

returning to this country for demobilization or discharge. This was intended to include convalescent, sick or wounded.

"Only those who, upon arrival here, were assigned to further active duty in this country away from their divisions were to be required to remove the insignia. In this case the insignia is deemed no longer appropriate. Orders since have been issued making this matter clear. The insignia is authorized, except as stated above.

"The overseas cap has, since December 9, 1918, been authorized for wear in this country subject to the same restrictions as apply to divisional insignia.

"The trench coat also is authorized subject to these restrictions. Officers returning from abroad are not required to purchase new articles of uniform, unless they are to continue on duty in this country for an indefinite period of time, in which case they must conform to the uniform of the units with which they may be serving; and must replace old uniforms often enough to maintain a presentable appearance. There never has been but one authorized basic uniform for wear both here and abroad, and all officers are expected to confine themselves to the prescribed cut of coats, overcoats, etc.

The Sun Browne belt was adopted for overseas wear because in France it is universally recognized as the distinctive mark of a commissioned officer. To authorize its wear by officers in this country might give rise to a situation in which overseas soldiers would not recognize officers without the belt as commissioned officers. On the other hand, it is not desired to put officers who have not been overseas to the expense of providing themselves with the belt.

"The War Department feels that it has sufficiently recognized officers by the adoption of the gold and blue chevrons and the divisional insignias, at least in so far as it is considered advisable to recognize these services by additions to changes in the uniform, and must maintain its position in recognizing the desirability of only one uniform, so far as this is practicable, for all branches of the United States forces, no matter where they may be serving."

FIXING DATES.

Letters are frequently received by this department asking that a reply to some inquiry be given in the paper on a certain date.

Space limitations will not permit the Soldier's Friend to comply with requests of this kind. Letters are answered promptly in the order in which they are received.

MEETINGS COMING.

An entertainment and card party will be given by Co. E, 131st Infantry Auxiliary ("Dandy First"), in the ballroom of the Morrison Hotel, Tuesday evening, February 25. All members are urged to attend and guests are invited. There also will be a meeting of this auxiliary Friday evening, February 14, at 8 o'clock sharp, in the Morrison Hotel.

The "Dandy First" (131st U. S. Infantry), Co. M, auxiliary will have a benefit ball on St. Valentine's Day.

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document of arrest (temporarily). (Mrs. E. D.)—36th Infantry—For information regarding this camp write Personnel Officer of Fort Snelling, Minn.

(Mrs. E. T.)—325th Machine Gun Battalion—87th Division, at St. Nazaire; ordered home in February; a few of the men have been transferred, but no one in this country could tell you which men.

(Mrs. J. T. B.)—Battery F, 321st Field Artillery—31st Division, with First Army at Mussy-sur-Seine, 35 miles west of Chaumont; not home before Spring.

(Impatient Mother)—149th Field Artillery—42d Division, army of occupation, at Dernau, Prussia; not back before Summer. Fifteenth Artillery—1st, the 50th C. A. C. is meant. It is expected home in February.

(A Reader)—34 Pioneer Infantry—With First Army; not home before Spring; 56th Engineers, ordered home; part here.

(M. E. L.)—51st Infantry—6th Division, with First Army, at Aignay-le-Duc, 30 miles southwest of Langres; not home before Spring.

(A Reader)—304th Mechanical Repair Shop—78th Division, at Semur, fifty-five miles southwest of Chaumont, with First Army; no date for return.

(E. A. B.)—87th Division—At St. Nazaire, awaiting ship.

(A Reader)—Army Searchlight Companies—At Langres; no date for return.

85th Engineers—Were at Romorantin; ordered home; part of this regiment has sailed.

(E. B.)—Water Field Hospital, No. 35—No date for return.

(C. J. B.)—85th Division—At Lagny; no date for return.

(A. T. C.)—112th Engineers—37th Division, at Wormhoudt, Belgium; ordered home in February.

(Mrs. F. E. S.)—302d Tank Center—At Langres; ordered home in March.

(F. M.)—131st Infantry—33d Division, Army of Occupation, at La Rochette, Luxembourg; not home before Summer.

(M. A. T.)—69th Coast Artillery—Ordered home in February; they were to sail last of January, but were delayed.

(D. B.)—327th Infantry—Not in the Eighty-eighth Division; is in the Eighty-second Division, at Prauthoy, ten miles south of Langres, with the First Army. Probably will not return before late Spring.

(J. M.)—Cook Company, Provisional Labor Battalion—Probably will not return before March 1.

(M. B.)—Company I, 312th Infantry—Seventy-eighth Division, at Semur, fifty-five miles southwest of Chaumont. Not in the army of occupation. Not home before Spring.

(Miss S. E.)—Company I, Eleventh Infantry—Fifth Division, at Esch-sur-Aisette, army of occupation. Not back before Summer.

(E. B.)—Company C, 363d Infantry—Ninety-first Division, at Roubrugge, Belgium. Ordered home in February.

(C. O. P.)—Fifth Regiment Marines—Second Division, at Jeddendorf, Prussia, near Coblenz, army of occupation. Not home before Summer.

Company B, 311th Ammunition Train, is home.

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Chicago's Health

By DR. JOHN DILL ROBERTSON, Commissioner of Health.

DIRTY AIR DEATHS.

It is both interesting and instructive to study the intimate relation between the weather and the number of pneumonia cases and deaths in Chicago.

For example, for the month of January there were reported to the department 2,182 cases of pneumonia with 579 deaths; for the month of December 2,948 cases and 654 deaths.

January was unusually mild and with a great many bright, sunny days that tempted people to get out of doors instead of remaining all day in close, overheated and usually poorly ventilated apartments. December, on the other hand, was not so agreeable for open air life and so people stayed indoors and the pneumonia cases and deaths show an increase over those of January.

Now, look at these figures and note the increase in cases and deaths as the indoor, or hibernating season, advances and the same rapid decline as the warm weather, or open-air season, comes in. Of course, I am now using the figures for the months given for 1918. They tell the story. Here they are

January ..	785 cases, 364 deaths
February ..	831 " 348 "
March ..	1,708 " 680 "
April ..	1,831 " 744 "
Total for the four hibernating months 5,155 cases and 2,136 deaths.	
Total, note these figures for the four open months:	
May ..	680 cases, 309 deaths
June ..	193 " 119 "
July ..	163 " 101 "
August ..	87 " 74 "

Total, 1,123 cases and 603 deaths. These totals show pneumonia killed 1,533 more people in Chicago during the four cold months than died from it during the four open-air months. A further study of the figures for the year shows that beginning with October the rise in cases and deaths from this dirty air disease steadily increases until the outdoor season comes again.

My suggestion is that along with your coal supply, don't neglect your supply of good fresh air.