



OVER THE TOP

AN AMERICAN SOLDIER WHO WENT ARTHUR GUY EMPEY MACHINE GUNNER, SERVING IN FRANCE

1917 BY ARTHUR GUY EMPEY

CHAPTER XXII.

Punishments and Machine-Gun Stunts. Soon after my arrival in France; in fact, from my enlistment, I had found that in the British army discipline is very strict. One has to be very careful in order to stay on the narrow path of government virtue.

There are about seven million ways of breaking the king's regulations; to keep one you have to break another.

The worst punishment is death by a firing squad, or "up against the wall," as Tommy calls it.

This is for desertion, cowardice, mutiny, giving information to the enemy, looting, rape, robbing the dead, forcing a safeguard, striking a superior, etc.

Then comes the punishment of sixty-four days in the front-line trench without relief. During this time you have to engage in all raids, working parties in No Man's Land, and every hazardous undertaking that comes along. If you live through the sixty-four days you are indeed lucky.

This punishment is awarded where there is a doubt as to the willful guilt of a man who has committed an offense punishable by death.

Then comes the famous field punishment No. 1. Tommy has nicknamed it "crucifixion." It means that a man is spread-eagled on a limber wheel, two hours a day for twenty-one days. During this time he only gets water, bully beef and biscuits for his chow. You get "crucified" for repeated minor offenses.

Next in order is field punishment No. 2.

This is confinement in the "clink," without blankets, getting water, bully beef and biscuits for rations and doing all the dirty work that can be found. This may be for twenty-four hours or twenty days, according to the gravity of the offense.

Then comes "pack drill" or defaulters' parade. This consists of drilling, mostly at the double, for two hours with full equipment. Tommy hates this, because it is hard work. Sometimes he fills his pack with straw to lighten it, and sometimes he gets caught. If he gets caught, he groans at everything in general for twenty-one days, from the vantage point of a limber wheel.

Next comes "C. B." meaning "confined to barracks." This consists of staying in billets or barracks for twenty-four hours to seven days. You also get an occasional defaulters' parade and dirty jobs around the quarters.

The sergeant major keeps what is known as the crime sheet. When a man commits an offense, he is "crimed," that is, his name, number and offense is entered on the crime sheet. Next day at 9 a. m. he goes to the "orderly room" before the captain, who either punishes him with "C. B." or sends him before the O. C. (officer commanding battalion). The captain of the company can only award "C. B."

Tommy many a time has thanked the king for making that provision in his regulations.

To gain the title of a "smart soldier," Tommy has to keep clear of the crime sheet, and you have to be darned smart to do it.

I have been on it a few times, mostly for "Yankee impudence."

During our stay of two weeks in rest billets our captain put us through a course of machine-gun drills, trying out new stunts and theories.

After parades were over, our gun crews got together and also tried out some theories of their own in reference to handling guns. These courses had nothing to do with the advancement of the war, consisted mostly of causing tricky jams in the gun, and then the rest of the crew would endeavor to locate as quickly as possible the cause of the stoppage. This amused them for a few days and then things came to a standstill.

One of the boys on my gun claimed that he could play a tune while the gun was actually firing, and demonstrated this fact one day on the target range. We were very enthusiastic and decided to become musicians.

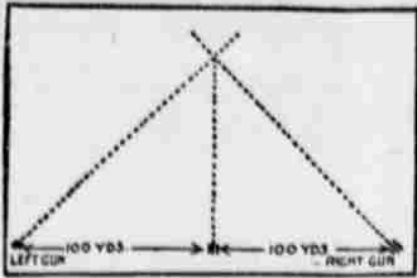
After constant practice I became quite expert in the tune entitled "All Conductors Have Big Feet."

When I had mastered this tune, our two weeks' rest came to an end, and once again we went up the line and took over the sector in front of G-

wood. At this point the German trenches ran around the base of a hill, on the top of which was a dense wood. This wood was infested with machine guns, which used to traverse our lines at will, and sweep the streets of a little village, where we were billeted while in reserve.

