THE COURIER

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A TRIP TO CAMP SEVIER

Courier Representative Visits Company K at Camp Sevier—Interesting Place—Christmas Dinner a Feast

The Courier took a vacation for Christmas and one of the indulgences was a trip to Greenville and to Camp Sevier to see the members of Co. K. This pleasure had been anticipated for some time and there was no disappointment in any part of the trip. The camp is four miles north of Greenville on the Southern Railway, Paris is the station at the camp and the local trains now stop there. The road out from Greenville is very good but every automobile driver there seems to have forgotten the speed limit and as a consequence there are numbers of collissions and wrecks. Several cars and vehicles were along the road telling of different kinds of disster; but still the people use the cars as a means of transportation to and from the camp. To my knowledge one Asheboro lady who is more than three score and ten years and is visiting in Greenville was in a car when it turned over recently in this case none of the occupants were injured.

The camp comprises more than thirty thousand acres of land and Paris, the railway station, is about the center. A number of stores, places of amusement, Y. M. C. A. and other buildings have sprung up since the cantonment was located here. From Paris as far as the eye can see there are tents. It is only about a fourth of a mile to the 120th division of which Company K is a part. Here is where most of my time was spent and I longed for every boy's mother. Co. K street was as clean as a pin and every officer and private takes especial pride in keeping it so. Captain Dixon's and Lieutenant Luck's tents are in line with quarters of all the Captains and one lieutenants. A little further in front is the tent of Lieutenants Walker, Mason and Lovett. At the entrance of K street is the mess hall which is one of the most important places of any company. It is built of rough lumber and is 100 feet long. At one end is the kitchen over which Mess Sergeants Irvin Burrow and Reid Hannah, of Asheboro, with Hugene Chisholm, of Ramseur, and private Ferrell of Troy, preside. And each boy has heavy clothing, an overcoat, a Red Cross sweater and gloves. It was interesting to see the interest the kitchen force took in the preparation of food for the boys and just here may I say that the boys are having more food than the majority of us at home. I dined with them two days and each day there was a variety of food and it was in the greatest abundance.

Every man there who spoke of food says "we have plenty of good food." There are two long tables covered with oil cloth and benches on either side so the boys can be seated while they eat.

There are six to eight boys in each tent, each one having his own cot. There are heaters in each tent and floors so they say they are comfortable. They have heavy army blankets for cover. To make the family more home like there is a mother bull dog with several puppies—and they do not lack for attention. Different ones of the company have dogs presumably for company, I was not impressed with the beauty of any of them. On one side of Co. K is Co. I from Burlington and on the other Co. L from Thomasville. Capt. Freeman of Co. I has a log house and it is a most unique affair. Capt. Newby of Co. L is a former Randolph man. The companies are easily located as they come in alphabetical order. For any one who intends to visit Co. K they should ask direction to 120th division and then Co. K.

The boys are always interested in seeing folks from home and in hearing the news. They are busy and have little time for little writing as they drill eight hours a day and have other work in addition. Several of them expect to study French this spring. Lieutenant Mason who has been assigned to the Company is an author of note and has spent some time in France. He speaks the French language as fluently as he does English and will be of inestimable value to the Company along this line. He is a splendid man and with the other officers Co. has the reputation of being well commandered.

The friendly feeling existing between the men and their interest in each other impressed me. For instance, Sergeant Reid Hannah wasted a home made cough remedy for one of the boys who had a cold. There seems no dissatisfaction or discontent among the men, they seem to have one end in view that of doing duty wherever it leads.

Each division has its headquarters, its Y. M. C. A. and its infirmary, so there is a personal feeling existing between the men of each division. In driving over the camp one is impressed with the magnitude of it and of the wonders which have been accomplished in a short time by the united efforts of the men of this country.

The trenches have been dug and the men are being taught this line of warfare as they are bayonet practice in another section of the camp and all methods of warfare. The one pathetic part of the camp are the quiet houses. These are the same as prison houses and the men are positively [illegible] for any failure [illegible] than they have in divisional infirmaries. Turkeys had arrived for the Christmas dinner and in the store room there was beef, pork, cakes, nuts, cheese, celery, potatoes, beans, kraut and &c.

