

FRENCH AND CAMP

Printed Weekly for the Y. M. C. A. by Courtesy of

Published Under Auspices
of
NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL
Y. M. C. A. of the United States

The Charlotte Observer

Edition for **CAMP GREENE** Charlotte, N. C.

ARMY NEWS
FOR ARMY MEN
AND
THEIR HOME FOLKS

Vol. 1

JANUARY 1, 1918

No. 13

HEALTH OF ALL ARMIES AIM

Standard Set by Medical Men of U. S. Fighting Forces.

"No Needless Sacrifice of American Lives in This War" is Motto of the Medical Officers.

EDWARD A. EVANS.

Fort Riley, Kan., Dec. 31.—"There must not be, and there will not be, any needless sacrifice of American lives in this war."

This is the message which Colonel W. N. Blipham, commander of the country's largest training camp for army medical officers, has asked us to convey to the mothers and fathers and wives of our soldiers.

At the medical officers' camp here 1,100 doctors, gathered from all parts of the country, are learning to protect fighting men from disease. Similar camps are in operation at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., and Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.

In past wars, for each man killed by the enemy, five more have been killed by disease, army statistics show. For each man disabled by wounds, four have been disabled by sickness.

Memory of the scandalous rate at which American soldiers were wiped out by disease in the Spanish war is still fresh.

Is disease to be a more dangerous enemy than the Kaiser's army in this war? That's what I came to Fort Riley to find out.

I am convinced that, thanks to modern methods of inoculation and to the sanitary precautions which the physicians here are being taught to take, American's army will be the most healthful—therefore the most efficient—that the world has ever known.

Most of the doctors here have risen high in civil practice. Their average age is 40 years. Not a few are gray-haired. They have left their homes, their offices and their automobiles and come here to live as ordinary soldiers, in order that they may learn how to keep the army in good health.

Among them are such men as Major Charles S. Williamson, professor of medicine at the University of Illinois; Major Ralph Webster, professor of medicine at Rush Medical college, and Captain Frederick R. Green, of Chicago, secretary of the council on health and public instruction of the American Medical association. Colonel Blipham and others in charge of the camp are officers of the regular army.

These dignified doctors learn to cook their own meals, pitch their own tents and make their own beds. They learn to march long distances and to ride longer distances on horseback. They live the same routine and go through the same physical exercises that other soldiers go through.

They do all these things to gain a perfect understanding of the life of the men for whom they are to care. As an incidental result, many doctors are finding second youth.

"When I came here," one prominent Chicago physician told me, "I weighed 240 pounds and I never walked anywhere. Now I'm trained down to 180 and I think nothing of a 10-mile march."

But the process is hard. I was convinced of that when I saw some middle-aged doctors struggling to go through exercises that are difficult for younger men.

Each day means a series of lectures by medical instructors. At these lectures, held in outdoor classrooms, the physicians sky-lark and chatter like youthful students. But a great and serious purpose is evident behind their fun-making.

They will scatter from this camp

COMEDIES OF CAMP GREENE.



Private Hobbs received "From Auntie" with her wishes for a "Merry Christmas"—the following: One copy of "How to Shoot," one copy of "The Art of Drilling," one copy of "How to Tie Your Own Surgeon," one bottle of liniment, one roll of bandages.

to the many training camps for soldiers. Later, most of them will serve in Europe.

Great stress, I found, is put upon inoculation against disease. Enlisted men of the army medical service also train at Fort Riley, and the medical officers take care of the 4,000 soldiers now in camp.

When a new soldier is received he is immediately vaccinated against typhoid fever, para-typhoid and smallpox, the three diseases which used to be most feared by the army.

As a result of this vaccination there is now literally no typhoid in the army. I was told. Smallpox is exceedingly rare. I was given the following figures as an illustration of the success of the fight against typhoid:

In the Spanish war when no men were inoculated against typhoid, there were 1,128 cases and 248 deaths in one division of about 20,000 men; recently on the Mexican border, there was only one case and not one death among 20,000 men, all of whom had been inoculated.

Much credit for this wonderful record also is given to better methods of camp sanitation. This being a medical officers' camp, is regarded as a sanitary model, and so I found it. I was particularly interested in the fight against the fly.

Kelly's kitchen—so called because it is in charge of Mess Sergeant Kelly—is in the center of the camp. From 500 to 1,100 soldiers are fed there at each meal.

I saw just four flies in Kelly's kitchen—and I made a careful inspection—although the kitchen is open to the four winds and is unscreened.

Imagine that, housewives.

Each mess house in the camp has four garbage cans outside its door.