There was one gun in particular which used to get our goats, it had the exact range of our "elephant" dugout entrance, and every morning, about the time rations were being brought up, its bullets would knock up the dust on the

pipe arrangement which fits over the barrel casing of the gun and screens the sparks from the right and left, but not from the front. So Tommy, always resourceful, adopts this scheme: About three feet or less in front of the gun he



Showing How Fritz is Fooled.

drives two stakes into the ground, about five feet apart. Across these stakes he stretches a curtain made out of empty sandbags ripped open. He soaks this curtain in water and fires through it. The water prevents it catching fire and effectively screens the flare of the firing gun from the enemy.

Sound is a valuable asset in locating a machine gun, but Tommy surmounts this obstacle by placing two machine guns about one hundred to one hundred and fifty yards apart. The gun on the right to cover with its fire the sector of the left gun and the gun on the left to cover that of the right gun. This makes their fire cross; they are fired simultaneously.

By this method it sounds like one gun firing and gives the Germans the impression that the gun is firing from a point midway between the guns which are actually firing, and they accordingly shell that particular spot. The machine gunners chuckle and say, "Fritz is a brainy boy, not 'alf he ain't."

But the men in our lines at the spot being shelled curse Fritz for his ignorance and pass a few pert remarks down the line in reference to the machine gunners being "windy" and afraid to take their medicine.

(To Be Continued.)

OVER THE TOP

with EMPEY himself in the leading role of the 10 reel Vitagraph Super Feature. The Greatest War Picture ever made, will be at the

Liberty Theatre July 2-3-4

It comes to Bend immediately following its remarkable Portland run.

PINEHURST.

(Continued from Page 2.)

home of C. H. Spough one evening this week.

W. C. McCulston and family motored down from Bend Sunday and spent the day picnicking on their farm here.

F. V. Swisher and family were in Bend Wednesday attending the Smith-Douglas nuptials.

Frank McAnanion, a recent arrival here from Ellensburg, Wash., has been called for service in the army and will leave in a few days for Camp Lewis.

A crowd of friends gathered at the Snyder home Tuesday evening with cowbells, tin cans, etc., and gave Mr. and Mrs. Newcomb an old-fashioned charivari. All returned at a late hour, having spent a very pleasant evening.

The annual school meeting was held at the school house Monday. A special tax was voted for school purposes. C. W. Howell was re-elected director.

Miss Bernice Couch is spending the week-end with her father in Bend.

The farmers in this vicinity are enjoying sunshine and showers the last few days.

D. W. Dieterich left Friday for Portland to secure medical treatment. He has been suffering for some time with heart trouble.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Newcomb left Friday for Pilot Rock, where Mr. Newcomb has a stock ranch.

I. E. Wimer and Chas. Spough motored to Bend Thursday on business.

A very pleasant evening was spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. V. Swisher Thursday. The gathering was in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smyth. Fine treats were served by the hostesses.

Several from this community attended the farewell party for the soldier boys in Tumalo Friday evening. We hope they will soon capture the kaiser and come marching home again.

Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Couch were calling at the J. N. B. Gerking home one day this week.

NEW POSTMASTER FOR STAUFFER

STAUFFER, June 24.—J. M. Musser has been appointed postmaster to fill the vacancy of Mrs. Grace Hassler, resigned, and will take charge of the office on the first of July.

A farewell was given Kenneth Hellems Tuesday evening. He has been called to the colors and will leave the 24th.

J. Hasch started for Bend Friday morning to bring back with him 14 head of cattle.

Mr. Shroy of Butte was in the valley Sunday.

J. M. Musser and Robert McLouth made a trip to Hampton Buttes the last of the week for a load of potatoes. The purchase price was 25 cents per sack.

Ben Rhodes and family were entertained at the McLouth home Sunday. Our annual school meeting was held June 17. J. M. Musser was elected clerk, W. L. Cowan and Gust McLouth directors.

We are very sorry to lose our present mail carrier, Jake Kogman. He has given us fine businesslike service and has been accommodating in every way practicable.

Crops in the valley are looking fine since the rain, but the rabbits are pests now.

