

OFFICERS SELECTED FOR ATHLETIC CLUB

Fort Omaha Men Form
Their Association at
Meeting on Friday.

Unrestrained enthusiasm predominated when the men of Fort Omaha met in the Knights of Columbus hall Friday afternoon and formed an athletic association. The hall was filled to capacity by the men of the post, who for two hours discussed and planned the winter program of sports.

At a meeting Monday afternoon the officers of the association were elected. They are Major Boettcher, president; Lieutenant Ted E. Faulk, vice president, and Private Allen Owens, secretary and treasurer.

The paramount purpose of the organization it was decided will be to encourage the individual to take part in sports this winter.

Basketball will be the major sport, it was decided. Hockey will be played and every man in the post encouraged to box and wrestle.

The affairs of the athletic association will be directed by a board of control. This board will consist of the secretary of the association and representatives from each company. The company representative will be selected by the popular vote of men of each organization.

More Than 17,000 Deaths in Army Camps From Flu

An official summary of the results of the influenza epidemic in army camps and military centers in the United States, made public by the war department, shows that there were 338,257 cases of the disease up to December 1, with approximately 17,000 deaths.

Because deaths resulting from influenza and pneumonia were not separately grouped, only approximate figures were given for those due to the epidemic. From September 13, the date of the outbreak, to December 1, 1918, 191,694 deaths from all causes were reported by military stations in the United States.

MAJOR VAN NOSTRAND GOES TO WASHINGTON

Post Executive Officer Transferred and
Made Balloon Division Executive
Officer.

An order of the war department issued recently transfers Maj. P. E. Van Nostrand, executive officer of this post, to Washington as executive officer of the balloon division of the air service. As such the major will play a prominent part in the reorganization of the entire balloon division, which will be put on a peace time basis.

While the major does not know when he will leave for Washington, he expects his travel orders this week.

In the reorganization work he will be associated with Colonels G. C. Brandt and Thomas Duncan, who are on the balloon division reorganization board. These officers both are close friends of Major Van Nostrand and with him directed the making of Kelly Field, during all of last year the greatest aviation training camp in the world.

Before entering the service Major Van Nostrand was in the newspaper business and was an editor on various western newspapers.

Major Van Nostrand was commissioned from civil life as second lieutenant of infantry March 3, 1913. He served with the 28th infantry from April 15, 1913, to July 1, 1916. He was stationed during that time at Galveston, Tex., Vera Cruz, Mexico, and in the Rio Grande valley

Captain Ayling New Post Adjutant



Captain John G. Ayling, A. S. (Aero) was appointed post adjutant November 30.

Before entering the service Captain Ayling was superintendent and general manager of Grays Sons, a large Syracuse shoe manufacturing concern.

The captain was commissioned first lieutenant at the Kelly Field flying school December 7, 1917. Before going to the United States aviation school at Kelly Field he saw service with the First cavalry and Third infantry.

He was transferred to Fort Omaha March 1. Upon completing the flying course here he was placed in charge of the flying cadet companies and was made assistant military instructor and officer in charge of recruit instruction. He was commissioned captain September 27, 1917. He also is a free balloon pilot.

Captain Ayling will remain in the service.

Nine Officers in Hospital Result of Flu Epidemic

Nine officers of the post have been confined to the hospital during the past two weeks by a small epidemic of influenza.

One death, that of Lieutenant DeForest A. Horning, has resulted from the disease.

Only three of the nine officers are now in the hospital. They are Lieutenants James B. Jordan, Edward G. Hotchkiss and Stocker.

The remaining five, including Major C. H. Maraville and Lieutenants George D. Kingsland, Bernard Murphy, Kenneth H. Patterson and Everett K. Hawley, have recovered and been released.

In five of the nine cases of influenza, pneumonia developed. Lieutenant Hugo Froehlich of Florence field recently underwent a minor operation upon his nose and is still in the hospital.

New Gas to Make Balloons Safer

Discovery of an inert, noninflammable gas designed for use in balloons, dirigibles and other lighter-than-aircraft was received by the navy department in a statement explaining expenditures now being made jointly with the army for its production.

The department said the use of this new element, officially termed "argon," will eliminate the hazard of fire and explosion that always has accompanied balloon operations where hydrogen has been used to inflate the gas bags.

Lieutenant Horning Dies Tuesday Night

MOST OFFICERS HERE DESIRE TO REMAIN

Fort Omaha officers for the most part desire to remain in the service.

Fifty-nine officers have made applications for commissions in the regular army. Thirty-six desire to be placed upon the reserve. Out of 115 officers, only twenty have made application for discharge from the service.

Pneumonia Following Influenza Causes Death of Assistant Adjutant—Given Military Honors by Command.

By Ned E. Williams.

First Lieutenant D. A. Horning, assistant adjutant of Fort Omaha, died at the post hospital Tuesday night following an illness of only five days with influenza and pneumonia.

Lieutenant Horning came to Fort Omaha November 2, 1917, from Honolulu, H. I., where he had been a sergeant in Troop D of the Fourth cavalry.

He was commissioned as second lieutenant on December 23, 1917, and after a brief period of duty with the Fourth Balloon squadron was made exchange officer and athletic officer.

Later he was relieved from those duties and made assistant adjutant under Major Bamberger. Upon Major Bamberger's relief from duty at Fort Omaha Lieutenant Horning was selected to succeed him as post adjutant.

He was commissioned as first lieutenant on August 26, 1918. On November 30, last, at his own request, he was relieved from duty as adjutant and again became assistant adjutant.

Lieutenant Horning was one of the most popular officers of the post. He was held in high regard by both officers and enlisted men.

This was the first death of an officer at the post for more than a year.

Largely Military Funeral.

Last honors were paid by Fort Omaha to its popular officer Thursday afternoon when a military escort of twenty platoons, lead by the post band, accompanied the casket to the railroad station.

Lieutenant LeRoy C. Perkins was in charge of the funeral arrangements and accompanied the body to the home of Lieutenant Horning's father in Phoenix, N. Y.

Services were held at the Cole-McKay undertaking parlors at 3 o'clock. Lieutenant Sanders, post chaplain, and the Rev. Father J. M. Stenson of St. Wilhelmina's Catholic church conducted the ceremony.

A platoon of cadets followed the band at the head of the funeral procession. The casket was carried on a motor truck. A horse, with saddle empty and arms reversed, was led behind the truck. All officers marched in a column of squads, followed by the enlisted men of the command in platoons in charge of noncommissioned officers. Personnel cars, bearing staff officers and their families, formed the last section of the procession.

Palbearers were Lieutenants R. E. Thompson, S. W. Conley, H. MacNeill, W. F. Collins, Tracy Lewis and T. E. Nelson.

He Hopes Booze Will Not Be Given Returned Soldiers

Secretary Baker appealed to friends of soldiers returning from the front for assistance in discouraging the giving of intoxicating liquor to the men as part of homecoming celebrations.

A drunken soldier, the secretary said, is a disgrace to the uniform, and no loyal citizen who has his interest at heart will put temptation in his way.

Transfer for Those Who Remain

Enlisted men eligible for discharge who desire to remain in the service will be permitted to select the branch in which they wish to serve. These men will immediately be placed upon detached service in the nearest appropriate unit of the regular army until such time as their re-enlistment has been authorized by congress.

RED CROSS CANTEEN HAS SERVED 279,763

This Is Number of Meals
Since Opening in December, 1917.

The Fort Omaha Red Cross canteen, of which Mrs. Luther Kountze is the head, has served 279,763 meals to soldier patrons. It has been in operation since December, 1917.

The Red Cross canteen service in Omaha has served 58,930 men going and coming to the front since March 1. This service has consisted of a variety of activities, including giving of cigarettes, candy, magazines, sending telegrams, postal cards and letters, sending sick soldiers to hospitals at Fort Omaha, directing men and officers to the baths at the station or the Y. M. C. A. or Khaki club and other acts of kindness.

The women have furnished 1,103 box lunches, have distributed 25,000 cards furnished by the Chamber of Commerce, in addition to 69,000 cigarettes furnished by the World-Herald from its "smoke fund," and 2,000 post cards donated by the W. O. W., as well as canteen postals.

Use of Shower Baths.

Shower baths, installed by the Union Pacific, have been enjoyed by 9,868 men since July. The largest number of troops met and greeted in a single detachment was 2,500.

Various and unexpected requests are often wired Mrs. Kountze from the commanders of incoming trains. Once at 11 p. m. she was asked to have ready for delivery to incoming troop train at 1 a. m. ten quarters of beef, 100 pounds of sugar, six sacks of potatoes and other articles to replenish the cook car. These were supplied through the commissary department on Mrs. Kountze's request.

The information desk now maintained and the rest room established are of invaluable aid to returning soldiers. Every effort will henceforth be made to serve these returning men to the best of the canteeners' ability. About 300 women are enlisted in the service.

Mother of Major Van Nostrand Is Seriously Ill

Upon receipt of a telegram from his brother, stating that their mother was very ill with influenza and about to undergo a serious operation, Major P. E. Van Nostrand, post executive officer, left at once Wednesday night for his home in San Antonio, Tex.

May Purchase Clothing.

The clothing department of the quartermaster corps is selling clothing to enlisted men. Sales started Monday.

Enlisted men may purchase any articles of clothing. Authority for the sale was given in a telegram from the war department.

HEADQUARTERS.

Sergeant Madison, telegraph operator at headquarters, is on a ten-day furlough, which he is spending at Washington, D. C., and Covington, Va., his home.

Corporal Charles Weir is on detached service at Camp Funston, Kas.

Cicero, our mascot, Miss Roache's little black cat, has abdicated his throne at headquarters.

One of our stenographers is an expert judge of automobiles. She rode to work three or four times feeling somewhat insulted, because it was "only a Ford." But, however, she feels better now since someone informed her it was only a "Dodge." Can you imagine how anyone could possibly mistake a Ford?

Our Sergeant Smith is saving money these days. Already he has a neat little bank account. Why? Well, since Sarpy county is some twenty-three miles from the city he doesn't feel like walking, and taxi service is just a little expensive for such lengthy trips. Cheer up Eugene, jitneys run to Twenty-fourth and Q and it is only about six miles to walk. One would have thought the street cars had started running again Friday evening, for he was overheard to say: "I will get to my bee farm" if it costs me \$7.00.

Anxious days these! Waiting for said discharge. One of our boys says he won't even wait for a street car when he gets his final papers. (Can't be bothered with such trivial matters.)

Sergeant Smith is sure a congenial sort of a guy. He has offered to spend the evening with any of the girls at headquarters since the street cars have ceased going to Sarpy county. Somehow we never did like to ride in second carriage.

The north upper room seems like a grave since our "Tetrazzina" (Miss Kendall's) melodious voice has ceased singing "Smiles" and when one hears the song now-a-days, they jump for fear it is she returning to shower some more "Smiles" upon the poor suffering gang, from the effects of it.

Sgt. Krohls favorite song, "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows." We don't know why he should feel so blue.

Along in the wee hours of the morning some of our boys of the Sixty-third company were awakened by a light. Upon investigation it developed that Private Click had lost a nickel and was attempting to find it. Evidently he has hopes of the street car strike being over in a few days and wouldn't run any chance of losing that nickel.

