

## 342A LETTER TO MR. CARL SANDBURG

is a tribute to those who never "got across," or who came very near their heart's desire, but were turned back. Hats off to these, Carl, as well as to all the others.

A word about pretensions to military lore: I haven't any. When it came to that I sought the help, both technical and literary, of our friend Paul Leach—and he collaborated most skillfully.

As for the principal people in the story, none of them is "taken from life." A pretty vague and insignificant lot, I admit. But you shouldn't imagine people of the sort are superfluous in the Grand Scheme of Things. Nobody is quite that, you know.

Sincerely your friend,

H. T. S.

Nov. 11, 1918.