

## HOW THE NAVAL MILITIA LEARNED TO BE SOLDIERS

### Elizabeth City Company Makes Highest Score at Camp Glenn

By J. K. Wilson

In the days when "national defense" and "preparedness" are the words one reads and hears most, it is of interest to notice the work of training the citizen soldiers and sailors who will constitute the second line in time of need.

Week before last saw the Naval Militia of North Carolina engaged in a Camp of Instruction at Camp Glenn for rifle practice and general infantry drills and study. Herebefore the Naval Militia have had their instruction aboard battleships or cruisers in midsummer. The Fifth Division of N. C. Militia cruised this summer on the battleship Kearsage, up the Coast to Long Island where target practice was held with five inch guns. Of the little over ten thousand dollars appropriated by the federal government for pay and subsistence of officers and men only about one half was used on the cruise. The balance, therefore, became available for another period of instruction.

As sailors must at times be soldiers and prepared to act as a landing force, as when our navy took possession of Vera Cruz last year, the Navy Department acting under the request of Adjutant General Young, authorized the encampment at Camp Glenn.

Orders were accordingly issued by the Adjutant General at the direction of the Governor requiring all officers and men to report for duty from October 11th to 16th. The Fifth Division stationed at Elizabeth City, left on the midnight train and joined the other divisions on the way. Altogether five divisions were assembled at Camp Glenn on Monday morning and the citizen soldiers set to work to get their camp in order and fully organized. Being more accustomed to steel decks than to grassy camp grounds, to hammocks than to cots, and to pulling an oar than to pitching a tent, the work of getting a camp in good running order was a new one for the sailors. All was in shape in a few hours, however, the militia company had become a battalion, the executive officer an adjutant, the watch officer an officer of the day, the boatswain's mate a sergeant, the navigator a commissary officer, and the ships cooks had lighted their 'galley fires' in the mess hall and dinner was soon filling up the empty plates. With this done, the battalion was formed for dress parade and review.

The next work was to prepare for target practice. Each division was given individual instruction in position and aiming drills. Gun pointers who wore badges indicating their skill at larger guns, gunner's mates who on shipboard repaired and cared for guns, and turret, quarter masters from the bridge, machinists, oilers and electricians from the engine room, firemen, water tenders, and coal passers from the fire rooms, yeoman from the offices, cooks from the galleys, hospital stewards from the sick bay, all set to work to learn how to take apart a Springfield rifle, set it up again and then to so aim it as to hit a bull's eye. All instruction was progressive beginning with the rudiments for the benefit of the new recruit and finishing only when men had studied their rifle each one felt a peculiar fondness for his own rifle and nursed it like a child with her Christmas doll.

every man set to work to get every particle of dirt and rust from his rifle so that it would shoot true and give him the best score in the competition that was to begin.

The actual target practice was held under the Navy Firing Regulations in the marksman and sharpshooter courses, and there was keen rivalry among the divisions, each trying to qualify the highest number of men. The marksman course of the navy consists of sixty shots at a 200 yard range. Slow fire is first taken up and five shots are fired from each of four positions, prone, kneeling, squatting and standing. After each shot the hit is signaled from the pit by means of colored disks raised over the spot where the ball struck the target, indicating the place and value of the hit. In this way errors of windage, sight and aim are corrected. When slow fire is completed, rapid fire is taken up, thirty seconds being allowed to fire five shots in each of the four positions. The rapid fire is repeated in what is called second rapid fire. A score of two hundred on the whole or a score of 70 on the second rapid fire is required for qualification.

Only those who qualify as marksman are permitted to fire in the sharpshooter course, which is had at 200, 300, 400 and five hundred yards. Slow fire and rapid fire are had at each range, at the two hundred yard range from a standing position with a post rest, at 300 yards kneeling, at four hundred yards sitting and at five hundred yards prone, a parapet rest being used at all ranges over two hundred yards. After forty shots are fired in these positions the skirmish completes the course, beginning at five hundred yards and advancing on the targets, firing five shots of rapid fire at every hundred yards. This is by far the most interesting part of the work, for it gives the appearance of a line of battle actually advancing in attack. Thirty seconds are allowed for each string of five shots and one minute and thirty seconds for the advance of one hundred yards, the getting of position, the setting of sights for the new range and the taking of aim. In the sharpshooter course a total score of 200 or a score of 70 on the skirman are required for qualification. The highest score possible is 300, each bullet having a value of five.

