

next highest contestants on the above basis.

The helmets offered as prizes were found stored in Coblenz, Germany, by the American Army of Occupation. The helmets, numbering many thousands, all brightly polished and perfectly made, were to have been worn by the haughty Germany army which was to have occupied Paris, after which they probably would have been used in beautifying the square heads who would enter London, and possibly a little later seen in the streets of New York. This little pipe dream of the once mighty Kaiser, of course, has exploded, and these selfsame helmets will adorn the museums, homes, etc., of American folks for years to come—a symbol of what might have been had not our soldiers and our dollars spanned the sea and forestalled such a possibility. BUY VICTORY BONDS? WHY, CERTAINLY, AND FINISH A GOOD JOB WELL, DONE!

PROVIDES PROTECTION FOR YOUR W. S. S.

To protect the owners of War Savings Stamps from fraud and theft, the Post Office Department has established new safeguards for redemption of stamps which make it still more difficult for other than owners to get cash for them. Hereafter, Thrift Stamps and War Savings Stamps of the 1919 issue, the Savings Division of the Treasury announces, will be redeemed only when attached to bona fide certificates. All applications for 1918 certificates on which to place loose 1918 stamps for redemption will be scrutinized locally and then forwarded to the Post Office authorities at Washington for final action. In the case of each application, careful inquiry into the ownership of the stamps will be made.



Some of the German helmets captured by Americans at Coblenz, Germany. They had been made for dress parade to be donned after the Germans had conquered the world and were ready for the triumphal march into Paris. The helmets offered as prizes by the Frisco Liberty Loan Committee are like some of these.

The Watch on the Rhine

By Brigade Sergeant-Major Allen C. Rankin

GLAD to be back? O, boy, am I? There's no place in all the world like these little old United States, and heaven won't look any bet-

ter than Hoboken does from the deck of a homeward-bound transport. Never again do I want to see the face of the Liberty Lady in the Harbor unless I go out to wash it. War will be nothing but a memory to me all the rest of my life unless—Unless the Victory Liberty Loan Falls Down!

For if it falls, there'll come a time when I'll be lifting my right hand again and saying "I do" voluntarily and all the rest of it, and swinging kitpack and saddlebags, and blinking at the Jersey shore line, and facing forward once more on the western front. If it fails, Germany is going to war again before I'm too old to get back in the line. She's cowed, and crushed, and conquered now, but there's fire down under her ashes, and some day it's going to blaze unless we keep the fire hose right in front of her eyes; and that fire hose is nothing else but her fear of the American people.

The people of Germany are figuring

today that they can beat Belgium and France and Italy and England, all together. They know, though, that they can never bully the world if the

BRIGADESERGEANT-MAJOR ALLEN C. RANKIN, returned from the Army of Occupation by order of the Secretary of War to General Pershing, is now on furlough, technically granted at Camp Meigs, Washington.

Brigade Sergeant-Major Rankin enlisted with the 12th Field Artillery of the Regular Army at St. Asaph, Fort Myer, Virginia, which was consolidated with the 5th and 6th Marines, the 9th and 23d Infantry, and the 15th and 17th Field Artillery into the Second Division of the American Expeditionary Forces. The Second, which suffered a 125 per cent replacement from its entrance into action in March, 1918, to the signing of the Armistice in November, 1918, and which captured one-fourth of all prisoners taken by the A. E. F., went through the first and great action of Chateau Thierry, through Soissons, the Argonne and Argonne-Meuse engagements, Mont Blanc and the last Verdun battles. The only important battle of the war in which it missed service was Cantigny. Rankin was twice gassed and was wounded at Soissons, but returned to the brigade in eight days, going with them into Germany. The First and Second Divisions are the only ones in the Army of Occupation which have crossed the Rhine.

American people stand against them, but they are planning and scheming and hoping to shift the American people. In that hope they are watching the Victory Liberty Loan. By its failure or its success the German people will judge if we, the American people, want to hold the victory we have won. If the Victory Loan doesn't go across with a whiz and a bang that will prove that our country backs the righteousness of the war now just as it backed us while we fought at the front, Germany is going to take heart. Germany is going to say, "Oh, yes, the Americans came into the war, and while they were in it, they fought to win; but now they are sorry that they went in, and they will not fight us again. The time is with us when we must pay through the nose,

but the time will come when we will have ended the payment. And then—"Then will come another war, and its time will not be so far off that the

crowd of us can't get in again. For it will be the same kind of war all over again, and we can't, before God, keep out of that kind and hold our nation's honor.

