

UNCLE SAM VISITS US.

RATES " CHOW " HIGH.

CPL. Preston Charles of the 161st Signal Photographic Coy., who visited us several Sundays ago, is a journalist in civil life, takes a keen interest in the ways of the Kiwis and, in the following article, gives us his impressions.

DEAR Editor : Thanks for a very interesting day in your camp. Since you asked for my impression in five or six hundred words, I'll go into the subject without further introduction. ; ; ; MY day with you New Zealand boys left me with a burning ambition to speak better English. The impression was so strong, in fact, that I went for three days without splitting an infinitive. This is the identical feeling a lot of Americans get when they associate with the Kiwis. The urge usually fades away after a few days, however, as there is a strong prejudice among Americans against speech chameleons. ; ; ; A thing that surprised me no little was the quality of your " chow " Partly this was due, I suppose, to the signal honor of eating at the sergeants mess. I had an idea that we American soldiers were the best fed, best housed, etc, in the world. To get down to cases, the meat pie I had for evening " chow " was a dish that will ever be in my memory. The light noon meal appeals to me very much. In fact, I have already decided that when I get to be a two-star general I shall urge the adoption of this plan in our army. ; ; ; ASSUMING that I shall be a major-general some day, there is another custom I should like to introduce - - morning and afternoon tea. Unfortunately, tea is not generally considered strong enough for the re-blooded American. I feel sure, however, that if we Yanks could take a ten minute break in the morning and afternoon we could even go for tea. While I'm thinking about it, I'm making a note on this in my little black book, under the heading: " Things to Be Done When I become a Major General " (At my present rate of progress this should be about 1980). ; ; ; I used to think New Zealanders were formal and reserved like the English. My visit to you indicated otherwise. My ideas along this line quickly vanished when I joined in such an essentially undignified ceremony as passing round the bottle of beer. ; ; ; I was much interested in the ingenious washing and screening machine your company made from salvage parts. Judging from this achievement, I should say a few New

Zealand construction battalions could equip their Army and Air Force themselves given a few junk yards to pick over. ; ; ; THE only feature of my visit that was not a hundred per cent was a bit of self-consciousness about speech. I was always afraid you wouldn't understand our army slang, so I had talk " straight " After a year or so in the army, a fellow relies so much on slang that he finds it hard to talk unadulterated English. However,, I don't believe I pulled any " boners " or at least not one as bad as the time I asked the New Zealand bag-pipe band maestro if his boys ever played " Waltzing Matilda " ; ; ; WORDS fail me at this point. I've written this piece three times, trying to make it good, and each time it got shorter. I would like to say, though, that knowing you fellows are our Allies gives me a very nice feeling, now that I've got to know you. You're all damn good coves, say I.

MORE COOKHOUSE HASH.

By NASH.

THE Quartermaster hurries in
On his face a cheerful grin.
Now you blokes there's two or three
Who'll be in late for their tea.
Goodo, we say, and save the tea
For these tardy two or three.

But later much to our surprise
There's Sappers round the floor like
Flies. With firtitude and restraint
We listen in to each complaint
And given them ---- Curry.

If when this orcul war is over,
I ever see New Zealand's shore
And see my wife come tripping in
With something tasty in a tin,
Baked beans or sausage long and wide,
I'll grate my teeth, I'll grown & frown
frown. And then I'll promptly go to
Town.
The Comoner will say with pride "
" Justifiable Homicide."

ATTENTION ! All lads now paying
high prices for haikl oil. The Q.M
announces that he has several tins
of rancid butter he 'issuc without
requiring a signature. Be in boys!

When asked to comment on his popul-
arity with the photographer, Sgt. Jim
Craig said : " They need good looking
blokes for the camera " (Worth bear-
ing in mind)

THIS IS NOT A HOME ISSUE.