

daily-sometimes it was a coffin borne by a gun & drawn by a team of black horses, but more often a draped hearse followed by a queue of civilian mourners.

March saw a gradual disappearance of the "Flu", for which every one was thankful.

The first repatriation draft left 7th Brigade on 5th March en route for England. This quota consisted of approximately 130 men.

Orders were received for the 3rd Artillery to move into another area on the 11th. This move did not appeal to the majority; as they had settled down and made many friends in HAUTMONT.

The goodbyes were very touching & of course copious tears were shed by the fair sex. What, What? however "c'est la guerre!"

Motor lorries transported the dismounted troops & baggage, & midday on the 11th we "lobbed" into LOBBES, Belgium, which town was our destination.

Now we are all busy digging-in again, and here I must leave you. Hoping to see you on the 'Loo Wharf when our boat comes in,

Beaucoup d'amour,

From your Khaki Kid,

"Normie".

CHATS AND CHUCKLES.

Capt. Colquhoun at midnight:-

D-a-h-l! Did you take my s-----?

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"Fragments from France" Gnr. Horne (HQ). To all pretty "Tabs" he gave his dog, and it never failed to "Boomerang". Good doggie!

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An excuse was found to run a Telephone Line across a window, where Spr. "Snow" Moroney had seen a couple of nice "Tabs". Snow climbed the ladder but crashed out of control on finding Ma & Pa there.

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According to Lt. Jack Keep, the Digger should carry the unexpired portion of "Wood & Coal".

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The drivers of H.Q. were in paradise till their stolen horses were found. Was it grooming, watering and feeding that caused them to be "repinched"?

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Gnr. Wally Fahey (107) after being abused at the "Antwerp Rink" for half an hour, remembers the three-worded phrase, "Une autre Mademoiselle"!

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W.O. Jimmy Allen made a good fellow of himself by giving the piano to a Tab at Hautmont. S.M. Laurie Lowe slipped, as he did not return the "Musical Box" after borrowing it. What did you "flog" it for Laurie?

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A Yank to a group of Diggers, absorbed in their national pastime of "Two-up": S-a-y! What are you playing "Aussies? Just then the pennies landed on France again! The ring-keeper giving his verdict:- "Two B-----s on Bykes"!

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Did Capt. Moriarty engage the Bosche promenaders as waitresses for the 27th Officers' Mess at Lobbes? We know Lt. "Lucy" McCulloch had to do the "parlez" to clear up the misunderstanding.

Where are the majority of the 7th? Hautmont or Lobbes?

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S.M. Laurie Lowe has not indented for a "sam browne"!

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Sgt. "Capitalist" Tebay (26) is not a "station owner" as the "tabs" of Hautmont think! The word "Stationer" evidently caused the misunderstanding.

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The A.W.L. men could look on with safety at the "FINE"? sight of the avenue of "JACKS" which General Birdwood chose as his daughter's guard of honor for her wedding. The "Dinkum Diggers" were evidently not "classy" enough for this "hospicious" occasion.

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How Gnr "Mac" McCallum at the risk of his life, one night saved the Paris-Brussels express at Hautmont:- Walking along the line he was horrified to find a sleeper wired to the rails. The train 100 yards away, was rushing to its doom; Mac with a herculean effort tore the sleeper from the track. But what were the thoughts of the Froggi shunters the following morning to find the sleeper had been removed from the dead-end track?

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Edr. Tommie Darragh (107) beckoned & made room for a "snice Tab" who was waiting on the Sharleroi station. She accepted! But brought with her a "Tommie Piancee" who took possession of the seat with her on his knee, much to Bomie's disgust.

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It was necessary for Spr. Tom Smith (HQ) to visit the Q.M. after reading the account in the Aussie paper of "How Tom Smith won the "M.M." What happened Tom?