

"JUST FOR FUN"

We know an engineer named Mahoney,
Who though slender, is really not boney,
As a dancer he's so graceful,
And though it may sound disgraceful,
He can put it all over Salome.

There is a brave man named Knighton,
Whom even riding can't frighten,
With both his rib and his knee,
As sore as can be,
In the light of one smile he will brighten.

And now there is young Mr. Trow,
So popular where'er he may go,
With his musical talent,
And manner nonchalant,
He is ever a charming young beau.

That brilliant young man named Ells,
Always makes a great hit with the "gells",
Do you think it's his hair,
So beautifully fair,
That aids him in casting his spells?

There's a small creature called Wrong,
Who has been so for ever so long,
He'll never be right,
Though he strives day and night,
Alas, must he always be Wrong?

There's a Scotch Major named Milne,
Whose language would fair make you thrill,
His vocab's of such length,
And his words of such strength,
That men tremblingly bow to his will.

The Colonel with spirits so gay,
Loves among the ladies to stray,
He just radiates joy,
Like any other boy,
When he hears the bright things that they say.

That worthy editor, Knight,
Will censor these lines that I write,
If he passes them by,
When they come to his eye,
I'll be sure that he deemed them all right.

OKAY YEM.

SIM-ply GREAT.

There was a young man from Toronto
Who could ride both slick and pronto
When astride his black mare
She'd leap in the air
And stay there so long as he'd wanto.

THE RUM RATION

This question, which seems to exercise the mind of the rabid teetotaler was raised by the Rev. B. H. Spence at the meeting of the Dominion Alliance at the American Presbyterian Church Montreal. Among other things he stated that, as a result of the law, the evils of the wet canteen and the 'rum ration' to our men overseas would be reduced when the advantages of prohibition were further known.

Douglas Hains of the 24th Battalion writes:—

Inasmuch as I have been overseas, wounded three times and returned, I feel that I know what I am talking about. It is quite apparent, however, that the Rev. Mr. Spence has not the faintest idea of conditions at the front nor has he any idea how necessary the ration of rum is to the welfare and health of the men out there. Rum is never issued indiscriminately and in my experience I have never seen it issued when the weather has been good and conditions fairly comfortable. Furthermore the quantity of rum issued is not sufficient to cause the least feeling of inebriation. Its only effect in my experience has been a vigorous reaction and I can assure Mr. Spence most heartily that when one has been on duty all night in the pouring rain, with mud up to his hips and does not know whether he will live till morning, this ration of rum is a stern necessity.

The "W.C.T.U." and other temperance bodies have agitated before this to prohibit the issue of rum to the men in the trenches, and I assure you that they resent most heartily any attempt of this nature. I don't feel that I can do any better than quote some poetry I heard, made up in an old German dugout in the front line in Belgium:

Sky Pilots over in Canada,
Often rave about Kingdom Come.
They're not pleased with our ability.
They're trying to stop our rum.

Water, they say would be better,
Water! Great Scott! Out here.
We're up to our hips in water.
Do they think we're standing in Beer.

It's easy enough to talk Temperance,
When you sit in a cushioned pew.
But try six days in the trenches,
And see what the Water will do.

They haven't the heart to say
"Thank you,"
For fighting in their behalf.
Perhaps they object to smoking.
Perhaps it's a fault to laugh.

Some of these coffee-faced Blighters,
I think must be German bred.
It's time they called in the Doctor.
For it's Water they have in the head.

A lie seldom dies from inactivity.

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