Democratic Watchman. Bellefonte, Pa., January 24, 1919.

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over would come Fritz.

The Winning of a D. C. M.

Sergeant Arthur Guy Empey Author of "Over the Top," "First Call," Etc.

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Mr. Empey's Experiences During His Seventeen Months in the First Line Trenches of the British Army in France

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Our gun's crew, as was its wont, was sitting on the straw in the corner of our billet, far from the rest of the section. The previous night we had been relieved from the fire trench, and were "resting" in rest billets. Our "day's noitering patrols. rest" had been occupied in digging a bombing trench, this trench to be used for the purpose of breaking in wouldbe bombers.

Hungry Foxcroft was slicing away at a huge loaf of bread, while on his knee he was balancing a piece of "issue" cheese. His jack-knife was pretty dull and the bread was hard; so every, now and then he would pause in his cutting operation to take a large bite from the cheese.

Curly Wallace whispered to me: "Three bob to a tanner, Yank, that he eats the cheese before he finishes slicing that 'rooty.'"

I whispered back:

"Nothing doing, Curly, you are Scotch, and did you ever see a Scotsman bet on anything unless it was a sure winner?"

He answered in an undertone: "Well, let's make it a pack of fags. How about it, Yank?"

I acquiesced. (Curly won the fags.) Sailor Bill was sitting next to Curly. and had our mascot, Jim-a sorry-looking mut-between his knees, and was picking hard pieces of mud from its paws. Jim was wagging his stump of



by a dismal, moaning howl from Jim. whole reconnoitering patrol was ly- it. He answered: Ikey had been playing about a minute, ing in a circle, head in. French had, when the orderly sergeant poked his in his noiseless way, given orders for corporal take orders from a bloody prihead in the door of the billet, saying: them to close in on me, and await in- vate? You tell the rest of the boys, if "The captain says to stop that infer structions.

"Leftenant Newall's voice, in a very Highly insulted, Ikey stopped, with: low whisper, came to us: "Boys, the men in our trenches

"Some people 'ave no idea of mucount of our reconnoitering patrol be-We agreed with him. Somewhat mollified, he started: ing out in front. A strong German Corporal French is the same bloke raiding party has just circled our left, ed about ten feet from us, and in its who just returned from Blighty and and is making for our trench. It's up white, ghostly light I could see French

joined the Third section yesterday." all go, because we might make too (Author's Note—The incident here re-lated is a true happening. Corporal French won the D. C. M. in the manner described by Honney. I will not attempt to give it in the cockney dialect.) all go, because we might make too much noise and warn the German par-ty, so it's up to one of us to carry the news back to the trench that the raid-in the manner to give it in the cockney dialect.) all go, because we might make too much noise and warn the German par-ty, so it's up to one of us to carry the news back to the trench that the raid-int to give it in the cockney dialect.) all go, because we might make too much noise and warn the German par-ty so it's up to one of us to carry the news back to the trench that the raid-int to give it in the cockney dialect.)

ing party is on its way. With this "We were holding a part of the line information it will be quite easy for up Fromelles way, and were about our boys to wipe them out. But its two hundred yards from the Germans. up to the rest of us to stick out here, This sure was a 'hot' section of the and if we go west we have done our line. We were against the Prussians, duty in a noble cause. Corporal and it was a case, at night, of keeping French, you had better take the news your ears and eyes open. No Man's back, because you are too valuable a land was full of their patrols and ours, man to sacrifice.' and many fights took place between

"French, under his breath, answered:

"One night we would send over a "'Sir, I've been out since Mons, and trench-raiding party and the next night this is the first time that I've ever been insulted by an officer. If this "There was a certain part of our patrol is going to click it, I'm going to trench nicknamed Death alley, and the click it too. If we come out of this company which held it was sure to you can try me for disobedience of orclick it hard in casualties. In five ders, but here I stick, and I'll be nights 'in' I clicked for three recondamned if I go in, officer or no offi-

cer.' "John French-he was a lance cor-"Newall, in a voice husky with emoporal then-was in charge of our sec- tion, answered:

