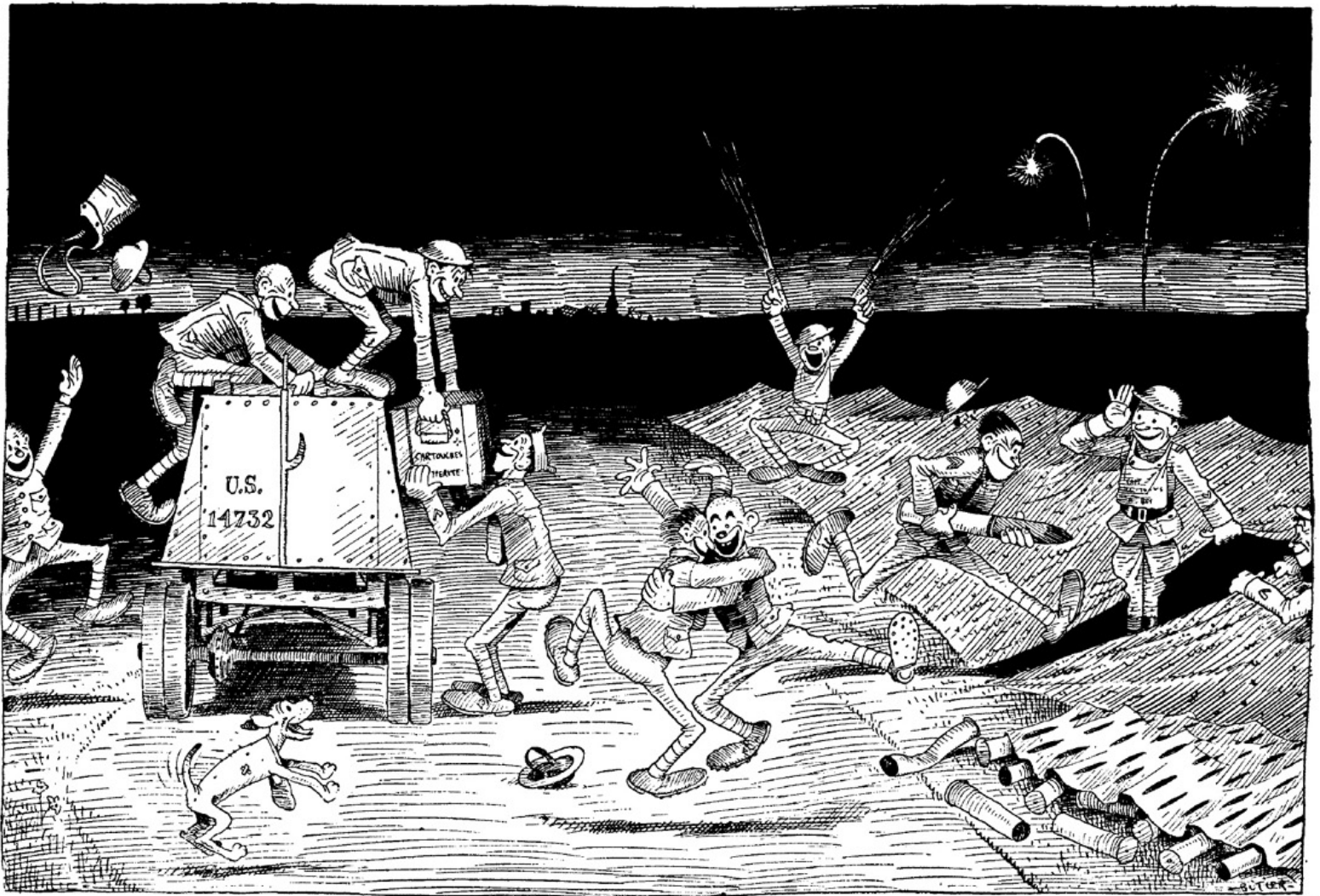


# FIRST MUSTARD GAS SHELLS



*F*OR months the Americans had suffered from repeated concentrations of German mustard gas without the chance to retaliate in kind. It was known that the French had on hand a limited supply of these shells, but were holding them in reserve for emergencies. Captain Butler drew for the "Observer" this cartoon of the fancied arrival of a load of mustard gas shells in a battery position. This drawing was judiciously circulated among the French High Command and, as a result, 6,000 rounds arrived for the First Divison and were fired as a national salute on the 4th of July.

*July 1918.*