The menu for Christmas dinner was turkey, cranberries, celery, mashed potatoes, green peas, fruit cake, fruits, nuts, candies, and cigars.

The Company has received the two boxes of preserves and jellies sent by the people of Randolph and they are [illegible]

GOVERNMENT TO CONTROL THE RAILROADS

President Places All Railroad Lines Under Government Control—W. G. McAdoo Director General.

Government possession and operation of the nation's railroads for the war, proclaimed by President Wilson Wednesday night of last week, became effective at noon Friday, December 28. William G. McAdoo, retaining his place in the cabinet as Secretary of the Treasury, is placed in charge as director general of railroads.

Every railroad engaged in general transportation, with its appurtenences, including steamship lines, is taken over and all systems will be operated as one under the director general.

Secretary McAdoo, director general of the railroads, has delegated to the railroads' war board the task of operating the roads for the present. The war board, comprising five of the country's foremost railroad executives, have been in supreme charge of the roads for the last nine months. Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern railway, is chairman of the board.

Mr. McAdoo has issued his first formal order designed to speed up freight movements, telegraphing all railroad presidents and directors instructions to move traffic by the most convenient and direct routes. At the same time he ordered them to continue the operation of their lines in conformity with the President's proclamation putting them under government control. This order takes from the shipper the right to route his shipment and leaves to the traffic manager the right to send the shipment by the most direct route, or where there is least congetion.

Director general McAdoo has notified all officers, agents and employee of transportation systems that they may continue in the performance of their regular duties, reporting to the same officers as heretofore and on the same terms of employment. Any who desire to leave the service must give reasonable notice to the proper officer. All transportation systems will be operated as one national system, the national needs being paramount in all cases.

Walter D. Hines has been appointed assistant pro tem to the director general. Alfred H. Smith of New York is appointed assistant pro tem to the director general, in charge of transportation in the trunk line territory east of Chicago and north of the Ohio and Potomac rivers.

Two hundred locomotives under construction in this country for Russia will be taken over as a part of the government's plans for quick improvement in American railroad equipment; and 100 locomotives ready for shipment to France will be taken temporarily.

The railroads have definitely refused the demands of their organized employes for a 40 per cent increase in pay and have turned the responsibility entirely over to the government.

U. S. As Life Insurance Company

It was only a few weeks ago that the Government of the United States took up the business of life insurance. Already the nation has become the greatest life insurance company in the world. In November the life risks passed the billion-dollar mark. To that time there were 120,000 policies in force, and hundreds more were on the way from France, not included in the figures here given. The average policy is about $8,500. The object of the Government in going into life insurance is to protect the soldiers and their families, and to forestall in part the need of pensions later. Insurance is furnished much cheaper than private companies will perform this service.

J. H. Luther Killed

While crossing Summit avenue, in Greensboro, near the residence of Clarence Cone, Friday evening of last week, James H. Luther was run into by the automobile of W.C. Beasley and received injuries from which he died Saturday morning. The deceased was assistant foreman of the weave room at Proximity. He is survived by his wife and two children, Elvin and Myrtle Luther. He was 40 years of age and the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Luther, of Ramseur, Randolph county, who also survive him. The body was brought to Ramseur and the funeral and interment was at Pleasant Ridge church, near Ramseur. He was an active member of Walnut Street M. E. church. Mr. Beasley was placed under bond, but the case was continued for the preliminary hearing on Monday of this week because of absences of material witnesses. Mr. Luther, with his son, was crossing the street, and became confused. His son walked straight ahead and was not injured. Mr. Luther's skull was fractured when his head hit the asphalt pavement.

