

KENNETH HECHT WRITES TO LeROSSIGNOL FROM FRANCE

Kenneth G. Hecht, ex-'19, has written a very interesting letter to Professor J. E. LeRossignol, director of the School of Commerce, telling of his experiences as an American soldier in France. Hecht is very bitter against the Germans, and promises his friends in America that the boys in France are fighting the Huns with all the might they possess, and that the people at home can count on a successful conclusion of the war.

Hecht says that the first fifteen years of the war is going to be the hardest, and that after that, there will be an early conclusion of the war. His letter to the professor follows:

Dear Professor:

Your kind letter of June 27th was duly received.

Would be pleased to learn what ever develops in the cases of Professor Fling and England. I hope nothing.

I surely hope that the mountains of Colorado have been furnishing you a good vacation and quiet rest.

You are to be gratefully praised for your conscientious direction of the School of Commerce. I, too, have fond hopes for it for a full "come back" and more after the war.

My righteous indignation against the German empire, its ideals, and its cause is no less keenly felt, and my determination to fight is to bitter end, if need be, is fully as strong as indicated to you many times last winter. Our boys indeed are coming fast, and we hope the program can be carried out without interruption.

I would like to write something gained from personal experience and not already covered by your press. But to do so would be very difficult. Your press is thorough and efficient while a soldier in the fields sees only his little circumstances round about him. We train to do something ourselves without regard to information on the movement of other units or social or other conditions of our fighting forces.

My general impression by this writing is that the necessity for our winning the war and the rewards to be derived therefrom, more than warrant our tremendous expense to do so; but that, for the individual soldier in the old, modern warfare is not a developer—far better in countless ways are our schools, churches, homes and other character building institutions and influences long reputed in our own country before the war as preferable to the training of the battlefield.

A grim remark goes about among the boys to the effect that the first fifteen years of the war is going to be the hardest, and that thereafter fighting the war will become easier and we shall wind up the war successfully in short order.

Given an unimpaired physical existence after the war, I hope to return to school, because, by Jove, I want to work mighty hard the rest of my days and I want to commit my activities toward ends and guide them along lines that universal judgment sustains.

Respectfully yours,
— Corp. Kenneth G. Hecht,
Co. H, 355th Infantry,
American E. F.

RIFLES OF DELICATE PARTS BEING USED BY OUR BOYS

(Continued from Page Three)

glance falls to understand the vast amount of measuring. Some of the gauges wear better than others, but all sooner or later wear out and a machine shop to keep these in order is maintained at every plant. General March, the Chief of Staff of the American Army, has declared "that America is going through," so the manufacturers understand that there must be no let up on the making of the weapons required to "carry on."

One in every dozen employees is a government inspector and each one is skilled in his work as a gauger and tester. While much of the work is done by machinery, it is necessary for the man behind the machine to know his business as the wrong pulling of a lever or turn of a screw may ruin the work.

After a rifle has been assembled it is sent to the shooting house where it is sighted over a 100-yard range. Five shots are then fired and four of them must go in a small square. After they are inspected again they are sent to the various places of distribution.

Immense Plants

As gun making was not regarded as a big industry before the war there were few men found to be skilled in this trade and there was great difficulty in finding mechanics to do this work. It was found necessary to teach men the art and it was discovered that about only one in twenty-five had the required patience for the task. Men who have worked on fine jewelry were the most apt pupils.

The manufacturing plants are little short of small towns, one alone covering a 26 acre reservation and employing about 14,000 persons. The housing and welfare of these people are looked after by both Uncle Sam and the manufacturers and they both expect the employees to do their duty.

They line us up for Muster.
They line us up as for Pay;
We're lined up for inspection,
We're lining up all day.

We line up when there's roll call;
For Chow, for Drill, to pray;
And sometimes they will line us up
Just to see how we look that way.

They line us up for Guard Mount,
At Reveille (to begin).
We line up when we draw our duds,
And when a guy kicks in,
We'll be lined up forever
Until we pass away;
And then you will hear some Johnny shout:
"Line up for Judgment Day."
—Missouri Miner.

A JOKE

Friday afternoon a private in one of the companies appeared before his company commander and asked leave for Friday evening. The officer wanted to know why he wanted to get off, and the rookie said, "Well, sir, I want to go and see my girl. I have had a regular date every Friday night for the last year and a half; I haven't missed a night, and she will be sort of experting me."

"I think the young lady will be disappointed this evening," the officer replied.

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