

Belgian soldiers are without tobacco: they appeal to the American people: under war conditions smoking is the one comfort and solace. [1914-1918]

London: The Over-Seas Club, [1914-1918]

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Belgian Soldiers Are Without Tobacco

F0879

A Long Hard March

and No Smokes-That's Misery

Smokes Would Brighten a Scene of Woe Like This

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Under War Conditions Smoking Is the One Comfort and Solace



A Wounded English "Tommy" Craves a Smoke and Gets It. The Belgian Must Do Without. Tobacco Is Not Among His Rations and His Friends Are Destitute

These Men Would Say "Thank You" for a Smoke at the End of a Winter "Hike"



At Home They Had Smokes With Their Coffee. In War They Get None

They Appeal to the American People

Jhanko! Right from the Firing Line in Belgium



Just think of it. Getting a fighter's thanks red-hot from the firing line trenches: thanks straight from the heart-real, sincere thanks from a grateful man-thanks that will plainly show how much the smokes meant to the man who received them. And then, in the years to come, what greater pleasure for you than the reading-over of these post cards—every one of them a document, a link with history, a source of interest and pleasure to you and your children; to last as long as ink and paper endure.

The more Quarters you send the more Post Cards you get

A Post Card addressed to you is enclosed in every 25c parcel

Thanks from the Oueen of the Belgians

LETTRE DE SA MAJESTE LA REINE DES BELGES à L'OVER-SEAS CLUB. LONDRES

"Sa Majesté la Reine des Belges a reçu les caisses de cigarettes que vous lui avez fait parvenir pour nos soldats. "Sa Majesté s'est montrée très sensible à la prevenante sollicitude que

votre Club ne cesse de temoigner à notre armée, et Elle m'a chargé de trans-mettre à tous les membres de votre club l'expression de sa vive gratitude.

Conformant aux instructions de notre Souveraine la distribution de votre genereux don sera faite selon le desir que vous avez exprimé.

(Signé) PRUD'HOMME, "L'Officier d'Ordonnance du Roi."

(TRANSLATION)

"Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians has received the cases of cigarettes which you have sent her for our soldiers.

"Her Majesty is deeply touched by the thoughtful solicitude which your Club constantly displays toward our Army and She has charged me to transmit to all the members of your club the expression of her sincere gratitude.

"Acting upon the instructions of our Sovereign, the distribution of your generous gift shall be made in accordance with the wish you have expressed. "(Signed) PRUD'HOMME,

'Officer in Attendance to the King."

Read what the Belgian Soldiers say:-

"After the great favor you have rendered me, I fear I shall not be able to tell you how thankful I am for what you have done for me and my comrades. I know your action was prompted by a generous heart without any thought of any return. Your present has caused me the greatest pleasure."—CHARLES MOMBAERTS, B227, III/2, Armée Belge.

"One of your presents of cigarettes fell to me and I beg to tender you my sincere thanks. Such thoughtfulness has greatly moved us, for separated from our families by the enemy, it is a great consolation to know that other hearts think of us. I owe a great deal to American charity, for one of my brothers was shot at the beginning of the war, leaving three orphans who have been cared for by your generous countrymen. Please accept the greatest gratitude of a volunteer 20 years old."—MACRICE FLAGOTHER, B68, J/1, A. B.

"Thank you with all my heart for your generous gift. I feel a real pleasure in seeing the Americans interesting themselves in the Belgian soldiers who are exiled from their country and separated from home and friends. I am leaving for the trenches tonight and it is with a contented feeling that I do so now. -SERGT. LEON COURBET, B227, 2me Bat., 1ere Cie., A.B.

"In the name of my friends and myself, I beg to thank you for the cigarettes you sent us and which have just been distributed to us. We owe a debt to the whole American nation for the help it has given to our families and friends remaining in Belgium, without which they would certainly have died of hunger. We look forward to the deliverance of our country to prove to you our grati-tude." — ALFRED BAUDIN tude." — ALFRED BAUDIN, B227, III/3, A. B.



FACSIMILE OF A POST CARD WRITTEN IN ENGLISH

"I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your present of cigarettes. cannot thank you enough, for I am a great smoker and I was sadly in need of something to smoke. Trusting that your kind action will bring you good luck."—PHL. VERDICHT, B227, III/2, A. B.

"It was in the trenches that we received your 'smokes' and we find no words to express our thanks. We are exceedingly glad to see that meanly all nations, not only in Europe but your country as well, are in sympathy with this small land of ours which will fight this fight to a finish."—LEWIS KNAEPS, B227, III/2, A. B.

Translations of Post Cards received from **Belgian Soldiers:**

"Many thanks for your nice parcel of cigarettes which reached us to-day and which gave us great pleasure. At this time when we are so miserable, it cheers us to think some one remembers us."-CORPORAL E. RAMAKERS, B225,4/II.A.B.

"I thank you also for your sympathy for the Allies, and especially for the Belgians. May the year 1916 bring us victory and peace, but no peace without vic-God bless and protect you and return you a hundred times your kindness."—JULIEN BUYCK, Mitrailleur, B68, 3me Cie., A. B.

"You can hardly imagine what pleasure it gives us to know that everywhere people are interesting themselves in us; this encourages themselves in us; this encourages us to continue the fight for right and justice. Please accept a thousand thanks." — RAYMOND VRIEUCKER, A44, I/4, A. B.

"I thank you very much for the kindness you have done in sending us cigarettes. It was a real pleasure to smoke them in the trenches."—CORPORAL PAUL LAMS, B227, III-2, A. B.

"Your present will not only allow us to smoke but shows the sympathy of the whole world is with us, which will help us to victory. With very sincere thanks."-Yvon BANDOUX, A44, I/4, A. B.

Gel eve nota te nemen. John McEwan Esq. . C/o Messrs. Moulthrop Lumber Co Bay City, Michig87 U. S. A. FACSIMILE OF POSTAL CARD FROM A BELGIAN

Through Us They Ask For More

The verdict of the Post Cards, as set out above, speaks for itself. But a rider has to be added. Smokes are not enduring gifts. They give very great comfort and happiness to the men at-thefront, but they soon vanish in smoke. The demand on the Belgian Soldiers' Tobacco Fund is continued and insistent. We are filling the smoke needs of only a few of the 200,000 soldiers still in Belgium, and increased contributions to the Fund are continually needed if we are to supply the demand.

These Post Cards have been selected from thousands already received by American subscribers