

Shearings from Shorncliffe Signals.

R.E. BARRACKS, SHORNCLIFFE

DEAR EDITOR,

The D.R.s of this unit are publishing a book that should be in great demand. It is "How to do London in one hour and a quarter, via Cannon Street, the Tube, Oxford Circus, and Charing Cross." We wonder whether the look of worry and intense thought which used to mar the physiognomy of our genial D.R. Corpl. was erased by Headquarters Com—46—1—6, because it really has gone.

♦ ♦ ♦

Sergt. Spettigue went down to Cornwall on leave this month. We heard him telling somebody how much the Paymaster had given him. The smallness of the amount did not seem to worry him very much; well, why should it?—there was plenty of "tin" where he was going, anyway.

♦ ♦ ♦

No, there is no truth in the rumour that Sappers McKenzie and Mann, of these details, have been asked to take over an important post in connection with the railways of the United Kingdom.

♦ ♦ ♦

Extract from Details Orders 5/3/18 *re* gambling:—"All gambling, etc., is forbidden. This includes BOOTMAKING, or acting as an agent for a BOOTMAKER." Now perhaps there will be no shortage of leather.

♦ ♦ ♦

We got a bunch of CANADIAN SAPPERS last week. Unfortunately, someone had been over-zealous with the glue pot. Well, it's a pretty good paper, but really, it should not get "stuck on" itself like that.

♦ ♦ ♦

Things have been very quiet here recently; nothing much to chronicle. Sappers Urquhart and Nigg are the newest arrivals from Seaford. They have joined the operating staff; while Sappers D. E. MacKenzie and Cronin have gone back to Seaford.

♦ ♦ ♦

D.R. Wallace, who has been in hospital since February 25th, is improving quite a lot, but we hear that he is slated for Canada as soon as he comes out of hospital. We are sorry to lose him. He was a most reliable man and capable driver. P. G. Dunbar returned from his stay

in hospital quite O.K. again, and apparently none the worse for his encounter with the "Tin Lizzie."

♦ ♦ ♦

1st Sapper: C.Z.C. is a very humble station, isn't it?

2nd Sapper: No! is it; why?

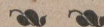
1st Sapper: Because it is so MEEK.

M.O. (ten minutes later): There you are, my lad, you'll be all right in a couple of months or more.

♦ ♦ ♦

By the time this gets in print we will have a new O.C., Lieut. C. E. Payne, who arrived here to-day to relieve Lieut. Cunningham, who is returning to Seaford to prepare for overseas.

UMPTY-IDDY UMPTY-IDDY.



Just a Sapper.

I'm a sapper; I said, a sapper! You will find me up the line. Where the whizzbangs are the thickest, you can see me any time. I'm the most important personage when it comes to special work; I can build a tank or aeroplane, perform miracles with dirt. It's sapper this, and sapper that, wherever I may go; the Generals often look me up to find out all I know. When a dud comes o'er and blocks a trench, as oftentimes they do, it's get a sapper on the job, to cut the thing in two. Perhaps it is a gas shell; let us hope the wind's all right, for I'm the boob who must inspect this proof of Fritzie's might. Sometimes the cook is short of grub, and his language is not nice; 'tis then they call the sapper to give him good advice. And when a dug-out's caving in or shell-shocked up the line, it's "Sapper, go and prop it up, and do it in quick time." Just take a hammer and some nails, a broom or two and mops; on No Man's Land you'll find some junk—just salvage it for props. Our brains are so much in demand that they dare not call a raid until we have been interviewed, in view of expert aid. I wonder if in heaven a sapper may find rest, or will he still be in demand as soon as he hits west?

Canadian Military Badges.

Special Prices on Quantity Orders for Canteens, etc.

HEMSLEYS (MONTREAL)

178, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.2

BRANCHES—BASINGSTOKE & BUXTON.