

TRENCH AND CAMP

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Published weekly at the National Camps and Cantonments for the soldiers of the United States.

National Headquarters
Room 1711, 347 Madison Avenue
New York City

JOHN STEWART BRYAN

Chairman of Advisory Board of Co-operating Publishers

Camp and Location	Newspaper	Publisher
Camp Beaufort, Alexandria, La.	New Orleans Times Picayune	D. B. Moore
Camp Bowie, Fort Worth, Texas	Fort Worth Star Telegram	Amon C. Carter
Carlstrom Aviation Field, Arcadia, Fla.	Tampa Times	D. E. McKay
Camp Cody, Deming, N. Mex.	El Paso Herald	H. D. Slater
Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Mich.	Battle Creek Enquirer-News	A. L. Miller
Camp Devons, Ayer, Mass.	Boston Globe	Charles H. Taylor, Jr.
Camp Dix, Wrightstown, N. J.	Trenton Times	James Kernay
Camp Doniphan, Fort Sill, Okla.	Oklahoma City Oklahoman	E. K. Gaylord
Camp Forrest, Chickamauga, Ga.	Chattanooga Times	H. C. Adler
Camp Fremont, Palo Alto, Cal.	San Francisco Bulletin	R. A. Crothers
Camp Gordon, Fort Riley, Kan.	Topeka State Journal	Frank P. MacLennan
Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill.	Atlanta Constitution	Clark Howell
Camp Kearn, Rockford, Ill.	The Chicago Daily News	Victor F. Lawson
Camp Greene, Charlotte, N. C.	Charlotte Observer	W. E. Sellwain
Camp Hancock, Augusta, Ga.	Augusta Herald	Bowdre Phinizy
Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C.	Columbia State	W. W. Ball
Camp Johnston, Jacksonville, Fla.	Jacksonville Times-Union	W. A. Elliott
Camp Johnson, Linda Vista, Cal.	Los Angeles Times	Harry Chandler
Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va.	Richmond News Leader	John Stewart Bryan
Camp Lewis, Tacoma, Wash.	Tacoma Tribune	P. S. Baker
Camp Logan, Houston, Texas	Houston Post	Gough J. Palmer
Camp McArthur, Waco, Texas	Waco Morning News	Charles E. Marsh
Camp McEllahan, Anniston, Ala.	Birmingham (Ala.) News	Victor H. Hansen
Fort McPherson and Camp Jessup, Atlanta, Ga.	Atlanta Journal	J. S. Cohen
Camp Meade, Admiral, Md.	Wash. (D. C.) Evening Star	Fleming Newbold
Camp Pike, Little Rock, Ark.	Arkansas Democrat	Elmer E. Clarke
Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C.	Greenville Daily News	B. H. Peace
Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss.	New Orleans Item	James M. Thomson
Camp Sheridan, Montgomery, Ala.	Montgomery Advertiser	C. H. Allen
Camp Zachary Taylor, Louisville, Ky.	Louisville Courier Journal	Robert W. Bingham
Camp Travis, San Antonio, Texas	San Antonio Light	Charles S. Diehl
Kelly Field and Camp Stanley, New York City	New York World	Don C. Soitz
Camp Unton, Yonkers, N. Y.	Macon Telegraph	W. T. Anderson
Camp Wheeler, Macon, Ga.	Charleston News and Courier	R. C. Stegling
Charleston Naval Station	Charleston News and Courier	R. C. Stegling
Buffalo Military District, embracing ten camps	Buffalo Evening News	Edward H. Butler

Published under the auspices of the National War Work Council, Y. M. C. A. of the United States, with the cooperation of the above named publishers and papers.

OUR FIRST ANNIVERSARY

With this issue "Trench and Camp" completes the first year of its existence.

A review of its accomplishments in that year is permissible. A study of its shortcomings is sure to be profitable.

In the first place, it may be well to review the inception of the project. When the plans for the training camps and cantonments were outlined, Mr. John Stewart Bryan, publisher of the News Leader, of Richmond, Va., conceived the idea of producing a newspaper for Camp Lee, the great cantonment nearby. The more he considered this plan the more useful he thought it would be and his mind evolved the idea of inviting publishers all over the country in cities adjacent to training camps to engage in a similar service for the soldiers.

One after another the newspaper proprietors agreed to Mr. Bryan's proposals and soon it became evident that it would be possible to launch a chain of newspapers serving every divisional camp and cantonment in the United States.