Why are the girls so busy practicing church hymns during noon hours?

We are wondering how one of our stenographers, Miss Owens, is going to square up when the boys are finally mustered out: one in France, one in California, one in Texas and one in Omaha. We are betting on the Omaha lad.

Chauffeur Williams, with wife and "Jim and Lot," are visiting relatives in St. Joseph. Willie thinks there is no place like the old home town.

Our chief clerk, Mr. Medhurst, wants some extra work to while away the long winter nights. He is expert in several lines of work, his latest being building porches and digging cellars. He has been working on the last cellar job for about a year and hopes to have it done sometime.

Scandal!!!!!! Even though the cars are tied up, they do not seem to keep Corporal Vogelmann away from South Omaha, for Friday night he was the holder of two seats, No. 1 and two row "O" at the Orpheum. I guess that speaks quite well for the corporal.

Wonder why the stenographers are so glad to see some of the printing office boys come upstairs occasionally? Myler is married, but Click and Kneiser, in particular, seem to have the upper hand.

POST HOSPITAL

O. M. Lambur.

The following medics have recently been relieved from duty with the Fifty-ninth balloon company: Sergeant Swarts, Private First Class Dean Birkett and Private Lightner.

Sergeant Bristow has just returned from his ten-day furlough, which he spent at his home in Roosevelt, Okla.

Private Blanz left for Kansas City on a five-day pass.

Private First Class Harrington is in the hospital with a touch of pneumonia. We hope for a speedy recovery.

Private De Shong has just been let out of the hospital. He sure had a tough time of it and we look for a speedy recovery.

Private Kimball is now convalescing from a recent attack of influenza and will soon be back on

duty in the kitchen, where the K. P.'s have missed him.

Cook Jenkins is nursing an infected right arm.

Corporal Stevens has just left on a five-day pass to visit Blue Hill, Neb., where his brother is very ill with influenza.

Private Ripley rejoined the medics, having spent five months at the army and navy general hospital at Hot Springs, Ark. He says he feels pretty good and no doubt the treatment has been of some benefit to him.

QUARTERMASTER CORPS

Julius du Base.

Private Rundquist of the post bakery is a happy baker these days, his brother has been discharged from Camp Funston and is visiting him.

Corporal Sorosen, driver of the big Q. M. truck is to be married in the near future to a young lady of many charms who lives on the boulevard.

Private Early Kellogg who recently rented two rooms and acquired privileges of the whole house in a private home back of the fort, patiently awaits his young French bride whom he married two weeks ago in Battle Creek, Mich.

Sergeant Griswall often seen in a movie house located near the Fontenelle hotel always, rents the right hand box next to the screen and we wonder if he sees better sideways—the pictures or the music.

Corporals "Hack," Canby and Privates Dubinsky and Brockett were invited to the Rome hotel to a dance given by Swift & Co., Friday evening.

Corporal Canby, post plumber, is anticipating many delightful visits to South Omaha after the street car strike.

Private James Summit of the post bakery is rushing a girl from Council Bluffs and his friends fear his intentions are real serious.

Private Hobert, acting messenger for the Quartermaster office and the Commissary, is making plans for a tour of the west and will make his home in California, after being discharged.

Private Clark of the Q. M. office and in civil life a clerk in a bank, lays awake at night counting money. John Wheeler suggested that he take an adding machine to bed and not be short.

The men of the detachment extend to Sergeant Shumacher their heartfelt sympathy for his recent misfortune in the death of his sister and wife.

47TH BALLOON COMPANY

M. E. Herskind.

Private Cressey, the Englishman who has served two years and twenty-one days in the world war, has been transferred to this organization. Private Cressey has several ribbons and buttons which have been presented to him at different times by the king of England. He states that he passed through a gas attack (chlorine gas) while on the front in France.

Private Milne was granted a ten-day furlough in order that he might go home and husk corn.

Private McAvoy is back in the company. McAvoy's wife was seriously injured in an automobile accident at Millard, Neb., and he has been to see her.

Through an oversight we failed to mention the good work of Mess Sgt. Ross in last week's issue. We take this means to give him double credit in this issue for the "feed" he put before us all on Thanksgiving.

On account of the street car strike, our dance has been postponed until Tuesday night, and we are all looking forward to having a good time.

This company will give a "Liberty ball" on January 11, 1919, at the Municipal auditorium. Great plans are being worked up for this to be the one big dance of the winter season. Desdunes band will be there, as will the boys of the Forty-seventh company.

Thirty-five men from Fort Crook were attached to this company for rations and quarters. Among them is Private Mercurio, who can cure the blues if such a thing exists. He is a rag time artist on both piano and mouth harp, and his concerts are appreciated by all.

Privates Gaston and Goodwyn reported back from furloughs. Both men spent their time in Colorado and report the time well spent.

Private O'Flinn, the Texas Irishman, has been assigned to this company, he having transferred from the Fifteenth company.

Sergeant Powney was detailed as one of the three to attend the show at Kansas City, where they are putting on an exhibition with one of the free balloons.

Private Cault has been granted a ten-day furlough, which will be spent at Iron Mountain, Mo., where

his father is seriously ill.

Privates Bye, Hyding, Johnson, Scott and Wolf have reported back to the company, they having been on farm furloughs.

48TH BALLOON COMPANY

New books in the Forty-eighth company library: "Wild Women I Have Known," Private Frazer; "Rabbits and Other Things," Sergeant Farrell; "Crossing the Big Muddy," Sergeant Braren; "How to Be Happy Though Married," Corporal Lee Marshall; "Tall Tales About York, Neb.," Corporal Glackin.

We are here again. We won't hear this whispering of where is the Forty-eighth. We're here now and all the time, and if you don't believe me, watch us. We're going to start right in with basketball and we're going to have a winning company team. In fact, our team is going to be so good that it will be the post team with no exceptions. What is needed is spirit, and we have that, so how about the other companies? We hereby challenge the other companies in Fort Omaha, Florence Field and Fort Crook. Now, let's give them a locomotive.

Corporal P. V. Alexander is now on a furlough visiting his wife in Guthrie Center, Ia. I guess Alex won't travel with any wild women now after they find out he is married. It is the truth, girls.

Wanted, ten or twenty young ladies, to cheer up Sergeant J. De Yarnon. Poor Jimmy has the blues. I think if Jimmy would get better acquainted with his bed he wouldn't be so blue.

Pretty little "Oh Sergeant" Harrison, the Gibson man of the Forty-eighth, claims he is off the women. He is the only one in the company that believes it, as the rest of us know that he has been out most of the time, and whenever one of the boys tries to use the telephone he has to take a back seat and probably wait a half hour, as the Gibson man is there whispering sweet nothings to the fair sex. We know it is the fair sex because he doesn't know one civilian of his own sex in this city.

Private Rennecke, the kazoo player, is certainly a find. He plays the kazoo so sweetly. It is one of the most complicated instruments in the musical world. He is a brave man also. We call him the bo man. Try him out, girls; he isn't afraid of anything.

Our friend, Kuno Hansen, had one of those funny things on the upper lip until pay day, after which we noticed an improvement in his appearance. It must have been of very heavy weight also, for now there is no impediment in his speech.

Our old friend Joe Frazier, from all reports, is still getting acquainted. It is known that he never goes out with the same girl twice in one month. His favorites are in the "First Seven Thousand."

Gee, it must be awful to be married. Rumors certainly travel and multiply. Of course, I can't tell what the rumors are, but I was standing in the K. of C. but when one of the K. of C. men asked me if Corporal Lee Marshall was still living with his wife. Send to the corporal for a copy of his new book, "How to Be Happy Though Married."

Private George Rocek is requesting a discharge for the good of the service. He has been kidding Uncle Sam out of \$20 per long enough. The Travelers' Insurance company is to be the next victim. Watch for a raise in their rate.

Sergeant Braren, formerly of the light horse marines, finds that his previous training and horsemanship comes in very handy since the present car strike. He thinks nothing of mounting a fiery charger "a la Paul Revere," or in case of dire necessity to swim the Missouri river to spend an evening with a certain inhabitant of Council Bluffs. When his Ingersoll is running properly, he arrives in time for the evening meal, with the usual apologies. During the summer he improved his horsemanship by riding the "hobby horses" at Krug park. For the last two months he has been a swimming instructor in a downtown pool (room).

59TH BALLOON COMPANY

Paul J. Rozmajzl.

Have you heard of the Rainbow quartet, composed of Dago Caruso (they call him Roberson), Mexican Barrara, Irish Congdon and one white man? They will be glad to entertain any company in the fort, providing they will furnish refreshments. Flu prescription preferred! Manager, F. Cummings; director, M. Pellegrino.

Private Jerry Houlihan of the Fifty-ninth company is very much disappointed over the present street car strike, as the trucks run only to the postoffice, instead of to Council Bluffs. He is doing K.

P. to drown his sorrow. Poor Jerry, the company extends to him their sympathy.

Hello, central; give me Barney. The line was busy and connection could not be made, so our friend Tony waited a while to try it again. Being very easily excited, especially in this case, he started.

(Continued on Page 6.)

Your Photograph

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Khaki Handkerchiefs of Cotton, Linen and Silk. Money Belts, Cigarette Cases, Mufflers, Scarfs, Gloves, both lined and unlined styles in kid, wool and silk. Army Stocks, Regulation Black Four-in-Hand Ties, Wool Hose in various weights and qualities, also heavy Cotton Hose.

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Direct Car Line from the Fort.

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Established 1886.

U. S. ARMY HAS FEW DESERTION CASES

Convictions on This Charge
Less Than During Pre-
vious Year.

Not a single member of the American army has been put to death since the war because of the commission of a purely military offense, Major General Crowder, judge advocate general, declared in his annual report to Secretary Baker.

"Very few death sentences have been imposed," he said, "and none of those imposed for purely military offenses has been carried into execution."

Many Minor Offenses.

Records of the judge advocate general's office show that 12,357 officers and men were brought before general court-martial, of whom 10,873, or 88 per cent, were convicted. More than half the charges against officers were listed under three heads: Absent without leave, drunkenness and conduct unbecoming an officer.

Convictions of enlisted men for desertion, the general said, were actually less than in the previous year, although the strength of the army has increased many fold.

The report shows that one enlisted man was tried and convicted of "being a spy," and that 773 men were convicted of sleeping on post.

PAPERWORK OF CORPORAL BUNK.

1. His Faux Pas.

From: Corporal Pete Bunk, 221st Balloon Company.

To: Lieutenant I. C., 221st Company, acting as captain.

Subject: Trouble with the Adjutant.

1.—Sir, I fail to see why the adjutant should get peeved at you and me. When he phoned and said well who was speaking I said Bunk he said he knew that but was it the Lieut. All I said was No Bunk talking and when he said I was some kiddie but what about that furlough of Prvt 1st McGosh I said so far as I was concerned he needn't grant no furlough to McGosh as he simply wanted to go home to get married and I told McGosh that my experience was he would have almost as much trouble in France as he would married so why get impatient.

2.—Well when the Adjt got through bawling me out I explained I was not a Lieut but the Cpl. I. C. Orderly Tent but that I didn't mind his bawling me out because he must of thought I was the Lieut. He said I will tell the Lieut about your Forepaugh and hungup—he did it in one word just like that, hungup.

