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BROTHER OF N. L. SMITH IS
WITH ARMY OF OCCUPA-
TION IN LUXEMBURG LAND

First Sergeant with Ammunition
Train Tells of Harrowing and
Thrilling Events of Conflict.

LONGS TO BE BACK IN U. S.

Scenes Following Armistice Will
Long Be Remembered by
Boys Who Saw Them.

The following letter, written by First Sergeant V. C. Smith of Ammunition Train 308 which hailed from Camp Sherman, Ohio, to his father in the East, was forwarded to N. L. Smith, of the Beaverton carshops, by his father. It details some of the thrilling experiences that the truckmen who hauled Uncle Sam's high explosives to the big guns saw at first hand.

Eichweiler, Luxemburg, Nov. 24th, 1918. Dear Father:—It gives me great pleasure to write to you at this time, because of the fact that I can tell you more about where I am and what I have been doing and also that this is "Father's Day." I am also glad that I am able to tell you that I am in the Third Army Corps which is the first to "march on the Rhine," and by the way, has been marching on the Rhine since the 17th.

I will tell you a little of my life before starting on the march to the Rhine. We came up to the front on the 22nd of September. We stopped in a woods that we called "Camp Cootie." I was detailed the next morning in charge of the first ammu-

nition detail to haul ammunition to the front. We were out on detail until the afternoon of the 26th of September. Now I mean the first of our company and I think we were out as soon as any of the rest. Well, on the afternoon of the 25th of Sept.

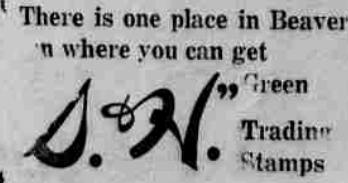
we went to an ammunition dump and loaded our trucks with 75 mm. light field artillery and 155 mm. 6 inch heavy artillery and started for the battery positions. We were only allowed to go so far, then we halted until after dark. This was the night the American drive started and we got to the Batter positions about 10:00. They were located in the Argonne Forest, which you have already read a lot about. Well, just as we came in the woods, Fritz sent some shell over that we could hear very plainly, but none of the fellows seemed to mind it very much and we went on in to the battery positions.

unloaded our ammunition and just as we were unloading the last truck the guns all around us let go and I suppose about 200 feet from us Fritz landed a big high explosive, so I thought things were going to get pretty lively. Well, we finished unloading and started out, but right here I want to tell you that on a night there was a drive to be made. There was an awful lot of traffic, motor cars, wagons, it is hard to tell the amount but we never got out of the woods until 5:30 the morning of the 26th of September, so we had the pleasure of seeing "The Big Show" start. Well, all the cannon from 75's to 11-inch opened up about 1:20 in the morning and I don't think I will ever be able to explain the awful noise. One battery after the other and then I think they must have fired by regiments. Why, I thought my ears would burst!

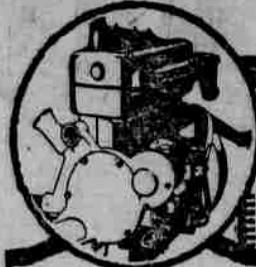
They were right out alongside of the road, besides being all over the woods. They say there were 1000 cannon to the square mile. Now you can imagine what happened when they all started to fire at once and kept on firing.

Well, we got back to the barracks and I went to bed. Now this was on the afternoon of the 26th and I went out on the 23rd so you can imagine how tired and sleepy I was. We were attached to the 32nd Division here and after about a week and a half we were attached to the 29th Division on the Verdun front and this was considered the hardest front of all. We were billeted in Bois de Nixiville and did our hauling from there. We were on this front until Nov. 2. Well we saw some exciting times here. Most every time we went to the front there was something doing. The Hun seemed to have the range on the roads on this front and often we would see horses lying there that

(Continued on Page 2)



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