When Mr. Bryan was presenting his proposal to the newspaper publishers, other thoughtful men in the country were turning their attention to the camp publication question. Among them was Dr. George E. Vincent, president of the Rockefeller Foundation. Dr. Vincent had urged upon the National War Work Council of the Young Men's Christian Association the need of camp newspapers. Leaders of the Y. M. C. A. agreed with Dr. Vincent that the need was vital. But they could see no practicable solution of the problems presented.

By a strange coincidence, Mr. Bryan submitted his plan to the National War Work Council at the same time that they were discussing Dr. Vincent's statement. Thus it happened that Mr. Bryan submitted a concrete method of achieving Dr. Vincent's purpose.

The main difficulty at the outset was to secure trained newspaper men for service within the several camps, to whom could be entrusted the responsibility for producing the local publications.

Some camps were singularly fortunate in the number of newspaper men already in the military service who could be called upon to cooperate. Others were just as unfortunate because no newspaper men were available. The wide divergence in the number of newspaper men in individual camps is perhaps best illustrated in Camp Wadsworth and Camp Sevier, these two camps being only a few miles apart.

At Camp Wadsworth a newspaper for the soldiers was decided upon and it was produced under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, though not in connection with the "Trench and Camp" chain. A meeting of the newspaper men was called and forty-two were found to be in the military service there. Among them were a Colonel, a Lieutenant-colonel, a Chaplain and many other commissioned officers. Camp Wadsworth was the training place of the 27th Division, former National Guard troops from New York State. On the Mexican Border these troops had previously been mobilized as a division and they had also previously published a newspaper. The "Gas Attack," an excellent weekly

printed on super-calendered paper in magazine form, was their camp publication at Wadsworth.

Now take Camp Sevier. Not only was there not a single trained newspaper man available at the outset, but the publishing facilities were very limited, the local newspaper plant being taxed to the limit of its capacity and facing a serious labor shortage.

But just as this recital illustrates the divergence in facilities, it illustrates also the universality of the "Trench and Camp" service. Through its National Headquarters, "Trench and Camp" was able to solve many of the local problems; through the self-sacrificing patriotism of the local publisher the ultimate handicaps were overcome. Camp Sevier has its own newspaper. And be it said here that the Camp Sevier edition has been steadily improving.

Mention has been made of the difficulty in providing local editors for the individual camps. Some unfortunate selections were made; some unfortunate mistakes resulted.

It was the aim of the "Trench and Camp" movement to produce a chain of local papers, each one reflecting the life within the camp and portraying the hope of the nation in its soldiers. "Trench and Camp" aimed to be as President Wilson put it, "in a very special sense a soldier's newspaper."

Where "Trench and Camp" realized its ideal and became "a living, vital transcript of the life of the army," it instantly won a place in the hearts of the men. They came to await its weekly appearance as they would the arrival of a letter from home. Where "Trench and Camp" fell short of its purpose it also fell short of popularity. The reason for any failure was not difficult to find. In nearly every instance it lay in the calibre of the local editor. Where a local editor was broad-visioned enough to catch the spirit of its ideal of service he had no difficulty; where the local editor was narrow-visioned and used the columns of the paper to serve his own purposes he failed. Some editors thought of "Trench and Camp" as a Y. M. C. A. organ. They failed to glimpse the ideal, which was and is unselfish service. When the National War Work Council sanctioned the expenditure of funds for camp publications it was not that the Y. M. C. A. might be advertised, but the Association might increase the scope of its service. No narrow-visioned man could understand the spirit of that kind of a contribution. It took months, in some instances, to eliminate such men. But the elimination has been accomplished, we believe. If we at the National Headquarters are mistaken we have only to be informed, and this statement is made on the authority of Dr. John R. Mott, General Secretary, and Messrs. Fletcher S. Brockman and J. S. Tichenor, Associate General Secretaries.

Now then for a statement of the achievements of "Trench and Camp."

Weekly newspapers are now produced in thirty-eight of the great training camps. Some of these papers would be highly creditable even to large cities. Some of them suggest metropolitan newspapers and are produced with the assistance of metropolitan newspaper men. Some papers are not so creditable. But only one or two are really poor and there are extenuating circumstances. We at Na-

tional Headquarters do not expect the impossible; but we do expect improvement.

