

ON THE TROOPSHIP

An interesting incident took place on Harold's troopship, while crossing the Atlantic, as told by an officer.

"The men complained that the ship needed a sanitary inspection and cleaning. 'Dad' inspected some of the bunks and found that the complaint was warranted. He reported to two officers, but no notice was taken of it. 'Dad' boiled. He sent an accusation to the higher officers asking that the ship's steward be courtmartialed for neglect of duty. This brought things to a head. The court was held and 'Dad' openly made the accusation and proved his charge, which showed everyone that the boy could not be trifled with. Harold was then asked to supervise the cleaning of the ship, with every assistance at his disposal. In 24 hours the ship was clean and disinfected. From that time 'Dad,' the 'wardmaster,' was known all over the boat. Incidentally he ran the sports, concerts, etc., on the long, tedious voyage over. He was always strong, straight and pure, very seldom antagonizing anyone except the absolute rotters, and anyone who antagonizes such is a blessing to the world, for they save it from dry rot."

Another incident in the voyage is worth mentioning. When he found there was no Sunday evening service on board, he took up Prof. Henry Drummond's well-known book, "Natural Law in the Spiritual World," and asked the Sergeants' Mess if they would care to have him read a chapter to them. They replied in the affirmative, and Harold, the youngest Sergeant, read to them one of the deeper chapters, "Eternal Life," one which would appeal more to scientists, perhaps, than to a company of N. C. O.'s. But they listened with intense interest and seemed to enjoy it, quite as much as the usual card playing and story telling.