3.—All I did was to call him again and explain I never was with Forepaugh and anyway them big circuses dont carry no hotair balloon men but that I did work the rattlers with Johnny J. Jones and the Southern shows and if the Adjt wanted references about my work to write Con Kennedy. He said I will spell it out for you f-a-u-x Faulks p-a-s pass and he hungup.

4.—Well I see he got the wrong company and thought McGosh was a football player so I called Lieut Faulk and said the Adjt called you by mistake to see about some pass Lieut Falk made in football to McGosh and would he phone the Adjt at once about it. He did and then he called me and bawled me out Good & Proper and so I called the Adjt again and told him if there was any mistake about Lieut Faulks pass I was to blame and was glad to assume responsibility for my own acts as the rating paper says. He hungup. I called Lieut Faulk and told him I took all the blame but maybe it was not a football pass a-tall but he better call the Adjt about his pass list and he hungup.

5.—I was going to call the Adjt to see if he wanted somebody to make a firstclass parachute jump and show these capts and lieuts how to do it and how to come down without tangling on the hot wires like I did with my chute in 1914 and hung there after putting half the city lights out of business and called the fire dept and when they found out I was to blame for their being fooled they was so mad they would not stop to take me down and I might have been killed by dropping about forty feet for all they cared and I hung there until a coon expressman went and got five bones off my old lady not wishing to take chances about his pay although he could have seen by my face I was good for it when I agreed to pay him. Will the Lieut explain all this to the Adjt and I will make a jump any old day.

JIM D. BUNK,
Cpl. I. C. O. Tent.

MAJOR VAN NOSTRAND GOES TO WASHINGTON

(Continued From First Page.)

and entertainments for the men of the post.

The institution of the Fort Omaha Gas Bag was made possible by the interest and effort of Major Van Nostrand. He also took a prominent part in the forming of the post band. He laid the plans for the organization of the new athletic association and has taken part in every other important project that has been started since his arrival here.

Winter Sports Diversified

Just stop a minute and consider the wealth of pleasure in sports the coming winter months offer. Basketball, Skating, Hockey, Boxing, Wrestling, Tobogganing—all these for the physical development of yourself, making you a better man for the time when you will return to the duties of civil life.

Take advantage to the limit of the opportunities offered by the directors of post athletics.

General Orders.

1. To accept my discharge, take charge of all government property in view and beat it home.
2. To accept my discharge in a military manner, keeping always on the alert and observing that it will not be revoked before I get out of sight.
3. To take the quickest train and not stop at any military post on my way.
4. To repeat all dope and rumor which has been spread through buildings closer to headquarters than my own.
5. To receive, believe and pass on to my children the experience I have acquired while in the service or shall acquire in the future.
6. Not to again quit civilian life after being properly discharged from the service.
7. To talk to no one about re-enlisting.
8. In case of the presence of a recruiting officer to give the alarm.
9. When the girls are home to allow no soldiers or militia on or near my premises.
10. In all cases not covered by instructions to claim exemption.
11. To salute all officers who have aided me in getting my discharged and all Budweiser and Whisky not cased.
12. To be especially watchful at night and allow no one to pass without buying a drink.

—By Order of General Nuisance.

CADETS NOT UP FOR IMMEDIATE COMMISSION

Flying cadets, upon completing the prescribed course of instruction, will not be given immediate commission, but if they desire to remain in the service will be retained as enlisted men, and every opportunity to obtain commissions will be given them when the balloon division is reorganized, according to a telegram received at this post from the office of Major General Kenly.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.

With basketball taking the lead in sports this winter, plans are being made to play in the Knights of Columbus hall. Carpenters and electricians have been busy the past few days laying out the court and arranging the lights.

A dancing party given by the Patricia club was held in the hall Wednesday evening. Due to the car strike, the girls were brought to and from the party in army trucks.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

The entertainers at the "Y" the past two weeks have been greeted with full houses. One of the most pleasing features was the reading of Mrs. Helen Harkness Calkins. Mrs. Calkins' work is greatly enjoyed by the men.

"The Boys of '61" quartet delighted the men Wednesday. All of the members are civil war veterans, their ages averaging 74 years.

Another military feature was the reading of an original poem, "The Charge of the Four Hundred," by Robert Hickman. Mr. Hickman saw service at the battle of Tien Ssin, and the poem is dedicated to his colonel.

"Big Bill" Mason addressed the men Friday and Saturday evenings.

Mrs. R. N. Bradford, wife of General Secretary Bradford, died in Omaha Thursday, December 5, of pneumonia. Burial will take place at her home in Fitchburg, Mass.

Major and Mrs. R. T. Crawford entertained Secretaries Mason and West at dinner Saturday.

Illustrated Book to Be Memento of Flying Field

A souvenir volume of the Kelly Field Flying department is now being compiled and when completed is expected to compare favorably with anything of its kind before attempted.

It is to follow the form of a college annual and will contain photographs of the officers and enlisted men of the department, airplanes, hangars, propellers; pictures of the various shops and offices, a history of the Flying department and anything else that may prove of interest as a memento of Kelly field.

First Lieut. Austin M. Malone, commanding Squadron B, and Second Lieut. H. D. Crowell, commanding Squadron H, are in charge of gathering the data and photographs for the review.

Ed. Note—The above item was clipped from the Kelly Field "Eagle". Wouldn't this be a good idea for Fort Omaha? Let's have your opinion.

Coming Events.

An interesting military party is being planned for the week following the opening, and a number of soldiers will be entertained by the club on Christmas day.

Boiled Briefs.

A carload of potatoes, presented by the town of Hemingford, Neb., will be distributed to Omaha families of soldiers.

All severe methods of corporal punishment in military prisons have been ordered abolished by the war department.

Beneficiaries of deceased soldiers are not required to show that they were dependent on the soldier to collect government insurance on his death.

Camp Fremont, near San Jose, Cal., is to be definitely abandoned as an army cantonment January 1, according to official announcement.

Nine million pounds of candy have been ordered by the war department to be rushed overseas for the soldiers for Christmas.

Final reports made on the united war work campaign for a fund of \$170,000,000 for the seven organizations doing war work among soldiers and sailors show \$194,044,038 was pledged.

Charles Martini, Omaha aviator, fell with his airplane from a height of 3,000 feet in England, but escaped with his life.

King Ferdinand of Rumania has awarded the Cross of the Military Order of Michael the Brave to General Pershing.

The birth rate of the former empire of Austria-Hungary fell 50 per cent during the war, it is said. The weight of the average man has been reduced from 170 to 120 pounds.

Great Britain will demand of Germany \$40,000,000,000 as reparation for the war.

Secretary Baker wrote a letter to congress, urging the extra payment of one month's salary as gratuity to all soldiers, army nurses and army field clerks.

War department disbursements to date in the United States total \$9,159,000,000, and those in France \$1,168,000,000, according to Secretary Baker.

That Marshal Foch may visit America as soon as his duties will permit is indicated by a cablegram received from him by the mayor of New York in response to an invitation.

The northern section of the Pacific coast was shaken by an earthquake at 12:45 o'clock in the morning on December 6. Reports of disturbance came from Vancouver, Seattle and Victoria, B. C.

Paris is filled to overflowing. Prices of all hotel rooms, following the requisition of twenty-five hotels for peace conference purposes, have doubled and trebled and are still going up.

Secretary Baker has given it as his personal opinion that none of the veteran divisions of the American army in France, including the Rainbow unit will return home before peace is formally declared.

The decision of the war department that the bodies of American soldiers who lost their lives in France should remain in that country until after the end of the war, was reached in agreement with the government of France.

Three American soldiers—Colonel Charles W. Whitteley, Captain George C. McMurtry and Private Thomas C. Neibaur—have been designated by President Wilson to receive the highest military decoration given in the United States for valor in action, the congressional medal of honor.

FLYERS GET SPURS BACK

Officers in the air service will wear spurs when boots are worn hereafter, except when they are flying.

Last spring an order was issued by the war department prohibiting officers in the air service from wearing spurs. Before that time spurs were always worn with boots.

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RAZORS POCKET KNIVES

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and Wherever Good Cigars
Are Sold.

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Is always ready to serve
you with necessities of all
sorts.

A lunch room has been
recently added, serving
Sandwiches, Pie and Coffee.

EXCHANGE PAGE

Suggestions for Additional Equipment to Be Furnished by Quartermaster to Members of the A. E. F., Siberia.

BY LAWRENCE KANE.

1. Twenty-five pound bag of wolf-biscuit to be sprinkled behind marching troops in order to delay attacking wolf-packs.
2. Ermine chemise for use when the bottom of the thermometer-tube freezes off.
3. Small razor-edged hatchet for cutting frozen whiskers off captured Bolsheviks.
4. Hand-satchel to carry the sixty-two pounds of kopecks and rubles which will be received when ever a five-dollar bill is broken.
5. Wrist hammer to be attached to wrist-watch and used during cold weather to tap ears and nose in order to discover whether they are frozen.
6. Special Siberian mess equipment, consisting of caviare-fork, samovar-holder and sourbread-knife.
7. Droschky-whistle for calling droschkies when the lips are too cold to permit whistling.
8. Large piece of soft rubber to carry in mouth when speaking Russian in order to get the proper accent.
9. Collapsible pocket snow shovel to shovel the snow out of eyes and ears during the heavy snow-storms.
10. Folding combination chest-protector and sign, to be hung around neck and released by a pull string. When string is pulled sign unfolds and displays words: "Unless you want to be shot, don't spring that old wheeze about being exiled to Siberia."—Judge.

Lafayette Paid; Home Calling Us, Pershing Says

American Headquarters in France, Thursday, Nov. 28.—(By the Associated Press.)—Victory, won by the American soldiers in hard fighting and at the cost of great sacrifices, was the Thanksgiving day gift to the American nation and the American army, Gen. Pershing declared in a Thanksgiving day address at general headquarters today.

The debt of gratitude to Lafayette had been paid and the invader had been driven back in defeat.

The American commander in chief paid tribute to the dead and wounded, urged the soldiers to thank God for the victory, and declared that a new vision of duty to God and country had come to all. American mothers, he said, await with loving hearts the home coming of their gallant sons.

After Bishop Brent's benediction a band concert was given.

Speech by Pershing.

The text of Gen. Pershing's address follows:

"Fellow soldiers: Never in the history of our country have we, as a people, come together with such full hearts as on this greatest of all Thanksgiving days. The moment throbs with emotion, seeking to find full expression. Representing the high ideals of our countrymen and cherishing the spirit of our forefathers who first celebrated this festival of Thanksgiving, we are proud to have repaid a debt of gratitude to the land of Lafayette and to have lent our aid in saving civilization from destruction.

"Victory Our Goal." "Victory was our goal. It is a hard won gift of the soldier to his country.

"In this hour of thanksgiving our eternal gratitude goes out to those heroes who loved liberty better than life, who sleep valiantly, where they fell; to the maimed, whose honorable scars testify stronger than words to their splendid valor, and to the brave fellows whose strong, relentless blows finally crushed the enemy's power.

"Nor in our prayer shall we forget the widow who freely gave the husband more precious than her life, nor those who, in hidden heroism, have impoverished themselves to enrich the cause, nor our comrades who in more obscure posts



here and at home have furnished their toll to the soldiers at the front.

