

May 1917



Hillier Camp, Surrey
May 13/17

Dear People at Home:

This is Sunday afternoon about 3 P.M. I have just rose from a good snooze since dinner and I was just thinking it would be Sunday School Chr. at home. It is very warm, that hot we have to move out of the tents although they are very warm too. They are not as warm as a tent would be on a still day because the heat can't come in the same. The roof is too paper or some such material.

Lewie is gone to the Hospital now. Yesterday afternoon they sent him to the sick detention hut here in camp and Sol & I were up to see him this morning but when I went up at noon with some oranges they had sent him to Bramshott Hospital. He had a sore throat as well as the ear ache he has had for a couple of days.



I have received no mail since I last wrote except a p. of socks yesterday from Art Rushton, I expect they are from the Lodge. There were some parcels came yesterday so the letters will likely be here tomorrow when they didn't come today. The parcels nearly always arrive first.

I think I mentioned before not to bother sending any socks but it won't do any harm again. I have all the socks yet I want to look after, when I want a fresh pair I usually get army issue, they are pretty fair for general wear, in case of route march I wear home knit.

Then Lorie went away last Sunday he made just his socks thru a process elimination & threw away four or five pr. and still had a dozen good p. left.

Last Thursday was the Brigade sports day. It was a lovely day and the sports were good but good. night the 160th hadn't a look in with the other Batt^{ns}. The 202nd have some real good sports, follow up that sort of thing.

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I came out in orders last night to take a Lewis Machine Gun course. It is a two week course and is carried out right in the Division here in camp. It seems quite a while to put right on a little gun when I have had a week on it already but they say that if a fellow gets all the teach up there he has it all and no body can tell him anything about the Machine Gun. The Lewis M.G. is a light one not like the Colt they had in Paisley with the 34th. Harry Rimmer in the hut here just finished a course there yesterday & he said it was great.

I am sending some snaps we took a couple weeks ago. On picture No 1 I have marked Harry Rimmer as the other Corporal and Otto Gatemang is the fellow with the nails showing in his kitcheners. In no. 2. Russel Beatty from Allenford is the fellow in the centre. Those little snaps are not very good I don't know what happened them.

We had church parade on the Brigade parade grounds this morning, the whole Brigade was there. I don't who he was but I know he gave us something worth while

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He was in France 18 months and is
going back in June.

The 134th Batt^t left this morning
lined up on the side of the hill on the
ground were a little the nicest sight I have
seen in that line. They have a darker shade,
the skull caps, faces & kilts were dark and
they had a perfect line. It was agreed by
everybody that they never saw anything better.

Major Hearst was over visiting Mr McFadden
yesterday, he is a Lieutenant. Some of the Batt^{ns}
that have come lately to Bramshott have been
burstled all to pieces and put in Reserve Batt^{ns}.
All N.C.O's were put in the ranks and all
officers brought to the rank of Lieutenant. That
is the way they use some Batt^{ns}.

Well I think I will close for this time.
How is Uncle Tom making out. I havent heard
from him for a long time now. You havent
got phone connections yet have you?
Tell Leo to write often, my news is good
to me as another but its different coming
the other way. I was thinking you wouldn't
have a very brilliant set of horses to put in the
seeding with this going.

Loved All
Russel