

TRENCH AND CAMP

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CAMP GREENE EDITION.

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EDITORIAL.

The recent letter of Secretary of the Interior Lane addressed to President Wilson in which he suggests plans for the providing of opportunities for the soldiers after the war to establish themselves in farm homes on public lands, seems extremely timely and to the point.

He states that to the great number of returning soldiers land will offer the great and fundamental opportunity. The experience of war points out the lesson that our service men, because of army life, with its openness and activity, will largely seek out-of-doors vocations and occupations.

The question therefore arises, "What land can be made available for our soldiers for farm lands?"

He goes on to show how, at the close of the Civil War, we were fortunate in that the public domains in the West offered opportunities to the home-returning soldier. Now, however, we do not have the boundless domains of the sixties and seventies. While this is true, we do have millions of acres of undeveloped land that can be made available for this use. We have the rich lands in the West, cut over lands in the Northwest, Lake States and South, and also swamp lands in the middle West and South, which can be made available through proper development.

It is this need of proper development, which is not a matter of a moment's notice, that has led Secretary Lane to project his plans now. It is pointed out how any plan for the development of land will have to meet with new conditions. The era of free or cheap land in the United States has passed. The new conditions of developing lands must be met in advance, security must in a degree displace speculation. Some of the defects in our old system of "reclamation" have been described by Dr. Elwood Mead in these words:

"Science should have gone hand in hand with the settlement of the arid and semi-arid country, and all that science could give would have been utilized, first, in the creations of the conditions of settlement, and then in aiding the settled in difficult tasks. Because nothing was done these heroic but uninformed souls were bedeviled by the winds, cold, and insect pests. They wasted their efforts, lost their hopes and ambitions, and a tragic percentage left, impoverished and embittered."

"The tragic part of this history is that nearly all of this suffering and loss could have been avoided under a carefully thought out plan of development."

Secretary Lane then goes on to give the virtues of the present development plan which are:

Success of Development Plan.
A plan of land development, whereby land is developed in large areas, subdivided into individual farms, then sold to actual bona fide farmers on a long-time payment basis, has been in force, not only in the United States under the reclamation act, but also in many other countries for several years. It has proved a distinct success. In Denmark, Ireland, New Zealand, and the Australian commonwealth it has completely changed the land situation, one of the new features of this plan is that holders are aided in improving and cultivating the farm. In a word, there is organized community development. Its beneficial results have been well described by the Canadian commission which was appointed to investigate its results in New Zealand in these words:

... the farmers have built better houses or remodeled their old ones, brought a larger acreage of land under cultivation that would otherwise be lying idle; have bought and kept better livestock and have bought and urged more labor-saving machinery on the farms and in the houses.
... They keep more sheep and pigs and have so largely increased the revenue from their farms that they are able to meet the payments on the mortgages and to adopt a higher standard of living, and a better one. Throughout the country a higher and better civilization is gradually being evolved; the young men and women who are growing up are happy and contented to remain at home on the farm and find ample time and opportunity for recreation and entertainment than can be obtained in the cities.
It may be said that this country out-

side of Alaska has no frontier today. Of course, Alaska will still offer opportunity for a pioneer life. And, of course, Alaska likewise has yet unknown remarkable agricultural possibilities, but unless we make possible the development of this land by the men who desire their life in that field, we will lose a great national opportunity.

This is an immediate duty. It will be too late to plan for these things when the war is over. Our thought now should be given to the problem. And I therefore desire to bring to your mind the wisdom of immediately supplying the interior department with a sufficient fund with which to make the necessary surveys and studies. We should know by the time the war ends not merely how much arid land can be irrigated, nor how much swamp land reclaimed, nor where the grazing land is and how many cattle it will support nor how much cut-over land can be cleared, but we should know with definiteness where it is practicable to begin new irrigation projects, what the character of the land is, what the nature of the improvements needed will be, and what the cost will be. We should know also, not in a general way, but with particularity, what definite areas of swamp and may be reclaimed, and how they can be drained, what the cost of the drainage will be, what crops they will raise. We should have in mind specific areas of grazing lands, with a knowledge of the cattle which are best adapted to them, and the practicability of supporting a family upon them. To, too, with our cut-over lands. We should know what it would cost to pull or "blow-out" stumps and to put the lands into condition for a farm home.

Secretary Lane goes on to state that this plan does not contemplate anything like charity to the soldier. He is not to be given a bounty. He is not to be made to feel that he is a dependent. On the contrary, he is to continue in a sense in the service of the government. Instead of destroying our enemies, he is to develop our resources.