J. H. Haasler and the Stauffer family spent Wednesday night and Thursday in the Buttes.

RECEPTION GIVEN AT PLAINVIEW

PLAINVIEW, June 24.—A reception was given at the Chalfan home last Thursday evening for Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Armstrong and Roy W. Heartt. Some jolly games were played on the lawn and later the guests enjoyed various games of cards. A delightful lunch was served by the hostess, Miss Grace Riggs of Redmond and Louie Bennett and Mrs. S. L. Burgess of Bend were guests present from town.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Armstrong and granddaughter Wilma returned Tuesday evening from a trip to The Dalles. Their son Hubert, at present on a short furlough from duty at Brownsville, Texas, and his young bride were members of the returning party. After spending several delightful days among Plainview friends Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Armstrong left Redmond Saturday morning for The Dalles en route to the Texas border.

Miss Grace Riggs of Redmond was a guest at the Chalfan ranch several days last week.

Roy Heartt left Plainview Monday morning to report in Bend at 10 o'clock for military inspection preparatory to starting for the training camp.

Miss S. L. Burgess of Catlow, Oregon, was a Plainview caller Thursday.

M. W. Knickerbocker, James Elkins and H. T. Hartley have been riding for cattle for several days.

Ray and Wilma Armstrong and guests, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Armstrong, enjoyed a trip to Suttle lake last Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Hoss and daughter Ida, Mrs. Peterson, Messrs. Roy and Edgar Heartt, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Leverenz, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Armstrong, Ray and Wilma and Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Armstrong were guests from Plainview at the reception for the boys leaving for training camp in Tumalo Friday evening.

C. F. Chalfan and Lloyd Powers returned Sunday with a fine mess of fish after a several days' trip to the lakes.

Mr. and Mrs. Hartley were callers at the Knickerbocker home Sunday. Miss Wilma Armstrong received a bad cut from barbed wire across her right eyelid. The wound is healing rapidly and no serious results are anticipated.

Mrs. J. A. W. Scoggin, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Scoggin and Master Woodson Bennett were guests for supper at the Box A ranch on Sunday evening.

Mr. Meder of Bend was a Plainview caller Sunday.

The O. D. O. club will hold its regular meeting with Mrs. Print Van Tassel on Thursday afternoon, June 27th.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Hoss and Miss Ida, Mrs. Patterson and Messrs. Roy and Edgar Heartt were guests for a 8 o'clock dinner at the Chalfan home Sunday evening. Roy Heartt, who is soon to leave for Camp Lewis, was guest of honor.

Business callers in Bend for the week were: Ray, and Constance Knickerbocker, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Hoss, H. A. Scoggin, Miss D. L. Burgess, Ray Armstrong and Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Scoggin.

Miss Luella Burgess and Mrs. H. A. Scoggin spent Wednesday at the home of Mrs. H. T. Hartley.

We buy all kinds of hides, pelts, furs, wool. Briggs' Second Hand Store. 371st

ALFALFA MAN ENTERS SERVICE

ALFALFA, June 24.—Marshall Roberts has been called to the colors. He has been in Alfalfa about a year and made many friends who gave a social at Curt Holloway's in his honor Saturday evening. Cards were played until midnight, when ice cream, fresh strawberries and cake were served. Mr. Roberts left on Tuesday morning's train for his home in Schell City, Mo., having registered there.

Harry Aten, one of the first Alfalfa boys to enlist, has risen to the rank of first lieutenant.

Miss Nannie Stoeffer and Mrs. Mary Benn made a flying trip to Bend Friday evening.

Larson & Tatti traded a cow for a horse near Bend. They also purchased a veal calf from A. Shultz.

Gustave Berry was shaking hands with old friends in Alfalfa Saturday evening and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. William Pyatt returned from Idaho Tuesday, bringing with them a beautiful baby girl.

George T. Ogle will assume his duties as mail carrier on the Alfalfa route July 1.

M. L. Platt, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Palmund and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pyatt expect to leave Monday via the Ford for Idaho.

Elder Platt will be ditch rider, the remainder of the season.

Miss Ada Ferry, who has spent several months near Oregon City, will arrive home Saturday.

