



# I am only a cog

I am only a cog in a giant machine, a link of an endless chain:—

And the rounds are drawn, and the rounds are fired,  
and the empties return again;

Railroad, lorry and limber, battery, column and park;  
To the shelf where the set fuse waits the breech,  
from the quay where the shells embark.

We have watered and fed, and eaten our beef; the  
long dull day drags by,

As I sit here watching our "Archibalds" strafing an  
empty sky;

Puff and flash on the far-off blue round the speck  
one guesses the plane—

Smoke and spark of the gun-machine that is fed by  
the endless chain.

The ammunition carrier is only a link in the great war machine, but he is as vital a link in the chain as the man who goes over the top. And back of the ammunition carrier comes the ammunition maker and the railroad worker and the thousands of varieties of war workers until it all comes straight home to the individual man and woman

I am only a cog in a giant machine, but a vital link of the chain;

And the captain has sent from his wagon-line to fill his wagons again;

From the wagon-limber to gunpit dump; from loader's forearm at breech

To the working party that melts away when the shrapnel bullets screech.

So the restless section pulls out once more in column of route from the right

At the tail of a blood-red afternoon; so the flux of another night

Bears back the wagons we fill at dawn to the sleeping column again—

Cog on cog in the gun-machine, link on link in the chain!

C— by Gilbert Frankau

GILBERT FRANKAU

who helps save the necessities of life and refrains from wasteful spending in order to help our fighting men. Every link in the fighting chain, every cog in the war machine must be of the strongest steel. Every heart must be steel against waste these days. We are all part of the great battle—let us each do our part and make it a great part.



**Let us buy the Bonds we know *they* want us to buy!**



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