"To Many Fame Has Come." "To many fame has come. New names have been inscribed on the roll of the immortals. To all have come a new outlook on life, a clearer perspective regarding its obligations, a more exalted conception of duty and honor and a deeper sense of responsibility to the nation and to God.

"May we give thanks that unselfish service has given us this new vision that we are able to return to our firesides and our country with higher aims and a firmer purpose, alike ennobling to ourselves and to those who have held long vigil and have prayed for us that we might worthily represent them.

"Our nation awaits the return of its soldiers, believing in the stability of character that has come from self-discipline and self-sacrifice. Confident of the new power that the stern school of war and discipline has brought to each of us. American mothers await with loving hearts their gallant sons.

"Great cause, indeed, have we to thank God for trials successfully met and victories won. Still more should we thank Him for the golden future with its wealth of opportunity and its hope of a permanent, universal peace."—Exchange.

WHEN WILL THE BOYS COME HOME?

A great many inquiries are made by relatives concerning when the boys will come home. The latest official statement by General March was that the discharges from the United States army since the signing of the armistice have totaled about 46,000 officers and men. Besides those that have been discharged, there have been designated for immediate demobilization in the United States 649,000 men, as follows:

Depot brigades, development battalions, replacement and casualties.	260,000
Divisional troops	10,000
Corps and army troops	42,000
Coast artillery	35,000
Engineers, railway and special units	38,000
Medical corps	2,000
United States guards	25,000
Spruce production	30,000
Military aeronautics	6,000
Tank corps	7,000
Chemical warfare service	7,000
Anthracite coal miners	6,000
Students' army training corps	160,000
Central officers' training schools	20,000
Total	649,000

Those having relatives in any of these organizations may expect them home in a very short time. In bringing back troops from France the war department expects soon to be able to return from 150,000 to 175,000 a month. The department says: "The process will become very rapid as the machinery of demobilization becomes familiar and more or less mechanical to the demobilization officers. We hope soon to get up to the rate of 1,000 per day per camp."

But with 2,000,000 still in the service and two American armies just marching into Germany, it is childlike, worse than that, the veriest nonsense, for an organization to declare "the war is over."—World-Herald.

Time to Get Up.

A new bunch of colored recruits arrived at camp late one night. They were startled from their sound slumber by the snoring and insistent notes of the bugler blowing reveille. None of them paid any attention to it except one darky, who sat up and shouted. "You-all bettah get up! Dat ain't yoh mothah callin' you up, boys; dat's yoh unah talkin' to yoh now." G. H.

About Face!

Sally—Why do they call a common soldier a private?
Sammy—Because he has less privacy than anyone else in camp!

Rumors.

Rumors

In the army
Are just about
As effectual as
The buzzard
Who sits on
An oil drum in
Front of a
Filling Station
And guesses
What kind of
car
He'd buy if he
Went to work
And earned
Enough money
To buy one.—
Trench and
Camp.

School of the Soldier.

By candidate Arthur ("Bugs") Bacr.
Fourth Observation Battery.

How to Stand at Attention.

Heels on the ground and as close together as your army shoes permit.

Feet turned out equally and at an angle of 45 degrees. Remember that the 45 degrees doesn't mean Fahrenheit. The recruit will discover that his shoes are six or seven sizes too large. This is for emergencies. In case of surprise attack he will be able to retreat six or seven inches without deserting his post.

Knees straight, with the dimples horizontal.

Hips drawn in without any Hawaiian flourishes. There are no ukuleles in the field music.

Weight of the body distributed evenly on both feet. This means your own feet.

Chest arched and inflated like stock in a Pennsylvania munitions factory.

Skull erect and chin drawn in so that the battery commander won't catch his spurs on your Aam's apple.

Eyes straight to the front. You are there to drill and not to flirt.

Try to shove your head through the roof of your hat. You can't do it, and if you do it the Q. M. department would soak you \$1.75 for a new hat.

Ears must be kept within the ranks and as close together as the conformation of the soldier permits.

Arms hanging naturally at the sides, with thumbs folded neatly along your money pockets, which should be as empty as a last year's bird's nest—and generally are.

In standing at the position of attention the soldier should be natural and not rigid. When properly executed the position is normal and the soldier is just as comfortable as an ant on a hot griddle.—Trench and Camp.

AIRPLANE MOTORS PRODUCTION.

At the time the armistice was signed contracts had been signed for the manufacture of 95,993 airplane motors, of which number 31,814 had been actually manufactured. Of this number, 15,131 were Liberty motors. In October 5,603 motors were turned out, with a contemplated production of 8,000 in January, 1919, and 10,000 a month for the following four months. In addition to this, 12,000 airplanes and 700 kite balloons were manufactured.

About Time, Too.

An officer inspecting sentries guarding the line in Flanders came across a raw-looking yeoman.

"What are you here for?" he asked.

"To report anything unusual, sir."

"What would you call unusual?"

"I dunno exactly, sir."

"What would you do if you saw five battle ships steaming across that field yonder?"

"Sign the pledge, sir."—Tit-Bits.

THE LURE OF FLYING.

Although compelling business and personal reasons will take many aviators out of the service, there are a surprisingly large number of men who are staying in it, surprising when the many disappointments and other things that have befallen flyers are considered.

There are a vast number of aviators who are already casting anchors to windward to find ways and means in the future of getting a ride in planes, and hundreds of others who are anxiously looking for such anchors to cast. Many hundreds, upon the authority of President Hawley of the Aero Club of America, have applied for positions as aerial mail pilots, although that is not a position which carries an alluring offer from the work or the monetary point of view, but it does offer a chance to fly.

From the first flight, 99 per cent of all the men who have flown that we have ever met have been filled with enthusiasm for it. It has a lure that would seem similar to those that journalists find, those that follow the stage and the concert hall, and those that people in the movies find. But it has in addition to it the lure of motion.

Horseback riding, carriage driving, horse racing, skating and sleighing were the principal mediums by which the lure of motion was satisfied when our ancestors felt it, and these moving diversions are still far from unpopular. Then we added the lure of motion of the steam driven vehicles and the bicycle, and they are also still with us. Then the automobile jumped into enormous popularity, not only for its utilities and conveniences, but because it also held the lure of motion.

But this lure of motion is developed to a degree not equalled by any other means now open to humans in the airplane. The sensations of flight are pleasant to every one, probably excepting those whose nerves or digestive systems or other physical factors are not in accord. It is positively fascinating to be able to take an air lane into the air, excepting when routine work is to be done, and go where one pleases and do what one pleases. Every phase of the lure of motion can be demonstrated.

Animals enjoy motion and feel its lure, also. Watch any pet cat or dog that is taken on an auto trip and see its apparent contentment and interest. The theory of evolution teaches that all of the animal kingdom, including man, is of common origination. The universal love of the lure of motion might be an indefinite proof of it. Animals which were not frightened have enjoyed airplane rides.

Thus, the purely animal in us as well as our human minds finds much to attract us and hold us to the lure of motion in its most highly developed form (to date, at least)—which is airplaning.—Editorial from "Tale Spins."

An Eye on the Future.

"Better be polite to every boy you meet. He might be your colonel some day."—Jewell (Kan.) Republican.

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Matinees—10c, 25c and 50c; boxes and stalls, 50c and 75c. Nights—10c, 25c, 50c and 75c; boxes and stalls, \$1.00. Few \$1.00 Sunday.

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Week December 8th.
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
WM. S. HART, in "BORDER WIRELESS."
Thursday, Friday, Saturday,
WM. FARNUM, in "RIDERS OF THE PURPLE SAGE."

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Omaha, Nebraska.

Fort Crook Notes

HEADQUARTERS FORT CROOK.

Our correspondent, Sergeant DeLand, is taking a little outing in Texas this week, therefore, due to the increased amount of work on the balance of us in his absence, we are too busy to get out and round up the news as is his style. However, we wish to be represented in the Gas Bag, anyway.

Private Senn, one of our headquarters boys, is home on a furlough. We miss him very much, but wish him a pleasant stay and a speedy return.

We are kept busy these days answering questions such as "when are the cars going to start again?" and "have you heard anything new regarding discharges?" Hard to tell which of the two is asked the most.

The boys out here are getting plenty of exercise these days, if you can call walking exercise. It's about ten miles to town when it's muddy.

Heine has been called back to his company at Fort Omaha. While we give him up with regret, yet our good wishes go with him, but we feel sorry for "Hug-em," the bear. He is almost uncontrollable since his "pal" left. We also feel safe in saying that he will be greatly missed by some of the "fair sex" in this part of the world. Must come back to see us some time, Heine.

We are glad to see Miss Brandt back in the telephone office after spending some time in Manhattan, Kas., visiting. Welcome back in our midst, Mary. We missed you, oh, so much.

Miss Haas of South Omaha has been spending a few days with Miss Brandt during the strike, and, of course, we all enjoyed her stay.

Private Carter, our "mail clerk," is winning fame for himself in the art of shining shoes. He specializes on ladies' shoes. He always carries his equipment in his pockets. He is also becoming very proficient in the comedian world. He can be heard singing, preaching "n' everything" at all hours.

Jarosh has finally ventured into the telephone office. We have been watching him with interest, for we knew he couldn't stay out very long, even though he is of a bashful disposition.

We fear if the personnel clerk here don't soon get a letter from North Carolina he will resort to something desperate.

It has come under our observation that the Seventy-fourth company surely think they are a branch of the Rainbow division, as they take the whole parade grounds to do the "right by squads movement."

Yelvington don't seem to care whether the cars ever run any more or not. It is hard for us to understand an attitude like this, but it is our opinion that someone has gotten in his "warm place."

We know a sergeant who was promoted to sergeant first class about the first of October, who it took two months to realize the fact, and from all accounts he was somewhat surprised when he woke up. We can think of but one reason for this, which is "he got married about that time." We all agree that promotions are nice, but married life must be nicer.

Chauffeur Harry Schaurer and "Hug-em" had a little argument as to whether he ("Hug-em") should be allowed to loiter in the garage office. Schaurer gave "Hug-em" the bums' rush and that was the last thing heard of "Hug-em" until this morning, when Schaurer discovered that "Hug-em" had made a meal out of the leather cushion upon which Schaurer reposes while operating said Hudson. As a result Schaurer is not on speaking terms with "Hug-em" this morning, but we expect to arrange the best boxing bout ever in the history of Fort Crook. The only reason we can see for all this trouble is that Heine has returned to Fort Omaha and "Hug-em" has no one to sleep with or talk to. (Note) Heine and the bear speak the same language. Hence "Hug-em" has no one who understands him. Heine, you must drop him a line some time.

MEDICAL DETACHMENT.

"It's a long, long walk to Omaha-ha" (Sung to the tune of Tipperary) is the popular song at Ft. Crook these days. Not wishing the strikers any hard luck, but if they don't eat till the Detachment out here tells them to, they'll sure be hungry when it's settled. That's us, "all over."

Almost forgot to mention (possibly because he's neglected to sew his "bars" on) that our "painless tooth artist" Ralph Whistler got to be Sergeant some time ago, and consequently has himself a "bunch

of slaves."

Two more of the boys "slipped" at the hospital recently. **RESULT:** beautiful shiners, anguish, hatred, and many plans for revenge. Better wait until you're out of the army fellows.