tion. This was before I went to ma-"'French, it's men like you that chine gunners' school and transferred make it possible for "our Little Island" to this outfit. This French certainly to withstand the world. You are a was an artist when it came to scouttrue Briton, and I'm proud of you.' ing in No Man's land. He knew every "I was hoping that he would detail inch of the ground out in front, and me to go back, but he didn't. Henderwas like a cat-he could see in the son was picked for the job. When Henderson left Newall shook hands "On the night that he won his D. C. all around. I felt queer and lonely. M. he had been out in front with a pa-"You see, fellows, it was this way: trol for two hours, and had just re-Henderson was to tell the men in the turned to the fire trench. A sentry trench that we had returned and that down on the right of Death alley reit was all right for them to turn loose ported a suspicious noise out in front, on the raiding party with their rifle and our captain gave orders for anand machine gunfire, without us clickother patrol to go out and investiing their fire. Leftenant Newall sure

was a lad, not 'arf he weren't. "Corporal Hawkins was next on the "That next twenty minutes of waitlist for the job, but, blime me, he sure ing was hell. Then, from out of the had the wind up, and was shaking and blackness, over toward our trench, rang that old familiar "Alt, who goes "A new leftenant, Newall by name, there?' We hugged the ground. We had just come out from Blighty, and a knew what was coming. Then, a volpretty fine officer, too. Now, don't you ley from our trench, and four 'typechaps think because this chap was writers' (machine guns) turned loose. killed that I say he was a good offi-Bullets cracked right over our heads. cer, because, dead or alive, you would One hit the ground about a foot from have to go a bloomin' long way to get me, ricocheted, and went moaning and another man like Newall. But this sighing over the German lines. young leftenant was all eagerness to

"Leftenant Newall sobbed under his get out in front. You see, it was his breath: first time over the top. He noticed "'God, we're in direct line of our that Hawkins was shaky, and so did own fire. The trench-raiding party French. French went up to the offimust have circled us.'

"Our boys in our trench sure were doing themselves proud. The bullets days, and I would deem it a favor if 1 were cracking and biting the ground

all around us.

He started in and was accompanied on my right and left. Pretty soon the | told him to get low or he would click "Since when does a bloomin' lance

they've not as yet gone west, to leg it back to our trench at the double and get a stretcher, and you go with them.

This lad of ours has got to get medical have received orders not to fire on ac attention, and damned quick, too, if we want to stop this bleeding! "Just then a German star shell land-

to us to send word back. We can't sitting like a bloomin' statue, his hands covered with blood, trying to make a

> stretcher. They needed no second urging, and soon French was left there alone, sitting on the ground, holding cracking overhead and kicking up the dirt around him."

Just then Happy butted in with: "Were you one of the men who went in for the stretcher?" Ikey answered: "None of your d-

business. If you blokes want to hear this story through, don't interrupt." Happy vouchsafed no answer. "About ten minutes after the fellows

left for the stretcher, French got a bullet through the left arm." Sailor Bill interrupted here:

"How do you know it was ten minutes?"

Ikey blushed and answered . "French told me when he got back to the trench. You see, he carried the officer back through that fire, because the stretcher bearers took too long in coming out."

I asked Ikey how Corporal French, being wounded himself, could carry Leftenant Newall in, because I knew Leftenant Newall to be a six-footer land.

Ikey answered:

"Well, you blokes give me the proper pip, and you can all bloomin' well go to h--," and he shut up like a clam. Hungry Foxcroft got up and silently withdrew from our circle. In about ten minutes he returned, followed by a tall, fair-haired corporal who wore a little strip of gold braid on the left sleeve of his tunic, denoting that he had been once wounded, and also wore a little blue and red ribbon on the left breast of his tunic, the field insignia of the Distinguished Conduct medal.

Hungry, in triumph, brought him into our circle and handed him a fag, which he lighted in the flame from the candle on the mess tin, and then Hungry introduced him to us:

"Boys, I want you to meet Corporal French."