About some of these cans I couldn't find a single fly.

There are stables here for hundreds of mules and horses. And these stables are practically flyless.

Liberal use of crude oil daubed on garbage cans and sprinkled on the ground about the camp kitchens, is responsible for part of the success of the fight on the fly. For the other part, scrupulous cleanliness is thanked.

All about the camps are incinerators, built of stone under scientific principles, which are being taught to the medical officers. Some of these incinerators are large enough to burn tons of refuse.

And into them goes every bit of filth, and even every cigarette stub and scrap of paper picked up about the camp, to be purified by fire and reduced to ashes.

I peered into great refrigerators which seemed almost painfully clean, their wooden sides scrubbed white. Floors were kept equally spotless. In the storehouses cans and boxes of food were stacked in exact order.

It's evident to me that living conditions in the training camps are going to be as good as, or even far better, than they are in the soldiers' homes.

Mothers, fathers and wives may rest assured that their fighting men will not have to suffer privation and needless discomfort; that their health will be safeguarded to the fullest extent.

TO ATTEND K. OF C. MEET.

A considerable number of soldiers, members of the order, are expecting to attend today the initiation ceremonies of the Knights of Columbus at O'Donoghue hall, Charlotte.

NATIONALITIES ARE NUMEROUS

Camp Greene Seen as an American Army "Melting Pot."

Roster of One Company Given as Illustration of the Heterogeneousness of Camp Population.

America as a "melting pot" for the nationalities of the world has received considerable advertising of recent months.

The American army for many years has been composed of men from many climes—it has a well established reputation for cosmopolitanism. Today, its rosters contain a still smaller number of truly American soldiers.

At Camp Greene, are regiments of the regular army containing many men who as yet hardly can speak English so they may be understood. There are men out at the camp from a host of the leading countries of the world, and each enlisted voluntarily to aid the land of his adoption. A fair illustration of the scrambling of the nationalities in the composition of the United States army is shown by the roster of enlisted men in one of the companies at the camp, and reading it perhaps with surprising emphasis will carry the conviction of the army's heterogeneousness.

The roster of enlisted men of that company was published as follows: Kurt G. Angenbroich, Leo Ballaraggen, Amodeo Barbieri, Henry E. Bennett, Pasquale Biscero, Joseph Brodski, Reese A. Busch, Nicola Canicotte, Joseph L. Christman, Patrick Coleman, Bert E. Conins, John F. Connolly, George W. Davis, Michael Barolomew Giacalone, Paul Graffen, Joseph F. Grasset, George A. Hooper, George V. Jenkins, John Kowalsky, Roy J. Labranche, James MacFarlane, James Manning, George V. Marrero, Ralph Martello, Vito Migneci, Raffaele Morinelli, Charles Muthard, William E. McTear, Clifford T. Neale, Wilbur Nickerson, Jr., Harold Paynter, Nicholas Pinto, Peter Poches, John Price, William L. Raff, Joe Romanelli, George Sander, Sisto Simeone, Walter Streetrath, George Theodore and John Zett, all privates, and Harold C. Barnhardt, Percy B. Brown, Frank G. Burt, Carl G. Bergman, Eugene P. Canty, George Cassette, Michael Cossi, Irvin H. Elder, Fletcher B. Ferrill, Ernest T. Glaser, Charles E. Ham, George F. Halloran, Brewster G. Johnson, Johan P. Johnson, Joseph McCollum, Cecil J. Rust, Edward Ryan, Floyd M. Scott, John Stover, John H. Switzer, Patrick R. Thompson, Albert S. Weebs, all first-class privates, and John W. Brown, and Adolph A. Ricks, buglers, and Everett J. Knight and Dewitt Cavett, mechanics.

Cook: Nicholas Caramalis. Lawrence F. Quilty, Ole Camp. Mail: First sergeant, Charles Malen; mess sergeant, Michel Lejean; supply sergeant, Jackson C. Banks; sergeants, John Vitt, Howard W. Mezena, Arthur E. Klein, George Stan-

ton, William P. Dweily, Patrick R. McCabe, Antonio Natale, Corporals, Gust Heidelberg, Walter Beyer, Abel E. Pierce, Henry C. Walter, John S. Tandel, Henry F. Collier, Alex. H. Taylor, Alexander E. Trudell, Edward J. Walsh, Stephen Liss.

COMPANY A, EIGHTH MACHINE GUN BATTALION.

We all wish Sergeant Smith a happy marriage.

Sergeant Stockton returned from a furlough spent with his girl in Hanover.

Corporal Holm received a nice white Christmas box that he has longed for. It came from Hanauke.

