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## Comments.

THE REVIEW "first edition" alright, boys? Yes, you bet it is. Surprised some at the contents, eh? Did not expect it to be such a success. Well, well, if fellows will hide their talents and keep the lid on their "think tanks," it is misleading, and surprising when they come to put their ideas, notions, and spiels on paper.

Was a spectator at the baseball match, and I am full of (no not beer) enthusiasm at the promising way the boys showed up. Yep, we have some talent, and this season we should develop a real "national" team. There are plenty of opportunities for practice now that the nights are drawing out; and quite a number who have never played have signified their intention of making Ty C. S. McG., and a few others look like a bent nickel. Now boys, get the exhilarating habit of swinging the bat and throwing the ball, and continue the motion.

LEAVE for Paris! Have you put your name in? Hurry! The fascination of that city! Wonder what it is? The first two members to go there came back and told us that it was "The Place." The next two said ditto, and emphasized it; and every returning member from that alluring place on the Seine has run to the Leave List to see how soon his turn will come again. Verily, it is strange.

OWING to leave and other things cropping up, the "Hollies" have not been able to travel and give any shows, but we hope to hear and see them again soon.

IN our first issue we mentioned about Q.M.S. Woods becoming a Benedict. Now another has "gone and done it." What do you think about it, boys? He so young, too! Making hay whilst on leave. Yes, there's a war on, that's one reason, and—well, I have seen a photo of the bride. That's the reason. May happiness, health and wealth be theirs.

REMEMBER the article in the first issue—Estaminets? Believe me, the writer has it down according to "Hoyle." Wonder who Hankam is?

CONCERTS, whist drives, lectures, matches—football and baseball—say, we're in the swim, and it all helps one to keep merry and bright. Grouching is not a habit around our camp. If you happen to connect with a grouch, just get next to yourself and think if it is worth while to harbour it. Having thought—smile and forget it.

THE 2nd Canadian C.C.S. contributed \$12,000 to the Canadian Victory War Loan. Nae so bad.

A GOOD tonic for one who finds this life monotonous is to accompany S/S. Anquetil to a birthday party. When is the next, Ang.?

SGT. C. H. JOHNSON (2nd Canadian C.C.S.) was the recipient this week of a very artistic medal, presented by the Toronto Horticultural Society, in recognition of the good work carried out by him at the C.C.S. during 1917.

## Interesting Lecture.

IN spite of all worries and fears, No. 3 have had many very interesting and enjoyable evenings and happy times since its formation as a unit almost three years ago. But the most interesting of them all was one evening last month, when we listened to an address on "Conditions behind the German Lines on the Western Front," by Lieut. C. N. Leach, U.S.R., who was on the Committee of the American Relief Association in the occupied parts of Belgium and Northern France from the outbreak of war right up until a few months ago.

It took the form of personal experiences and happenings that the speaker had witnessed with his own eyes. Narrated in this manner it was both convincing and intensely interesting. With the exception of a break of applause at various times, the khaki audience which filled the reception room listened with rapt attention throughout.

The speaker dealt with the nature of his work on the Committee, and what had been done by the Committee as a whole in giving relief to the poor and needy. He dwelt also on the difficulties under which this was carried out owing to the shortage of ships for this kind of work, the submarines, the blockade, and the severe military law of the Germans. Nevertheless, there were over sixty vessels chartered by the Committee, who carried on the work most successfully.

Lieut. Leach also touched on the machine-like discipline of the Prussian soldier, and on the harsh, overbearing and disgusting treatment meted out to the civilians—particularly the deportation of young girls—and the severe indemnities placed on the larger centres of occupied Belgium and Northern France. Particular mention was made of the larger frontier towns, where, owing to devastation by war, their resources were almost ruined, and yet the indemnity imposed was being increased each year. Here the speaker read a letter written to the German Military Authorities by the Mayor of one of these French towns, in which he referred to the Hague Convention, appealed for reason and mercy, and closed by saying the amount exacted was being paid only because the Prussian sword was held at their throats.

Much light was thrown on conditions and happenings there that we have been long wanting to know. Such an interesting address in such a convincing manner could not be listened to at a better time.

We are most fortunate in having Lieut. Leach with us, and we all thank him most heartily.