The Elizabeth City Division claims the honor for scores, having qualified twelve sharpshooters and fourteen marksmen. Their scores for the sharpshooter's course are as follows:

Aggregate Skirmish	
Gard, J. A., Chief Quartermaster	250 88
Berckle, G. W., Gunner's Mate 1st class	244 80
Sanders, Andrew, Ensign	234 82
Norris, E. R., Oiler	226 78
White, J. F., Seaman	224 76
Telford, D. A., Seaman	217 77
Paupendick, G. F., Lieut. (J. G.)	213 79
Hingerty, R. H., Quartermaster 1st class	201 83
Jones, Ray, Seaman	174 80

### B. Y. P. U. BEGINS WORK

The Baptist Young People's Union of Blackwell Memorial Church began its regular services Sunday evening with groups number one in charge of the meeting. The following newly elected officers and committees have the work under their direction for the coming year: H. C. Newbold, president; Miss Blanche Brothier, 1st vice president; Miss Curtis Goodwin, 2nd vice president; Roscoe Wynn, 3rd vice president; Miss Courtney Jones, 4th vice president; Miss Grace Hetrix, secretary; Emmett Wynn, corresponding secretary; Miss Carrie Burgess, treasurer; S. S. Burgess, chorister; Miss Annie Bey, Trueblood pianist. The various committees are as follows: Program committees, H. C. Newbold, S. S. Burgess, Joseph Peela, Mrs. R. T. Venters; membership committee, Miss Blanche Brothier, chairman, Misses N. Stroth and Annie Belle Trueblood; Roscoe Wynn and Rev. J. N. Loftin; social committee, Miss Grace Straff; chairman, Miss Carrie Burgess, D. J. Pritchard, Wilfred Peela, Ear Chesson; Groups Captains: Wynn, Miss Grace Straff and S. S. Burgess.

Wilson, J. K., Lieut.	118	71
Roberts, M. H., Coxswain	130	76
Pritchard, E. B., Oiler	186	79

The two others who qualified as marksmen, made the following scores:

Aggregate Rapid Fire	
Bohler, W. J., Sharpshooter	218 71
Fernald, C. D., Farman	177 72

In addition to the drills and target practice schools of instruction were held for officers and men. Lieutenant E. H. Connor, U. S. N., who is detailed by the Navy Department as instructor-inspector for the naval militia of this state, was the moving spirit in all instruction. He held officer's school each night for studies in navigation. He has for some months been conducting a correspondence course in navigation, seamanship and ordnance, preparatory to the examination which all Naval Militia officers must take prior to February 1917.

As attendance at this camp was compulsory under the orders of the Governor and as failure to attend meant a court martial, a considerable inconvenience was caused to a number of employers whose employees were taken away. The officers, however, express their high appreciation of the patriotic spirit in which these employers met the difficulty. They are to be commended. They and others are to be reminded that a military training ordinarily improves the man who receives it and teaches him to render a better service and to understand that which so few Americans do—obedience and respect for duly constituted authority, whether it be business, political, military, or religious.

In this connection it is well to note the recent announcements of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway that it would give preference to members of the militia, and of many other large corporations that they would gladly give leaves of absence for their employees to enlist in the proposed Continental Army. Our whole country seems to be growing more practically patriotic. It is pleasing that the spirit is shown at home. The men who compose the naval militia give largely of their time, money and efforts to perfecting themselves for our defense. They deserve help and assistance from the public. By the way, would it not be a fitting thing for some of the patriotic societies of the town to give the local company a handsome flag which it badly needs? The old one was won in a competition drill many years ago and is too badly worn to stand further exposure to the wind. The societies who are upon this company to assist in their celebrations could well show their appreciation in this way.

