

U. S. MILITARY POLICE IS A NEW ARMY TYPE Efficient Man of Courtesy Being Evolved at Local Camp.

War in America will affect all grades of life, but none more so than in the ranks of city policemen. A new type of police officer, brave, faithful, efficient and courteous—above all, courteous—is being evolved in the 41st division of the national guard. He is the soldier of the military police, an important branch of every divisional organization. Some day he may return to civil life, and to the police force in Charlotte or any other city. In that case, criminals, look out! Plain citizens smile!

An army band bearing the insignia, "M. P.," distinguishes them from ordinary camp sentinels. And motorists have been impressed with one thing in particular, the military police give orders regarding traffic rules or other regulations not only with unmistakable firmness, but with unflinching courtesy.

"Courtesy first" is the watchword of Major Palmer, commander of the military police.

"You can afford to be courteous," he tells his men before they are assigned to posts. "You have the full power of the United States behind you. Give your orders to civilians and soldiers in polite tones; the bullying voice of the old time policeman will not be tolerated in this service. And when you give an order, see that it is carried out to the letter. You will have all the backing you need. Remember that you are American soldiers first of all, and that your duty is to serve the public, not to pose as their masters. The public of Charlotte, where many of you are stationed to aid the civil police, gets its first impressions of the national army from your bearing, appearance and manners."

The gentlemanly demeanor of Major Palmer's men in no way hinders the efficiency of this force in keeping peace and good order and in enforcing regulations in and out of camp. In fact, the quiet tone of authority adopted by the "M. P." has proved to be more effectual than the voluble "bawling out" methods favored by civilian traffic "cops" and rookie sentinels. Already, according to Charlotte citizens, association with the military police has raised the morale of the blue coated guardians of that city, and the patrolmen, on the other hand, have given practical "tips" in police work to their army co-workers.

Green as Policemen.
Only a small proportion of the "M. P." force are ex-policemen. This unit is truly representative of the national guard and the new men, green equally to the work of soldier and policeman, have been broken into the work with astonishing rapidity. The duties of the force are arduous, as long hours of guard duty are mingled with frequent drills in all branches of infantry work.

The military police detail is responsible for good order among visiting soldiers. This includes strict observance of military regulations pertaining to men whether on or off duty. A soldier who swaggers into town with worn away, is halted and forced to correct defects in personal appearance by the first "M. P." who sights the offender. Saluting officers, a duty irksome to some newcomers, is required of all soldiers while in town, and the military police are on the alert for troopers too slovenly or lazy to render proper honors.

FORMER SOLDIER, NOW PASTOR, TALKS TO TROOPS

Thursday evening, October 13, at Building 108 the soldiers had the privilege of hearing again the Rev. George R. Stair. Dr. Stair made a profound impression upon the men with his sermon on the theme, "Salvation." He used illustrations drawn from his rich experience as a soldier and pastor and urged the men to ponder upon the greatest of all questions. When he asked the men who desired to dedicate their lives to the Lord to rise every one arose to their feet as one man. Many afterward signed the War Roll as a pledge of reconsecration and dedication. The men were glad to hear Dr. Stair once more before his return to his church in Boston.

WASHINGTON GIRL AND SERGEANT CROSS MARRIED

Fearful of the result of expected orders affecting units of the 41st division, Sergeant James Arthur Cross, formerly of the third District of Columbia infantry, now attached to another unit, and Miss Lola Sheppard, also of Washington, were quietly married here yesterday afternoon by Magistrate J. W. Cobb.

DAKOTANS AT RANGE FIND TIME FOR SPORTS

Athletics "Boom" Out in Woods Near Catawba River When Men Are Taking "Time Off" From Firing.

Athletics are booming on the rifle range just at present. During "time off," there is a constant rush on the sporting goods, which the "Y" furnishes the men.

Playground baseball, football, boxing, and medicine ball are all popular with playground ball having a slight edge on the others. Nearly every day there are from two to five informal games of this popular pastime in progress. The men seem to enjoy it even more than straight baseball, which is doubtless due to the fact that it can be played on a 35 or 40 foot diamond and without gloves. The popularity of playground ball seems to be universal, for the Canadian soldier boys are playing the game in nearly total exclusion of any others. It is up to the American boys to get "bep" to the finer points of the game, for when they reach the other side, an opportunity will be afforded for competition with their Canadian cousins.

Medicine ball is also enjoying a run of popularity with the 164th boys. It is great for "warming up," as well as the pleasure and exercise derived from the "doctor" ball.

Boxing is as popular as ever, for it always has an appeal for red-blooded men, of the type that make up Uncle Sam's fighting machine.

Football also has a large following, and even the previously uninitiated are becoming acquainted with the intricacies of the "spiral" pass, and the proper method of catching the ball.

It is next to impossible to hold any formal games on the range, due principally to the lack of space and the extreme roughness of the ground, but the men are nevertheless making the best of their limited space, in the playing of the various games.

Physical Director G. H. Taylor has also introduced "spud" and numerous other suitable games, to the men, which they take up with great enthusiasm. On Wednesday afternoon "spud" was played from 2 o'clock until "the cows came home," and the men would have been playing still, were it not for the necessity of supplying the cravings of the inner man—which in common phraseology means "mens."

STRAY SHOTS FROM THE RIFLE RANGE

The 164th North Dakota Infantry has been out on the Catawba river range for the past week, and have been undergoing some intensive training, as just one more step in the process of making Uncle Sam's boys fit for the big show, "over there."

The country about the range, besides its fine facilities for rifle practice, also affords ideal conditions for cross-country hiking. The men seem to thoroughly enjoy their daily "hikes" through the country, for at this time of the year the grandeur of the landscape is at its height.

The trees are beginning to take on the rare colorings associated with autumn—the cotton was never whiter—the notes of the woodland warblers never sweeter. Altogether the scenery could hardly be prettier, as some of the boys freely admit.

Some of the men are suffering from slight colds, which is not unusual when men are undergoing such a big change in climatic conditions. From Dakota to Carolina is quite a jump, but cheer up boys—it might be worse and it hasn't rained yet.

Woodchopping is at present the "great American pastime" on the range, and keeps many of the men on the jump during their leisure hours. The tough old North Carolina pine is sure giving the boys a good battle, but is forced to "bow" to superior strength and skill every time.

When the rifle range is in use, there certainly is lots of "pep" in the "ozone." The staccato reports of the firing sounds as if the carpet-beaters' union had gone back to work again, at the old rate of "time and a half for overtime."

The "Y" tent is sure a popular place these days, if constant patronage counts for anything. Here the boys get nearly every convenience that they have had down in camp, but they sure do miss the old "stunt nights," and the "movies."

The "Y" on the range is quite an institution, although, as one of the boys put it—"It's small—but it's nifty."

The men are here supplied with paper, envelopes, pens, ink, reading material, checkers, money orders, stamps, etc. In the tent there are two writing tables, which have a waiting list, nearly as long as the list of volunteers from North Dakota, which is a considerable list.



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