Randolph Can at Least Get a Car Load Of Nitrate of Soda

At least 18,000 tons of nitrate of soda will be available at once. This will be delivered at Wilmington and other Southern ports during the month of January at a price ranging around $75 a ton at the port of entry. This statement was made by the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Houston, the past week. Mr. Houston assures the people that the government will be able to supply the nitrates in sufficient quantities to take care of the needs of Southern farmers.

This nitrate of soda is to come from Chili and will be delivered direct to the farmers, the farm demonstration agent will act as the collecting agent for the government and the farmers will have to deal direct through the agent of his county. The farmers of Randolph county should make use of the opportunity and secure some of this soda to put on their wheat in the spring for it will pay him, and pay him big. I am ceratin that every dollar spent for this material will net the purchasers who uses it at least two dollars on his investment. I don't hesitate to say that 100 pounds of this material applied to an acre will increase the yield of wheat on most all of our lands at least 5 bushels which would at least amount to $10. I insist that the farmers of this county try this on at least five acres of your wheat, spending $4 per acre for the soda and I am sure that you will be well paid for the investment and the trouble spent in applying.

I cannot state exactly what the price will be, but it will be around $4 per hundred. It will cost $3.75 per hundred on board cars at the seaboard, farmers will have to pay freight charges to their local stations, and the State fertilizer tax fee all of which is not expected to amount to very much.

I know that if the people of the county want it that I can at least secure one car load of this soda for this county, and I know that it should be used here. We are not producing enough wheat per acre and this is the only way by which you can now increase your yield per acre this year. It behooves every one of us to make just as much wheat as we possibly reasonably can make. It will be impossible for me to see the farmers of the county personally about purchasing this fertilizer for them, but all you have to do is to write me telling how much you want and I can get it for you provided we can get enough to make up a car load and I feel safe in saying that we can get that amount. Remember that you cannot get this nitrate of soda through your dealer for all speculation on this fertilizer is forbidden, and you will have to buy direct from the government through the farm demonstration agent.

Write me at once about this matter, for we must get in our orders just as soon as we can.

D. S. COLTRANE, County Agent.

Additional Clerks Required to Distribute Checks to Dependents

Distribution of allowance and allotment checks to dependents of enlisted men of the United States has required an extra night shift of clerks and typists in the Bureau of War Risk Insurance. The first checks represent allotments made by enlisted men from their November pay, together with stipulated Government allowances.

Every enlisted man in the military and naval forces of the United States who has a wife and children dependent on him is required to allot for their support at least $15 a month, but not more than half his pay. To this the Government adds monthly allowances.

Commissioned officers are not required to make allotments, and the Government does not provide allowances for their dependents.

Explosion of Range in Mrs. Underwood's Kitchen Sunday Results in Painful Injury.

An explosion of the stove in Mrs. W. A. Underwood's kitchen Sunday morning resulted in painful injuries of Mrs. Underwood and considerable damage in kitchen. Mrs. Underwood was preparing breakfast when the explosion occurred, being caused from frozen water pipes. The stove was completely demolished none of the pieces being any size. Mrs. Underwood was knocked to the floor by a piece of iron hitting her forehead and another breaking her nose; she is also badly bruised from the shock and pieces striking her. The windows of the kitchen were blown out and a part of the ceiling and door facings badly damaged. Mr. Underwood hearing the explosion rushed in and carried Mrs. Underwood out. She was covered in ashes and blood, and it was at first thought her injuries were fatal. She is improving and will recover.

109 German Ships Damaged by Crews Now in Service for the Nation

Sailing under American names in the service of the United States are 109 German ships damaged by their crews prior to their seizure by the Government when war was declared. They add more than 500,000 gross tonnage to the transport and cargo fleets in war service for the United States.

There is evidence that a German central authority gave orders for damage to these ships, so that none could be operated in less than 18 months, and documentary proof that the enemy believed much of the damage to be irreparable. In less than eight months all the ships were in service.

[illegible]

The Price of Success.

(By D. T. Hurly)

To-night my heart dwells with unfeigned delight upon the broad and beautiful theme of success. Success carries with itself price and he who would achieve it must pay the utmost farthing. There are two elements which if coupled together can but lead to the accomplishment of life's highest ends, namely, fidelity to one's capacities and opportunities, and the power of visions.