### CALEB RAPEL DEAD

Mr. Caleb Rapel, a prominent citizen of this county, died at his home near Weesville Friday afternoon at about six o'clock. Mr. Rapel was seventy two years old and had been in failing health for the last two years. For the past three months his friends have felt that there was no hope for his recovery, and it was thought, a number of times that he was at death's very door. The funeral was conducted Sunday by Mr. Rapel's pastor, Rev. V. A. Royal, and interment followed in the old family burying ground. Mr. Rapel was a member of Newbegin Methodist Church.

Mr. Rapel was twice married and is survived by a wife and four children. The children of the first marriage are two sons, H. H. Rapel of this city and W. K. Rapel of Panama. Of the second are a boy and a girl, Maynard and Elizabeth. There are also two brothers, Henry Rapel of this city and K. D. Rapel of Weesville.

### BEST MEETING IN YEARS

What is generally admitted to be the best meeting at the First Methodist church in many years came to a close last Thursday night. Interest in the service was then at its highest mark, but other engagements compelled Rev. A. L. Stanford of Hickory who was doing the preaching to close the meeting at that time.

The church had an unusually large number of accessions as a result of the services, but the members felt that this was but the beginning of the meetings influence for good. The whole church was revived and it is believed that every member who attended the services was given a fuller appreciation of the obligation to and the happiness of christian service.

### DESTROYED BY FIRE

An out house on the lot of Dr. Pendleton's residence on Main street was destroyed by fire Sunday night between nine and ten o'clock. Prompt work on the part of the fire department prevented the flames from doing further damage.

### THREE MONTHS FOR WHISKEY SNATCHING

Ben Know, colored, was given three months on the chain gang Monday morning for whiskey snatching. The offense occurred in last July and Know has eluded the police since that time. He was picked up Sunday night.

### MASQUERADE PARTY A SUCCESS

The masquerade party given in the basement by the L. W. class of Blackwell Memorial church Friday night proved a success and a jolly time for those present.

A prize was offered the person whose name could not be guessed by the judges but so well masked were the contestants that there were nine whose names could not be guessed—so these drew for the successful number and Mr. John Ward received the prize. Refreshments were served in abundance.

### HARBINGER HONOR ROLL

Harbinger, October 22—The honor roll for the first month of the Harbinger school is as follows:

First Grade — Laurie Forbes, Wesley Parker, Bradford GaPop.

Second Grade — Clarence Bevington.

Third Grade — Mildred Owens, Uzo'a Twiford.

A VERY ATTRACTIVE LINE of afternoon and Street Dresses in Silks, Siles and Velvet and Silk and Georgette Crepe today and tomorrow. Two Days Only. FOWLER & COMPANY

## REPORT WORK OF MEETING

### Advisory Committee Offers Suggestions for Formation of Fields

In response to a call of the Advisory Committee of the Chowan Association, a large number of pastors and other representatives of the churches met in Blackwell Memorial Church in Elizabeth City on Tuesday October 19th, to confer together and make suggestions to the churches as to forming compact fields and locating pastors within the territory and the respective needs.

The following churches were represented in the meeting either by their pastors or one or more members of each church:

Ballard's Bridge, Belhaven, Bethel, Beulah, Cotnjock, Columbia, Blackwell Memorial, Corinth, Ebenezer, Center Hill, Edenton, Chapel Hill, Eureka, Geneva, Great Hope, Creswell, Elizabeth City, Herrington, Gateville, Macedonia, Manteo, Mt Pleasant, Middle Swamp, Mt. Sinai, Moyock, Oak Ridge, Olivet, Pantego, Pleasant Grove, Poplar Branch, Powell's Point, Providence, Ramoth Gilad, Roanoke Island, Roper, Sandy Cross, Sawyer's Creek, Shad Grove, Shiloh, Sound Side, South Shore, Travis, Warwick, Whale's Head, Whiteville Grove, Yopon, Woodville, Eure and Oak Grove.

L. W. Norman of Hertford, was made chairman of the meeting, and Lycurgus Hoffer, of Gateville, secretary.

As the purpose and proposed plans of work of the Advisory Committee seem to have been misunderstood in some parts of the Association, the Committee took special pains to explain that the Committee has never understood that the Association meant to delegate any authority or power to them beyond that of making suggestions and advising the churches and co-operating with them in the formation of fields and locating of pastors. And, furthermore, the Committee has never had any idea of assuming any authority over the churches whatever.

