

# THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER

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## The Charlotte Observer

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**ARMY NEWS**  
**FOR ARMY MEN**  
AND  
**THEIR HOME FOLKS**

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### RED CROSS PRIVILEGED TO 'TRADE WITH ENEMY'

German Government to Permit  
Delivery of Supplies to Amer-  
icans Held Captive.

The latest privilege that has been granted the American Red Cross is that of "trading with the enemy" by the war trade board, according to information received from Washington recently by Colonel William Lawson Peel, manager of the southern division.

The privilege of sending letters, food and money to American prisoners of war in Germany has been granted exclusively to the Red Cross by the German government.

Germany demands a return for this privilege. She asks the Red Cross to be the medium through which she can purchase munitions and send them to British camps.

This, in a sense, constitutes "trading with the enemy." Thus it was necessary to get the sanction of the war trade board for the undertaking. This has just been secured and the license issued. It gives the American Red Cross a blanket authorization for communication with prisoners of war over the entire world—enemy, allied and neutral.

Recently a naturalized Austrian came to the Red Cross, begging it to get word to his son held prisoner in far-off Siberia by the Russians. He sent supplies and a letter, the spirit of which is as follows:

"Do not let the Russians involve you in any exchange of prisoners, for then you will have to go back to Austria or perhaps to Germany and be forced to fight Americans. Don't let them do that if you can help it; but stay where you are and we will send you supplies until you can come to America."

The American Red Cross is at work all the time gathering data about the American dead, wounded and missing on this side of No Man's Land—and about the prisoners on the other. The war department undertakes to send to the nearest of kin only the bare fact that an American soldier has been killed, wounded, missing or taken prisoner. The Red Cross, on application, supplements this by obtaining details and data. It thus performs a service of inestimable value to relatives at home.

Likewise any "enemy alien" in the United States can get a message of reassurance to a relative in the neutral empire through the Red Cross if the message is legitimate. In recognition of this work, the German government grants the Red Cross similar privileges regarding American prisoners of war in Germany, the nature of which cannot be revealed at this time.

The American Red Cross has been endeavoring to supply sweaters to all men in the training camps who have not already received them from home or through friends. The distribution is nearly completed at the camps in the southern division, and any man who has not already received a sweater and needs one should take the matter up at once with his company commander, who in turn should apply to the field director of the Red Cross to supply the deficiency.

**SEVENTH MOUNTED SECTION.**  
The mounted orderlies of the Seventh Infantry was a jolly good bunch until they had to stand reveille that "Hook Miller" is proud of the fact that he is from Ireland. "Hurrah for his home!" Ask Finkelstein how he likes his new job? Young Smith tried to ride "Steamboat" but after finding himself on the ground three times in rapid succession he decided that he was no "Burrhead." Young "Franch" has been riding "Steamboat" and he looks like a Jew riding a donkey.

### LECTURES SOLDIERS ON EVENTS LEADING TO WAR

Secretary of N. C. Historical  
Commission Discusses Growth  
of German Nation and Its Ambitions.

Great interest was shown last week in the lecture on "The Growth of Germany and of German Ambitions," which was given to large audiences in all of the activity buildings at Camp Greene. This is the second of the lectures which have been given by R. D. W. Connor, secretary of the North Carolina historical commission, in the series on "The Story Behind the War: What It Is All About."

The series was planned by Dr. Jameson, of the national board of historical service and will be given in several of the large camps and cantonments. Behind the lectures is the purpose to acquaint the men in training with the fundamental issues at stake in the great war and the historical background which is responsible

by lantern slides and the titles are as follows:

- A—The Warring Countries and Their Geography.
- B—The Growth of Germany and of German Ambitions.
- C—The French Republic and What It Stands For.
- D—The British Empire and What It Stands For.
- E—How the War Came About and How It Developed.
- F—The American Democracy and the War.

Dr. Connor has given lectures A and B with pronounced success. Mr. W. W. Pierson, instructor in history at the University of North Carolina, will deliver C and D during the next two weeks. Dr. J. G. deR. Hamilton, of the University of North Carolina, will conclude the series with lectures E and F, following Mr. Pierson. The large attendance at the lectures indicate the general interest and realization of the opportunity on the part of the soldiers.

### NOTES FROM BASE ROSUTAL Y.

On Sunday evening, February 17, the religious service was made especially helpful by a most inspiring word delivered by Mr. Mangum, Y. M. C. A. camp social secretary.

On Monday evening Dr. Beatty of New York, one of the religious speakers, went through the various camps by the Y. M. C. A., gave us both an instructive and entertaining address on "Character Building."

At the regular mid-week service, the Rev. H. O. Nash, Episcopal camp rector, impressed all present by his earnest discourse on the "Cure for Worry."

For forty minutes before the movies Thursday evening, Dr. C. C. Mitchell thrilled a large audience with his famous lecture on "The Soul of Soil and Soul." Without a doubt he is one of the strongest speakers that has yet been sent to Camp Greene by the War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A.

The Base Hospital Y. M. C. A. was very sorry to lose as one of its workers Norman B. Knowlton, of Massogor, Maine, who has lately enlisted in the 16th Regiment Pioneer Infantry, formerly the First Maine Heavy Artillery.

Secretary John K. Williams, formerly of "Y" No. 105, has recently been transferred to the Base Hospital Y. M. C. A. Mr. Williams has already proven himself to be a very efficient worker both in the building and in the Hospital wards.

### TO FORTRESS MONROE.

Chaplain Hall, of the 50th Infantry, received orders last week to report February 26th to Fortress Monroe, Va., where he will attend thirty-day training camp for chaplains who have recently come into the service. He left Monday. Before receiving his commission Chaplain Hall was a Lutheran minister.