How do I know?

Since December I've been in the Rhine Valley, in the districts that the pacifists, ante-war and post-war, love to call "the Germany of the Christmas tree, the Germany of Heine and Goethe, the Germany of Bach and Beethoven, the Germany of legend and folksong, the Germany of peace and beauty." I've been quartered in German homes. Because I'd come from Milwaukee I understand German, and I came to know what these Germans thought of us and of the rest of the world. They weren't Prussians, these men and women of Neuweid and Trier and Coblenz and of the little villages along the Rhine. They are the people whom we had half-believed to be victims of Prussianism. But are they glad that the kaiser had been overthrown and his system disestablished? They are not!

With somber eyes they watched us. With furtive queries they plied us. The men who'd fought in the German Army had nothing to say, but the old men would come sneaking around, always with some trivial reason, but always with the questions, "What do your people think of the war now? Are they not divided about it? And will they trust more billions and billions to your Government for another loan now that the war is ended?" "You bet they will," we told them. They went away shaking their heads.

Why do they care about whether or not the people of the United States subscribe to the Victory Liberty Loan? we asked ourselves. At first we couldn't answer. The Germans themselves answered us after a while. From them we came to know that they hadn't expected, even when our Government went into war against them, that the American people would stand back of it. They thought that the Germans in America were going to be strong enough to hold the nation from real support of the war against Germany. The First Liberty Loan

punctured that belief. The Second Liberty Loan tore a hole in it. The Third Liberty Loan left it flat. The Fourth Liberty Loan pulled off the rubber from the wheel. For when even those cities that the Germans thought their strongholds, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, "your Milwaukee," as they said to me, helped to send the Loans skyrocketing, Germany knew that the people of the United States were solid against her. She knew that not only the governmental machinery but the money and the spirit of the United States fought her. In the knowledge that unlimited munitions were coming to millions of men, Germany smashed. The fear of 1919 ended the war in 1918.

But, with the armistice signed, Germany waits. She must pay the piper, but payment can not take forever. Once before, when Bonaparte conquered her, she paid, but the old men in whose homes the Army of Occupation is quartered today served in an Army of Occupation in France in 1871. The wheel turns, they tell each other and their sons and grandsons. "We can not win from you," they tell us. "You are too rash, too young! But, this war done, your people may not care what happens. Even now we hear they are indifferent. And in fifteen, twenty years, who knows?" And so they keep watch there in the Rhine Valley, as they keep watch throughout Germany for the barometer that shall tell them how America feels, the barometer of the Victory Liberty Loan. If that shall tell them that the people of the United States no longer care enough for a just cause to pay with thanksgiving the cost of their victory, then the fire under the ashes of German militarism will glow until the day when it may dare to blaze once more.

We were on the march through Luxembourg on a November Sunday when a crowd of us loitered beside the road, reveling in the quiet and lovely serenity of the sheltered countryside. The Second had gone through the twenty-eighth of May at Chateau Thierry, through Soissons and the Ar-

goune, through Saint Mihiel and the Argonne-Meuse. We had charged up the Lookout Mountain slope of Mont Blanc under the fire of the German guns. We had fought in the last Verdun battle. From March until November we had gone forward without rest, sometimes going without sleep for seventy-two hours. Now, victorious, in the enemy's country and in peace, we rested.

Suddenly a motor car swung around the turn of a little church. In front of us it came to a sharp halt. We sprang to attention as General John Lejeune, commanding general of the Second, spoke. "Who's your ranking noncommissioned officer?"

"I am, sir."

"Why aren't you all at services?"

We had no answer. No one had even thought to go.

"How long have you been in this Division?"

"Since it was organized, sir."

"I should think that any one who has gone through what you have, and come out of it, would want to thank God."

Come to think of it, we did. Without a word we went down to the little church. There, remembering the men who had started out with us and who would not go back with us, we gave our thanks.

Isn't the Victory Liberty Loan the church down the road for the American nation; the chance to thank God for life, for liberty, for peace; the place of promise that this peace and freedom won by the blood of the men who fell in France shall not be forfeited by our indifference?

