

I felt very distressed for him. Was he a non-smoker, or didn't he like Gold Flake ? At any rate, I wished I could ^{have given} ~~give~~ him something other than the ~~bags~~ his mates were getting.

From ~~the~~ 1916 to the end of the War, the Camp was occupied mainly by Australian troops. The Aussies were bored, allergic to discipline, and anxious to get to the front, and their officers had endless trouble with them. The dreaded word "Sand-Bagging" began to be heard in every-day conversation. Some of the worst types among the Aussies had discovered that a sandbag, with just a small amount of sand in the bottom, made a very efficient weapon. It had the advantage of stunning the victim if he was hit on the back of the head without causing any serious injury or after-effect other than a headache. While he was unconscious, it was a simple matter to empty his pockets, and this nasty little habit made travelling alone at night a hazardous adventure. Unfortunately, sometimes there would be too much sand, or perhaps a stone in the sand, and the attack would prove fatal. Luckily this was seldom the case, but it made villagers and other occupants of the Camp reluctant to venture abroad after dark.

His Majesty King George V visited the Camp while the Aussies were there, and great was their annoyance at the number of advance special drills and cleaning of equipment in readiness for inspection by His Majesty. But when the Great Day came, and the slight bearded figure walked down the line of troops, their cheers for him could be heard for miles.

If the Aussies became notorious for the sandbagging, on the other hand they became famous for their cricket. The ground outside our garden was widely used, and with many Australian cricketers of State or International standing in the Camp, Fovant could field a service team that was well-nigh invincible in matches against other neighbouring units. In fact, more than half the Australian Touring Team of 1921 that had such a successful season in England in Tests and matches against County