

FRENCH AND CAMP

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ARMY NEWS
FOR ARMY MEN
AND
THEIR HOME FOLKS

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MUNICIPAL TREE CHRISTMAS EVE

Mayor McNinch Will Appoint
Committees During Week.

Desires That Needy Families of
Soldiers in Service Be
Taken Care Of.

"The Hoover Christmas Tree" will be a feature of the Christmas holidays and will be a celebration of Christmas eve. No complete plans have been worked out as yet, but the tree will be held for the benefit of the needy families of Charlotte soldiers now in the field and for the poor of the city generally. Mayor McNinch will appoint a committee within the next few days to arrange a musical program.

The big feature of the Christmas tree, Mayor McNinch said last night, will be that people will bring their gifts to the tree instead of coming to the tree to receive them. He meant by that, that those in more fortunate circumstances will be asked to come and bring gifts of food, meat, fruits, rice and fruits, together with comfortable clothing, to be in turn given to the needy poor of the city.

A committee will be appointed to locate the needy families and another committee, which Mayor McNinch termed the "Company of Joy Bringers" will be appointed to carry the goods out to those in need. He has issued a call for volunteers to this company and stated that he would appreciate calls over telephone or otherwise, notifying him of a desire to assist in this matter.

The definite place for the holding of the municipal exercises has not been arranged as yet, but will be within the coming week and announcements will follow. Mayor McNinch will appoint and call together his several committees within a day or two when full plans for the affair will be made.

The holding of a municipal Christmas tree is in line with the practice in vogue in other large cities, when those who can afford plenty, assist in part of their substance with the less fortunate of their community. Last year the tree was placed on the courthouse lawn and there was a big celebration; this year another interesting program will be gone through with and there will be the addition of presents of a substantial nature for the poor of the city.

Mayor McNinch hopes to make a "basket" affair of the celebration hoping that the citizens will bring baskets of foodstuffs and clothing. It will be the duty of the committee, appointed for that purpose, to get the addresses of those who are to receive the gifts and the "Joy Bringers" to distribute them on Christmas day or soon afterwards as possible. Charlotte citizens have always contributed largely of their funds for worthy causes and there is scant doubt but that many a poor family will be given cause to be glad that Christmas is observed with the spirit of giving.

Nothing has ever been done in a public way to ascertain the status of the families of soldiers who have volunteered from Charlotte in one branch of the service or other. There are many names here who have members in the army or navy who are amply able to take care of themselves, but it is known that many poor boys have also offered their services to their country and some of them may have left their families in needy conditions. It is such families that Mayor McNinch would get in touch with and get a list of, so that in case of necessity in the future, should it ever arise, public assistance may be made, and that such families may not suffer because of making the sacrifice to their country.

The boys away from home are being taken care of in the Christ-

COMEDIES OF CAMP GREENE



"Say, Elmer, how d'you want Santy Claus t' give ya?"
"Huh, but I want most of all is a good stiff poke at the kaiser's jaw!"

mas boxes being sent from here. The government takes care of them so far as food, clothes and medical attention is concerned and the boxes will merely be Christmas cheer. The visiting soldiers in Camp Greene will also be given a Christmas celebration and there is no doubt but that the "Hoover Christmas Tree" on Christmas eve will produce enough foodstuffs to take care of, for a time, of the needy families of the city.

NEWS NOTES AND HUMOR FROM CO. D, THIRTY-NINTH

Athletics and Transfers Attract Attention of Company Claiming Death of News.

There isn't very much news running around in the company these days, but what there is is garnered here below.

The company baseball team is in what you might call first-class order (when it isn't otherwise), and challenges any other company in the regiment. For recommendation, look to headquarters company and other hopeful companies who have gone down in defeat at the hands of our vallant nine. Of course, we aren't for such players as "Lizzie" Steele.

The boys of Company D, who have been transferred to the machine gun company, are considerably "het" up. They like not the idea of assisting a docile mule along with a dismounted machine gun on his back. The boys are rather scared of approaching said mules' heels. Ducky Bretweiser says he is going to teach his long-eared jackass the semaphore so he won't have to approach said end of said jackass. We suggest that "Briet" leave the semaphore himself first. Kid Cordt, the "Bronx Twister," claims to be able to outting the famous

Caruso. To hear him practicing lately would bring tears to your eyes. It's so sad to see a young life so thrown away.

