

PRIVATE TELLS OPINION OF CAMP Y. M. C. A. WORK

Snodgrass Says Soldiers "Down in Their Hearts" Are Grateful For Y. M. C. A. Advantages.

"What a Soldier Thinks of the Y. M. C. A." was discussed by Private Leonard H. Snodgrass, of Company I, second Washington Infantry Regiment, in an address delivered at a meeting recently at Y. M. C. A. building No. 196. His address follows:

Mr. Chairman, Friends and Fellow: It takes all the nerve I have to get up here and try to make a speech. If I had known how hard it is one of you fellows would be up here in my place now and believe me, I wish you were.

When the gentleman in charge here asked me to speak here tonight, I didn't know I would be so nervous. I thought of all the many pleasant hours I had spent in the friendly environment of the place and the many letters I had enjoyed writing here. It was the spirit of sincere appreciation that prompted me to accept.

When we left home we were in good physical condition. Uncle Sam would not have taken us otherwise. He likes to see it that we keep in good condition and I believe old Uncle Sam is proud of our physical fitness. At any rate I know he will be when we get into action over there across the water.

When we left the folks back home, they too were proud of our physical fitness for service in the great cause that we represent, and they want us to stay so. The folks we left behind were also proud of our social fitness, of our strength of character and moral integrity. They are anxious, too, for us to retain those principles that make character. They wanted us to write constantly and often. In my opinion, Uncle Sam doesn't care about our social fitness, our morals or our letters or writing, whether we ever get a letter home or not. I suppose he hasn't the time to bother with those letters that mean so much to our relatives, we can't expect it of us. He's too busy. There is no provision made in camp for a place to write or read, for material for either and I think that every man here will agree with me that it is a hard matter to write letters in our squad tents. I know all who have tried it will

I have been requested to tell the Y. M. C. A. means to a soldier. I don't think it means to a soldier. It would take a man more fluent in speech, better education and more tact and diplomacy, much more than I, to tell even what I think the Y. M. C. A. means to a soldier. I think you will all agree with me that this institution makes a most interesting link between our camp and our home and all that home and our dearest mean to us. There is always abundant facilities for writing and they are not only at our disposal friendly and free, but always so intelligible and handy that it is practically impossible to neglect writing regularly to those who are missing us back home, and the friendly and restful atmosphere puts us in the right frame of mind and a fitting mood to write the kind of letters that our folks out home like to read.

The music and singing that we enjoy so much afford us pleasing entertainment that is a rest and diversion from the monotony of camp life. The friendly advice from the Y. M. C. A. men and the helpful and inspiring talks of those who come here to address us are stimulating to the mind and strengthening to character. I believe I express the sentiments of all you men when I say that way down in your hearts we appreciate the interest demonstrated here in our behalf. And I want to tell you Y. M. C. A. men who represent to us the friends who give this building to us and make it possible to conduct the work you are doing, that we are thoroughly appreciative and assure you that your efforts and interest in us are not wasted but make it easier for us to go back home after the war is over, physically fit, morally and socially fit, to take up our duties as citizens. We wish you further success and assure you that if your success and future reward depends on our appreciation you will have more than you know what to do with.

In thinking over what the Y. M. C. A. means to us I think of a letter I received from father yesterday. He said, "I wish, boy, I had known that you would be sent to France. I would have tried to have induced you to study French when you were in school." I remember an announcement made in this building a few days ago, to the effect that arrangements were being made to organize classes in French and able teachers secured to instruct. It is this friendly interest that is demonstrated in our welfare over there as well as here that suggests to me that relative connecting link between our camp life, wherever we go, and home. I wish to repeat the statement that we appreciate the institution and all it means to us and our folks back home and on their behalf and ours, I thank you.

OREGON CAVALRYMEN COME DIRECT FROM RANCHES

Some Highly Interesting Characters in Membership of the Proud Horsemen From the Far West.

