

The Stars and Stripes

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1919.

4TH GOLD CHEVRON IS NOW AMONGST US

And Only Four in A. E. F.
Dare to Break It Out
Yet-a-While

It has appeared among us—that fourth service stripe. There are thousands of ones and twos and threes, but that fourth one sticks out like a beacon in a fog, and sets everyone to wondering if the wearer didn't make a mistake and tack it on the wrong arm.

There are just four men, as far as is known, now in France who have gained the right to stick that extra gold V on their left sleeve. Col. C. W. Exton, Paris representative of the Army Educational Commission, is one. The colonel was military attaché in Switzerland when the United States declared that a state of war existed between it and Germany. Being overseas when the war began, and coming thus within the pale of the regulation prescribing the right to wear the gold stripe, his six-month period began to run coincidentally with our participation in the conflict.

Others who were overseas at the same time were Brig. Gen. Frank Parker, now with the 1st Division, at that time an observer over here; and Col. Sanford Wadhams, U.S.M.C., A.E.F., another American soldier who was in France in April 1917.

Incidentally, four-stripes will begin to appear on others very soon, for May 1917, saw several American hospital units landing in France. Most of these Yanks have sailed for home, but a goodly number is left.

However, that fourth golden V will be rare enough to subject its owner to narrow scrutiny and, maybe a question or so.