

April 12, 1918

The Evening Record

LIEUT. "TED" SCHOONMAKER HAS NARROW ESCAPE FROM "105" SHELL

First Lieut. S. T. Schoonmaker, formerly of Company G, who served with the local command in the Mexican trouble, is now in the first line trenches and has experienced his first "baptism of fire." narrowly escaping a big German shell that exploded near him. To an Evening Record representative he writes in part as follows:

"This is a job that requires most of one's time and that is the reason I have not written more often."

"We are now in the front line trenches and today is the first that I have had time to write. The Germans are just 'across the way' and 'No Mans Land' is just outside of the entrance to my dugout, in which I am at present writing this note. Quite a good deal of shelling all around and I had a rather narrow escape myself the other day.

Was going from the front line to the company headquarters around the top of a hill where the trenches are nothing but a continuous series of shell holes, when the German batteries opened up and threw over a few dozen of '105's' (meaning 105 millimeter), and I was kept busy ducking into shell craters when I learned by the "screen" and "whine" of the shells coming in the air that it was tagged with my name (coming toward me). The last one I remember exploded so close that I was blinded by dirt, stones and smoke, but

Townsend S. Schoonmaker

not hit. Finally made the company headquarters without injury.

Lieut. Schoonmaker is now with Company K, 101st U. S. Infantry, A. E. F. France. He asks to be remembered to his friends and is anxious for copies of the evening record

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