It is sad but true that there are many who pass through life with never a thought of its duty and responsibilities. They never meet any opposition, never encounter any foes. Thus as to life in its trust meaning they know it not. For never has a man lived a successful life and died and left a name that will be honored through all ages without meeting opposition and being confronted by difficulties that required faithful effort to surmount them. He who wishes to die without making this faithful effort wishes to die but half a man.

Some of the greatest men of the world are those who were rocked in the cradle oof adversity and pillowed in the cells of poverty; but by the sweat of their own brow they became master of their surroundings and step by step they have ascended to the heights they now occupy. It was not intended that you and I should mount the rounds of fame and carve our names near that of Washington without faithfully applying ourselves to our task and first meeting and overcoming many and grave obstacles.

All that is great, noble, and true in the history of the world is the result of infinite, painstaking, and perpetual struggles for mastery of the situation. The world keeps its eye upon the faithful man. And in the words of Longfellow, "Verily shall he stand before princesses, for he himself shall be a prince. The men who have excelled in the annais of achievement have been of this type. The men who today are startling the world with the brilliancy of their accomplishments are of this same character. As the beautiful river rolling in the pride of its mighty waters owes its greatness to unseen springs, so do the achievements of great men date their origin from hours of hard study and of undaunted courage and struggle for mastery of the situation. He who has not fought his own way up to his own place and does not bear the scar of desperate conflict does not know the highest meaning of success.

Sometimes when we see othres who have reached the highest success we are prone to forget the path by which they ascended, the price which they paid. Upon investigation we find that it began years ago with a vision of life and its possibilities and one strong determination to succeed. There is no object more beautiful than an upright youth with a vision of duty to his God and his fellowman, struggling to fulfill that vision. The world watches him as it watches a star in the heavens. Difficulties may arise that impede his progress but it knows that they have a silver lining and that soon his light shall beam forth again.

Each of us achieve only in proportion to the splendor of our ideals, the earnestness with these efforts are put forth, and the faith and zeal with the ever toilsome guest of our efforts is pursued. As we roll back the scroll of history, review the lives of those who have been led on by a vision to a full realization of life and its possibilities we no longer doubt the power of a great ideal.

This land of ours was once an unblazed forest inhabited by a hostile and warlie race; but by long and bloody struggles and by sacrificing her noble sons she is today, "The land of pilgrims pride." It was through such struggles as that of Washington when his noble army of patriotic sons left the trail of their blood upon the frozen ground at Valley Forge and with the brush of patriotism painted their names in letters of fire upon the eternal walls of greatness that America has won this name.

Abraham Lincoln as he toiled and split rails upon the side of the Blue Ridge dreamed of a broader world beyond the peaks of those mountains. It was that dream plus honest toil that led him to become our most honored statesman. Cyrus W. Field while only a boy working on a farm had a vision of two nations 3000 miles apart united by a cable of communication. For fifty times he plowed the waters of the boisterous Atlantic, for thirteen years he endured almost superhuman struggle and then laid from shore to shore that gigantic connecting link the importance of which is next to the discovery of America.

Thirty odd years ago a boy while in school in a North Carolina college had a vision. It was a vision from God. He made it real. Since then he has unfurled the American standard of peace and justice, not only over the bosom of the sea, but even over the trenches of the struggling nations. He has championed the cause of America wherever he has found it oppressed. He has planted the stars and stripes on the highest peaks to which humanity has yet aspired. And when the history of our country comes to be written and the children of tomorrow read their nations story when the times shall have dispelled all misconceptions and the years shall have their impartial verdict, one name will shine forth in golden splendor upon the page that is blackened with the tale of this war, one name will represent the [illegible] of a vision—the triumph of [illegible]

LLEWXAM'S LETTER FROM THE CAPITAL

Raleigh, January 1.—Although the cold weather which has prevailed here for the last several days has frozen the horns off of every brass goat in Raleigh, and searched for more, some of the folks whose think tanks are thawing out express the hope on this glad New Year's day that government control of railway transportation will serve to deliver more coal and wood in this latitude and cut the exorbitant freight rates on provisions in two before the undertaker is called in. The only edible that has not doubled or tribled in price is sugar—and that cannot be had for love or money at the maximum price allowed to be charged.

