

BRAVE AMERICANS

Portraits of medal winners, made in France and Germany by Joseph Cummings Chase, official portrait painter of the A. E. F.

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Bodie Pitman, Co. M, 18th Infantry, 1st Division.

Gassed and suffering severely from shell shock, Private Pitman, a dispatch bearer, continued carrying messages at the front line through violent barrage. His commander selected him as the representative enlisted man of his command because of his initiative, bravery, and speed. Budie says he wouldn't have missed it for a million dollars.



Sergt. Ralph M. Atkinson, of Alabama, 162th Infantry.

During the attack on Cote-de-Chatillon, Sergt. Atkinson was in command of a Stokes mortar platoon. Near the objective 250 of the enemy came up on the right for a flank attack. Sergt. Atkinson ran out in the open with his Stokes mortar, weighing 30 pounds, under heavy shell fire, set up the mortar, and opened a murderous fire on the approaching enemy, killing many and dispersing the remainder.



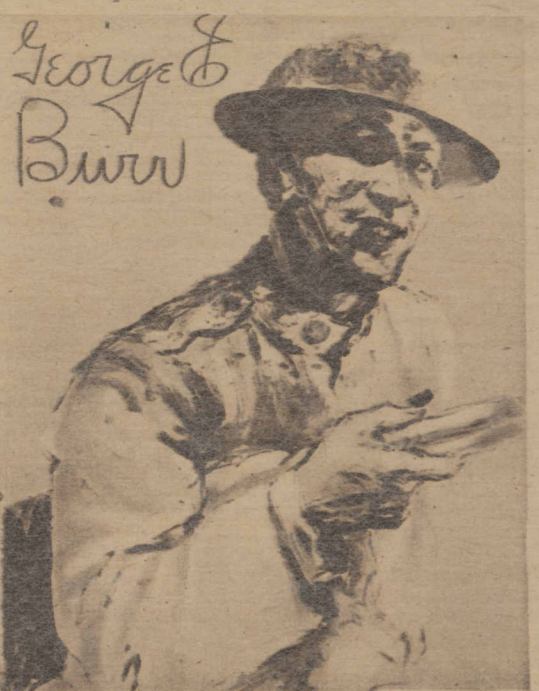
David V. Binkley, of Ala., Co. I, 168th Inf., 42d Division.

Private Binkley sought and obtained permission to go out alone in front of our lines and recover his corporal, who was lying severely wounded in the open. While the enemy fire was directed at him he reached his corporal, picked him up and carried him in his arms safely back into our lines. He was wounded, but refused to go to the aid station and remained in action until his company had won its objective.



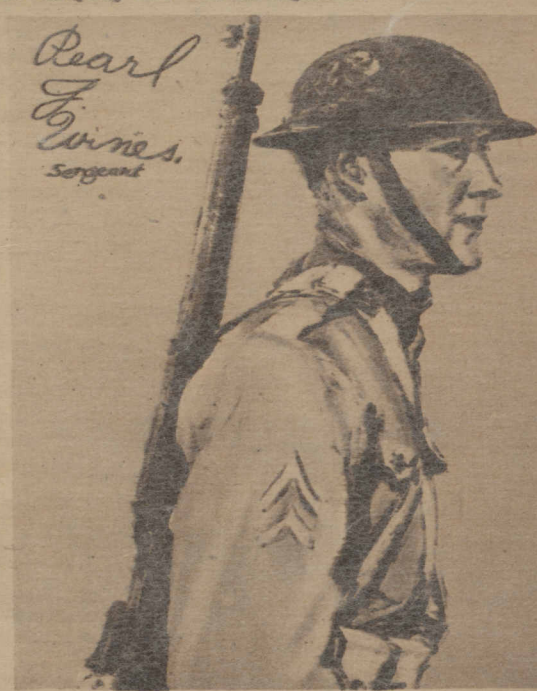
Sergt. Harry J. Adams, Rochester, N. Y., Co. K, 353d Infantry, 89th Division.

After the town of Bouillonville had been shelled Adams was ordered by his lieutenant to enter it and bring back a prisoner. Adams spotted a German and chased him into a little stone house. The boche fastened the door in Adams' face. Sergt. Adams fired through the door and ordered the boche to surrender. The boche came—and after him one lieutenant-colonel, 18 staff officers, and 355 soldiers, a total of 375.