He shook hands with all the boys. Ikey got red and was trying to ease out of the candle light, when Sailor

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT. Merciful Father, I will not complain, I know that sunshine follows the rain. -Joaquin Miller

How to Make and Use a Fireless Cooker .- A fireless cooker needs not to be expensive, for one made at home at a cost of a few cents is every bit as good as one bought. The one described is French and very simple. The directions were given in LaNature by Dr. L. de Plonchy, who says they are the result of many years of exper-

Get a box—any old box will do, so long as it is large enough for the pot it is to hold, with plenty of space all around it. A roughly cubical or round box is best. This may be of wood or cardboard, though, of course, the stronger the material the more durable it will be The box must have durable it will be. The box must have his dying officer's head in his lap. A a cover or lid, which can be attachpretty picture, I call it. He sure was a man, was French—with the bullets leather or cloth, and fastened down with a hasp or a loop of leather fit-

well as anything. Draw the stuff up around the sides and fold its corners feeding and management for which and edges down inside the pot. To hold them thus put on the lid. It is highly anyantageous for all.

tightly and leaving no air spaces, un-til an inch or so above the rim of the pot, and then making it slope upward with nails that will not split the wood.

Then, and only then, take out the pot. You will find that this has left a hole into which it fits exactly, lined with the cloth or flannel as perfectly as an upholsterer could have done it. Then make three or four pads or cushions of several sizes, using flan-nel, cloth or felt and filling with sawclosed over them.

Put stew, soup, mush, vegetables, rice or anything that is to be boiled into the pot; let it boil for a few moments; then, without taking off the lid, re-move the pot from the fire, put it at once into the box, fill up with the cushions, close the lid and set it anywhere for as long as you like. The cooking will continue for several hours. The box must on no account be opened after the pot has been put

into it. er than younger ones, but are not good property for inexperienced sheep When it is opened the contents of the pot will be found almost as hot as when they went in, perfectly cooked In buying ewes, particularly those and ready to serve. The uses of a fireless cooker are from the range, it is desirable, when possible, to examine the udders to see manifold. In it water, milk, coffee, that they are free from lumps that tea or chocolate can be kept hot over would prevent the ewes from being night; the breakfast cereal can be put milkers. It is necessary to guard alin the night before; soup, vegetables, so against buying ewes that are usestews or fish can be put down after less as breeders, because of the ends luncheon and left without attention of the teats having been clipped off until dinner time, for they cannot at shearing. Persons wholly inexperienced with sheep will do well to limit the size of scorch. Even rice or milk will never scorch in a fireless cooker. In these days of high cost of living, the flock at the start. A beginner the gas bill can be materially reduced can acquire experience quite rapidly by the intelligent use of this inexpenwith eight or ten ewes. It is very sive box. doubtful, however, whether anyone should make a start with sheep un-This is a good time of year to make it, as the exercise will help keep one warm. It is a necessity, too, if one less the arrangement of the farm and the plan of its operation allow the keeping of as many as 30 ewes, and cooks with gas altogether. And of course, when summer comes it is in most cases 60 or more will be needed more than ever. handled better and more economical-A Philadelphia woman lucky enough ly than a very small flock. to have some goods delivered in a The economical disadvantage of a packing case divided in the middle by a wooden partition, says: "I lined very small flock lies in the fact that the hours of labor are practically the the bottom and sides of each partisame for a dozen or twenty ewes as facts were known he was the bloke tion with four thicknesses of newspafor the larger flock. The fencing to who deserved, not a D. C. M., but a V. pers, very neatly nailed in. Over these was stretched a covering of the allow desirable change of pastures or to give protection against dogs is felting which is generally put under stair carpets, as I had no old flannel about the same in either case, so that the overhead charges per ewe are or blankets to utilize. The lid, which is loose, was also lined with newspamuch smaller in the case of the larger flock. Furthermore, the small flock pers covered with the felting. Two on a farm having large numbers of other animals is unlikely to receive cushions made of the felting, to fit each partition exactly, were stuffed with newspapers torn into shreds. I the study and attention really needed or that would be given to one of the could not get hay, so tore some newschief sources of the farm income. papers into wide strips, the length of the paper, and rolled these into tight -Housing the Flock .- Equipment for raising sheep on farms need not balls, a layer of which was pressed inbe expensive. In mild latitudes little to the bottom of each partition to the housing is needed, and the main need depth of three inches. On this was is for fencing and pastures of suffiplaced in one partition a saucepan cient number and size to allow fre-quent changing of flocks to fresh with a small handle on either side, and in the other a good-sized casseground to insure health. Where winrole, both of which had well-fitting ters are longer and more severe, lids. Around these I packed the newsbuildings and sheds are necessary to paper balls as tightly as possible, furnish protection from storms, pressing them down well. When the though no special provisions are needpans were lifted out a nest was formed for warmth. Dryness, good vened, ready for them to be slipped in tilation, and freedom from drafts are the first requisites of buildings for and out of. "My box being ready, I thought I would start by cooking oatmeal, so one evening, at 9 o'clock, I made it in sheep. Convenience in feeding and shepherding must also be held in mind in locating and planning such builda saucepan, brought it to the boil, put ings or sheds. the lid on firmly and popped the pan into the box, covered it with the cush-Small flocks can be cared for in sections of barns having stabling or on, put on the lid and placed some feed storage for other stock, but with a flock of, say, 100 ewes separate buildings are desirable. The interflatirons on to weight it down tightly. Next morning in great trepidation. I looked at it, and found it perfectly ior arrangement of these buildings cooked and quite warm. It only reshould be such as should require a quired heating for three or four minminimum of labor and the least posutes on the stove, just in time for sible moving of the ewes in doing the breakfast. What a comfort! feeding and caring for them during "I was so much encouraged by this the lambing season. A building of this type can also be utilized for fatexperiment that I went on from one tening purchased lambs to be dispos-ed of before lambing begins in the regular farm flock. A good supply of thing to another, and now cook stock from bones, thick soups, meat, fish, bacon, chicken, vegetables, fruits and cereals in my invaluable fireless. feed racks, grain troughs, etc., can be In fact, two or three of these boxes provided at small expense and will save labor and prevent waste of feed. are useful.' -Although it is necessary to keep Food can be cooked for breakfast or luncheon by putting it in the box the hens confined to their yard most over night, or for dinner by putting it in the box in the morning. It re-quires no watching, but must be boilof the time, it is sometimes possible to let them out where they may range upon the lawn for an hour or so ing when it goes in, and must not be the evening when some one can be at hand to watch them, or at certain seadisturbed till required. Food can be kept hot for people who sons of the year to allow them to run are unable to be in time for meals. in the garden plat.

