



According to reports received from Canada, a certain Canadian Officer who came over to France on Oct. 1st., 1915, has arrived in Canada on sick leave. Of course there is nothing wrong in going to Canada on sick leave; but as is usual in cases like this, this particular officer had to talk. Of course there is nothing wrong about talking; providing one sticks to subjects within one's own knowledge and within the bounds of facts. In his conversation this particular officer had to again bring into discussion that little matter of discipline, of which, he says, the 1st Contingent was lacking. Lest these few inappropriate and ill advised remarks on the part of this officer might be taken seriously by a section of the people in Canada, who do not know the facts, we hasten to assert with all the strength and force at our disposal, that a more disciplined contingent never left Canada than the 1st Canadian Ex. Force. Facts as they are known to have happened on this side of the Atlantic will prove the truth of our statement. We represent very much men of other contingents criticizing the first Canadian Contingent. Why these ideal people did not come forward and enlist in the first contingent and make it, by their presence, that much better (or worse) we cannot understand. Until they explain their hesitation they have no right to criticize those who the writer at least considers their betters. The officer referred to goes still further and allows the impression to go through the press that he "came through the battle of Loos unscathed," which was probably due to the fact that he was many miles away from the battle of Loos—the glory of which belongs almost entirely to the first formed so called "Kitchener's armies," and a heroic fight they made against terrible odds. All glory to the brave who gave their lives at the battle of Loos for the cause of the Empire. As a Canadian, I think it is time that the practice of going home to Canada and telling high angle stories of imaginary battles (imaginary as far as the story teller goes) fought apparently for the sake of newspaper publicity and personal heroism, should be tabooed and discouraged. Besides, it is only fair to leave the glory of these battles to those who actually fought in them. Let us hope that this hint will be as good as a nod to those, who, in their blindness would attempt to enlarge on their already hard lived lives on the battle field of Flanders.

## Encycloedia of Military Terms

(Continued)

**ATTENTION.** (pronounced ("Shun")) This is one of the most wonderful words in the military language. It is never spoken or whispered, it is always shouted, bellowed, shrieked or screamed. Just according to the lung power of the officer or N. C. O. in charge of the squad or party, which is to be drilled, paraded, fed, "clinked", washed or, (occasionally), paid. The effects of the command "Shun" on a battalion, is both electrical and hypnotic. It is probably the only magic word now in use that was used in the days of Alladin and his lamp. Should a poker game be in progress and the fabulous stakes be piled chin high on the dug-out or hut floor, until the scene resembles Monte Carlo or Dawson City, and an officer appears; someone utters the magic word "Shun", and the dug-out is immediately transformed into a Sister Susie sewing class, not a nickle or an ace can be seen. The officer usually says "Carry on", and out comes chess boards, Psalm books, knitting needles, woodbines, mouth organs, writing material, girls photographs, the Listening Post, and ginger beer. "What did you say Editor? Get on with the cyclopaedia. Very good Sir". Sir Robert Ball and the "Vancouver Sun" says, that if Halley's Comet comes within one million miles of this earth, everything will be as quiet as the "German Navy". We're taking some awful chances when we say it, but the word "Shun" when a General or Colonel is on parade, has got Halley's Comet beat fifty different ways as a silencer.

(To be Continued)

## To the Shirkers—From the Trenches.

"54 and 17"

The above poem appeared in issue No. 9 of the "Listening Post" over the signature of Pte. W. Hill, 7th Battalion, Canadians.

It has since been drawn to the attention of the Editor that this very fine poem was written by Capt. G. Gilbey, 11th Battalion Rifle Brigade, B.E.F., and to him we wish to give all the credit. It is our earnest endeavour to print only, articles written originally by members of the 7th and other Canadian Battalions.

## Letters to the Editor

To The Editor.

Sir,

May I be allowed space in your valuable paper to answer the letter which was published in your Christmas number from "One of No. 3 Co." Some of his statements need at least, qualification, and others cannot be allowed to pass unchallenged.

I am glad he admits that No. 3 Co. does not like the front line trenches, but I can see no reason why he should feel anything but gratitude to No. 1 Co. in connection with the incident to which your Hong Kong correspondent referred to. Truly we are glad that it is more blessed to give than receive, for were it not so, I doubt if No. 1 Co. would be repaid for its troubles.

As regards "standing to" and rats, all I can say is "rats." The incident is not the one to which your Hong Kong correspondent alluded. I can see no reason why, provided No. 1 Co. wishes to practise "stand to's", No. 3 Co. should necessarily follow suit. Nor can I see that a short "stand to" would do them any harm. Nor can I understand their ingratitude to No. 1 Co. who relieved them of the necessity of "standing to" for several days on the occasion about which your Hong Kong correspondent was well informed.

I trust it will not be necessary for me to refresh the memory of "One of No. 3 Co." with dates and particulars.

"Injured"

## Mentioned in Dispatches.

### Xmas parcels.

Pte. Rogers acknowledges the receipt of two pairs of embroidered carpet slippers.

N.B.—There is no truth in the report that the two Padres have offered to buy them.

Pte. Beurain was delighted to receive a small photograph marked for "Daddy."—No reports (Nuff sed)

Pte. Allwood wishes to inform the sender of the bottle of Pe-ru-na, that he enjoyed the sample. There is no truth in the rumour that he contemplates withdrawing from the "Good Templars."

L. Cpl. Mayler is delighted with the bottle of "Moustacho." There is no foundation to the rumour that he claims it is better than "Frostbite grease."

Post Cpl. Ball has received a book entitled "Men of letters."

Pte. Christy has found the X ray invaluable in locating the parcels full of "good eats."

L---, Philpat highly appreciates the present of a song, with words "Meet me to-night in Dreamland."

Cpl. Robins received a large box of "Baby's own soap."

N.B.—There is no truth in the report that after using the above, he made strenuous efforts to kiss himself.

L---- G----- wishes to thank the donor of the wireless telephone.

N.B.—There is no truth in the report that he received a gramophone with records entitled "Signaller, get me Brigade" and "Orderly."

Ptes. Ford and Atkins received an aviary of parrots which they are training to carry verbal messages to the artillery.

N.B.—There is no truth in the report that their carrier pigeons have been keeping two homes going; one at our own and the other at the German artillery.

Pte. Trainor of the band sent his girl a kettle drum. It is rumored that she has rejected his offer to train'er and "beat" it.