The New Year promises to cut short if it does not cut out our erstwhile perennial habit of devoting too much time and attention to politics and politicians. The average voter has several other fish to fry and the array of alleged aspirants for "congressional honors" in several of the North Carolina districts are billed to get a slim hearing this Anno domini.

This is no year to be breaking new horses to harness, in the national legislature especially, where seasoned and experienced heads are needed—of all places. And this is said without regard to the personality of any congressman or any person who desires to "succeed" him.

In France this principle is regarded as so vital to the interests of the country that last week it was determined officially not to hold any more elections till the war ends.

Holiday week developments furnished very little to write about in these letters, but the opening of the New Year, which bids fair to be the most important of a life time in making history, will give us all much to think and write about—and, let us hope, to profit by international and personal development.

C. R. Wharton and Miss Lindsey Married

Last Saturday Mr. C. R. Wharton of Greensboro and Miss Lessie Norma Lindsey were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Lindsey of McLeansville. Mr. Wharton is a son of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Wharton of Gibsonville and a graduate of the University of North Carolina. He was at one time principal of the Asheboro high school and has a host of friends here who wish him success.

Judges Long and Webb Exchange Courts

Judges James L. Webb and B. F. Long exchange courts so that Judge Webb will try the docket in the fourteenth district beginning January 7, 1918, with one week in Mecklenburg; two weeks in Gastonia beginning January 21; three in Mecklenburg February 4. Judge Long goes to Cabarrus for one week beginning January 7; one week in Montgomery January 21; two weeks in Iredell January 28, and two in Rown February 11.

Mr. J. Mat Poole of Ulah Dead

Mr. J. Matt Poole died at the home of his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Frank Poole, at Ulah, Sunday following a stroke of paralysis on Saturday. Mr. Poole was about 75 years of age. He married in early life a daughter of the late Frank King, who died several years ago. To this union one son, Frank Poole, was born. He died a number of years ago. Mr. Poole was buried at Flag Springs Tuesday.

To the Womens' Organizations of Asheboro

Here's to you, each and every one,—accept my thanks for what you have done in remembering me at Christmas. You have gladdened one soldier's heart by sending a box to show that you have not forgotten the soldier boys from Randolph. I happen to be a corporal. May each of you all have a merry Christmas and a happy New Years. These are the greetings I send to you.

WADE YORK.

York-Brown

On December 20th Miss Etta Brown was married to Mr. E. A. York, both of Ramseur. The young couple were married in Asheboro at the Register's office, Rev. C. L. Whitaker officiating.

The city of Gautemala, capital of the little Central American republic of Guatemala, has been laid in ruins by a series of earthquakes beginning Christmas day, continuing Sunday night with violent shocks completing the destruction; numbers being killed by falling walls, with 125,000 people in the streets without shelter. More than 60,000 persons are homeless.

row Wilson.

These men and many more possessed the two elements that have invincible and their names immortal. God puts the highest price upon the greatest worth. He who would attain that greatness must vay the price, must make himself master of the situation.

I appeal to each of you who may chance to read these lines, through the silent tongues of those who trod the sema paths, to arm yourselves with a pure faith, with a spotless chararter, will from the frozen lakes of the North and with irresistible visions. Go if you to the sunny seas of the South, from the sun first turns night into day to where it sinks again, and there make inquiry if there be a royal road to success. Every nation will rumble back its reply, every star will twinkle back its answer, and all nature will send forth [illegible]

PRISONER BURNS TO DEATH IN A CELL

Walter Hine Believed to Have Tossed Lighted Stubb of Cigarette to Floor

Careless dropping of a cigarette on the floor of a cell is believed to have caused the death early Monday night of Walter Hine, a prisoner in the Granite Falls jail.