When it comes to rough riders and broncho busters the boys of the Oregon cavalry feel that they are second to none in the world. So sure are they of this that they are willing to match any of their favorites against all comers, and if such a thing should happen that one of their men ran second there wouldn't be a man among them who would have a "red" of his own for six months.

Captain Lee R. Caldwell, besides being a prime favorite with his men, is a world famous rider. Born in Pendleton, Ore., 27 years ago, his father being a very prominent rancher in that section of the country, Captain Caldwell naturally loves horses. His father, however, had other plans for his future, but Captain Caldwell's love for horses could not be broken. During the year of 1914 Captain Caldwell won numerous world's championships. The outbreak of the war found him answering the call of Uncle Sam and he enlisted as a private in the Oregon cavalry. When the Oregon troops were granted the privilege of electing their officers there was no competition for the office captain, Caldwell being chosen unanimously, and the boys have never regretted their choice.

The Oregon boys are quite proud of the fact that they have a poet among them. He is Tracy W. Layne born in Newport, Neb., 27 years ago. He is known all over as the "Cowboy Poet," but his ability does not stop there. He is one of the best riders in the troop besides being a trainer of horses for special circus stunts. He, having traveled with wild west shows for the past four years. In addition to that he can sing with the best of them. A more modest chap is hard to find and it's hard work getting him to tell anything about himself. When it comes to bucking bronchos, the rougher they come the better he likes them.

One man among the Oregon cavalry who never says a word about himself is Sergeant John Holsten, "Jock," is a Scotchman, first seeing the light of day at Aberdeen, 20 years ago. He is an all-round man, and good at all his events. Before coming to this country he was a member of the Gordon Highlanders, of Scotland, a famed regiment. He has been in Yankee soil for about 10 years, during which time he has seen considerable service on the vaudeville stage, and when it comes to music, he is second to none among the troops as a violinist. He has acquired a reputation in the northwest as being a fearless and clever rider, and the horse that throws him is considered some horse.

Corp. Benjamin H. Inman is another favorite and know from coast to coast as Rattlesnake Pete. He was born in a log house in the Blue Mountains of Kentucky on June 23, 1887. His father was well known throughout that part of the country as a hunter and trapper. Corporal Inman has ridden before three Presidents, acted as bodyguard for two Presidents' trooped with the 101 Wild West show, riding under the name of Rattlesnake Pete, and has appeared in nearly every state in the union. Although never a world's champion he has completed a number of stunts and always finished near the top. He says his only wish is to ride through Berlin, catch Kaiser Bill, and bring him back to Oregon and put him in the zoo with the monkeys.

THE THIRD OREGON BOYS IN SPORTS

Ralph Grumman, who fought Willie Ritchie to a draw in 1915, is connected with Company G, third Oregon outfit. Grumman was appointed corporal while the company was stationed in Montana.

Richard K. Morrison of H company, third Oregon is a likely looking chap. It would not be surprising to see him beat up some of the best talent in camp when the Y. M. C. A. wrestling season opens.

Top Sergeant Osborns of H company, third Oregon is considered by his friends to be the class in the wrestling game. Many men in camp would like to see this man in action.

Corp. Harry Davis of P company, third Oregon, had the pleasure of knocking out "Cook" Livingston (known as the San Diego Smelt) at Camp Fremont, Cal. It would be some scrap if these two men should ever meet again. The men who saw the bout are hoping for another.

"Jud" Moreland, who was all inter-scholastic first baseman in Postland, Ore., and who later played semipro ball in that section, is connected with E company as clerk.

Ronald Neff of E company, third Oregon, is a very clever boxer. Men who have seen him work claim that he is the best at his weight in the camp.

Equality of Service

To every patron of this company is our confident aim, purpose and desire. And to that end the transportation system which is to serve Camp Greene has been made a part and parcel of the street railway of the city of Charlotte and it will cost the same five cents fare to travel between city and camp as between the various sections of the town.

We believe this policy tends to the best interests of the soldiery and the civilian citizenship of this community and their welfare is our welfare.

Southern Public Utilities Co.

