

Our War Album.—12. Chief of the Air Staff



Photo, Elliott & Fry...

Sir Cyril Newall

Originally an infantry officer, Air Chief Marshal Sir Cyril Newall was attached to the R.F.C. in France from 1914. In 1919 he transferred to the R.A.F. He has been Chief of the Air Staff since September 1937 and a member of the Air Council since 1935.

EASY FRENCH PHRASES FOR BRITISH SOLDIERS—1.

In this and later numbers of THE WAR ILLUSTRATED are printed vocabularies and simple conversational phrases for the use of those who are serving in France or may be

going there with the B.E.F. They are intended to help the ordinary soldier, with no knowledge of French, to find his way about, and to make known his wants to his French friends.

THE words and phrases which follow are likely to be needed frequently, and should be learnt by heart if possible. They will provide you with a good basis on which to build as you grow more proficient. You will notice that each word has under it the actual pronunciation. The key to this pronunciation is given in the panel.

COMMON PHRASES

Where is — ? What is that ?
Où est — ? Qu'est-ce que c'est que ça ?
Oo ay Kes ker say ker sah

Please. How much ?
S'il vous plaît Combien ?
Seel voo play Kôn-byên

What time is it ? No. Yes.
Quelle heure est-il ? Non Oui
Kel urr ay-teel Non Wee

When ? Do you speak English ?
Quand ? Parlez-vous anglais ?
Kân Parlay voo an-glay

I am English. I don't understand.
Je suis anglais Je ne comprends pas

Zher sweez an-glay Zher ner konpran pah

Show me — All right At once
Montrez-moi—Très bien Tout de suite

Môn-tray mwah Tray byân Tood-sweet

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday
Lundi Mardi Mercredi Jeudi

lun-dee mahr-dee merr-craydee zher-dee

Friday Saturday Sunday
Vendredi Samedi Dimanche
vân-drer-dee sam-dee dee-mânsh

NUMBERS

1	2	3
Un	Deux	Trois
Un	Der	Trwah
4	5	6
Quatre	Cinq	Six
Kattr	Senk	Sees
7	8	9
Sept	Huit	Neuf
Set	Weet	Nerf
10	11	12
Dix	Onze	Douze
Dees	Ônz	Dooz
13	14	15
Treize	Quatorze	Quinze
Trayz	Kat-ozr	Kenz
16	17	18
Seize	Dix-sept	Dix-huit
Sayz	Dee-set	Deez-weet
19	20	
Dix-neuf	Vingt	
Deez-nerf	Ven	

YOUR first experience on arriving in France will probably be to see the inside of a large French railway station. Some of the signs will intrigue you, and you will want to know what

they mean. Here, then, are the most important of them :

THE RAILWAY STATION

La Gare (Lah Gahr)

Bureau des renseignements ... Enquiry Office

Bee-roh day ran-say-nyer-mân ...

Grandes lignes ... Main line trains

Grand lee-nyer

Banlieue ... Suburban trains

Ban-lyer

Train rapide ... Express train

Tren rapeed

Train omnibus ... Train stopping at all stations

Tren omneebees

Accès aux quais ... This way to the platform

Accsay ôh kay

Consigne ... Left luggage office

Conseenyer

Toilette ... Lavatory

Twah-let

Hommes ... "Gentlemen" Dames ... Ladies

Omm Dahm

Horaire

Orayr

Indicateur

Time-table

En-dee-kah-turr

Guichet de Billets ... Booking office

Gee-shay der be-yay

Entrée ... Way in Sortie ... Exit

En-tray

Défense de traverser les voies ... It is forbidden to cross the line

Dayfans der tra-vayr-say lay vwah

KEY TO PRONUNCIATION

French Vowel Sounds are represented thus:

a as in cat ay as in day
ah " " father ai " " i in quite
er " " her, father (but the "r" is not pronounced)

ee " " bee i as in bit

ë denotes the French "u"

This sound does not exist in English and is pronounced by making the sound "ee" with the lips rounded and pushed forward as when whistling.

o as in not ôh as in home

oo as in boot

The Nasal Vowels. These again do not exist in English. They are spelt in French :

an, am, en, denoted by *an*
em, in, eim, ein, aim, ain, " " *en*
on, om, " " *on*
un, um, " " *un*

If these syllables are pronounced as denoted, and uttered through the nose and mouth simultaneously, you will get very near it.

E.g. The French for "a good white wine" is un bon vin blanc

Pronunciation by this system : *un bon ven blan*

We advise you, if you cannot get a French friend to pronounce these words for you, to listen to similar sounds on the French wireless, which will help you considerably.

Consonants.

These present little difficulty, but in the simplified pronunciation system note that

r is trilled or rolled as in Scotland and Northumberland

r is not pronounced

s is always as in sister

zh is the s we get in pleasure

ON THE JOURNEY En Voyage an vwah-yazh

When does the train for — start ?

A quelle heure part le train pour — ?

Ah kel urr par ler tren poor

From which platform ?

De quel quai ?

Der kel kay

A third single to —

Un billet simple pour — en troisième

Un bee-yay senpl poor—ân trwah-zyaym

A return ticket

Un billet aller et retour

Un bee-yay allay ay retoor

Do I have to change ?

Faut-il changer ?

Fôh-teel shân-zhay

Smoking compartments on French trains are marked FUMEURS (fee-murr).

NON FUMEURS means that smoking is not allowed.

The luggage rack

Le filet

Ler fee-lay

The corridor

Le couloir

Ler coo-lwahr

The notice NE PAS SE PENCHER EN DEHORS (Ner pah ser pâh-shay ân der-or) means DON'T LEAN OUT OF THE WINDOW

The guard or station-master's call of "EN VOITURE" (ân vwah-teer) means "ALL ABOARD."

There doesn't seem to be a phrase for 'Your Tank is resting on my foot.'
From the cartoon by Anton by permission of the Proprietors of "Punch"