It is a matter of experience that the best newspapers are those produced by the soldiers themselves, to whom the local editor is but a friendly adviser and whose chief function is intelligent supervision. In several of the camps the soldiers have organized press clubs, the condition of membership being contributing to the columns of the local edition. The clubs meet every week and, under the direction of the local editor, "news assignments" are given. To remain in the club a soldier must fulfill his assignments. One failure will mean suspension; two failures expulsion. The press clubs, with this system of self-government have proved a valuable assistance in producing the local papers and the idea is commended to all camps.

"Trench and Camp" has not only stimulated interest and pride in the military units, but it has been a welcome messenger to the home. Thousands are mailed home every week, and many parents and relatives have had their anxieties dispelled by the realization that army life is a very human relation after all.

"Trench and Camp" has rendered valuable and highly valued service to the United States government, not alone in entertaining, instructing and inspiring the soldiers; but in proclaiming the need of supporting the Liberty Bond issues. Our files bear eloquent testimony to the value of the service we have rendered.

In the War Saving Stamps movement "Trench and Camp" has influenced the diverting of many quarter-dollars to the United States Treasury.

The War Risk Insurance, that splendid boon to the soldiers, has been explained with great care and in infinite detail to the men in service through the columns of "Trench and Camp," and that these explanations have served a useful purpose is indicated by the eagerness with which insurance officers seek space in these soldier publications.

The Quartermaster's Department has counted upon the columns of "Trench and Camp" as the medium of preaching the new gospel of conservation and reclamation and the soldier who thought the government was mean when it insisted on rigid econ-

omies has been taught that there is untold wealth in waste.

Then, too, the great "drives" for funds for the welfare bodies have been assisted by the camp publications.

So we might go on. But there is a limit to our space. We feel that the year has more than justified our being, and we look forward to another year of even greater usefulness.

We would be remiss indeed if we did not take advantage of this opportunity to thank the publishers throughout this country who have placed their printing plants at the disposal of "Trench and Camp" and who have assisted us so wisely and so well, some of them even supervising the makeup and editorial policy themselves.

Also we feel that our thanks are due to Dr. Frederick P. Keppel, Third Assistant Secretary of War, whose kindly cooperation and firm but friendly counsel have been ours at all times—even when Dr. Keppel has seemed to be immersed in the multitudinous details of his great office.

To Malcolm L. McBride, of the War Department Commission on Training Camp Activities, we would address another word of gratitude. His criticisms have always been constructive—and that is a fine thing to be able to say of any man.

Of course the National War Work Council of the Young Men's Christian Association is to be thanked. But the editors have been assured repeatedly that the most welcome word will be the assurance that the soldiers themselves are satisfied. Let us say that there are indications that certain of the "Trench and Camp" publications will not only be self-supporting during the next year, but will show profits. The National War Work Council will devote the profits from these publications to the camps they serve. The funds will be turned over to the military authorities to spend as they see fit for the benefit of the men. The Y. M. C. A. does not want to make money out of "Trench and Camp" and will not do so.

A final word—and this to the local editors: Sometimes we at the National Headquarters may seem harsh and exacting. Let no one get the impression that we are too harsh or too exacting. We know the local editor's handicaps, but also we know their possibilities. A happy and useful New Year to you all!

U. S. HELPING GERMAN FAMILIES LOYAL TO AMERICA

Men of German parentage in the army will feel relief in the announcement from Washington of the existence now of an organization charged with the duty of assisting loyal residents of this country who are German or Austrian nationals and for that reason have found difficulty in providing for themselves. This is known as the National Alien Enemy Relief Committee, composed of some of the most able and broad-minded men in the country.

There are many Germans and Austrians who are loyal to America, but

owing to the natural consequences of war their birth has caused them to suffer in many ways, so that many have been deprived, in part at least, of their means of livelihood. The United States Government does not propose that these people shall be made to suffer and has taken concrete steps to help them. It is also the duty of this committee to assist the families of interned Germans and Austrians through local agencies.

This activity is another example of high American standards in war as well as in peace.

SCIENCE APPLIED TO ARMY NUTRITION

The Nutrition Section of the Surgeon-general's Office has the responsibility of determining from a scientific viewpoint the nutritive qualities of army rations and of formulating scientific methods for the preservation of army food. Besides sending officers from its division to each of

the camps and cantonments and principal smaller camps throughout the country, it has sent abroad twenty-nine officers from the Nutrition Section to see that the food supplied to the men is suitable in quality and that it is supplied in proportions that will result in the best nutrition for them.



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