The boys of the S. A. T. C. were examined Monday, and well—some of the Med. Corps helped to fill out papers. Oh gosh, if it aint a grand feeling to help on a thing like that, when you know it will be summer before there's a chance for you.

Private Nicholson and Sergeant Shankin (retired) still hold daily conferences regarding this and that, but it seems that no agreement has been reached. The only thing agreed on is that the Sergeant wants "out" of the hospital and Nick wants "out" of the army. We hope they both get out.

Pvts. Roth and Bastron are out on 5 day passes, and we're getting ready for the news when they return.

It's kinda hard on the "Topper" these days going to town. We "single" individuals have worry enough without such, and so we all extend out sympathy to "Beck."

Oh, oh, you ought to see Sam and Joe with sixteen and twenty-three downy hair lip respectively on their uppers. It's a fast and furious race so far, and just a question of whether black or auburn hair comes out quickest. So far, Hamon leads by a slight margin.

QUARTERMASTER CORPS.

An inspecting officer recently told Private Cashman one "K. P." could not properly care for the Q. M. dining room. Thus confirming a long-felt suspicion in Private Cashman's mind.

Private Walters and Eby have been enjoying a short pass.

King is anticipating a trip home for Christmas, after which he plans on re-enlisting. Bully boy, King. Christmas, 1919, we'll all think of you.

Sergeant Patton says he has been enjoying a well earned rest up at the hospital for a few days. He also says he missed his little side trips with Corporal Cooper.

Sergeant Gates says he'd rather

(Continued on Page 7.)

ORGANIZATION NEWS

(Continued From Page 3.)

ed to try it again, but as the room was dark, he had to feel for the telephone. Finally he succeeded in finding it, but somehow failed to secure a firm grip and it went crashing to the floor. He did not mourn the loss of the telephone, but rather the hole in his salary, as Tony had to make good the damage. Slogan: "Don't get nervous when you call her up."

The Fifty-ninth company has been flying the "Wop" balloon for the last month, and our great composer Private Guench decided that it was about time for him to write a song about the dear thing. So here it goes to the tune:

"Joan of Arc."

"Wop" balloon, "Wop" balloon, do your eyes from the skies see the foe, don't you hear the winch man calling you, we are all together watching you. "Wop" balloon, "Wop" balloon, you're the pride of our platoon. Come lead your men to victory, "Wop" balloon we are calling you.

We must not forget our friend Ray the cook. He cannot cook a meal without having on a pair of fatigue gloves. What is the idea Ray? does it add flavor to the meals, or are you afraid that you will catch cold and get the Spanish "flu"? Boys, I think that a pair of gloves would make an ideal Christmas present for Ray.

62ND BALLOON COMPANY

Private McGlynn is in Chicago on a 10 days' furlough.

Sergeant Krohl and Private Kleeberger have been discharged.

The company is once more a company numerically. Many new arrivals have come from the 61st company, and have done much to lessen the burdens of the few duty men we have had. Let 'em come, the more the merrier.

Private Hentons' business is increasing daily. He deals in form fitting leggings that really are form fitting. His leggin is really a good one. It is made of good material and is exceptionally well made, and extra good looking. No, I'm not getting anything for this write-up.

Private Chase has at last recovered from a case of near-flu. It is well he has. Had he been ill a few days longer, either a lawn mower or ribbons would have been very much in need.

Private Macbeth swears he's Scotch and Spanish, but with American ideals.

Private Smith and Zervas are as like as two peas.

Can't understand why Privates

Thawley, Gribbe and Sailor aren't as anxious to be sergeants now as they were to be corporals two months ago.

Diogenes never sought his honest men more diligently than Bol-gians seeks an inventor to put the quietness on returning iron-shod night prowlers.

Private Grebe was convinced at a party of four last week that a masculine woman is almost as bad as effeminate man.

There's a big difference between Florence and Florence Field. Ask Private Dunn, he knows.

63D BALLOON COMPANY

G. C. Wiedersune.

Well the Steppin' Sixty-third is stepping more lively than ever in view of the street car men's strike. Evidently a lot of the boys are acquainted comparatively close to the fort; and then the trucks are very convenient. Thanks to the Commandant.

As many of the company as could possibly be assembled, dolled up and had their "pixchers tooked" on Sunday morning, by Corporal Hamer of the Photographic Detachment. Even Sergt. Zuber was there with a broad smile.

Sergt. "Dutch" Missig says he is glad Twenty-fourth street is within walking distance. The strike does not trouble George although it is somewhat lonesome walking, now that Private Freitag does not accompany him any more.

Sergt. Suttie tells interesting stories from the land of sunshine oranges and peaches, from whence he just returned. We wonder how many of the latter he picked.

If Cheshire got Klauck's Maschin, would Hayhurst get Neal's Coate or Lynch Hosley? Tell the M. & V. Dept., but Speaker easy.

Corporal Correa says he is going to return to sunny Mexico as soon as he gets out of the army and he hopes it will be "Menyana."

Private Freitag of the Balloon house crew shook the dust of Fort Omaha from his feet for five days to assist in the exhibition of a balloon at the War Exposition at Kansas City. We are convinced that he will return with interesting tales of "how to keep amber fluid from disturbing the equilibrium, even though there are fins and a rudder to keep the nose pointed into the wind."

Private Click says he never knew before that Benson was so far, hopes "them there strikers would git together purty quick."

Private Knight, erstwhile king of K. Ps., has been promoted to the M. P. force. His curiosity got the better of him as to just how much noise his revolver would make, so in the early morning hours of last Sunday he aimed at and missed his own shadow twice. His "Good Night" now, not "Red Knight."

Privates Spearmann and Eagles are real chums and are usually seen together on their sojourn into polite society. With Eagles' eyes, and Spearmann's personality, it is a case of "Stick, the flavor lasts."

73RD BALLOON COMPANY

C. B. Mackell.

There is only one joy killer in the 73d company. Corporal Witt's sweet voice, "Fall Out," at 6:15 a. m. every morning. It seems as though he should oversleep some morning.

Chauffeur Steffey took a bath, really. Dutch Cleanser was the most appropriate washing compound.

All the Comforts of Home Life, why? We have an amusement room which is adorned by a piano, pool table, etc. Some class to us. We all extend our thanks to our Commanding Officer for the interest he has taken in our welfare.

Corporal Moore certainly will have considerable trouble this winter if he does not attend to his upper lip.

Top Kick McGowan informed Corporal Voiz that it would be necessary for him to get his hair cut.

Corporal Zerbs was promoted to Sergeant this week also Corporal Farrington was promoted to Sergeant. Privates McLean, Minnema and Cressler were promoted to Corporals. Chauffeur (Sleepy) Witt was promoted to Chauffeur first class and Private Morris was promoted to Chauffeur.

Sergeant Brown, Private Albert, Private Johnson, Private James O. Curtis, Private Cates, and Chauffeur Hamilton have gone home on furloughs. (I am wondering when my turn is coming.)

74TH BALLOON COMPANY

Sergeant Meis has been going around on a flat tire since the strike went into effect; the reason for this, we think, is due to the fact the sergeant was in the city the night the car men walked out, and we are unable to say whether it was due to the lack of funds, or whether he just wanted the ex-

ercise, but anyway he walked to the fort. He has had rheumatism in his ankles ever since.

It's a serious proposition with Sergeant Gillen now as he came rolling in the other night with mud up to his knees. According to the rumor, the sergeant was again meandering around Twenty-fifth and California, and in order to get back he hired a car, and the car got stuck, so the good natured sergeant got out and pushed. That's his report of it!

Chauffeur Shaffer has returned from the hospital after being laid up due to a collision of a "Ford" with his "popgun." He is recovering rapidly and we trust he will soon be back on the job again.

Lieutenant Simmons was made fire marshal of the post.

We stood in line to enlist, We stood in line for our shots

We'll stand in line to get out,

And we'll stand in line for a job.

Private Kitchen is a great talker. He can't even keep his trap closed when he's asleep. He has a long conversation every night with some lady by the name of Fanny. Oh, Kitchie, come on and tell us about it.

Private Slutsky received a letter addressed with a typewriter, upon being presented with it he glanced at the envelope and said, "I know that's a letter from my sister, as I can tell by the handwriting."

Chauffeur Hauser has just returned from a furlough after looking after some of his farm interests.

The bugles evidently have the "flu," as they sometimes sound like they are sneezing.

Some of the guard takes "bed check" every night, and it is their usual custom and general topic of conversation to say "you're laying wrong, get up and turn around." All of this happens about 2 a. m. We're going to murder the provost.

75TH BALLOON COMPANY

Montgomery Owens.

Sergeant R. E. Hitchcock has returned from the hospital to duty. Private Harcourt R. Boyd died of the influenza at the Post Hospital, Dec. 5th.

Private Milton Graff is off on a ten days furlough.

Private Frank C. Granbow is on a ten day furlough.

We regret to state that our C. O., Lt. Kenneth H. Patterson is confined to the hospital with the influenza but are glad to learn that his condition is improving.

Corporal Snyder returned to camp Saturday night to find that his bunk had been tampered with. What he had to say will not be published for fear this paper might fall into the hands of some lady. However, it was sufficient to cause an order to be posted that no more beds should be tampered with.

Private Nause, formerly with this company, but now with the 49th balloon company, stationed at Morrison, Va., paid us a visit today.

Privates Richardson, Brown, Schmutzler and Bowater are now attending the Non-Commissioned Officers' Training School.

We take this opportunity of thanking Col. Wuest for the use of the trucks while the street car strike is on. He certainly looks after the boys.

81ST BALLOON COMPANY

Geo. J. Lamb.

Hats off to Ratzman boys, he has been promoted. He is now the official Rip Cord carrier. Lieut. Loomis had a hard time running him down to bestow the said title on him.

Lieut. Murphy is in the hospital with an attack of tonsillitis.

Pvts. Oran Coker and Addie Gentry from the fighting 61st have been transferred to this organization. They will make pretty good K. P's. at that.

Corp. Weir has returned from Camp Funston after escorting two prisoners to that place. He missed connection at Kansas City like all the rest. Like Grape Nuts "There's a reason."

Ten of our men started to school Monday. What does this mean?

Acting Sergeant Pinnell now gives the setting up exercises. Wonder why they want to pick on him?

Pvt. 1cl. Diggles is worrying an awfully lot about when he is going to get his discharge. It's all right. Dig you are not alone in your worry.

Hereafter the permanent address of Pvts. Morrison and Noble will be the kitchen. Please see that all mail is properly addressed.

Pvt. Decker has been recommended for the job of Dining Room Orderly. Hasn't been recorded yet that there was any celebration on his part over the news.

Another promotion men. Pvt. 1cl. Lamb is now a Corporal.

Pvt. Moskowitz is the king pin when it comes to pressing clothes. Interview Sgt. McHugh, he can tell you all about it.



Mr. Soldier Man!

Many of you are strangers in our community—we welcome you. Many will be with us during the coming Xmas holidays, which, in the light of victory, should be the merriest and most joyful of any Xmas since A. D. 1. We will commemorate Xmas 1918 with pleasing personal and permanent gifts. What more logical than jewelry? Where more satisfying to shop than Ryan's, the house of quality?

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An Appreciation.

