

TRENCH AND CAMP

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WITH ENGLISH FORCES IN EGYPT

Hubbell Scared While Ship Dodged Submarines.

Tells of Trouble Britishers Had With Natives—Great Task Faced Y. M. C. A. Men.

Secretary Paul Hubbell, of the army Y. M. C. A., stationed now at Camp Greene, in the following article tells in a most interesting manner of his experiences while assigned to duty in Egypt with the British expeditionary forces.

Yes, I've been in Egypt with the English Tommies. They did the Turk all the damage they could in the Dardanelles.

I was with the "Y" there and we had a big job. At first we were about 50 secretaries to half a million troops.

When the call came to Oxford university for men several Rhodes scholars from the United States and many English students answered. We did not get princely salaries either, expenses and equipment and twenty-five dollars a month. But we went to London, got a few days training, and were sent by transport to Egypt. There were 12 of us that the workers' secretary, Mr. Drake, sent out to Malta and Egypt. We had a couple of big storms with the men sick since we were poor sailors.

There were some submarine scares near Gibraltar and south of Italy. One night a French patrol boat captain took us five ships had been sunk the night before. In a kind of panic every man went on deck with overcoat pockets full of ship's biscuits and life preservers buckled on. We were frozen out in an hour by the cold and wind and went below. Later, we learned that a Japanese ship was sunk in a few days of us, but we reached port safe enough the next day.

A Y. M. C. A. tent at Gallipoli was struck by a Turkish shell. All the soldiers escaped by running, but every thing was smashed except the graphophone, which kept playing Harry Lauder's "It's Nice to Get Up in the Morning." The secretary took a fragment of the shell as a souvenir home to his Cambridge university friends.

There is a seriousness in the men who are on the firing line not found so often in the camps. In our Bible class we had soldiers who had been under shell fire for three months. Some were fatigued, some were caring what some others were filled with a lofty trust and courage that even in death—the last big game—all would give.

One man told us he thought religion was "just to believe that God is in your heart and go ahead." That was the best definition of what a Christian means to a man who has ever means to a man who has ever means to get away from their thoughts rather than for pleasure or any like reason. Disease was much more common. In Cairo some of the strongest and best soldiers of the empire were drugged and robbed and thrown into the river Nile when they went into the worst parts of the city.

In Egypt the natives were regular "sharpers." The Tommies said they would steal the sugar out of your tea while you were looking at them. Food in the native restaurants was hardly fit to eat. A big share of our work was to supplement army rations and give decent food and drinks—tea and soda—to the men when they were out of camp on leave. In Alexandria the Y. M. C. A. building fed 3,000 to 4,000 men every day. All this besides the concerts, religious services, motion pictures and lectures on the country, sanitation, and classes in French. Here, French and English is spoken

there as it is the language of the storekeepers generally.

In the city of Cairo we had a stating rink and theater. The sidewalk in Egypt was the largest "Y" building in Egypt and often 5,000 to 10,000 men of the army and navy came to us in one day. Men from New Zealand, England, and Australia, also India, were in the place constantly. The Anzacs—named from the place they landed at in the Dardanelles—were the best drilled and finest looking soldiers there. Their appearance is much like some of the regiments now in Camp Greene with the addition of the smartness and physical perfection military training gives at the end of months. These men were sent to France after the withdrawal from the Dardanelles and did good service in northern France.

While at Suez we saw French Senegalese troops and Russians in Japanese transport pass on their way to southern France. Occasionally German aeroplanes flew over dropping bombs of scouting. The English captured many motor boats the Turks used in trying to take the canal. Some of these were brought to Suez full of holes made by the fire of machine guns. Pontoon bridges across the canal were the pride of the engineers and some of them could be swung into place in 12 minutes so that troops and motors could cross over into Asia. These have played a large part in provisioning and supplying the British army on its advance to Jerusalem.

OO. A 38TH INFANTRY NOTES.