"Lizzie" Steele, our energetic mechanic, says that work gives a man an appetite. We asked "Lizzie" what he means.

"Doc" Franklin is with us again, as usual. We are certainly reminded of his presence by the philosophical language he uses. Webster invented a dictionary. We suggest that you invent a superb dictionary. You have the goods, "Doc."

Forrest Lyman, our eminent farmer, from Hawkins Corners, has been demonstrating that Uncle Sam is a good provider. It is no uncommon sight to see Lyman running up for "thirds and fourths." There is only one thing that prevents him from going up eight or nine times—the "chow" doesn't last that long. Well, Lyman is good for 300 pounds anyway.

"Kid" Bowen has been telling us that he comes from the city of Connecticut. With no insult to Connecticut, we ask him who allowed him in there?

Corak is thinking of showing General Pershing how to conduct the offensive in France. We always did think Corak had talent. He says so himself.

ISSUES BASEBALL CHALLENGE.

On a previous date the baseball game between L company and K company the outcome of the game of ball to be played was in doubt. But as some of the prophets of L company had predicted it was a sure thing for their company, K company says their defeat was due to the loss of men in their regular line-up. The score being 13-4 favor L company. Cassel behind the plate and Sergeant Sutton on the mound made L company self confident of the game. Challenge are in for all. Teams wishing a game inquire of Sergeant Bates.

TROOPS FORMED INTO NEW UNITS

Three Machine Gun Battalions Assigned to "Overflow" Camp.

Four Infantry Regiments Give Men to Compose Brigades and Division "Suicide Squads."

The first tangible result of the work of organizing the regular army troops into brigade and division units came yesterday when about 2,000 men from the Fourth, Seventh, Thirtieth and Thirty-eighth infantry regiments were moved to a newly established camp near the Berryhill house at Camp Greene, and formed into the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth machine gun battalions.

When announcing the organization of these units, camp headquarters did not make public the identity of the brigades and division to which these battalions will be assigned, but was it definitely stated that each of these is not a divisional machine gun battalion.

These additional gaps made in the already depleted ranks of the four regiments of infantry will be filled by recruits, the first increments of which have begun to arrive here.

All day Thursday these men toiled in preparing their new camp, though only one battalion intended to sleep there last night. The others returned to their quarters in the regiments from which they were drawn. The greater part of the work of making camp was accomplished, though construction of the field kitchens, foundations and certain other important work remains to be completed today. Tents were pitched and hundreds of men were busily engaged with pick and shovel digging ditches, trenches and making company streets.

The camp is located on a field which was in cultivation when construction of the camp began, and consequently is not very well drained. The ground still was sticky, reddish mud. This soon will be packed almost as hard as a brick by the tramp of many soldiers. The drainage is fairly good, though the lay of the ground is such that an extensive system of ditches will be necessary to prevent drainage from the battalion on the highest location flooding the camps of the units lower down the slope.

A squad of negro workmen had prepared a trench for the water supply lines, which, however, were not connected. Another squad of workmen were engaged in digging a large trench for a main which will supply other proposed camps on the road connecting Dawd and Tuskarree roads, between the stream and the Berryhill house. For the time being, these battalions will not have side-walls and floors for their tents, as are provided for all other units in camp.

This is the first overflow camp prepared at Camp Greene, which now is taxed beyond its capacity to accommodate troops. Additional camps for five or six auxiliary organizations expected to be sent here without great delay are needed. These units include a signal corps battalion, sanitary train, and a truck company. It was understood. This situation, however, is not so much the result of the arrival during the past few days of more troops as it is the formation of new organizations from units already at this camp.

ATTENTION, NICOLA SERIANNA
Antonio Manasse, Company F, Thirtieth Infantry, Camp Greene, requests that Nicola Serianna, at Camp Greene, company and regiment unknown, please write him at above address.

