

# Secretary Baker Inspects Camp Greene and Speaks to the 14,000 Soldiers, With Message From Wilson

The biggest day at Camp Greene since the men of the forty-first division began to arrive (and the biggest day Camp Greene ever experienced, for that matter) was last Saturday, when the 14,000 men of the camp were assembled and addressed briefly by Secretary of War Newton D. Baker. The importance of the occasion was augmented by the presence of another member of President Wilson's cabinet, Secretary of Agriculture David F. Houston, who, by the way, was born and reared and spent part of his manhood days in this vicinity.

Another factor contributing very largely to the "bigness" of the occasion was the world series baseball matinee, given by The Charlotte Observer, by which the soldiers were enabled to see on the large score board erected within the reservation, in clear view of all, the White Sox-Giants contest at Chicago, play by play, instantly after it was pulled off on Cominsky field. Not only did the soldiers enjoy this recreation, novel for a military camp, but they were joined by thousands of civilians from the city of Charlotte and surrounding country. The matinee is to be given each afternoon as long as the world series lasts.

Secretary Baker brought a message from President Wilson, saying: "I bring to you the greetings of your commander-in-chief, the President of the United States.

"Through me he sends you the message to be mindful of your duties as soldiers of the United States and to acquit yourselves as Americans."

Secretary Baker was seen and heard for the first time by most of the men on an occasion in the lives of many that they will not soon forget.

The secretary made an inspection of Camp Greene and later enthusiastically commented that "it would be difficult indeed to find a place more ideally adapted as a camp site, not merely because of its physical location, but also because of its proximity to a clean, wholesome and beautiful little city, and its advantages."

Secretary Baker's address to the soldiers was brief and pointed. It follows:

**Baker's Words to Soldiers.**  
Secretary Baker's address to the forty-first division follows:

"Men of the forty-first division, it affords me personal pleasure to speak to you, if but briefly, this afternoon.

"No true American can view this great assembly of soldiers of the United States and not experience the thrill of a new sense of duty and of obligation to the greatest nation on earth, our nation, founded on the principles of justice and liberty, and it is those that defend liberty who are worthy of liberty.

"When you say good, you will mingle with soldiers of England and France. You will see men of other nations who have fought through years of war and have come out here."

"When you come back, it will be as partners in their heroism, and you will return with the knowledge of having fought for the principles of human rights and freedom. You will bring back to us your share of the glory.

"You young men represent the strength of a nation, a nation which has adopted the theory that, as a young nation, it is a nation for young men, and it is to these young men who have been selected to vindicate that theory.

"The heart of Charlotte, the heart of your loved one back home and of the entire nation is with you, and is watching and applauding your efforts, and you will go with the knowledge that everyone at home is united and doing his share to furnish you the needed supplies and equipment, and you shall want nothing we can provide as we shall want nothing, for we are providing for you."

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**City and Camp Relations.**  
Secretary Baker, upon his visit to Charlotte and Camp Greene, was impressed with the very satisfactory relations existing between the city and the soldiers of the forty-first division. In an interview Saturday night, after he had spent the day here, inspecting Camp Greene, addressed the soldiers and the people of Charlotte and made a tour of the city and talked with many of her people, the war secretary expressed himself as follows:

"Regarding Camp Greene, in which your people are probably more interested than in the secretary of war, I want to say that it would be difficult indeed to find a place more ideally adapted as a camp site, not merely because of its physical location, but also because of its proximity to a clean, wholesome and beautiful little city, and its advantages.

"Most of all, however, I desire to speak of the fine and very generous hospitality with which the people of

## THE SECRETARY OF WAR



"I am happy to say that I have heard nothing but praise from the people of Charlotte of the splendid and soldierly conduct of the men of the Forty-first Division."—Secretary Baker.

Charlotte have received the soldiers into their homes and community life. "I rode over the camp today and was impressed with the fact that there were men from parts of the nation so remote that there is no likelihood that few, if any of them, would have had the chance of ever seeing this part of our country under any other circumstances. The fact that they have come here and met the people of North Carolina and have been so graciously received by them has almost delightedly created in my mind a most delightful personal impression.

"It's good, all round, to give these men the opportunity of close acquaintance among our people of another section of the country. When these boys go home North Carolina will take on a new meaning to the people of Montana, Oregon, Washington and those other states from which they come in the remote west. And just so will the people of North Carolina come to know and appreciate the broad shouldered, sturdy Young America from the west."

### TO ORGANIZE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FOR SOLDIERS

Playground ball is becoming popular among the Montana boys. Seven games were played last week with 60 fellows taking part. Football is coming into its own. Dozens of teams are in training for the football season and a league is to be organized soon.

There are going to be all kinds of sports promoted. Here are some of them: Rugby, soccer, basketball, hockey, ball, playground ball, quills, boxing and all kinds of recreation games. Pick out the one you are most interested in and hand your name to the physical director.

An amateur circus is the big attraction in a 167 building on Tuesday evening, October 23. Don't forget the date. Sergeant Chronquist of Troop C, Oregon, and Private Brookway of the machine gun company, second Montana, gave a fine exhibition of boxing last Thursday night. They were right there with the punch and both of them showed a fine spirit. You can't help but admire such fellows. Get into the game boys. It is a great sport for developing self control. Wyatt and Steele, Company C, Mon-

## SOLDIERS WELCOMED HERE BY CHARLOTTE'S MAYOR

Declares City is Congratulating Itself on Having Men Here From the "Golden West."

In a letter to the editor of Trench and Camp, Mayor F. R. McIninch, welcomes to Charlotte the soldiers from the Golden West, and asserts that Charlotte is congratulating herself upon having such a fine lot of men as guests of the city. The letter reads:

Charlotte, N. C., Oct. 4, 1917.  
To the Editor, Trench and Camp, Camp Greene, Charlotte, N. C.

Dear Sir: I appreciate the opportunity afforded by you to express a few words of greeting to the men at Camp Greene.

Charlotte, of the Sunny Southland, opens wide her gates to receive and welcome into full fellowship the manly, gallant sons of the Golden West. We are congratulating ourselves upon having such a fine lot of men as our guests, and that the boys in khaki have made a very fine impression here by their bearing and conduct.

The fact that Charlotte has not been content with opening her churches, clubs and lodge rooms throughout the week to the boys from the West, but has, in a larger measure than any other camp city, also opened her homes to them, is the best evidence we can give of the sincerity and cordiality of our welcome. We are glad to do this, because they have proven themselves entirely worthy to be thus received, and we feel that nothing we can do for their comfort and entertainment will be half as much as we would like to do. So long as they soldier here, these boys shall be our boys and we will do for them what we would confidently expect of the people of the West under like circumstances.

While the customs and manners of the West and the South are somewhat different, I believe it will be mutually beneficial for us to touch elbows, exchange ideas and viewpoints and thus come to understand each other better. For, after all, both sections are intensely American, worshipping at one common shrine of liberty and devoted to the ideals of democracy, to the defense of which these fine fellows have dedicated their lives.

Yours very truly,  
(Signed) F. R. McININCH, Mayor.

**OLD PAIS IN WAR GAME.**  
Major Chaplain Gilbert and Colonel May of the third Oregon are old pals in the war game. They have served together in this country and the Philippines for more than 20 years. Both of these popular officers are strong supporters of the Y. M. C. A.

tana; were right there when it came to science. They are willing to go against any one 125 pounds.  
Corporal Siefot and Private Lambert of Company D, second Montana, gave an exhibition of side stepping, ducking and clever footwork that is hard to beat. On the whole the bouts were fine and clean and pleased the boys very much.

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