

"CARRY ON" IS RIGHT."

The Editor

"Knots and Lashings".

Sir:—

There is a subject which if discussed though your paper might be of profitable interest to some who aren't old soldiers like you and myself, Sir, (whose experience with army troubles in an' out o' Barracks would fill an extra edition of "Knots and Lashings"). The subject I have in my mind is "Soldiers Kits".

I have heard it said, Sir, that a soldier's kit was more trouble to a single soldier than all his sweet-hearts together. However, that is a subject which I will deal with later.

In the Canteen, Monday night, several of us of E Coy was a discussin' of the tastes of real war an' prohibition:—and seeing that Race Suicide was on at the movies we stuck around.

As I was saying, my argument in favour of for and against was rudely interrupted by one of "D" Company butting in with "Kit Inspection" outside of business hours.

Seein' as he started telling ME of Kit Inspection, I told him

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that for close on a quarter of a century I duly supported the Q.M. Sinking Fund with enough money to buy ten Class C War Bonds or a discharge—thru not knowing when Kit Inspection was coming.

When I finished I was alone in the Canteen.

What young soldiers do now-a-days, Sir, is buy their experience by a payin' of fines replacing lost kit, an' a payin' for the one they get an' the one they lost, an' a getting things on Repayment instead of askin' an' listenin' to us who knows.

I says again, Don't do it!

You fellows know what kit you signed for: if you don't, ask the Q.M. to give you a list (maybe he will send the Editor a list).

There isn't any use of tryin' to "put it over". I've tried it, boys. I've sent my underclothes and socks to the laundry, and my boots to a cobbler down town, my pants to the tailor and my brushes to be fixed.

What did the Q.M. say? Nothin'; only hummed an old favourite as I knew when I was a dooin five years with the Blues in London, which went like this "They'll never believe me; they'll never believe me!"

Now! it ain't no use, boys; they have all been tried.

What I says is—

1. Put your number on every bit of kit you've got: don't put a cross or two dots:—your NUMBER is what counts. Use ink; if you've any over mark up your girls photo.

2. Remember; when Kit Inspection is on, your room and bunk is being inspected too, so don't jamb spare kit into your bed, as everything found there goes with the Q.M. If you do have to have two suits or two of anything, ask permission first.

3. Have a Kit Inspection of your own once a week.

4. Usually a certain amount of stuff is allowed to pass inspection; if neatly folded up, you don't have to hide it; leave it on your bed. If you stick it in your palliasse it wont be there when you come back.

5. Lost Kit. That's what counts, Lost Kit. The army gives you one issue and fixes up reasonable work-worn clothing, but if you lose anything you've got to "come through", as I said, with the price of what you lost and what you get at the wartime army price—and the Q. M. Stores don't pay any dividend like the Canteen does!

6. If you find any part of kit and it doesn't belong to you, give it to the Orderly Corporal. By so doing you are helping some other kindred spirit to keep his kit complete.

Remember: if it's a bit of kit you see around, it ain't worth stealing!

Them's my sentiments, boys!
"CARRY ON".

THE ENGINEERS' RUSH.

Say, fellows, I hate to be talking Of the way that you rush for the Hall

When the bugle is sounded for dinner—

You seem scared that you'll get none at all!

And when you stand at the table, And wait for the call to begin, To stand still you all seem unable.

You're longing like H—— to dig in.

Then, when the bugle is sounded, Before one can even take breath, You throw your legs over the stool there—

Some day you'll kick someone to death!

With one hand you reach for the coffee;

With the other you grab up the meat;

And some of you wish you had some more hands

And you're mad cause you can't use your feet!

Now Boys, don't you think twould be better

If you all took your places with ease!—

And helped yourself gently, then asking—

"Will some Sapper please pass the cheese?"

I guess there is food here in plenty—

And I think that you'll get lots to eat:—

So please use these words as a motto—

"Say, Jazz:—Will you please pass the meat?"

Sapper COE.

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