Private Kilday does not like the drills in Company A. He suggested to be put in the kitchen so Sergeant Paquin has had a pair of K. P. chevrons made for him.

First Sergeant James A. Davis and Sergeant Paquin left January 30 to go up for commission. The officers in the company hate to see them leave, but all want them to get their commissions on account of Sergeant Davis recently married and the money and Sergeant Paquin would like to marry the "queen" he left behind in Syracuse, N. Y., but can not do it on his salary now.

Corporal Ross of Company A, Thirty-eighth infantry is going home on the sea of matrimony with a charming young lady of Cleveland, Ohio.

Sergeant Combs of Company A, Thirty-eighth infantry is a new right guide since the ranking sergeant have gone on pass.

Company A does not need a bugler as long as Sergeant Williams is on the job and the men have hair long enough to catch hold of so he can pull them out of bed.

SEC. TAYLOR RETURNS.

George H. Taylor, physical director of "Y" 105 (old 108), returned to his duties last Sunday after an enforced visit to the Presbyterian hospital in Charlotte. Our good smiling friend "George" looks good once more beyond the county line.

He's some hustler.

THE GIRL HE LEFT BEHIND.

(Sergeant J. F. Donovan, Co. E, 47th Infantry.)

On a cold and wintry evening, when there's nothing much to do, 'cept sit around the fire and think of her who thinks of you, 'Mid the snow-laden hills of Charlotte in the so-called "Sunny South," Where the rays of Old King Sol are chilled by blasts from Boreas' mouth.

If a soldier, from his musings by the burning sticks of tar, Is suddenly aroused as by a message From afar, If a gentle smile creeps o'er his face, As in retrospect he turns To think of her for love of whom his heart within him burns, If the lines from her which came that day, with their message of love and cheer, Are once again brought forth to light, each golden word so dear, Judge not harshly, gentle reader, Of the soldier you've in mind, He's with the girl he loves, tonight—the girl he left behind.

HARD LUCK AND HUMOR IN LETTER FROM COUSIN

October de Thoid.

Dear Kussin: As I have nutting to do and wish to do it, I tought I would took my pen and bottle of ink in mine hand and typewrite you a few ledders. Please excuse dis led penail.

We are all well at present except mine brudder. He was kicked in de suburban last nite by a mule. De mule is not expected to live. Your rich Anty who died from palpitation of the heart ven you vas here is still dead and doing nicely. Hope dis will find you de same. After she died I found fifteen thousand dollars sewed up in an old bussel she left behind so you are therefore no longer a poor man but a Dutch man. You are still an orphan. De only relation you have got left is an uncle who vas killed in de last war. Your brudder Bill went to work dis morning. De job will last about six months but he mite get out sooner for goot be havvayre.

Business has been dull since you left espashully de season. Your husband vas taken to the insanity asylum yesterday. He vas crazy to see you. I saw your liddle boy dis morning for de foist time. I think he vas glad to see you so I shud not vorry about dot if I vas you.

I am sending you, by Adams Express, your overcoat and as de verry best buttons I could find. I put on de buttons hoping dis will be satisfactory you will find de buttons in My toddler got his license to be an engineer on a penut roaster. I almost forgot to tell you I got married last week. I got a pretty goot husband, he is from Milo but I tink I would have got a better one at Westerville as dey had a larger stock to select from.

As dis is all I got to say, I will close up my face and expect you to do de same. Hopink dis will reach you before you get it and you will answer sooner as de usual. Your confectionary second to de last is Y. M. C. A. buddy.

P. S.—In case you do not get dis Jeddler, rite me and let me know and I will send it to you at vunce. P. S.—Don't read this letter as it contains verry bad news. —E-change.

EDUCATIONAL WORK AT Y. 105 SOMEWHAT RETARDED

The opening of the year finds the educational work under the direction of Y. M. C. A. building No. 105 unusually active. While the actual work of the classes has been very retarded by the fact that many of the men have been at the rifle range, this has only held back the class work. The organization of the classes has been completed and all is in readiness for a good start Monday.