Hine, who was arrested for drunkenness earlier in the day, was confined in a cell. He is believed to have tossed the lighted stub of a cigarette to the floor, igniting the bed clothes.

Hine's cries attracted a crowd to the jail, but he was so badly burned when removed that he lived only a short time.

The jail is not badly damaged.

A Beautiful Marriage at Ramseur

On Dec. 27th in the home of the bride there occurred one of the prettiest marriages ever witnessed in Ramseur. It was the marriage of Miss Mabel Spoon to Mr. Lacy W. Black, two of our most popular young people. Misses Madge Moffitt and Maude Lee Spoon sweetly sang "I love you truly," after which Miss Moffitt rendered Lohengrin's wedding march very skillfully. The handsome couple then took their places before Rev. T. E. White who in his most impressive and happy manner united them in holy wedlock. Immediately after the ceremony the happy couple took the 11:15 train, amid a shower of rice and good wishes for Washington, D. C., where they will spend their honeymoon. The bride was most becomingly attired in a blue traveling suit with gray trimmings, and hat and gloves to match and was the personification of beauty and love lines. The bride is the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Spoon and is loved by all who know her, while the groom holds a responsible position with the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., with headquarters at Pittsburgh, in which city Mr. and Mrs. Black will reside.

New Farm Loan Association

Mr. W. C. Hammond, farm loan appraiser, who has recently finished an assignment in appraisal of farms in South Carolina, was called to North Carolina last week. He has returned and will along with other appraisers devote his time for the next few weeks to aiding in the organization of new local farm loan associations.

Up to December 1, the farm loan board had chartered 1839 local co-operative associations, consisting of 10 or more farmer borrowers, each association being required to borrow at least $20,000. More than one hundred million dollars has been approved, with some eighty millions of dollars applied for not yet acted upon, and nearly five millions rejected.

Miss Leonna Hobson Becomes Bride of Mr. Flavius Trogdon

Last Sunday afternoon at the home of Rev. Joel B. Trogdon the officiating minister Miss Leonna Hobson became the bride of Mr. Flavius Trogdon of Asheboro Route 1. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Hobson while the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Trogdon. The affair was a quiet home wedding. Mr. Zell Brown and Miss Urslie Williams were present.

Their many friends and relatives wish them a long, happy and a very successful life.

Engineer Students May Stay in School to Complete Courses

The next examination through which graduates of approved engineer schools may apply for commissions as provisional engineers, corps of engineers, will begin January 21. Another will probably be held about the middle of the coming summer.

Students in approved technical schools who are considered as rating in the upper third of their classes may enter the enlisted reserve corps, and so enlisted will be permitted to remain on the inactive list until they have completed their college courses. When they leave their colleges these students will be called for active service of the engineer service of the Army or will be discharged to take their chances under the selective service law.

Two Million Dollar Fire in Norfolk

A series of four separate and distinct fires broke out in Norfolk, Va., last Tuesday. The loss of property is estimated at $2,000,000 and at least three were killed and a score injured.

The first three fires were preceded by a mysterious explosion and the fourth which broke Tuesday night in the Atlantic Hotel, was of a suspicious nature. There is no question in the opinion of the police and fire officials that all were of an incendiary origin Five arrests of suspicious characters have been made.

Church Social at M. P. Church

On last Thursday the Sunday school classes of the M. P. church gave a social to the members and friends of the church. The primary department entertained the children in the afternoon and the other classes entertained the grown people at nigh. On both ocansions the victrola furnished the music, Dr. Whitaker read a Christmas story in the evening. Fruit was served.

Hinshaw-Free

Miss Mabel Free, of Asheboro Star Route was married on Dec. 24 to Mr. Clifford Hinshaw of Randleman. The ceremony was performed by justice of the peace J. S. Ridge at his residence in Asheboro. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Free and is a charming young woman. The [illegible]