

## VOLUMES OF PRAISE FOR E. T. D. BAND.

After an absence of three weeks the Engineers Training Depot band returned to Barracks from Ottawa where the musicians were called to spur a greater response to Victory Loan. The old adage that "music hath charms", when coupled with the fact that Ottawa went well over the top in the campaign in fine testimony to the usefulness of Sergeant F. W. Cook's organization which has been sadly missed at the Depot.

The bandsmen declare that there was not a dull moment during the entire visit to the Dominion Capital and the press comments brought back by the men show very clearly that our boys made something more than a hit. Including the bandmaster, there were 26 players. Upon arrival in Ottawa they were quartered with the Signal Corps in Lansdown Barracks. The band gave two concerts each day and on many days there were special parades in which the St. Johns detachment played an important part. The concerts were given on the Plaza and there were often between five to eight thousand persons in the audience. While absent, the bandsmen were regaled to a splendid banquet tendered by the returned war veterans. Plum pudding was twice included in the Barracks menu in their honour and they were given the 'glad hand' everywhere they went.

The signing of the armistice was celebrated by the Band in right royal fashion. To quote one of the bandsman, "We did not stop blowing from 3 a.m. until midnight, with the exception of meal times." The news reached the barracks at three o'clock in the morning and the St. Johns men were the first to turn out. In distinct negligee they visited the quarters of the Signal Corps and played the Doxology, God Save the King and John Brown's Body. Later they paraded up and down the streets at the head of an impromptu procession. In the meantime arrangements were being made for a great Victory parade and the Band of the E. T. D. was in the van when it swung through the city.

Incidentally the E. T. D. nearly lost the organization of which it is proud, for efforts were made to detach the musicians from St. Johns and to convert the organization into the Ottawa Police Band.

The return of the band to home quarters was celebrated by a concert at the evening mess on Thursday, a roar of applause greeting the men.

## HAMLET DOESN'T LIKE CABARETS.

For me to say that I enjoyed the show last week would hardly be true. No doubt there were many in the audience who did enjoy it, although I think it was about evenly divided. The boys did well, as usual, but it was plain to be seen that some of them were out of their element.

Sappers Fennell and Branton saved the comedy end of the show—and both worked hard.

Sapper Martin, otherwise known as Miss Basil Thorne, made a distinct hit in "her" or I should say "his?" impersonations.

The orchestra did good work.

A quartette consisting of Sappers Quick, Carson, Slater and

Arnold put on a couple of numbers, Sapper Stephenson and Clifford sang, Sapper Linney recited and Sapper Milne played in the double acts with Fennell and Branton.

There was a lot of noise to the entertainment, but not as much ability as I have seen in other performances. The show evidently lacked rehearsals.

We can't expect an all star show every week, boys, so lets all see what is offered next Friday.

Anyhow this is only my personal opinion and I am not up-to-date enough to appreciate a Cabaret show.

Hamlet.

Literary aspirant: "I can write about anything." Tired publisher: "Then, please right about face!"

## Overheard On The Somme.

"It's a nice day."

"Yes, the clerks of the weather are kind to us lately."

"By the way, who are the clerks of the weather?"

"Oh, those barometer fellows, Spagetti and Zambuk!"

A sergeant was so much given to using language on the parade ground that some of the men complained, and the C.O. interviewed him, and told him not to let it happen again.

The following morning the sergeant was in charge of a very ragged squad, and after keeping silence for a considerable time he eventually burst out with:

"Bless you, my pretty dears: you know what I mean."