FARM NOTES.

-Ducks for Meat and Eggs.-The Pekin breed is kept almost exclusively by producers of green ducks, and also on many farms where they are grown for meat. They fatten rapid-ly and may be fed on rations recom-mended for chickens, but better results are usually secured by feeding more green and vegetable feeds and a larger proportion of mash.

For the general farmer who is more interested in obtaining eggs than pro-ducing meat the Indian Runner is a good breed. This duck holds the same relative position in the duck family that the Leghorn does in the chicken family. It lays a good-sized white egg considerably larger than a hen's egg, and is declared to be a small eater, a good forager, and hardy. The introduction of this breed is helping to build up a trade of first class duck eggs. These eggs should be marketed frequently, as they depreciate in quality more rapidly than hens' eggs.

-Selection of Sheep .- The inexperienced sheep raiser should begin ting over a nail. In the bottom of the box pack tight-ly sawdust, ashes, straw, paper or old rags to a depth of about three inches. Now take the pot, which may be of earthenware, metal or enamel, with a cover, but without a handle, and place undertaken by persons experienced in sheep raising. The selection of the type and breed of sheep should be it upon a piece of flannel cloth, felt or made by considering the class of pasother non-conducting material—a ture and feeds available and the gen-piece of an old woolen skirt, a down eral system of farming to be followquilt or a felt table cover will serve as ed, along with the peculiarities of the breeds and the conditions and kind of

It is highly anvantageous for all. The pot is now ready to be placed or a majority, of the farms in a neighborhood, to keep the same breed of the layer of stuffing in the bottom. All around the pot pack more stuffing use of rams of the same breed. After All around the pot pack more stanning use of rains of the same breed. Alter of the same kind, pressing it down tightly and leaving no air spaces, un-til an inch or so above the rim of the til an ewes that are individually good and that have as many crosses as postoward the edges of the box, so as to leave a funnel-like opening down to the pot. Remove the lid from the pot and turn back the edges and corners of the cloth from inside it to cover tinuous improvement. In looking for and no lightweight. You see, he had at one time been in command of my platoon at the training depot in Engprice. Ewes from the western ranges can be obtained directly from a stockyard market. For the most part the range ewes are of Merino breeding. First-cross ewe lambs, and less often older stock bred on the range and sired by rams of the down or longwool breeds, are sometimes obtainable. These, or even the Merino ewes, dust, ashes or woolen rags. These are to fill up the funnel-like space above the pot, which they should do tightly when the lid of the box is lambs from Merino ewes and mutton osed over them. The fireless cooker is now finished. t torus your hand sell well if well cared for, but the yield is less than when ewes with some mutton blood are used. The sheep from the range are less often infested with internal

