



# TRENCH AND CAMP



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FOR ARMY MEN  
AND  
THEIR HOME FOLKS

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### RELIGIOUS FEATURE IS NOT NEGLECTED

Actual Figures Prove That Y. M. C. A. Is Systematically Helping Every Man in Camp.

In order to get some idea of the actual work that is being done in the army camps by the Y. M. C. A. reference to the monthly reports is interesting. You often here the argument used by those who don't know that the physical and social side of camp life is featured too much and that religious activities are neglected. Figures and actual records kept disprove all this argument. For instance in Camp Greene alone with less than 20,000 men to serve, one week's report ending Sunday, September 21, shows that on Sunday alone 16 religious meetings were held with an attendance of 2,590 men; and that 1,580 men attended the mid-week services and on Sunday morning nine Bible classes were held with an attendance of 265.

But more interesting is the comparison of the figures compiled for the month of August by the Y. M. C. A. alone. The estimated attendance at the Y huts in the southeastern department, comprising seven states, was 6,002,046, with an increase over the previous month of 397,543; the number of letters written during the same period was 5,227,596, meaning that almost every man that entered a Y building wrote a letter. Then comes the matter of sending money orders alone which shows that \$300,719 was sent through the Y. M. C. A. out of the camps, most of that going home which proves that the soldier is saving his money and not spending it foolishly. In the educational work 10,805 educational classes were conducted during August with an attendance of 208,144, an increase of 63,090 over July and during the month of August 23,314 books were circulated among the soldiers from these Y huts. These books are furnished by the American Library association. In physical activities during the month 842,953 men participated and the spectators numbered 2,052,280.

Now comes the statistics on religious activities in the Ys of the camps; in the seven states alone. The attendance was 430,276 and this is an increase over July of 101,850, and when you figure that this attendance was entirely voluntary, the statement is all the more interesting. During the same period 1,629 Bible classes were held with an attendance of 78,651, which is an increase of nearly 18,000 over the previous month and there were 27,065 personal Christian interviews made by Y secretaries and this does not include signatures placed on the war roll cards; then comes the number of Christian decisions which is 2,693 with 13,019 war rolls signed.

In reading the above figures you must consider that this work is all voluntary and the soldier's response is voluntary and that the figures mean men and not a mixed attendance and it is doubtful if in all the seven states and in all the Protestant churches of those seven states if there were any ways near 8,000 adult male conversions during the month of August and it is also believed that the number will far outstrip the entire attendance of men in these seven states in the churches back home.

The work of the Y. M. C. A. is especially religious and these men lay special stress upon that feature and whether in athletics, moving pictures or social features, the Y. M. C. A. man has one purpose in mind and that is of being of service to the American soldier in developing his spirit, mind and body.

#### For the Kaiser.

Lieut. Wm. H. Scheukel had a squad of men, near the Dowd house Saturday, digging a hole about the size of a grave. When asked by a curious passerby what the hole was being dug for one of the workmen replied: "This is the Kaiser's grave," and the conversation closed.

COL. A. C. MACOMB.



New Commander of Camp Greene, Who Succeeds the Lamented Col. L. W. V. Kennon. Colonel Macomb Came Here From Camp Travis, Tex. He Has Served 40 Years in the Regular Army.

### MUCH INTEREST IN EDUCATIONAL WORK

Colonel Kent Taking Special Interest in That Feature and Many Foreigners, Are in Classes.

The work of educating the illiterates of Camp Greene is a problem the Y. M. C. A. is meeting with every ounce of energy and coupled with the hearty co-operation of the officials, much success is being attained. Readers will be surprised at the number of men that cannot read and write and who a few weeks ago could only make an X for their name and now they are writing letters home. This holds good with the colored as well as the white troops because the illiteracy in the former is considered 80 per cent.

For the past ten days Lieut. E. D. Gilmer, the instructor in gas warfare, has been teaching a large class of officers the use and operation of gas masks as well as how to detect the approach of gas attacks. His class has been meeting in Y-103.

Captain Griffiths, base hospital 147, is showing a great personal interest in his men by detailing the foreigners and American illiterates. Three clever lieutenants are assisting the educational director in this work and great interest is being shown by the men and now some of them are able to write letters home. At evacuation hospital a corps of officers are teaching the foreigners. All of the equipment for this work is being furnished by Y 102.

No educational work is being attempted at Y 103 because of the fact that the building is serving limited service men and most of the men are fairly well educated. It is to be

hoped that before long the companies will be organized in such a way that the foreign and American-born illiterates are instructed in English. It is the purpose of the educational department of the Y. M. C. A. to eliminate illiteracy from Camp Greene.