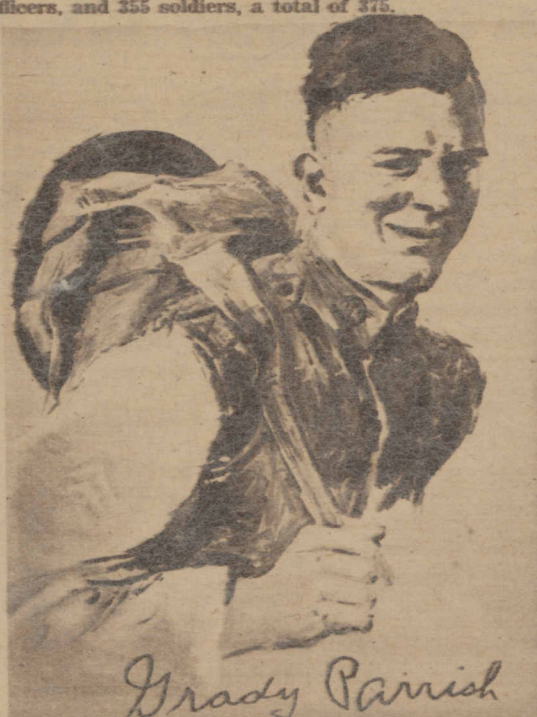
Sergt. George E. Burr, Co. C, 167th Field Signal Battalion, 32d Division.

First-class Sergt. Burr was in action near Clerge August 2, 1918. In charge of a detachment he strung wire far in advance of the front lines, working through heavy fire to the point where his regimental post of command was to be stationed, a hundred yards from the enemy lines, and while the rest of the detachment returned to the rear, Sergt. Burr remained alone for a long time in this most dangerous position.



Sergt. Pearl J. Wines, Oklahoma, Co. E, 358th Inf., 90th Division.

He was wounded at St. Mihiel September 12. In fact, it took five Germans to do it. They unexpectedly jumped upon Pearl, shot him and got him in the side. Down went Sergt. Wines, but up again at the five. Three of the Germans perished by his bayonet, and, with the other two as prisoners, he crawled back to his own lines. This was about one kilometer north of Fey-en-Have.



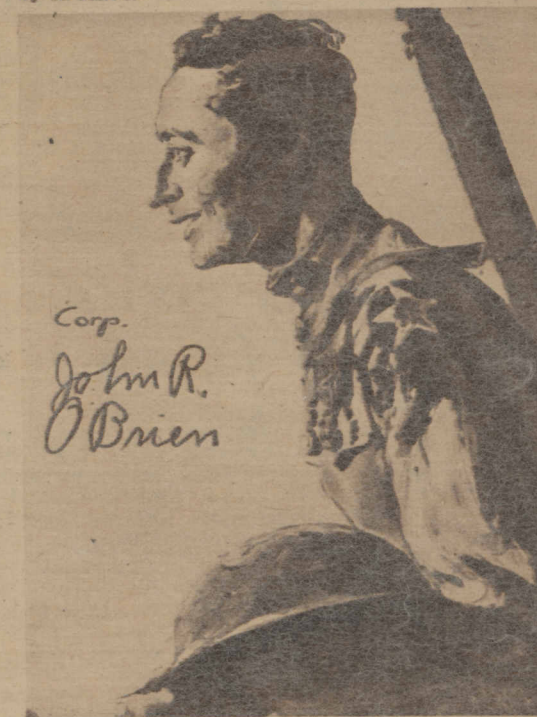
Sergt. Grady Parrish, of Alabama, Co. G, 167th Infantry, 42d Division.

After his platoon commander had been severely wounded and his unit had suffered heavy casualties in action on Cote-de-Chatillon October 16, 1918, Sergt. Parrish quickly reorganized the remainder of the platoon, and instead of retiring for reinforcements, led an attack on Cote-de-Chatillon. By his daring, coolness and good judgment he broke up a heavy enemy counter-attack.



Corp. F. H. McKaig, 6th Marines, 2d Division.

Corp. McKaig was one of the marines who "held 'em and drove 'em back" at Chateau Thierry. He showed extraordinary heroism while acting as a battalion runner, repeatedly carrying important messages through heavy fire of enemy machine guns and artillery and gas and under the bombs of German planes. This while the Germans were counter-attacking near Jaulny, July 14-15, 1918.



Corp. John R. O'Brien, of Boston, Co. K, 23d Infantry.

Corp. O'Brien received his Medaille-Militaire and Croix de Guerre with palm for capturing, all by his lonesome, a particularly pesky machine gun nest July 18. He was also cited for his success as a "commander of his platoon, of which he assumed command after his lieutenant and sergeant had been severely wounded." He kept his men of the platoon well up on the line, controlling their fire, and by good advice and judgment conserved many lives.