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SATURDAY

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OUR CHAPLAIN'S EASTER MESSAGE.

I gladly respond to the request of the Editor for a brief Easter Message to the Officers, N.C.O.'s and Men of the Engineer Training Depot. This week, during which almost all Christians are remembering the sufferings of the Man of Sorrows in Gethsemane and on Calvary's Cross, has been a very real Gethsemane and Calvary to many of your gallant comrades overseas. To countless thousands of homes will come a message of sorrow and unutterable loss. The intensity of anxiety and suspense has been almost unbearable. The dominant note of the hour is suffering. How shall we endure the agony?

Let us turn to Him Who teaches the one necessary lesson for all such times. We read that "For the joy that was set before Him He endured the Cross." For the joy of victory, for what suffering should produce, for the triumph of true manhood. He died fighting evil rather than yield to it. So must we. There can be no victory without battle, no triumph without struggle, no glorified character without the pain of discipline, no abiding joy without its admixture of sorrow. During such a time as this, as during a right observance of Good Friday and Easter Day, we stand face to face with naked and stern realities. Such a time strips off the false conventions and superficialities of ordinary life and reveals manly, self-controlled, character as the one thing with eternity stamped upon it. That alone abides.

Easter means a rising to newness of life and effort and ambition after a death to selfishness, self-indulgence, sin. It is the Open Door to all the joys of free, uncharted, immortal life. It is the promise of triumph over evil, the exemplified fulfilment of the truest instincts, ambitions, hopes and longings of the human heart. In spite of the sorrow, Easter flowers still bloom and the chimes still ring out triumphantly in God's far-off City of Rest. May your Easter Day be joyous indeed, full of the glad refrain of victory over all that is unworthy of Christian men, a fresh start towards the fulness of joy that awaits all who live by the power of an endless life!

Overheard recently:—

Voice of Sergeant-Major Evans:
"Orderly, bring me my boots."
Voice of Orderly: "Beg pardon, sir, but did you say boots or boats?"

Sapper St. George on Training at E.T.D. Seaford.

Seaford, Sussex,

Sun. 24th Feb.

Dear Mr. Knight:—

To date no mail of any kind has arrived from Canada. No copies of "Knots and Lashings" are yet to hand.

Mr. Elliott is here, but in what capacity I don't know. When we marched a mile or so the other day, for Dental examination, he hove on the scene with a grin a mile wide. We had to parade too soon for me to ask him any questions.

I believe I closed my story last week with a note or two about Seaford.

There are 2 camps in one here. We—that is, Engineers, Signallers, 3d Can. Command Depot Tunnelling Co., etc.—occupy the North Camp; while the 236th MacLean Highlanders and thousands of other infantry occupy the South Camp—which is over the hill and nearer the sea.

Draft 27 is certainly being rushed as to training. Although the normal time is 6 to 8 weeks on Infantry dope, and 8 to 10 weeks for Field Works—we are going ahead much quicker.

The "anti-gas" training is done in 2½ days. About one third of us finished yesterday. The first day is devoted to a lecture on gas, and then training in how to get the mask (Small Box Respirator) on in 6 seconds (from "Gas Alert" position) or 8 seconds (from "Slung" position). The N.C.O. in charge of each small squad devotes many appropriate remarks as to the use of gas, the gas attack, how to give the alarm, how to handle gassed men, etc.

Considerable practice is required to get your face into one of these masks, completely attached, but it is done.

On the 2d day, there was another lecture, more training, and then came one of the two standard tests. We had to keep that damned mask on for 2 solid hours. I died!

Gosh—what a week-long torture those 2 hours seemed! No difficulty in breathing, of course—but such a headache!

While the 2-hour test was on, we were taught how to clear gas out of a dugout (the gas symbolised by a smoke-bomb) by using flapper fans. One man "shovels" fresh air in at one entrance, others shovel from there towards the other door, where the last man shovels the gas out so that it dissipates quickly.

(Continued on next page)

Theatre Royal

Friday and Saturday, March 29th
and 30th.—Mollie King in The Square
Girl, 5 parts.Sunday, March 31st.—Maé Marsh
in the Cinderella Man, 6 parts.Monday, April 1st.—Birth of a Na-
tion, in 10 parts. Matinee, 2.15; Night,
7.30. Matinee, 25 and 50 cts; Night,
25, 50, 75, \$1.00.Tuesday and Wednesday, April 2nd
and 3rd.—Francis Bushman and Bever-
ly Bayane in Red White Blue and
Blood, 5 parts.Tuesday, April 4th.—Frankline Farn-
ham in Anything On, 5 parts.Saturday and Sunday, March 30th
and 31st.—Charlie Chaplin in The
Park.Prices, 10 and 15 cts. No war tax.
Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2.30.
Every day two representations, first
one at 6.30, second one at 8.30.

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