Base hospital is doing some good work in English for the foreigners. The lack of an educational secretary at this post has crippled the work much as there should be a class of fifty foreigners at this building studying English. These foreigners are not illiterates for many of them are well educated in their own language and they also speak English very well, but can't understand reading to any extent.

At Y 106 a good educational program is in operation. Foreigners, both literate and illiterate, are detailed to school. The work is being supported very enthusiastically and sympathetically by the commanding officer.

Not very much real constructional educational work has been done among the colored troops. Monday, September 30, Col. William A. Kent, the Y. M. C. A., is conducting a class try, gave this department a detail of 400 men. The school is conducted from 6:45 to 8 p. m., and much interest is being shown by the colored troops. Colonel Kent also detailed some more of his more educated men to assist the secretaries in the teaching. It is the purpose of the Y. M. C. A. to have every colored man who goes across able to write back home.

The class in French is being taught twice a week at Y 105 by Miss Horne, the French teacher of the Charlotte city schools. These classes meet from 7 to 8 on Mondays and Thursdays of each week.

C. O. Padgett, business secretary of the Y. M. C. A., is conducting a class in shorthand and typewriting at Y 102. Right in this line it might be added that among the colored troops of the 810th Pioneer infantry, 24 negro men are taking typewriting and learning it.

### SECOND JEWISH WELFARE BUILDING IS DEDICATED

Col. Macomb and Col. Kent Speak for Army and Mayor McNinch for Charlotte.

With ceremonies at once unique and interesting, the second Jewish welfare building at Camp Greene was formally presented to the camp Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock. The building was dedicated by Benjamin Rabinowitz, director of the Jewish welfare board work at Camp Greene, and was accepted by Col. A. C. Macomb, camp commander. The building is located in the Liberty park section of the camp.

Five hundred or more Jewish soldiers were seated in front of the building. On the porch were the official representatives of Camp Greene, Colonel Macomb and Colonel Kent, also other speakers who were to represent the several organizations of the camp.

Secretary Rabinowitz was master of ceremonies. The exercises were introduced with the Star-Spangled Banner, played by the Fourth Recruit camp orchestra. Prayer was then offered by Dr. A. A. McGeachy, pastor of Second Presbyterian church. The speakers were then presented by Mr. Rabinowitz in the following order: Rev. Mr. Branch, of Camp Greene Red Cross work, to whom he referred as "everybody's friend"; Secretary Mangum of the Y. M. C. A.; Secretary Kehoe, of the K. of C. May; or Frank R. McNinch, of Charlotte; Colonel Kent, who accepted the building for the government.

The final word was said by the commander of the camp, who referred to the American army as a great melting pot in which all nationalities are to be welded into one against a common foe. He said the war probably might end next fall, "but we are going to keep on till we do win. This building," said he, "has been given for the comfort of the soldiers and it gives me pleasure to accept it for the United States government, and with the hope that you may all be comfortable and happy in the possession of it."

A reception followed within the pretty building, sponsor for which is Miss Caroline Nathan, of this city. Miss Nathan was assisted in receiving by Mrs. F. H. McNinch, Mrs. E. C. Register, Mrs. L. W. Schiff, Miss Clara Nathan and other ladies representing Jewish and Gentile societies. Punch and cakes were served.

#### SOLDIERS SHOULD KEEP DIARY.

Every soldier should keep a diary. Those daily events that are so interesting today will soon be forgotten if they are left to the memory. When the soldier returns home how interesting the folks will be to hear of your experiences. Think of the pride the children of yours will take in reading through it. Each event accurately recorded, is it not worth the little effort each day?

Some difficulty however, may be experienced in obtaining a book that would withstand the rough usage. A novel scheme is suggested of writing home a letter each day recording all the events and a mere request of the folks at home preserve these would be all that is necessary.

Your friends when inquiring of you through your folks would obtain first hand information regarding you. Start it while under the influence.

Private Joseph Greenblatt, Recruit Camp No. 4, Co. 4, Ed. Note—Trench and Camp would suggest that the Y. M. C. A. magazine, Association Men would make a mighty good diary for the folks back home. Subscribe this week.

#### BEGIN BUILDING HOSTESS HOUSE.

Work of digging the basement and getting ready for the foundation of the new hostess house at the entrance to Liberty park was started Saturday, and it will be rushed through to completion.

