

**ENCOURAGING!**

(Note:—The following is extracted from a letter written late in May, and received from Spr. F. E. Hall, who was trained in the Depot last fall and winter, and with the old "D" Company. He has been seriously ill in England, and his letter, or, rather, parts of it, is published as a word of encouragement to the men of the Canadian Engineers soon to proceed overseas,—none of us can tell what hurt or illness might befall even before we reach France. How nice it is to know that we will be well looked after!)

"I have been sick with pleurisy since the 5th of April; at present I am convalescing here. (Cooden Camp.) After five days in Ravenscroft Hospital in Seaford, I was sent to the 14th Canadian General, at Eastbourne. I came here on the 17th of May. I can truly say that I have never found a better place, in the Army, for food and general treatment. They opened this place in March; at present there are only a few hundred patients.

"I am doing an hour each morning in the gym, on certain chest and lung exercises. The rest of the day is my own.

"Hastings and Eastbourne, both good summer towns, are only a few miles away. We can go down in a few minutes by trolley. Concert companies come nearly every day so we have much to amuse us. There is a stage in the Y. M. C. A. hut. Of course, it wouldn't stage "Ben Hur"; but there is plenty of elbow room for the comedies, or for a tragedy, as the case may be.

"I am getting fatter and lazier every day, it seems! I don't know what I'll do, when the parade ground stares me in the face again.

"Philp, you remember, of the Skilled Railway Draft, is with the 69th Canadian Wagon Erecting Company. I've had only one letter from him. The rest of the boys are in "A" Company, at Seaford and are on their field work by this time.

"I expect to be out of here by the end of June anyhow. Of course, I'll get a sick furlough. I have had no leave as yet. I know they were giving eight days but someone says that concession has been withdrawn. I refer to a 'landing leave'.

"I am glad you located that tobacco and are sending it over. What we now get here is of low quality and does not offer much inducement to continue the habit.

"We are having some real good weather now and it is a welcome change from the cold and damp we met on arriving in the country last

January. It will soon be warm enough to romp around in the surf. Until that time comes, I'll stick to our own pool. There are enough spring-boards for every frog and four good cement walls on which to scratch our backs."

**MORE "NAUGHTY SLASHINGS".**

All men who are experienced in tree climbing or telegraph pole shinning are requested to report to C.S.M. Lear to climb after tennis balls. Only those who can stand high altitudes need apply.

It is unofficially reported that C.S.M. York has received a new tunic. This report must not be taken too seriously but we hope for the best.

Who was the N.C.O. who gave the following detail for change step:—"Bring the left foot up to the right and carry on."

Visitor:—"Why are the men crowding around the water taps so thickly?"

Corporal:—"This is Friday, fish day."

Overheard in the Sergeants' Mess:—"Sounds as if one of Jimmy Barr's chickens is up stairs and has laid an egg by all the cackling that is going on." "That's just Sergt. Davidson having a laugh over some 16 Century joke."

When is that little Corp. of the Quarantine Camp going over the top, with his little Chicken from Montreal who came to see him two weeks ago? Some classy doll!

The Girls in Montreal are enquiring why a bow of ribbon isn't put on those cute little Cadets' hats.

Who was the Acting Corporal in charge of the Guard at the Quarantine Camp who stamped his foot three times to halt the Orderly Officer?

(Overheard in Room 69.)  
Lee. Corp. H.:—"What's your trade?"  
Recruit:—"Motor Teamster."  
Great laugh from Sgt. Davidson.

**OBEY THAT IMPULSE!**

Get a copy of "Knots and Lashings" to send to the folks back home. You may be sure they will be glad to get it. The postage is one cent.

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