With the departure of Major Van Nostrand from Fort Omaha, it is in order that we tender to him our sincere appreciation for what he has done for us in sporting activities.

The major has been ever willing and anxious to lend his help to the promotion of athletics at this field, and the staff of the "Gas Bag" feels sure that it is voicing the sentiment of the entire personnel when it says that the conscientious and tireless efforts of Major Van Nostrand were fully appreciated and that we are grateful to him.

Now, all together, men! We'll miss you, Major, and wish you a full share of success in your new Washington assignment.

VETERAN BALLOON MAN AT FORT OMAHA

(Continued From Page 11.)

which was given by Mrs. Howard to her friends, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Holtz of Cincinnati and Mrs. Chas. Troutman of Hamilton, Ohio.

It was in the balloon "Drifter" that the party started from Hamilton, Ohio, at 3:35 o'clock, Thursday afternoon, November 18, 1910, and on account of being overtaken by a wind and thunder storm they were forced to land sooner than was planned and landed at Dry Ridge, Ky., at 7:35 o'clock p. m., after making a voyage of 75 miles. The ladies were much delighted with the trip and so after the war it can be expected that "balloon parties" with the ladies will be popular; but Pvt. Howard and his wife must be given credit for being the originators.

The "Drifter," of which Pvt. Howard was pilot, was the only balloon to qualify in the free-for-all at Indianapolis, Ind., Sunday, September 18, 1910. The other entrants who started for individual honors were the "America," Allan R. Hawley, pilot, Augustus Post, aid, both of New York; "Miss Sophia," Wm. T. Tassman, pilot, of St. Louis; "Indiana II," C. G. Fisher, pilot, G. L. Bumbaugh, aid, both of Indianapolis; "Luzerne," Dr. L. E. Carter, pilot, of Dayton; "Million Population Club," Louis von Phul, pilot, J. O'Reilly, aid, both of St. Louis; "University City," Capt. John Berry, pilot, of St. Louis; "Pennsylvania," A. T. Atherbolt, pilot, C. B. Graham, aid, both of Philadelphia; "Centennial," (formerly the St. Louis), H. E. Honeywell, pilot, W. Lambert, aid, both of St. Louis; "Hoosier," Chas. Walsh, pilot, of Kingston, N. Y.; Reber, aid, of the U. S. Signal Corps; "Buckeye," J. H. Wade, pilot, A. H. Morgan, aid, both of Cleveland, and the "New York," C. B. Harmon, pilot, of New York, Thomas S. Baldwin, aid, of Quincy, Ill.

These entrants have been recalled to impress the little "stunts," which were really "big stunts" in the "good old days," pulled by men, many of whom are now in our midst, giving to Uncle Sam the fruits of their years of experience in a profession that was not very popular, only to such who desired exciting environment and the field of course was not crowded.

Pvt. Howard is now close to fifty years of age, when most men begin to think of retiring; but not for Howard. His life has been too full of thrills to settle down at a time when the whole world is thrilled; so into the Army he came to give to Uncle Sam of his knowledge and skill. He is doing so to the extent that he is making fellows around him sit up and take notice that he is a hard worker, and do not assume that because Howard is a veteran balloonist that he makes himself conspicuous. You have to go after his opinion and then he will cheerfully tell you all he knows. It is considered a privilege and a pleasure to have the man who caused the newspapers all over the United States to print special editions which excited the public for the last thirty years tell you all about these experiences in a first hand way.

An Army Legend.

When good citizens die they go
To heaven—as a rule.
An old first sergeant doesn't die,
But turns into a mule.

He plods along quite faithfully;
Has ne'er a word to say,
And never growls about his
"chow,"
Nor kicks about his pay.

Now, should you go a-soldiering,
The army is a school,
And lesson one is simply this:
Respect the army mule.

They once were soldiers like yourself,
These drudges 'fore the wheels;
And lesson two—I'll whisper it:
Don't fool around their heels.
—Life.

FORT CROOK NOTES.

(Continued From Page 6.)

have pneumonia than take the cure. We wonder which "cure" he refers to?

Private Eastman has become mascot to "Hug'em" the bear.

Someone found Sergeant Spellman in a semi-stupor today. After recovering, Spellman observed that he had been sergeant first class since October 10th, and just now found out about it. Congratulations, old top.

Dewey Whetstone has been acting-commissary sergeant during the past week. Dewey says it's a snap.

If it isn't quarantine, it's street cars. Wish they'd move Omaha just outside the post.

Private Mach, "the baker," is looking for a good man to take over his work. Mach wants a discharge. Says it's the first time he ever had to want one.

60TH BALLOON COMPANY

Since our entrance at Fort Crook we have started the ball rolling and now boast of having one of the best basketball teams in this vicinity. For the past week the team has been practicing very regularly and strenuously and are steadily coming into form. The following men are turning out daily for practice: Knox, Osenburg, Felt, Sells, DeChant, Redmond, Donhowe, King, Hesketh, Hurley and Eide.

The company to show its appreciation of the boys efforts has presented them with classy black and gold suits.

Sgt. Barrett has promised Sgts. Hurley and Eide that he will see that their friends witness all the games.

The mess sergeant of the 60th, unless the tide turns, will be "messed" for fair in the near future.

History for our grand children: "No, son, the 60th did not tour France with General Pershing. They did even worse. In the early stages of the war they were overcome by a brilliant attack led by General 'Measles.' The advance patrol and rear guard came to a distinct halt and the company was held in their entangled position for two weeks. For a period of one week the company made splendid progress and it seemed as though the enemy was weakening.

During the reign of king Ak-Sar-Ben, General 'Flu' led a strong counter attack and captured our outposts and brought the company to its knees. It was perhaps the fiercest battle of the war. Many were wounded and killed and the siege lasted for a period of five weeks. After that my boy the company sallied forth for a brief respite of seven days, when suddenly an order came to prepare for a final training when the company was ordered to approach in the vicinity of Green's hill, where the tents were pitched and the gully was christened Camp Coffman. Here the rain fell in torrents and the men suffered intensely because of the unbearable elements. This battle lasted for exactly seventeen days when General 'Armistice' commanded halt.

The company then advanced for a period of seven days in the vicinity of Fort Crook where they were steadily checked because of the fierce onslaught led by General 'Strike.'

"That's my story son and I'll stick to it."

FLORENCE FIELD

R. J. JONES.

On account of the fire which destroyed the tent occupied by the field medical dispensary, the dispensary is now located in new quarters, the old headquarters tent of the 49th Balloon company. The burned dispensary tent has been replaced and the post of the guard is not situated there.

Lieutenant C. R. Jacobson, field dental surgeon, has again moved his infirmary. It is now located in the west room of the field headquarters building, sharing quarters with Lieutenant Cluck, field balloon officer. The dental infirmary was previously located in the east end of the mess hall No. 1 and prior to that shared the old medical dispensary tent.

The 50th balloon company made another speed record Tuesday morning at 7 o'clock, when fire destroyed the tent occupied as quarters by Captain F. DeP. Townsend, field executive officer. The company was at breakfast when the alarm sounded, but reached the scene in time to prevent serious damage to the captain's personal belongings.

The field looks deserted. All of the tents in the four company camp sites have been taken down and the floors removed and stacked. Bare stretches greet the eye where

long rows of canvas peaks formerly were. Both of the remaining companies in the field are now quartered in the mess halls, which make first-class barracks.

A single row of tents on the 50th company camp site are the only surviving remnants of the tented city which has made the field look so interesting to visitors during the summer. These are occupied by Lieutenant Larry Hunt's "tabbits" from the 74th company. Like the officers' tents, they have boarded sides to tone down the rigors of winter.

The Y. M. C. A. were obliged to vacate its quarters in mess hall No. 1 when the 50th company took over the building as barracks. A farcical party was given, including fudge, pop corn and music and the work in the field discontinued with the exception of the daily trip of a secretary to bring stationery, printed literature and stamps to the boys.

50TH BALLOON COMPANY

W. O'Neil Goodwin.

Now we're the Florence Field home guards. Last week we moved our bunks from the frigid tents into mess halls one and two. These will be our winter quarters, and they sure are more comfortable than canvas. Washington at Valley Forge has nothing on the Fighting Fiftieth.

Sergeant "Broadway Fred" Steward is on special duty at the personnel office. We hope that he negotiates a "pull" and gets the Fiftieth mustered out first.

Sergeant Windhorst of pills and iodine fame has returned from furlough.

Private Tordy is in the hospital suffering from an attack of yellow jaundice.

Lieutenant Faulk, our "C. O.," is spending the week-end in Lincoln with his sister.

We welcome Lieutenants Ogilbee and Griswold to our fireside.

For the past few weeks we have been serving the officers of Florence Field in our mess hall. Understand that this will be discontinued and the regular officers' mess will be started again.

Lieutenant Lydiard was on the "sick book" the past few days, but is now back on the job in his usual high spirits.

We regret losing Lieutenant Cluck, but congratulate him on his recent appointment as field balloon officer.

Mess Sergeant Adams has a family of 200 and "some" to feed these days.

The members of this company will entertain their friends at a dance in Rome hotel Wednesday evening.

Private Svahn is pretty busy since pay day. She lives in the country about two miles away from the nearest car line. Field shoes should be worn!

Private McCoy contemplates a visit to Lexington, Ky.

Corporal Hay devotes all his spare time to letter writing. The new Mrs. Hay in Minneapolis is the reason.

"Top Kick" Moan will not suffer from the cold any longer. The orderly room is in the kitchen and the typewriter is kept on the stove. Asbestos gloves will be issued to the office force.

We claim the record for having the brightest and best fire department in existence. Something like ninety seconds elapsed before our outfit was on deck at the recent field dispensary disaster.

61ST BALLOON COMPANY

Finis C. Ewing.

Lieut. Franklin P. Quick, our commander, who has been ill at his home in Lincoln, Neb., has returned to his company.

The past week has been one of celebration, the quarantine was lifted last Sunday and the men have been taking advantage of open post.

The street car strike has no effect on us as the men are flush with money after being in quarantine so long.

A photographer woke us early Sunday morning to get a picture of our husky bunch. Most of the men had attended the "Charity ball" the night before and did not want to be disturbed, but nevertheless we had our beauty struck. The camera could not stand the pressure of Private Schwartzbeck's profile and immediately gave up the fight with a cracked surface.

Moving into the mess halls is quite an improvement over the tents.

Sgt. Ziebarth has been relieved as mess sergeant on account of transferring our mess to the Fiftieth company. We are holding him in reserve in case the Fiftieth mess sergeant falls down on his job. Ziebarth has given us some real feeds and we do not like to give him up.

