, and at nine o'clock we fell in for "church parade." This is compulsory. We marched to a large field nearly two miles distant. The chaplain, dressed in his church robes, delivered the service from an artillery limber, while we formed a hollow square around him. There were about 6,000 soldiers in all.

During the service we were watching an air fight overhead. Weren't paying much attention to the address, and I think "Holy Joe" (the chaplain) was watching that fight himself!

In Bad Humor.

After the service we marched back to our billets, tired and in the worst of humor. We hadn't been dismissed twenty minutes when our company ser-

geant major yelled:

"Get your equipment on, drill order, and fall in for bath parade! Look lively, my lads!"

A howl of indignation greeted this order, but out we came. Discipline is discipline.

We lined up in front of our billet with rifles and bayonets. Why you need rifles and bayonets to take a bath gets me! In our belts we carried 120 rounds of ammunition, and we wore steel helmets. Why you need them for a bath is also past me. Each man had a piece of soap and towel.

After a five-mile march along a dusty road, with an occasional shell whistling overhead, we arrived at a little squat frame building on the bank of a creek. Nailed over the door of this building was a large sign, "Divisional Baths." In a wooden shed in the rear we could hear a wheezy old engine pumping water.

We lined up in front of the baths and piled our rifles into stacks. A sergeant of the medical corps, with a yellow band around his left arm on which was "S.P." (sanitary police) in black letters, took charge, ordering us to take off our equipment, unroll our puttees and unlace our boots. Then, starting from the right of the line, he divided us into squads of 15. I happen-

ed to be in the first squad.

Barrel Tubs.

We entered a small room, where we had five minutes to undress, then fled into the bathroom. In here there were fifteen tubs—barrels sawed in two—half full of water. Each tub contained a small piece of laundry soap.

The sergeant informed us we had just twelve minutes to take our baths. Soaping ourselves all over, we took turns in rubbing each others' back, then, by means of a garden hose, washed the soap off. The water was ice cold, but felt fine.

Pretty soon a bell rang, and the water was turned off. Some of the slower ones were covered with soap, but this made no difference to the sergeant, who chased us into another room, where we lined up in front of a little window resembling the box office in a theatre, and received clean underwear and towels.

From here we went into the room where we had first undressed. Ten minutes were allowed us to get into our "clabber."

Up to His Chin.

My pair of drawers came up to my chin, and the shirt barely reached my diaphragm, but they were clean, no strangers on them, so I was satisfied.

At the expiration of the time allotted we were turned out and finished our dressing in the cold on the grass.

When all the company had bathed it was a case of march back to billets. That march was the most uncongenial one imagined, just cussing and blinding all the way. We were covered with white dust and the woollen underwear was itching like the mischief. "Holy Joe" heard our remarks he would have fainted at our weakness.

Jim, when you jump into your porcelain bathtub at home, with its hot and cold water shower, just think of Tommy out here, who occasionally for eight days at a time never takes off his shoes.

Yours,

"EMP."

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by skin trouble was the lot of Mr. M. Butler, of 47 Congress Street, Bridgeport, Conn. He writes:—

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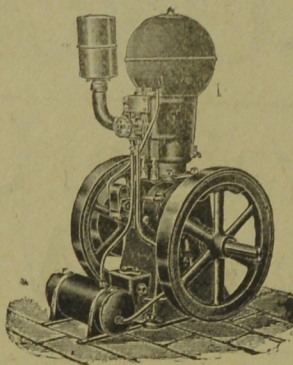
Amsterdam, via London, March 14.—A battle between German seaplanes and Russian destroyers in the Black Sea is reported in an official statement issued by the Berlin War Office. The destroyers were approaching Constanza, the Roumanian port, and were forced to retreat, the statement says, after bombs had been dropped upon them by the seaplanes. One destroyer is said to have been hit twice.

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30 " 15th May, 1917;	
26 " 15th June, 1917.	

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The instalments may be paid in full on the 16th day of April, 1917, or on any instalment due date thereafter, under discount at the rate of four per cent per annum. All payments are to be made to a chartered bank for the credit of the Minister of Finance. Failure to pay any instalment when due will render previous payments liable to forfeiture and the allotment to cancellation.

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The issue will be exempt from taxes—including any income tax—imposed in pursuance of legislation enacted by the Parliament of Canada.

The bonds with coupons will be issued in denominations of \$100, \$500, \$1,000. Fully registered bonds without coupons will be issued in denominations of \$1,000, \$5,000 or any authorized multiple of \$5,000.

The bonds will be paid at maturity at par at the office of the Minister of Finance and Receiver General at Ottawa, or at the office of the Assistant Receiver General at Halifax, St. John, Charlottetown, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary or Victoria, or at the Agency of the Bank of Montreal, New York City.

The interest on the fully registered bonds will be paid by cheque, which will be remitted by post. Interest on bonds with coupons will be paid on surrender of coupons. Both cheques and coupons, at the option of the holder, will be payable free of exchange at any branch in Canada of any chartered bank, or at the Agency of the Bank of Montreal, New York City.

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Recognized bond and stock brokers having offices and carrying on business in Canada will be allowed a commission of three-eighths of one per cent on allotments made in respect of applications bearing their stamp, provided, however, that no commission will be allowed in respect of the amount of any allotment paid for by the surrender of bonds issued under the War Loan prospectus of 22nd November, 1915, or in respect of the amount of any allotment paid for by surrender of five per cent debenture stock maturing 1st October, 1919. No commission will be allowed in respect of applications on forms which have not been printed by the King's Printer.

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