



Eeny, Meeny, Miney, Moe,
Four Top-Sergeants standing in a row;
Each one tries to do his best,
To learn Squads East, North, South and West.
It fills a private's soul with glee,
To see them drilled at the O. T. C.

WHY SMILEAGE BOOKS FOR SOLDIERS' ENTERTAINMENTS?

The War Department's Answer to a Most Important Question.

An army recruited by draft includes the best young men of the nation. The off hours of these young men are the loneliest hours of their camp life. If those hours are to be pleasantly and healthfully filled there must be provided not only places to write and read, but performances of the grade to which the men are accustomed at home and opportunities for them to develop and exhibit their own skill.

Accordingly, the Council will present at the Camp theatres—

Broadway companies in the best theatrical successes of the season.

The best musical and vaudeville programs obtainable.

Lectures of the highest excellence.

Amateur performances by the men themselves.

Low Cost to Soldiers.

Ordinarily the cost of booking such attractions would be prohibitive. But as the government built the theatres and supplies the

light, heat and manager, the overhead expenses have been reduced to a minimum. As a result, the cost of these performances will range from ten cents to twenty-five cents a seat.

Yet many soldiers will not be able to attend many performances at these prices. Thousands of them are sending home practically all their pay.

On the other hand, practically every soldier has those at home who strongly desire to contribute into his army life something of wholesome and cheerful entertainment.

Therefore this council originated a type of book of tickets that members of the soldier's family and his friends may send to him at the front. They are called Smileage Books and will be made up of coupons somewhat like the mileage books of the railroads.

Two Sizes of Books.

In books of one size 20 coupons will be sold for a dollar. In books of another size 100 will be sold for five dollars. These coupons will be good for payment for seats at any performance in any camp theatre under the direction of the Commission on Training Camp Activities.

As gifts these Smileage Books will have

251-POUND SOLDIER.

Draft Board of Appeals Sends Him Back to Camp Upton.

The Draft Board of Appeals in New York has sentenced Henry Gemuth, of Richmond Hill, to go back to Camp Upton, even though he does weight 251 pounds. Gemuth was selected in the first draft call, but after three days at Upton was sent back because of his weight. Now he has been recertified in Class A-1.

"I'm optimistic," said Henry when he heard the verdict. "I figure that if they give me enough trips back and forth it will reduce me down to true fighting weight. But, gee," he added sadly, "it looks as if even the government doesn't love a fat man."

In variance with Gemuth, who wants to fight, was Leland P. Mounts, who doesn't. He is private secretary to Sergt. Arthur Guy Empey, a real scrapper, and incidentally an author. He pleaded to Meier Steinbrink of the board to be exempted, as he was very busy "stimulating patriotic enthusiasm."

"By the way, your boss wrote a book, didn't he?" asked Mr. Steinbrink, of Mounts.

"Yes."

"What was it called?"

"Over the Top."

"Well," said Mr. Steinbrink, "you'd better read it, because that's where you're going."

rather a distinctive character. Each time the soldier tears coupons from his book he will renew his sense of attention from the sender. Every book will constitute a current of interest between the man at the front and the folks back home. Often, of course, one soldier will receive many books; and then he will do the thing which is characteristic of the American soldier throughout our history—he will share his abundance with his mates.

The result will be to change a danger period in the life of the soldier into a period of healthful relaxation and refreshment.

Smileage Solves Problem.

The problem has been two-sided—to get programs for the theatres and to get tickets into the hands of the soldiers at prices which will meet the operating expense.

The operating expense is borne by the tickets in the Smileage Books, paid for by the families, the employers, the company of friends of the men back home.

As soon as it can be arranged, this circuit may be widened to include the smaller army camps and the navy training stations. Beyond all this, though America has not yet been required to realize it, lies the prospect of an entirely separate circuit in France and Belgium, larger perhaps than all of these at home.

The Smileage Books are your means of making this possible for your men.