

If a Lt. Col. in the second Contingent is equal to a Lt. in the first Contingent, what would a Field Marshall in the third Contingent equal? Would he equal an Arch Angel?

Who got the V. C. for cutting the German baloon away? And if he cut the rope above or below him?

Who was the reinforcement who cut the telephone wires for material to repair a trench bailer?

Who the man was who made the following remark when being questioned by an officer about a wounded comrade at Ypres, "Well Sir, the last time I saw him he had his leg blown off, but outside of that he was alright."

Why is No. 1 Co. praying for rain?

Who is the officer's batman in No. 4 Co. who has such nightmares about:—

Fritz that no one can sleep around his dug-out?

What condition No. 4 Co. was in when the report came "All serene".

Our Hong-Kong agent wants to know whats the matter with No. 3 Co.

No likee flont line tlench. no likee gloly?

Who stole the policeman's shirt which had been washed but not boiled? and if theif not uneasy about it when he had worn it for ten minutes, and if he has not given up the idea of going back for the pants.

What the members of No. 1 Co., who were out cutting grass in front of their barbed wire, who made such and undignified retreat to their trench at the approach of the enemy said when the "enemy" turned out to be a belgian hare?..

Sentry Umpteenth Battn; — "Halt who goes there?"

Officer: — "Officer 7th Battalion"

Sentry: — "Advance and give the countersign".

Officer: — "I dont know it".

Sentry: — "Well you'd better know it so I'll tell you, its "37".

Pte. Mitchell to Pte. Mc Innes at Hyde Park corner.
"How far is it to Ploegsteert?"

Pte. Mc Innes: — "Twenty eight Days",

Why the Transport Sgt has to accompany Officers to the station when they are going on leave.

Why the Blacksmith is casting away his two wheeled rig.

Who is the R.Q.M.S's groom. Some say he didn't pay the old one.

Where the Sgt. Cook and Pte E...r go every evening

Who tries to run the double issuse on Cpl. R..d.

Answers to Correspondents

Post Corporal: — When delivering mail in the trenches it is not advisable to go out after the listening patrol. The most effective way to bring in the L.P. is to make a noise like a rum issue.

Another Breach of the Hague Convention

The Germans are reported to be using unfair methods to entice our troops to expose themselves. Early this morning a number of parasols and ostrich feathers could be seen moving along the enemy parapet.

Extract from daily report

Enemy working parties were seen on the right. It was noticed that the men were as usual wearing their forage

caps. Two men having green caps with pink ribbons. Some Caps.

If the Germans were to Plug-Street would YPRES.

(E. Pray)?

Why the Listening Post ?

(Continued)

The trials of a listening post are many. I'm only an amateur and but for the Editor would never have attempted to do full justice to this theme.

Flare lights as sent up by the Germans, or "Very darks" as attempted by us, to a crescendo of Hunmerriment. Visitors, especially from across the road, are apt to enliven matters a trifle too strenuously. Visitors in the shape of friends, with brassy cough and sizzling sneeze are liable to complicate matters, and brace up the environment. Some people whisper like a train snorting through a megaphone. Others creep like an elephant with locomotor ataxia.

Think of the listening post. Far out in front of the trench, nearer Berlin than anyone else. All alone, but for his wire. Watchful, alert. Peering through the dark, analysing every sound, dissecting every vision investigating every smell. An epicure, a critic, a reporter rolled in one. A rising bank of mist, that may be gas. A footfall out in front that may be our own patrols or it may not. The safety of the trench depends upon him, and on the safety of the trench depends, Yes, what?

On a fine night, with a full moon, dry ground and a good view. Fine! A regular picnic. All the universe and the myriad stars to remind you of your future happiness. But on a wet night, a thin, drizzling, slush of a night, your knees a sponge, your elbows a marsh, your tummy a morass, nothing to be seen heard or smelt, but wet, damp and misery. Then's time you think of your past sins.

Flare lights may show up your position, but it is the bullets, and machine guns that actually ascertain, whether a listening post, is a post and not merely a prostrate piece of timber.

There is a diversity of opinion among listening posts, as to whether they run more risk from the bullets of those in front or their friends behind. But that, like the Welsh Coal Strike and Compulsory Service, is a controversial matter and the Editor says its "spot barred".

One day I'll write a poem about a listening post, and then the world will know the dull depths of the dreary damp, despondent, despairing, dangerous drugery of this devastating thrice dammed duty.

Yet many of them like it, ask to be sent out. Go and go again. If the aeroplanes are our eyes by day, the listening posts are certainly our night lights.

THE END.

Answers to Correspondents

(Amateur Photographer) If your photo of a No 1 Co. Private sleeping in dug-out is genuine, don't accept 10 pounds, offered for it.

(Free Trader) Word your ad., like this: — "Will exchange blanket (shop soiled) for small pick or shovel. Foreign papers please copy.

(Corporal Sanitus) The name "Corrugated Lime" dates back to the dark ages.

(Y. M. C. A. clerk) Jamaca is noted principally for rum, Pte. 17365 Y-----d also comes from there.