

PEACE TIME ARMY NOT A LAZY MAN'S ARMY

Has Extensive Courses Embracing Thorough Study of Trades and Professions

(By Sergeant Battle Williams, of Army Reconstruction Division.)

The new peace time army which is soon to be will not offer jobs to lazy men by any means for Uncle Sam is now working out a tentative schedule and program which will embody a new feature in the way of making his military establishments part army and part school; a big university as it were with varied and extensive courses embracing a thorough study of many trades and professions, along with the training in military tactics. Much of the time in service will be spent in study and recreation, thus taking away the monotony of drill.

There was a common belief among people almost everywhere not so long ago that men in our army were mostly those men who were unfit perhaps temporarily, socially, intellectually, and morally for a good position in civilian life, and that in order to "return to their own" they enlisted in the regular service. It is not an unknown fact when one states that soldiers heretofore were looked down upon; and that even in the city of Washington men in uniforms were denied admission to theatres, and that oftentimes passengers on trains disliked to ride with soldiers. Such a state of affairs did exist and we all know it.

But since the new order has come about, and through the workings of the elective service law we have seen how best to raise and maintain our armies; how that men of all classes should bear an equal share of military service in return for the privilege and protection enjoyed as citizens of the government, it has at last begun to dawn upon us that gradually we must come to the policy or short-term selective military training, by which we shall be enabled to have at hand a large trained reserve force with as few men as possible in camps, thus making the system economical and effective in that it does not take from a young man the best years of his life.

It is contemplated by leading educators of the U. S. Army to make our peace-time army a sort of university, a "University in Khaki," if you please to call it such, where through drilling and setting up exercises the men will be made as nearly physically perfect as possible, at the same time giving much of their attention to specially chosen courses in the army school. Classes of all kinds will be included in the curriculum. Men unable to read and write will be started off and carried as far and as rapidly as their period of military training will permit; elementary subjects for boys who perhaps had to drop out of school during the last year in grammar school will be taught, high school and academic courses will be arranged for more advanced boys, while still there is planned higher courses perhaps comprising courses included in the first year of college work. Thus after a year's service in an army of this kind, where school is mixed in with drill, a soldier will be stronger physically, and stronger intellectually, likewise better prepared to tackle the ever-increasing problems of every-day life, and in many respects better fitted for assuming the tremendous responsibilities of good citizenship. Our army educators in France found it an easy matter to induce the soldiers over there to enroll in educational courses and almost twenty per cent. of the soldier-boys became soldier-students, and what's more encouraging they were intensely eager to learn all they could. From this we may conclude that the soldiers of our new peace-time army will be as desirous of study as those of the emergency army. Fort McPherson, Ga.

Hell is paved with good intentions and heaven is filled with the result of carrying good intentions to their fruition.

WALT MASON WON BY THE SALVATION ARMY

Heard and Heeded the Call of The Army Drum When in Los Angeles, Cal.

(From the Salvation Army Bureau.)

Atlanta, Aug. 26.—Walt Mason, one of our best beloved poets, has been converted by the Salvation Army workers in Los Angeles, California. Mason, who is a genius, has tramped every section of the country. He has been friendly with the Salvation Army for a long while, but recently Corps No. 1, of Los Angeles, was engaged in street services as Mason passed by and the call of the Army drum was too much for him, and he became converted. Brigadier Boyd, of Los Angeles, is loud in his praises for Walt Mason.

In his characteristic style, Mason wrote the following poem about his conversion by the Salvation Army: "One night while walking down the street, my mind on pleasure bent—I sought the pleasures of the world, but my soul was not content—I saw the bright lights of the theatre; they beckoned me to come, as did the music and the song in the place where they sold rum. I stepped into a pool hall and found a vacant chair, and thought that I would rest a bit and drive away dull care; but my mind it still persisted in turning memory's sod, reminding me of the time when I was winning souls for God. I couldn't find that rest and peace—satisfaction would not come—when suddenly I heard the sound of the good, old army drum. Its voice it called me closer, and I found an open air, and once more I could see myself kneeling there in prayer. For I had been a soldier, and known the Saviour's smile, but now I was a deserter—a sinner weak and vile. But, in spite of all my meanness, I went to the hall that night. My intentions they were proper—I meant to do the right. But a deserter is a coward—always ready with some excuse—or perhaps a careless person, and wonders, what's the use? But the prayers of God's faithful people won my hard and stony heart, and at the front that night I made another start. And today—praise God—I'm fighting; Jesus took me back, and now once more I'm traveling in the good old Calvary track."

TEUTONIC RECORDS OR INDIAN SIGNS WHICH? Spokane, Wash., Aug. 27.—Whether painted symbols on the rocky banks of the Columbia river in Klickitat county, Washington, are Indian symbols or whether they are the records of early Teutonic explorers is to be submitted to experts of the bureau of Indian affairs at Washington, D. C., for their verdict. That the pictures are fragments of early history of the tribesmen of the Pacific northwest is the belief of W. S. Lewis of this city, secretary of the Eastern Washington historical society. He believes they are 250 years old. The theory that they are the writings of European travelers of many hundreds of years ago is held by Olaf Opjorn, a student of archeology who resides at Dishman, near this city. The same symbols also discovered by Mr. Opjorn, he says, on a big stone on the seashore north of Boston, Mass.

The "painted rocks" are on the west side of the Columbia river, two miles north of Vantage Ferry. Among the "pictures" are those of two goats described by Mr. Opjorn as part of an astronomical symbol. He believes they were intended to indicate the equinoxes.

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KING GEORGE RECEIVES TWO FAMOUS CRIPPLES

New York, Aug. 27.—King George of England received two of America's most famous cripples—Michael J. Dowling, of Olivia, Minn., and Quentin D. Corley, of Dallas, Tex.—on July 25 last at a royal garden party according to a letter from Mrs. Ethel Wood, former secretary of the British Ministry of Pensions, to the Red Cross Institute for Crippled and Disabled men, made public here today.

Dowling lost both legs, his left arm and several fingers of his right hand as the result of exposure to the cold in a blizzard when fourteen years old. Corley lost both of his arms in a railroad accident. The British Red Cross Society, through the American Red Cross Institute, invited them to visit England to cheer and give courage to the thousands of disabled British soldiers in the reconstruction centers in that country.

Twenty-four thousand disabled soldiers, gathered in Central Hall, Westminster, were encouraged by the stories Dowling and Corley told of their struggles to overcome their handicaps. Prince Albert also addressed the audience. The meeting was presided over by Sir Laming Worthington-Evans, British Minister of Pensions. Dowling and Corley plan to leave England soon for France. They will be accompanied by Mrs. Wood.

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