We agree with Secretary Lane that a small sum of money put into the hands of men of thought and experience and vision will give us a program which will make us feel entirely confident that we are not to be submerged, industrially or otherwise, by labor which we will not be able to absorb, or that we would be in a condition where we would show a lack of respect for those who return as heroes, but who will be without means of immediate self-support.

May this work be heartily endorsed as all such work which tends to the increasing of the future happiness of our people, and may the work of planning be entrusted to competent hands.

-W.J. M.

WAR DEPARTMENT WOULD RENEW RANGE CONTRACT

Telegraphs Latta Papers for New Lease on Rifle Range Are Placed in Mails.

The war department telegraphed E. D. Latta, Sr., yesterday informing him that the legal papers for a renewal of the government's lease on the rifle range of Camp Greene, located near the Catawba river, had been placed in the mails and should be received by him without delay. Mr. Latta said last night. The lease on this property has not been renewed, it was stated, but the statements of the owner indicated his willingness to do so.

This announced desire on the part of the war department, and the renewal of the water contract between the war department and the city of Charlotte for another year were regarded by the parties concerned as "encouraging" indications of the war department's intentions toward the camp here.

The paving work at the camp continues, with satisfactory progress being made. Unconfirmed reports which have been circulated several days are to the effect that the war department intends to authorize more paving work at the camp. It was understood about 10,000 bags of cement have been ordered shipped to the camp.

The Soldier's Chances.

Great as the danger and large as the losses in the aggregate, the individual soldier has plenty of chances of coming out of the war unscathed, or at least not badly injured.

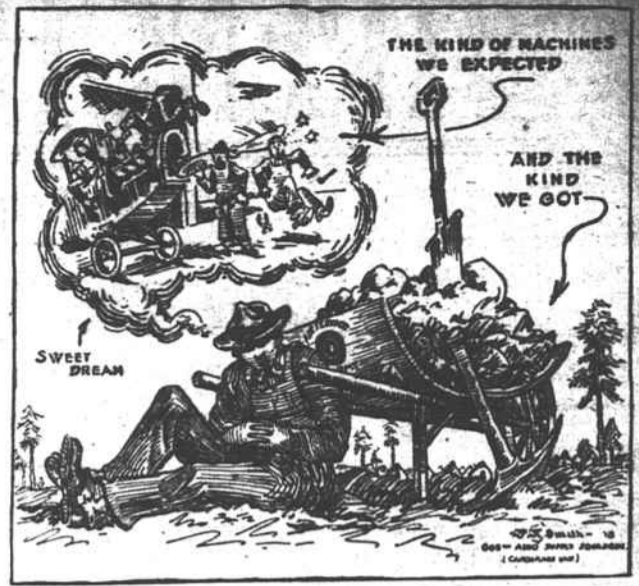
Based on the mortality statistics of the allied armies, a soldier's chances are as follows:

Twenty-nine chances of coming home to one chance of being killed.
Forty-nine chances of recovering from wounds to one chance of dying from them.

One chance in 500 of losing a limb. Will live five years longer because of physical training, is freer from disease in the army than in civil life, an dhas better medical care at the front than at home.

In other wars from 10 to 15 men died from disease to 1 from bullets; in this war 1 man dies from disease to every 10 from bullets.

For those of our fighting men who do not escape scathless, the government under the soldier and sailor insurance law gives protection to the wounded and their dependents and to the families and dependents of those who make the supreme sacrifice for their country.



FINE PROGRAM GIVEN BY CHARLOTTE SINGERS

Presenting a program that was varied and excellently chosen, a party of talented entertainers delighted a large audience of soldiers at the base hospital "Y" building one evening. The storms of applause which each number of the program evoked gave evidence of a well appreciation on the part of the audience.

The majority of musicians were from Charlotte, though some of the most applauded numbers on the program were those given by Private Jack Foster who is known in camp as "Soldier Harry Lauder." The list of the entertainers included Mesdames Hunter Marshall, Jr., and Theodore Partrick, Jr., Misses Ella Mosely, Lucy Oliver, Boyer and Private Foster. Miss Oliver played the accompaniments.

The musical numbers were interspersed by readings by Miss Boyer, whose work was genuinely enjoyed by the audience. Foster's costume was one of the features of the evening. It is an exact duplicate of the one that Harry Lauder wears in his most comical mood; that it is one that Foster himself rigged up. Foster is a typical Scot, with the burr in his voice that marks him as genuine. After the rendering of the set program there was community singing by the men present.