Because I can not forget the look on the faces of boys lying dead on the field at Chateau Thierry, because I can not forget the bombed hospitals and the shattered villages; because I can not forget the brave, blithe wounded who crowded the homecoming ships, I am daring to sound this trumpet before the walls of Jericho.

Not for us who have come through do I ask remembrance; but for those who come back to you maimed and for those who will not come back do I ask recollection of what the war cost. That they may not have died in vain it is our nation's task to watch, even as the German watches. That the German may know that we are not forgetting, not faltering in our great task, it is the first and paramount duty of the people of the United States to make this peace permanent by putting upon it the great seal of the Victory Liberty Loan. When that is set, the German will know that the American nation echoes the battle cry of the Second, "What we take, we hold." We have taken peace. Let us hold it. For, unless we hold it now, the day will come when the great gray ships will be slipping out of the harbors again; and it will be our fault then that dead boys will be lying on the fields of France.

It's up to you, to me, to all of us here, to make this the last war with Germany. For the sake of the men who died, for the sake of other boys who will die if we fail, will you do your part in the Victory Liberty Loan that the Watch on the Rhine may know that we are united in triumph as we were united in war?

**STATEMENT OF HOSPITAL SERVICE,
January, February and March, 1919.**

	St. Louis Hosp.	Springfield Hosp.	Emergency Hosp.	Total
Number of patients.....	342	313	55	710
Major operations.....	32	14	46
Minor operations.....	26	16	42
Surgical dressings.....	975	497	1472

DISPENSARY SERVICES.

	St. L. & Springfield Dispensaries	Regular Dispensaries	All Other Stations	Total
Medical	1317	2267	772	4356
Surgical.....	717	1111	238	2066
Total.....	2034	3378	1010	6422
Prescriptions.....	2682	5702	1309	9693
Dressings.....	723	1036	276	2035

How a Frisco Employe Became a Property Owner

By W. L. S.

Being an old-time Frisco man, I will tell my experience of buying a home through the aid of the Building and Loan Association. I was transferred from one division point to another. After alighting in the city (and by-the-way a very small one), I found it would be necessary to either buy, build, or live out under a tree, for the reason that there were no houses to rent, and this last resort I knew very well would not work from the mere fact that friend wife and daughter would start a war that would have made the Hun sick. Choosing between the Great War and the Greater Peace I concluded it would be better to buy. But where was the money to come from? My cash pile was about cashed out. I was fortunate enough to own eight hundred dollars in shares of building and loan stock in a good home affair. This association being out of the State in which I wished to buy, it of course, was necessary to have some property within the state where the loan company was chartered to do business in order to make a loan, as the loan company could not do business outside of the state, or city for that matter, where it was located.

I happened to have a piece of clear property within the city in question, and proceeded to get the necessary to keep from pitching the tent. I made the loan and bought a five room cottage. The piece of property that I covered with the loan was rented, and being desirable, was continually rented. In this way I paid for the other property I had bought without taking one cent out of my small salary. Besides, it paid all up-keep and taxes. This loan company was such that if one so desired he could pay one hundred dollars of the debt at any interest paying date, which in my case was the twenty-eighth of each month. I finally accumulated enough money to

pay off the debt in full before it matured.

Another feature of this loan company was that after lifting the debt, the shareholder could, if he so desired, continue to carry the stock as free stock, keeping up his payments on the stock on the free stock basis. In doing this the stockholder accumulated the earnings on the stock as if he had not taken any loan. I was transferred to another division point, and, while it was not a case of going under the trees, I had gotten out of the habit of paying rent, so I cracked down on the building and loan, same company, same stock, once more. This time I went pretty strong and had to get some outside capital. But I made the "riffle." I felt I was safe from the fact the loan would mature in about three years, and as the property covered by the loan was taking care of that side of the proposition, I could take care of the other side of it.

To sum up the whole proposition, the original property practically paid for two more pieces of property, and this within a space of about seventy-two months. I can heartily endorse the building and loan idea if it is managed right, and the by-laws so framed as to give the poor man a square deal. Remember the building and loan is just like paying rent. It comes around every month. But, at the end of the paying period you have the home in your own right to show for your savings, whether it be six or seven years. On the other hand, if you continue to rent, you have nothing to show for what you have put out for rent. I would advise any man that has not the means to get a home any other way to get into a good, sound, building and loan, and start off to accumulate his rent as savings. You would be surprised how independent one feels to live in his own home, especially if you have never done so.