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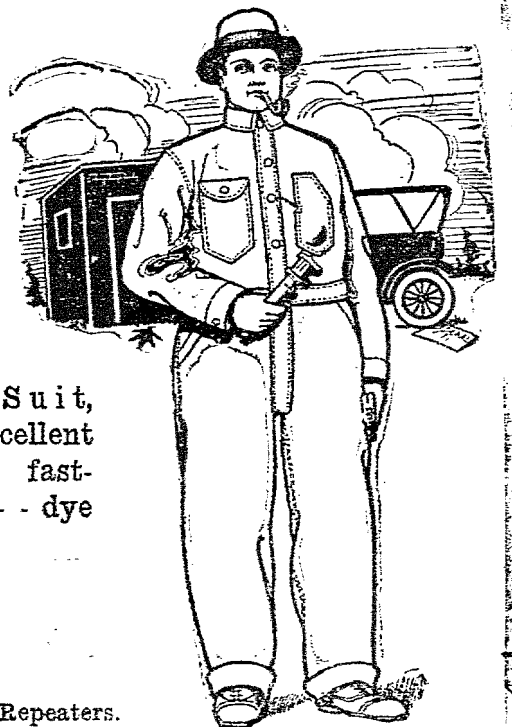
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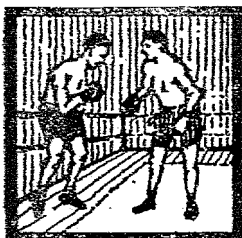
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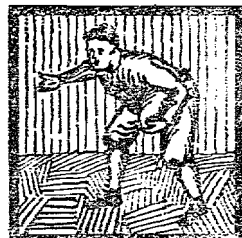
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SPORTING - NEWS



Yanks and Britons Divide Honors in Inter-Ally Bout

(Report From World-Herald.)

London, Dec. 11.—An inter-allied boxing tournament in which men from the British and American forces participated was held here today.

In the bantamweight class, Jimmy Wilde, the British "flyweight" champion, won from Joe Lynch of the American army. In the light-weight class, J. Miller, British army, defeated A. B. Mitchell, United States navy, while in the welterweight class A. Wilkinson, British army, won from Jake Abel, United States army.

Groves of the British army defeated Callender, of the American navy on points in a flyweight contest. In another flyweight bout Joe Percival, British army, knocked out Sims of Canada, in the second round.

In the light heavyweight division, H. C. Grebb, American navy, beat Baker of South Africa, while Joe Beckett, British army heavyweight, won from Joe Cox, American navy, the decision in both contests being awarded on points.

Pal Moore, American navy, was awarded the decision on points over Pattern, British navy, in a bantamweight bout.

Hold Tournament in London Soon

London—American boxing fans are looking forward to the Anglo-American tournament to be held at the National Sporting club here December 11 and 12 between American and British boxers. Among those entered is Joe Cox, a heavyweight of Springfield, Mo.

"Cox has licked Boer Rodel and Gunboat Smith twice," one of his enthusiastic backers said. "Back in 1910, when he was still in school and Jess Willard was just starting out as a 'white hope,' Cox slammed Jess so hard in the ribs in a fight at Springfield that Willard jumped out of the ring and beat it."

"Willard always claimed that the crowd was hostile and that some of them threatened to annoy him with a pocket cannon if he should abuse Cox. But that's an alibi. Let me say further that this bird has the heaviest right that was ever toted by anything traveling on its hind legs."

Cox is a chief master at arms on a United States dreadnaught. Until recently he had not donned a glove since joining the service.

Mat Men Getting Ready

In preparation for the boxing and wrestling tournament the various companies at Fort Omaha, Fort Crook and Florence field are grooming their candidates. As usual, the Fiftieth has "something up their sleeve" in the person of "Young Denver."

In his career "Young Denver" has stood the gaff of such gladiators as Fred Fulton, the hopiest of all white hopes, and Jack Dempsey, another scrapper of note. Denver's record is interesting and, with him in the ring, the Fiftieth boys will not be afraid to take ring-side seats and all the bets in sight.

On his former battle grounds Denver was known as the "meal ticket" scrapper as he wasn't afraid to take anyone on for a go when there was sufficient long green in sight. Nerve! That's him all over.

The writer of this article happens to be a member of the Fiftieth and should like to hear from other companies regarding their candidates, as it is difficult to gather in stories like the above outside of association.

Plans are also being formulated for the wrestling talent and a detailed report of activities is expected very soon.

All companies are requested to advise the "Gas Bag" of all inter-company athletic activities—such news makes interesting reading and we need it to make a first class sport page.

Puck Passers Lining Up

As soon as King Winter pushes the mercury way down in the thermometer we may expect to hear the swish and clink of skates on our own sheet of ice, which will be manufactured for the express purpose of giving the hockey talent a chance.

The boys from the northland should be in their glory when the opportunity to again chase the fleeting puck and skate backwards 'n everything is offered.

First hand information concerning the hockey team is not at hand as we go to press so about all we can say is for the hockey players to sharpen up their Barney and Berry's and make their presence known.

Stella—An officer has to know how to handle men.

Stella—Huh! I know how to do that myself.

—New York Sun.

50th Company Has Basketball Men

Keen interest is displayed by the members of the Fiftieth Balloon company in the new basketball team that is just being organized.

This company has plans laid to "bring home the bacon" and judging from the recent practice bouts their ambition seems well founded. Last week practice was held five times and Lieutenant Faulk seems well pleased with the results so far obtained.

The lineup will include Lieutenants Faulk and Lydiard, Sergeants Windhorst, Adams and Nelson, Corporal Wiggill, Chauffeur Ickman, Privates Patterson, Stokes, Schroeder, Scandrett and Wadley.

An attractive schedule is being arranged by Lieutenant Faulk for the ball tossers, many of the crack teams throughout the state being included.

The officers in charge of athletics plan to choose the material for the all Fort Omaha team from the various company teams and the Fiftieth of Florence expects to be well represented.

Practice will be continued and it is hoped the complete schedule can be announced very soon.

Committee Draws Constitution

The following officers and enlisted men were appointed to draw up the constitution and by-laws which will govern the policy of the Fort Omaha Athletic association:

Lieutenants Reynolds and Thompson, Corporals Eudaley and Weber and Private Owens.

It was also the duty of this committee to make nominations for officers in the association, and at the recent mass meeting the following were elected to the office named:

President, Major Boettcher; vice president, Lieutenant Faulk; secretary and treasurer, Private Owens.

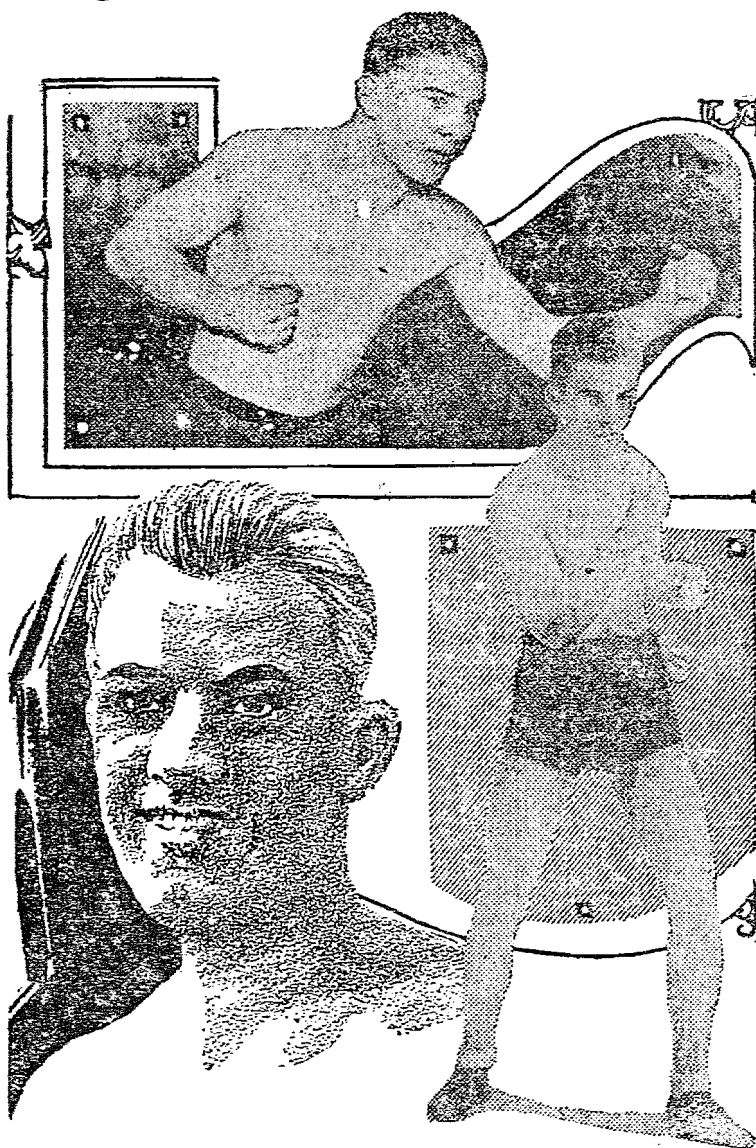
SOUTHERN CHAMP TO KELLY FIELD

To the football gladiators of Kelly Field goes the honor of the championship of the Southern department.

The Southern department comprises many teams and the boys from the snake and sand land are to be congratulated on the result.

The Kelly Field Eagle, official Gas Bag of that post, has it all figured out, and, judging from their report, the Texas men earned their honor by the sweat of their brow.

Best U. S. Boxers to Meet Allied Stars in Big Service Tournament in London



Cal Delaney, top, Richie Mitchell, left, and Pal Moore.

The best boxers their service boasts are being picked by U. S. navy boys to represent the service in the great allied boxing tournament to be staged in London December 11-12. Members of all the allied forces are eligible to compete. They will strive for the wing's trophy. The five boxers who will represent the Great Lakes naval training station have been chosen. They are: Pal Moore, bantamweight; Cal Delaney and Richie Mitchell, lightweights; Dennis O'Keefe, welterweight, and Jack Heinen, heavyweight.

Parachuting

By "Gem."

"A fire balloon rose gem-like up before the dusky groves And dropt a fairy parachute and past." "The Princess."—Lord Tennyson.

The common attitude toward parachuting has long been one of misconception. This arose because until recently nearly all parachuting was being done as a means of public entertainment and the showman knowing the audience—compelling superiority of an act of daring over that of one of skill did his best to promulgate the belief that parachuting was a dangerous stunt, to be attempted only by the most foolhardy. Again, as parachuting lay within the province of the showman for several score years many inexperienced men entered into the profession with accidents and deaths as the inevitable result. These mishaps were dilated upon by other performers to intensify the public conception that parachuting was a risky affair and likely to be attended by disaster. This, very naturally, increased the attendance at performances, which was the end desired by the showman.

Within recent years parachuting has been hesitatingly advocated and used as a means of life-saving. Free use, however, has been retarded by the influence of the showman's propaganda to such an extent that even where parachuting is used exclusively as a life-preserver, the fear of the parachute not opening predominates and men are only allowed to parachute in exceptional cases; parachuting is looked upon as the last resort. This fear is due to anxiety that the parachute may not open every time it is used. In regard to this it may be said that professional aeronauts of experience have not one case on record of a parachute properly packed failed to open. Numerous accidents have occurred because of improper packing, worn rigging, bad landings and dropping from low altitudes. All these can be

avoided with the exception of bad landings and this deterrent can be mitigated by proper air-instruction in the handling of parachutes by an experienced parachutist. Even a bad landing will usually result in not more than a hearty shaking-up. The prospective parachutist may be assured that with this apparatus in good condition, properly packed and at a sufficient height (at least 1,000 feet), he can depend upon the parachute opening. If there is only a light breeze he will almost invariably alight safely and gently, but if there be a considerable wind blowing and he has no experience in landing, he will be confronted by the possibility of a bumpy landing.