- The program was as follows:
Solo, "Love is the Wind"—Mrs. Marshall.
Piano solo, "Two Larks"—Mrs. Partrick.
Violin solo, "Orienta"—Miss Mosely.
Solos, "She's the Lass for Me," "Tis Nice to Get Up in the Morning," "Rosy Posy"—Private Foster.
Reading, "The Boy Who Said 'Go On'"—Miss Boyer.
Solo, "I Hear a Thrush at Eve"—Mrs. Marshall.
Reading, "The Optimist"—Miss Boyer.
Violin solo, "Hawaiian Dreams"—Miss Mosely.
Duet, "Rosary"—Mrs. Marshall and Miss Oliver.
Trio, "The End of a Perfect Day"—Mrs. Marshall and Misses Oliver and Mosely.

BOOKS FOR FIGHTERS.

The Camp Greene library, which under the active management of Librarian Johnston is proving of great worth to the soldiers stationed at this camp, has recently received a large number of new books of special value and interest. A partial list is as follows:

- Making the Most of One's Mind—Adams.
Soldier Unafraid—Auguer.
Patenting and Promoting Inventions—Avram.
Frontiers of Freedom—Baker.
Uncivil War—Browne.
Trotting and Pacing Horse in America—Busbey.
Germany in Defeat—De Souza.
First Shot for Liberty—De Varilla.
Generals of the British Army—Dodd.
War Shock—Eder.
Prophecy of the War—Einstein.
Europe's Fateful Hour—Ferrero.
Men Who Are Making America—Forbes.
Keeping Our Fighters Fit—Fosdick.
War Lords—Gardiner.
Notes for Army Medical Officers—Goodwin.
Life in a Tank—Haigh.
America at War.
Just Behind the Front in France—Hoggson.
Life of General Joffre—Kahn.
American Spirit—Lane.
Minstrel in France—Lauder.
War and After—Lodge.
Storage Battery Engineering—Lyndon.
American government—Magruder.
Taps; a Book for the Boys in Khaki—Mantle.
Study in Troop Leading—Morrison & Munson.
World War and Road to Peace—McLeod.
Flying Poilu—Nadand.
Fighting Fleets—Paine.
Russia in Upheaval—Ross.

- Dere Mable—Streeter.
Drink—Thompson.
Uncle Sam's Fact Book of the World War.
Sanitation for Medical Officers—Vedder.
War Letters of Edmund Gentt.
End of the War—Weyl.
Book of Verse of the Great War—Wheeler.
Textbook of Military Aeronautics—Woodhouse.

MRS. MALONE AND THE CENSOR.

(By Edgar Guest in New York Herald.)

When Mrs. Malone got a letter from Pat, She started to read it aloud in her flat. "Dear Mary," it started, "I can't tell you much. I'm somewhere in France, and I'm fightin' the Dutch. I'm chokin' wid news that I'd like to relate. But it's little a soldier's permitted to state. De ye mind Rer McPhee—well, he fell in a ditch. An' busted an arm, but I can't tell ye which.

"An' Paddy O'Hara was caught in a flame. An' rescued by faith, I can't tell ye his name. Last night I woke up wid a terrible pain. I thought for awhile it would drive me insane. Oh, the sufferin I had was most dreadful to bear! I'm sorry, my dear, but I can't tell ye where. The doctor he gave me a pill, but I find it's contrary to rules t' disclose here the kind.

"I've been t' the dentist 'an had a tooth out. I'm sorry to leave you shrouded in doubt, But the best I can is that one tooth is gone. The sensorwort let me inform ye which one. I met a young fellow who knows ye right well. An' ye know him, too, but his name I can't tell. He's Irish, red-headed, and there with the blarney. His folks once knew our folks back home in Kilarney."

"By gorry," said Mrs. Malone, in her flat. "It's hard to make sence out av writin' like that. But I'll give him as good as he sends that I will." So she went right to work with her ink well and quill. An' she wrote, "I suppose ye're dead eager for news, You know when ye left we were buyin' the shoes; Well, the baby has come, an' we're both doin' well. It's a— Oh, that's somethin' they wont let me tell."

HUGE PUSHBALL IN CAMP.

Y. M. C. A. Athletic Director A. E. Bergman announces that a new pushball has been received by him and it will be available for use of every unit in camp. The game of pushball is fast becoming the most popular sport in the army camps. The ball itself is six feet in diameter when fully inflated. It is expected that a great deal of physical benefit as well as pleasure will be derived from this game. The game is a hard one, in which one side tries to push the huge ball through a line of opponents to the goal. The ball cost about \$300. Several pushball teams are being organized and it is proposed that a team to represent each unit will be obtained.

Talk!

"One wastes the food on which he feeds. One starves," said old man Blam. "One has more money than he needs. One needs more than he has."