

SHOES AND SHIPS

AND SEALING WAX

We have talked things over and have come to the conclusion that somebody must be putting something in the food! Either that or we have discovered a new epidemic which, from a point of view of rapidity of spread, has got the existing malady backed off the boards. We refer to Poetitis!

The first "case" discovered this week is an unassuming sapper who signs himself S. W. K., and we leave you to judge as to whether or not you think he's got 'em, and got 'em pretty had! His effort runs trippingly thus:—

"In "D" Coy there's a corp named Stalker,  
To argue he's a regular corker,  
As regards B.2 he's—jolly—well through!  
And we wish to goodness he'd be a walker."

His little eulogy loses a great deal of its original charm by being shorn of a couple of good round oaths and we apologise to him for having handled his meritorious contribution somewhat roughly. We only hope he may escape similar treatment.

Anonymously, but with every indication of good faith, another

brave lad cleared his decks and broadsided us with:—

"There's a fellow in B.2,  
He ain't at all a bad guy.—  
But when he gets whiskey,  
It makes him a bit tipsy,  
And he calls himself the tough guy from Chi."

These delightful little verses are typical of some dozen-odd which have passed through our hands these last few days, presumably intended for publication in "Knots and Lashings".

Let me implore you, gentlemen, even in your moments of inspiration to remember that this 'ere paper we're runnin' aint no Bingville Bugle. We would be the last of all to discourage anyone from writing to us upon any subject and to any length,—but please do not forget that unless your writing is in more or less a state of rhyme the chances of publication equal the unknown quantity.

A large quantity of matter comes to us anonymously, particularly of the "We want to know" variety. This thirst for knowledge of course is highly commendable, and if diverted to other channels would have a marked effect on the Depot's state of efficiency.

While we welcome this as a pleasant change from our summer howl, "We want to go", we would

again make a request that such matter intended for publication be accompanied by name—which does not mean that we will publish everything under signature, as our inclinations are all the other way. Incidentally, the value of this suggestion may be appreciated one of these days soon—by some of you shrinking violets who expect us to pass for publication matter which any self respecting linotype would just naturally quit on.

Townfolks can secure "Knots and Lashings" at the uptodate store of H. Bernard & Son, Richelieu St.,—every Saturday noon. Leave your order early.

WE QUITE AGREE.

Pessimistic Sapper (on the return from the famous 17-mile hike through the mud:—"I understand now what that item in the paper meant when it said that this was to be a war of exhaustion."

WHO'S BILLY BELL?

What is the difference between Billy Bell and a returned soldier? The returned soldier has been in lots of tight places, and Billy has been tight in lots of places! (Chicago papers please copy.)

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