

CREAM TO RED

COTTON BLOOM CHANGES COLOR
DURING DAY'S CYCLE.

During the past two weeks Camp Greene has been a drab blotch amidst acres and acres of cotton bloom. Soldiers of the camp, who delight in walking out over the hills during any hours that they are off duty, have marvelled at the spreading beauty of the fields of growing cotton.

Sometimes the flower which peeps out from the tuft of bright green leaves is cream in color and sometimes a dark red. This phenomena has been unexplainable to the camp soldiers, who come from the section where towering corn stalks and billowy wheat fields cover the land.

Miss Mary Randolph, living east of Charlotte, and a graduate of Elon College, and who has been reared in this region, which is in the heart of Carolina's best cotton belt, consented to write briefly on "The Life of the Cotton Plant" for The Caduceus.

Her treatise follows:

THE COTTON PLANT.

"Camp Greene is located about fifty miles south of the northern line of the cotton belt. After the late spring frosts the cotton seeds are bedded in rows three feet in width. The seeds should be planted two or three inches below the surface of the ground. When the plants are several inches high they are thinned. The stalks should be left eighteen or twenty inches apart.

"Cotton growth is rapid under normal atmospheric and climatic conditions. Two months after planting small squares from on the branches of the cotton stalk. These squares contain the miniature boll and bloom.

"The cotton bloom resembles the Hybiscus in shape and size. In the early morning the opening flower is a soft creamy color, which turns into a delicate shade of pink during the heat of the day and into a dark red hue by nightfall.

"To protect itself from frost the cotton plant possesses the power to accommodate itself to varying conditions of light and temperature. The leaves are horizontal, exposed to the rays of the sun, during the day and drooped at night.

"Short staple cotton is grown almost exclusively in North Carolina. An average height for the cotton plant in this vicinity is three or four feet. An acre of ground should produce a bale of cotton. Fifteen hundred pounds of raw cotton in the seed will produce a bale of line cotton weighing five hundred pounds.

"Cotton is not picked by machinery in this part of the cotton belt. The pods are still picked by hand. A good cotton picker can pick as much as one hundred and fifty or two hundred pounds per day.

"Cotton bolls begin opening as early as August or September. Occasionally, the winter snows find open cotton in the fields, but under ordinary conditions the crop is all gathered by November."

QUARTERMASTER

SURE.

Mention is made, on "Officers Page," last issue of "Caduceus," in reference to the tennis courts, "L. T. Wagner early in the spring constructed the courts with the notion that he would keep them in condition, but then there has been a change of Quartermasters and not that we mean anything by making the statement, yet the courts do need leveling up."

Quartermaster and staff would advise that their telephone number is inside nineteen, and unless the tennis court enthusiasts can avail themselves of the opportunity and make the necessity of the matter known to our department we cannot anticipate their thoughts. The matter of mental telepathy does not come under our department. Might we request that the tennis courts enthusiasts use a more direct instrument for bringing the matter of work on the courts to the attention of the personnel of the Medical Department.

* * *

TRANSFERRED.

Sgt. Margerum has been transferred to the Officers' Training School at Jacksonville, Fla. We all wish him luck and success.

* * *

Sgt. Raymond sprung a big surprise on us last Tuesday. He returned from town with a package of cigarettes.

* * *

They are not all dead yet. Sgt. Elrod and Corp. Coleman were calling on two girls the other night, and amused themselves by playing "tag."

By CORP. E. J. O'MALLEY.

NEW CANTEEN OPENS.

The Barracks branch of the Base Hospital post exchange has been recently opened and is now running at full capacity. Private George Shaw is in charge, ably assisted by Joseph Tondreau and Clarence Kramer. "Shorty" Kramer is an old hand at the game, having worked for several months in the main exchange at the hospital.

While the branch has hardly been in operation a week's time, still business is exceptionally good, there, it being estimated, that between \$60 and \$100 worth of material, cigars, soda and candy being sold every day. This certainly must be so for there is always a large crowd to be seen in front of the door and gathered on the porch consuming some liquid refreshment or munching a bit of candy or cracker.

ON FURLOUGH.

The man who left for a ten-day furlough on last Saturday night were: Cook, John Albert, and Privates First Class Ellerbe E. Thomas, Joseph Hutchinson, Ernest L. Cyr, Julius Stumpf, Bronislaw Kuprewicz, Wendell Roberts and Allan T. Wilkisson.

Private Fullerton is on a furlough to Huntsville, Ohio.

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