parasites than are farm sheep, and in the large shipments there is opportunity for closer selection. Yearling or two year old ewes are preferable to older stock. Ewes with 'broken mouths"-that is, those that have lost some of their teeth as a result of age-can be purchased cheap-

Jim Was Wagging His Stump of a Tail and Watching Intently.

a tail and was intently watching Hungry's operation on the bread. Every time Hungry reached for the cheese Jim would follow the movement with his eyes, and his tail would wag faster. Hungry, noting this look, bit off a small piece of the cheese and flipped it in Jim's direction. Jim deftly caught it in his mouth and then the fun began. Our mascot hated cheese. It was fun to see him spit it out and sneeze.

Ikey Honney reached over, took the candle, and started searching in his pack, amidst a chorus of growls from us at his rudeness in thus depriving us of light. I was watching him closely and suspected what was coming. Sure enough, out came that harmonica and I knew it was up to me to start the ball of conversation rolling before he began playing, because, after he had shell. once started, nothing short of a German "fve-nine" shellburst would stop him. So I slyly kicked Sailo Sill, who til he returned from a little scout immediately got wise, and then I trip of his own. When he left broke the ice with:

"Sailor, I heard you say this afternoon, while we were building that traverse, that it was your opinion that darn few medals were really won; that it was more or less an accident. Now, just because your D. C. M. came up with the rations, and, as you say, it was wished on you, there is no reason in my mind to class every winner of a medal as being 'accidentally lucky.'"

This medal business was a sore point with Sailor Bill, and he came right back at me with:

"Well, if any of you lubbers can tell me where a D. C. M. truly came aboard in a shipshape manner-that is, up the after gangplank-then I will strike my colors and lay up on a lee shore for drydock."

Ikey Honney had just taken a long, indrawn breath, and his cheeks were puffed out like a balloon, preparatory to blowing it into the harmonica, which he had at his lips, but paused, and, removing the musical instrument of torture. he exploded:

"Blime me, I know of a bloke who won a D. C. M., and it wasn't acci- my left. dental or lucky, either. I was right out in front with him. Blime me, I sure had the wind up, but with French it was 'business as usual.' He just carried on."

We all chirped in, "Come on, Ikey, let's have the story."

"I will if you'll just let me play this one tune first." answered Ikey.

could go in his place.' "Now, don't think that Hawkins was

cer and said :

trembling like a dish of jelly.

a coward, because he was not, for the best of us are liable to get the 'shakes' at times. You know, Hawkins was killed at La Bassee a couple of months ago-killed while going over the top. "There were seven in this patrol-Leftenant Newall, Corporal French, my-

"'Sir, Corporal Hawkins has been

feeling queer for the last couple of

self and four more from B company. "About sixty yards from Fritz's

trench an old ditch-must have been the bed of a creek, but at that time was dry-ran parallel with the Ger-

man barbed wire. Lining the edge of this ditch was a scrubby sort of hedge which made a fine hiding place for a patrol. Why Fritz had not sent out a working party and done away with this screen was a mystery to us.

"French leading, followed by Leftenant Newall, myself third, and the rest trailing behind, we crawled through a sap under our barbed wire leading out to a listening post in No Man's land. We each had three bombs. Newall carried a revolver-one of those Yankee Colts-and his cane. Blime me, I believe that officer slept with that cane. He never went without it. The rest of us were armed with bombs and rifles, bayonets fixed. We had previously blackened our bayonets so they would not shine in the glare of a star

"Reaching the listening post French told us to wait about five minutes un

with every nerve tense, listened for his coming back. We could almost hear each other's hearts pumping, but not a sound around the listening post. Sudly a voice, about six feet on my right whispered, 'All right the way is clear; follow rate and carry on.'

