

Coy. O.C.: No; d—— it all, no. Fritz has quit now. Leave him alone while he's quiet.

Adjt.: Right you are, Bert. Good-bye.

(No answer from Bert. He's gone along the front line to see what damage has been done to the new work that his men had done the previous night and saying things unprintable.)

At about this time the 4.5 Battery have received orders to "Stand to" and fire twenty rounds H.E. No. 1 gun has just loaded up, and waiting for the order to fire, when the order to "Cease fire" and "Stand down" comes along.

The same evening the Colonel receives a complaint from the Company Commander in the front line, stating that as the Hun was shelling the front line, he had asked for retaliation, and having waited for half an hour on same was forced to cancel the order on account of the Hun having quietened down.

The Colonel doesn't see why it takes half an hour to get retaliation, in spite of an explanation from the F.O.O. and Adjutant. When the Colonel has finished hauling the two before-mentioned gentlemen over the coals, he starts in on the Signaller, and generally ends up by telling the operator on duty that "you're no d——d good."

Well, when a person of authority in the Army tells you that you're no d——d good, he's right, absolutely.

Can you blame the Company Commander for getting sore? and can you blame the Signaller for having his grouch?

Ah, well; c'est la guerre!

FAREWELL TO OUR R.S.M.

On December 7 last a farewell dinner was given our Regimental Sergeant-Major, F. J. Marshall, on the eve of his departure for Edmonton on leave.

Thanks to the efforts of the cooks and the inimitable Jack Smith, a menu was provided that far excelled anything yet partaken of in this country.

After dinner Drum-Major Belcher took the chair. Colonel Palmer, Major Weaver, and Lieuts. Henderson and Walker joined the company.

The Colonel, after a short but inspiring

speech, proposed the toast to the Sergeant-Major, who in his reply showed that, however pleasant a prospect his pass to Canada unfolded to him, he yet felt keenly the parting from the Battalion.

Major Weaver then gave a résumé of the Sergeant-Major's career with the Battalion, which was loudly cheered, and then



Regimental Sergeant-Major F. J. MARSHALL.

followed many congratulatory speeches from his friends around the table.

Music was provided by instrumentalists from the Battalion, and the evening was brought to a close by the singing of "God Save the King."

Every good wish follows the Sergeant-Major on the leave which he so richly deserves, from all ranks of the Battalion that he has served with distinction so long and so faithfully.