### AMERICAN ARMY OVER 90 PER CENT INSURED

Camp Greene Is Second Among  
Camps in Amount of  
Insurance Bought.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Secretary McAdoo announced today that on the basis of official reports received on February 18 the American army is at least 90 per cent insured.

"No camp has yet reported less than 92 per cent of its personnel insured. Eight camps out of thirty-two are 99 per cent insured. It is now certain that the goal of "one million men insured by February 12" was attained. The total amount of insurance actually on the books of the bureau of war risk insurance is now \$2,184,000. This represents 1,082,099 applications actually on file. The average amount applied for is \$5,207."

Final reports from the Army and the American expeditionary forces were not available. The amount of insurance, however, written in the American expeditionary force is known to be substantial. Most of the overseas camps are at least 90 per cent insured.

Camp Logan, Texas, leads in the amount of insurance written with \$215,000,000 as a total. Camp Greene is second with a total of \$31,176,200. Twenty-four camps out of thirty-two are insured for more than \$200,000; twenty-one for more than \$225,000,000; twelve for more than \$250,000,000; five for more than \$290,000,000; and two (Camp Logan and Camp Dodge, Iowa, leads in the percentage of personnel insured with 92-100 per cent.

It will be remembered that the insurance drive was launched on January 14. This has been, undoubtedly, the most successful life insurance drive ever conducted. The total amount of government insurance force is more than three times as much as the total ordinary life insurance force with any life insurance company in the world.

The success of the drive has been determined, in a large part, by the hearty co-operation rendered by army and navy officers, enlisted personnel, and the officers and agents of life insurance companies and fraternal beneficiary associations, councils of national defense, the Y. M. C. A., women's organizations, and other federal, state and local agencies.

It is very gratifying indeed to learn that Camp Greene stands second in the amount of insurance written. The official reports show that Camp Greene is less than \$3,000 behind Camp Logan which is at present leading the camps in America. The success of the drive here has been determined, to a great extent, by the efficient work of Captain Pond, the camp insurance officer, and the officers working personally with the men of their respective units. The showing is an excellent one, and it is hoped that before April 12 Camp Greene will be leading.

### BASEBALL IN FEBRUARY.

The first game of baseball on record in this vicinity, took place last Sunday afternoon on the parade grounds of the Thirtieth Infantry, when the Second battalion officers took into camp the First battalion officers, on the tune of 5 to 2. The game was featured by the playing of Guillot, Kingery and Clark. Kingery and Guillot featured at bat. Ward in centerfield, executed a double somersault in attempting to catch a fly, a stunt that would have done credit to a professional acrobat. Y 105 has organized a ball team and is looking for talent. Get in touch with Physical Director Dergman. A soccer football team has been organized in the Thirtieth and a challenge is issued to any team in camp. Address Lieutenant Scarr.

### TROOPS WILLING TO FIGHT ALONE

Reilly Aroused Soldiers to  
Heights of Patriotic Fervor.

Brought Crowd to Feet, Wildly  
Cheering, America Would  
Assume Any Burden.

The hundreds of soldiers which jammed the Knights of Columbus building at Camp Greene last night were aroused to patriotic enthusiasm probably never before witnessed at a gathering in this section when former Congressman Thomas L. Reilly of Meriden, Conn., declared that "your flag and my flag will fight on, if it fights alone," after he had vividly pictured the awful responsibility that would be placed on the shoulders of the nation's fighting the Teutonic allies.

Speaking under the auspices of the fourth degree, Knights of Columbus, Congressman Reilly told the soldiers at the beginning that in each of the 25 great camps of the United States army, similar meetings then were being addressed by other speakers. The occasion was the anniversary of the birth of George Washington. The speaker said "no more appropriate day could be selected than this to recall to each soldier, and civilian as well, his duty to his nation, since this is the birthday of the Father of His Country, first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Closing his address, Congressman Reilly brought the throng of soldiers to their feet, cheering wildly in the enthusiasm aroused by his peroration. "Our cause, being a just and holy cause," the speaker declared, "this war can have but one end and that a great and final and everlasting victory for our flag. When that victory will come, we know not. We only know that the war will go on until that end does come."

"We know that if there should be another Russia, if the Italian army should ever struggle against us, so faithfully to defend the stripes and the homes of Italy from the invading Hun should, perchance, be forced to retreat again, and Italy should be eliminated from the war, then our flag will take its place alongside the tri-color of France, the flag that came to our rescue in our hour of need, and beside the barred cross of England, and the fight will go on. "If the fates should decree that the tri-color which has floated during three awful years over eVrdun and the valiant French army which has defended it, should at last be furled, then our flag will take its place beside the barred cross of England and we will fight on. And if, which God forbid, the flag of England should be withdrawn from the field, then your flag and my flag will fight on, if it fights alone."

An elaborate musical program was prepared for the occasion by Secretary T. Gavin, in charge of the K. of C. building, who leaves today to enter the army. A concert was rendered by the band of the Seventy-ninth field artillery, followed by vocal selections by Private MacMarree, of the Fourteenth machine gun battalion, and the quartet, of the First Army headquarters regiment, formerly the First New Hampshire infantry.

The building was appropriately decorated. Over the stage, was a great likeness of George Washington, the ninth field artillery, followed by vocal selections by the band of the Seventy-ninth field artillery, followed by vocal selections by Private MacMarree, of the Fourteenth machine gun battalion, and the quartet, of the First Army headquarters regiment, formerly the First New Hampshire infantry.

### SOLDIERS' CLUBS INVITED.

The officers' club rooms of the Second Presbyterian church will be open this week again and a reception with refreshments tendered on Saturday night.