Sergeant Slaty of Headquarters Company, Sixty-first infantry, has transferred the officers' training camp at Fort Oglethorpe. He should make a good officer and we all wish him well.

MORE ABOUT JOY RIDES.

Some people talk about joy rides. But if they want a joy ride let them ride out to the range with us when we enjoy it. When they can see how we are frozen then two and sometimes four of our mules are down. Then a soldier needs a buddy.

ERNEST MILLER, Supply Company, 38th Infantry.

THREE PRIZES FOR BEST SHORT STORY

A chance for every soldier at Camp Greene to win a prize is given by Trench and Camp. Three engraved cups offered by Harry Newcomb, physical director at "Y" 102, will be presented as a first, second, and third prize to the three men who hand in the three best short news, feature or fiction stories to the secretaries before February 1. The three winning stories will be published in Trench and Camp.

REV. J. O. GROGAN IS NEW Y. M. C. A. CAMP SECRETARY

Says Two New Buildings and Several Additions Are Assured for Camp.

The need for a Y. M. C. A. general secretary at Camp Greene, existing since the departure of Secretary Hawkins almost two months ago, was supplied January 1 by the arrival of Rev. James O. Grogan, newly designated camp secretary. Mr. Grogan came from Camp Gordon, Atlanta, where he has been serving in the dual capacity as camp secretary and as camp religious director.

Asked to tell something of himself, Mr. Grogan quietly and briefly replied that "I have been a Methodist preacher for 22 years, serving that church in the states of Georgia and Alabama." Mr. Grogan quietly and briefly replied that "I have been a Methodist preacher for 22 years, serving that church in the states of Georgia and Alabama."

Mr. Grogan immediately after his arrival began working energetically to acquire the great mass of information to formulate plans for Y. M. C. A. work within Camp Greene. Camp Secretary Grogan expects to start a new "drive" in Y. M. C. A. work among the 35,000 enlisted men of the regular army and the 3,500 enlisted men of the Fifty-first depot brigade, national guard.

Camp Secretary Grogan announced that another, the sixth Y. M. C. A. building at Camp Greene would be constructed without delay. This has become necessary because of the great increase in the number of soldiers quartered at this camp. An appropriation of \$2,000 has been made for this purpose by the Y. M. C. A. and bids for the construction have been asked. Only letting the contract now stands before the construction of this building has not been definitely.

Announcement also was made that the Y. M. C. A. would build at least two of the buildings already erected. This will be in the nature of an experiment, said Secretary Grogan, with the purpose to provide Y. M. C. A. facilities for the officers, many of whom are young men and deeply interested in Y. M. C. A. work. The club rooms will supply a great need for an assembly place for officers, nothing of this nature now being provided at Camp Greene. Secretary Grogan expects at an early date to be informed of the decision of the Y. M. C. A. to authorize the construction of a Y. M. C. A. building at the rifle range, located about 12 miles from Camp Greene. In the past, the Y. M. C. A. work at the range has been carried on under canvas.

An appropriation of \$300 for enlargement of the Y. M. C. A. administration building at this installation has been voted, the secretary said. This work is expected to be started within a short time.

The executive staff of the Y. M. C. A. Camp of Green, here place on record their high appreciation of J. O. Grogan, associate camp religious secretary, whose service here terminates at the moment he assumes the duties of that secretary at Camp Greene. Dr. Grogan in all things was a wise counsellor, a faithful worker, and an efficient member of the staff force. We commend him to the confidence and friendship of all among whom he may come. While bearing our sincere respect we desire to express our sincere regret that the demands of the cause have removed him from the work and fellowship in this camp.

VISITED OLD NEW YORK.

Harry R. Newcomb, physical director of "Y" 102 at this installation, returned from a week's visit with his relatives (and her) in and near New York. Newcomb is now and ready to keep every man in the 47th Regiment, 4th Engineers and all the machine gun battalions busy in athletic work.