Herbert Clarke is believed to be on his way to France, his mother received his suitcase and belongings Friday.

At the school election Monday Frank Post was elected director, Albert Shultz re-elected and Curt Muller re-elected clerk. It was also voted to build a small barn.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Robinson are sporting a Maxwell car.

Mr. and Mrs. Curt Holloway were

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Redmond visitors Thursday and Friday.

Miss Jessie Hartley of Powell Butte has been engaged to teach the Alfalfa school the coming term.

Albert Shultz and family and Leslie Clarke and family spent Sunday picnicking on the Deschutes above Bend.

Several farmers will begin cutting alfalfa July 5. Prospects are unusually fine.

The Jolly Neighbors club met with Mrs. Wm. Ferry Wednesday. They are piecing a Red Cross quilt.

UNIVERSITY MAN VISITS IN COUNTY

HAMPTON BUTTE, June 20.—Professor Hall of the California university, Mr. Peterson and Mr. Liff-field stopped at Brookings' Wednesday night. The district held its annual school election last Monday. Bert Meeks was elected director and Vic Schreder clerk.

Thos. C. Ewing sold 10 head of cattle to Jake Book. Mr. Musser of Lost Creek was up Saturday to get potatoes of Paul Street.

Mrs. V. P. Wray of Bend visited with Mrs. Bert Meeks over Sunday. Mrs. Alma Brickey was a visitor at Brookings' Monday afternoon. Jake Book and Hampton brothers of Bend autoed out Saturday and

returned to Bend Sunday.

Miss Evelyn Crow and Miss Alma Huhl are guests at the Brickey ranch this week.

Oscar Black and Jim Wells are out from Bend for a short stay. Carlton Denning came in on Wray's stage Friday to spend several weeks with friends.

Coel Alberta passed through here one day this week, being on his way to Bend to visit his mother, Mrs. Carl Hinman.

Horace Brookings and son Paul have returned from their ranch at Terrebonne, where they have been irrigating their crops.

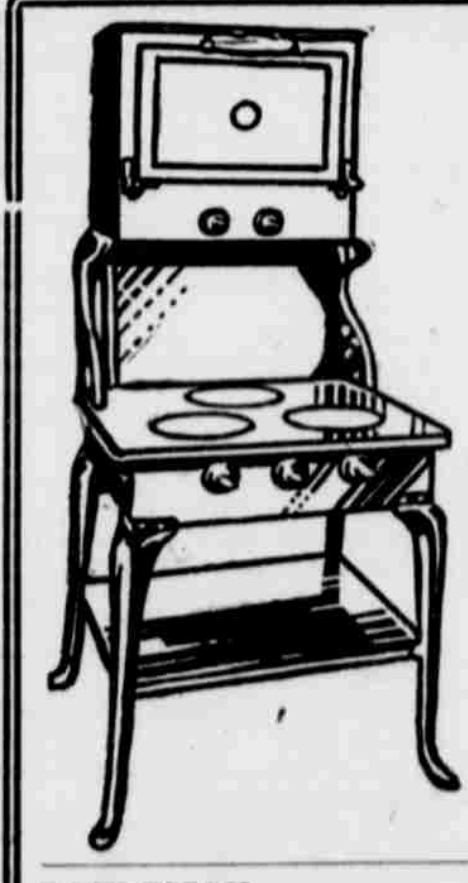
James M. Brickey has sold his cattle to Mr. Coffey of Brothers.

Mr. Ousley had the misfortune to break the crank shaft in his car yesterday and was towed to Bend by Newton Morris, who passed through here on his way to Bend.

Chas. Cochrane was a visitor here Tuesday. Fred Stauffer was a guest at the Brookings hotel last Saturday night.

BAD KIDNEYS LAID HIM UP.

A slight kidney impairment may lead to dropsy or Bright's disease. Don't neglect it. Frank Miller, Bingham, Utah, writes: "Was troubled with my kidneys so bad I could not work. Tried many kinds of medicine which did me no good. Then I tried Foley Kidney Pills; now feeling as good as I ever did before." Sold everywhere.



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