The members of the Committee simply wish to be the servants of the churches. And it was gratifying to note that all present in the meeting had this view of the work, and came to the meeting ready to co-operate in the movement.

And it should be said, in justice to some of the churches in the Association that were not represented in the meeting that they are in accord with the movement; but, having already arranged their fields, did not send any one to the meeting.

The fact that some of the churches have already arranged themselves into fields made it more difficult to suggest even an approximately satisfactory grouping of the remainder of the churches. And it is realized that progress in the movement will be slow. But the undertaking is becoming to be understood by our people. And the prospects for better conditions are growing brighter. And we feel confident that the day is near at hand when our people will all see the wisdom manifested by the Association in launching the movement.

After a careful consideration as the time would admit of, the following groups of churches as pastoral fields were agreed upon as the suggested ones to be made to the churches:

I. Columbia, Sound Side, Gum Neck, South Shore and Mt. Zion.

II. Creswell, Mt. Pleasant, Oak Grove and Travis.

III. Belhaven, Roper and Pantego.

IV. Ramoth Gilad and Ebenezer.

V. Shiloh, Oak Ridge, Pleasant Grove and Providence.

VI. Powell's Point, Poplar Branch, Cotnjock, Whale's Head, Ramoth, Shady Grove and Moyock.

VII. Berea, Riverside, Salem and Olivet.

VIII. Sawyer's Creek and Corinth.

## MAKES IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Currituck Calls Meeting to Plan for Moonlight School Month

Currituck, October 23—Superintendent of Education of Currituck County, R. W. Isley, has made the following announcements in regard to school matters of importance at this time.

Next Friday, October 29, is the day set to begin the plans for the Moonlight Schools. All the schools in the county are asked to take off Friday afternoon from the regular school work and have at the school house the regular committee-men, ladies and every body who will help carry on this work.

The compulsory attendance law, as announced before, will begin as follows in the various townships: Atlantic, Fruitville, and Poplar Branch November 1st.; Crawford and Moyock November 15th. We ask teachers and patrons to aid in keeping all children of school age in school every day possible.

Friday, November 5th is State Arbor Day. All the schools in the county are asked to use this day as an arbor day and plant out shrubs and trees—talk about caring for our forests and lands. Teachers are asked to sing songs suited to this day and have pupils recite selections for the day.

### CLASS ELECTS OFFICERS

The Berean Class of Blackwell Memorial Baptist church Sunday morning elected the following officers for the coming year: Dr. R. L. Kendrick, teacher, George J. Spence, assistant teacher, Rev. J. N. Loftin, second assistant teacher; Roland Sawyer, president; Joseph Peela, first vice president; David Pritchard, 2nd vice president; Wm. Pritchard, secretary; W. I. Peal, assistant secretary; H. Lamb, treasurer; Luther Owens, librarian.

### GAS COMPANY WINS PRIZE

The Southern Gas Improvement Company of this city has been notified that a first prize has been awarded it by the National Commercial Gas Association for the window display made by the local company during Gas Lighting week. The prize was won in competition with gas companies in sixteen states.

### NEGRO GETS THROAT CUT

Frank and Bennie Warren, two young negroes, in the course of what they claimed was a good natured frolic in their father's meat market on Poindexter street Friday let their fun making carry them a little too far and as a result Frank got his throat rather badly slashed with a butcher knife. A physician summoned found no artery severed, but it required several stitches to close up the gash, and Frank is suffering considerably from the wound.

As both young men and their fathers claim that the shooting was accidental, there have been no arrests.

Don't fail to see the the Presses on display at Fowler & Company's—Two Days Only—Tuesday and Wednesday—this week.

IX. Manteo, Roanoke Island and Nag's Head.

X. Woodville, Bethel, Great Hope and Mt. Sinai.

XI. Sandy Cross, Beulah, Gateville, Middle Swamp and Eure.

L. W. NORMAN, Chairman.

LYCURGUS HOFFLER, Secretary.