"My Lood froze in my veins. It was uncanny the way French approached us without being heard.

"Then, with backs bending low, out of the listening post we went, in the direction of the ditch in front of the German barbed wire. We reached the scrubby hedge and lay down, about six feet apart, to listen. French and the officer were on the right of our line. About twenty minutes had elapsed

when suddenly, directly in front of the German wire we could see dark, shadowy forms rise from the ground and move along the wire. Silhouetted against the skyline these forms looked like huge giants, and took on horrible shapes. My heart almost stopped heating. I counted s'xty-two in all, as the last form faded into the blackness on

"A whisper came to my ears: strong German raiding party is going us. French called to me: across.' It was French's voice. I did not hear him approach me, nor leave. officer has clicked it.' Yank, he must have got his training with the Indians on your great plains of America!

"I could hear a slight scraping noise

"In between our trench and our party, curses rang out in German as the Boches clicked the fire from the English trench. Star shells were shooting into the air and dropping in No Man's land. It was a great but terrible sight which met our eyes. Fritz's raiding party was sure being wiped out.

"Ten or fifteen dark forms, the remnants of the German raiding party, dashed past us in the direction of the German trench. We hugged the ground. It was our only chance. We him, and, taking the slings from our knew that it would only be a few rifles, Honney made a sort of rope seconds before Fritz turned loose. If which he put around my shoulder and we had legged it for our trench we under the arm of the leftenant, and would have been wiped out by our Honney, getting the leftenant by the own fire. You see, our boys thought legs, we managed to get him into the we were safely in.

"Then, up went Fritz's star lights. turning night into day, and hell cut poral in charge. Damned unfair, I loose. Their bullets were snipping twigs from the hedge over our heads. "Suddenly the fellow on my left, MacCauley by name, emitted a muffled groan, and started kicking the ground; then silence. He had gone west. A bullet through the napper, I suppose. There were now five of us left.

"Suddenly Leftenant Newall, in a faint, choking voice, exclaimed:

"'They've got me, French; it's through the lung,' and then fainter-'you're in command. See that-' His voice died away. Pretty soon he after we got him to the first-aid dressstarted moaning loudly. The Germans

Bill grabbed him by the tunic and held him.

Then Hungry Foxcroft carried on: "French, I'm going to ask you a mighty personal question, and I know you'll answer it. How in h- did you, hit in the left arm, bring Leftenant Newall back from that reconnoitering patrol?"

French grew a little red, and answered:

"Well, you see, boys, it was this way. Honney and I stuck out there with trench. You know. I got a D. C. M. out of the affair, because I was the corcall it, because they only handed Honney the Military medal, but if the true

C. (Victoria Cross)." We all turned in Honney's direction. Bill, in his interest, had released his hold on Honney's tunic and Honney had disappeared.

Happy asked French if the leftenant had died in No Man's land. French, with tears in his eyes, an-

swered: "No, but the poor lad went west

ing station, and next day we buried him in the little cemetery at Fromelles. He sure done his bit, all right, blime me, and here I am, bloomin' well swankin' with a ribbon on my chest."

A dead silence fell on the crowd. Each one of us was admiring the modesty of those two real men, French and Honney.

But such is the way in the English army--the man who wins the medal always says that the other fellow de-

And Germany is still wondering why they cannot smash through the Eng-

War on Sneezers Waged in Camden.

War on the spitter and sneezer as precaution against another outbreak of influenza is under way in Camden. Under the auspices of the Associated Charities, the motion-picture theatres will be used to educate the people against the danger of the practice. The Four-Minute Men of the country have agreed to offer their services in Board of Health, has issued warnings

Camden is now ready to meet any emergency which may arise. A directory of nurses, both professional

will be kept for any future emergen-

Holding His Dying Officer's Head.

must have heard these moans, because "'Don't move or make a sound, a they immediately turned their fire on

"'Honney, come here, my lad, our

"I crawled over to him. He was sitting ca the ground with the leften. B Armory have been stored away and ant's head resting in his lap, and was getting out his first-aid packet. I cy.

served it. lish lines.

the campaign. Dr. H. H. Davies, president of the to the people to exercise care lest another epidemic visit the city.

and volunteer, has been compiled. Paraphernalia and furnishings used at the Emergency hospital in Battery