As soon as parachuting is looked upon as a sure means of life-saving, which it is, and not as an extraordinary daring venture, so soon will we have a corps of balloon men who will be relieved from anxiety, which will result in an increased efficiency, for it is true that pilots are weighed down with this thought, disagreeable to them—that they may be compelled some day to trust their life to a parachute.

The saying is, "He who hesitates is lost," and a balloonist may at some time find himself in a predicament where instant use of his parachute will be necessary to save his life. The man who knows does not hesitate. Fear and uncertainty do not prey upon his mind when the critical moment arrives. He goes "over the top" instantly and unhesitatingly, knowing that he is due for an enjoyable ride through the air, a ride that is enjoyable as he well knows from past experience. Why should not every pilot possess the same tranquility of mind? It is not necessary to undergo a heart-rending experience to acquire this state of well-being.

Three parachutings under competent supervision will make almost any man an ardent exponent of the fairy art of drifting to a receptive earth as lightly as thisle down.

NOW WATCH ME!



One of Fort Omaha's First Matrons



Mrs. Howard White and Baby.

Mrs. Howard White, wife of Captain White, was one of the first officers' wives to come to Fort Omaha.

She was formerly Miss Marie Judge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Judge of Jersey City Heights, New Jersey, where she graduated from St. Mary's academy.

She was married to Captain White in Omaha, two years ago. The ceremony was performed by her cousin, the Rev. Father James Stenson of St. Philomena's church.

She loves all out of door sports, and is especially fond of horseback riding. She is also keen about music and is considered one of the best dancers among the younger set. Mrs. White possesses a magnetic personality, which has made her a favorite, not only with the army set at Fort Omaha, but with every Omahan she has met since her arrival here.

Just now her particular interest is Master Howard Leo White, her baby, who was born last August. He has the distinction of being the first baby to be christened at the Knights of Columbus hut at Fort Omaha.

Her husband has been in the regular army for a number of years and his father was a West Point Military academy man. Mrs. White has two brothers in the service, Lieutenant J. B. Judge, who is an instructor in aviation at Champaign, Miss., and Lieutenant William S. Judge, with the quartermaster corps in France.

-ON FLIGHT-

Lieutenant Raymond Lowe, who is aid-de-camp to General Connor, has been transferred from Bordeaux to Tours, France.

Lieutenant Harold Pritchett, who is now in France, has received his promotion to first lieutenant.

Lieutenant Harold McConnell, who has been stationed in Texas, has received his release, and returned to Omaha.

Lieutenant Carl L. Holland, sanitary corps, formerly of Fort Omaha, who for awhile was stationed at Charlotte, N. C., is now in Nantes, France, with Base Hospital 54.

Lieutenant Fred J. McDonald, Sanitary corps, formerly of Fort Omaha and transferred to Camp Pike, Ark., has arrived overseas safely.

Captain Charles E. McCullough has been transferred to the Air Service depot, Morrison, Va.

Second Lieutenant George W. Adams has been assigned to duty at Fort Crook, Neb.

Second Lieutenant Wallace N. Griswold has been assigned to duty with the Fiftieth Balloon company.

First Lieutenant Jewell L. Carter has been relieved from assistant officer in charge of recruits at Fort Crook, to take the course of instruction at Fort Omaha.

Lieutenant Carl E. Royer has been granted a ten-day leave of absence.

Second Lieutenant Nathan R. Reasoner has been relieved from the First Flying Cadet Co. and detailed as assistant to officer in charge of recruits at Fort Crook.

Second Lieutenant Frank E. Dennen has been relieved from assistant officer in charge of military instruction and detailed to duty at Fort Crook.

Second Lieutenant Otto U. Weimer has been relieved from First Flying Cadet company, taking up other duties at Fort Crook.

Second Lieutenant Maurice Cohen, formerly of Fort Omaha, who received his commission at Jacksonville, Fla., has been released from

service and has returned home.

His many friends will be glad to learn that Colonel H. B. Hersey has arrived safely in France, and is now at the Army Balloon school at Bordeaux.

Lieutenant Charles Neville has arrived home from Camp Taylor this week and will leave very shortly for Yale university to complete his course in school.

Lieutenant Robert C. Gillies and Lieutenant Perkins, field artillery officers who received the course of instruction at Fort Omaha, have arrived safely in France, and are completing their course at the Army Balloon school at Bordeaux, France.

Captain Edgar Ferguson is expected home soon from England.

Lieutenant Agar of Kelley field, Texas, visited Fort Omaha last week and paid Lieutenant Dezen-dorf a visit.

Lieutenant Edgar H. Biggs, formerly of Fort Omaha, who received his commission at Jacksonville, Fla., visited Omaha last week on his way home to Denver, Colo.

First Lieutenant George B. Harrison has been relieved from duty as balloon field officer at Florence field and assigned as balloon field officer of Fort Omaha.

Second Lieutenant James C. Cluck has been relieved from the Fiftieth Balloon company and assigned to duty as balloon field officer at Florence field.

Second Lieutenant George W. Adams and Wallace N. Griswold have been relieved as assistant officers in charge of recruit instruction at Fort Crook.

Second Lieutenant Frank J. Boyle and Second Lieutenant Harold R. Austin have been relieved as assistant officers in charge of recruit instruction at Fort Crook, and detailed with School for Enlisted Specialists at Fort Omaha.

Second Lieutenant Charles R. Ogilbee has been attached to the Fiftieth Balloon company.

Captain Charles J. Glidden has been transferred from Atlanta, Ga., to Southern field, Americus, Ga.

First Lieutenant George B. Harrison has been granted a six-day leave of absence.

The Victory ball given at the Auditorium Saturday evening proved a big event.

The Fort Omaha Glee club, composed of twenty-eight men, contributed several numbers to the evening program. Lieutenant William Connolly, who sang "Perfect Day," received much applause.

Miss Adelaide Fogg gave a patriotic dance, "Over the Top," as well as another artistic dance, both of which were very popular.

Among the many attending were Major Percy Van Nostrand, Captain and Mrs. Pierrepont, Captain A. M. Whitney, Captain John Ayling, Captain F. DeP. Townsend, Lieutenants Robert Finley, James Neely, William Taylor, John Crowe, William Connolly, Charles Powell, Edward Hotchkiss, Joseph Spang, jr., Robert White, John McKay, Maurice Northwall, Albert Yarbrough, Frank Dennen, Roscoe Conklin, George Carleton, Frank Boyle, Sanford Warren, Harold Hine, J. C. Holland, Dean, Wrenn, William Sanders and Shimmom.

Mesdames John Crowe and John McKay and the Misses Elizabeth Davis, Erna Reed, Mildred Rhodes, Helen Walker and Gertrude Stout.

Mrs. R. T. Crawford entertained Lieutenant and Mrs. William Sanders for dinner Sunday evening.

Captain Hutchinson entertained at dinner Tuesday evening in honor of Colonel and Mrs. Jacob W. S. Wuest.

Colonel and Mrs. Jacob W. S. Wuest entertained most informally Lieutenant William Connolly and Lieutenant Leroy Perkins at a dinner Monday evening.

Miss Helen Walker entertained at dinner Saturday evening for Lieutenant Connolly and Miss Erna Reed, Lieutenant Richard Walton and Miss Gertrude Stout and Lieutenant Albert Hebbard.

Mrs. Louis Fairfax Plummer of Fort Crook entertained at a chafing dish supper Monday evening, when her guests were Major and Mrs. R. L. Hamilton, Captain Newman, Lieutenant and Mrs. Robert Hall, Lieutenant and Mrs. Nathan Reasoner, Lieutenant and Mrs. John Crowe, Lieutenant and Mrs. George Baer, Lieutenant and Mrs. Walter Foterall, Lieutenant and Mrs. William Siefert, Mrs. Scott, Lieutenants Earnest Blackburn, William Taylor, Robert Simmons, Harry Weber, Gledhill and Sears.

Mrs. Kimberlin, who has been visiting her home in Missouri, returned to Fort Crook the fore part of the week.

Major and Mrs. R. T. Crawford entertained Lieutenant Ralph Reynolds for dinner Saturday evening. Lieutenants Roland Gaupel, George Adams and Robert White are entertaining at Fort Crook Wednesday evening.

Her many friends will be sorry to learn that Mrs. Edwin Kassler, jr., has been ill for the past week with influenza.

Colonel Jacob W. S. Wuest entertained Lieutenant Colonel A. W. Robbins, district supervisor, and staff for luncheon Thursday at the University club.

Many dinners and entertainments had been planned for the opening of the Omaha Athletic club before it was indefinitely postponed.

Mrs. Howard H. Baldrige is entertaining at dinner on the evening of the 21st. Among her guests will be Colonel and Mrs. Jacob W. S. Wuest of Fort Omaha and Major and Mrs. Eugene W. Crockett of Fort Crook.

Mrs. H. B. Kerr entertained four Omaha soldiers at her home at a dancing party Friday evening.

Lieutenant Walter Foterall entertained at dinner at the Officers' club at Fort Crook last week.

Lieutenant and Mrs. Franklin P. Quick entertained at dinner Saturday evening in honor of Mrs. William Blyth of Evanston, Wyo. Her guests included Major Percy Van Nostrand, Captain F. DeP. Townsend and Lieutenant and Mrs. Robert Clapp.

The wives of the officers of Fort Omaha and Florence field are invited to meet every Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Jacob W. S. Wuest to make and look after the garments for the post hospital.

Among the ladies of the command who attended the Red Cross circle and enjoyed a tea at Mrs. Jacob W. S. Wuest's quarters last Thursday were: Mrs. Russell Crawford, Mrs. Martin O'Brien, Mrs. William Sanders, Mrs. Robert Clapp, Mrs. George Lundberg, Mrs. Franklin Quick, Mrs. Ralph Reynolds, Mrs. Logan, Mrs. Young and Mrs. William Blyth of Wyoming.

Mrs. Eugene Crockett of Fort Crook has asked the ladies of the command to make arrangements for a large Christmas tree and entertainments for the enlisted men of the post.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Mallory entertained Lieutenant Steward Kirkpatrick and Lieutenant and Mrs. Ralph Reynolds at a theater party at the Orpheum Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Frankline P. Quick presided over a beautifully appointed luncheon at the Omaha club Tuesday in honor of Mrs. William Blyth of Evanston, Wyo., her house guest. The guests were Mrs. Jacob W. S. Wuest, Mrs. Howard H. Baldrige, Mrs. John L. Kennedy, Mrs. A. V. Kinsler, Mrs. E. E. Hart, Mrs. Nathan Reasoner, Mrs. W. W. Richardson, Miss Plummer of Fort Crook, Mrs. P. H. Woods, Mrs. A. H. Armstrong and Mrs. L. B. Howey of Lincoln, Neb., and Miss Hart. The decorations were in yellow chrysanthemums and stelia.

Miss Minnie E. Heliner, Army Nurse corps, arrived at Fort Omaha from Camp Lewis, Wash.

Mrs. Howard H. Baldrige was hostess at an informal dinner at the Blackstone Sunday evening, having as her guests Lieutenant and Mrs. F. P. Quick and Mrs. William Blyth, who is the house guest of Lieutenant and Mrs. Quick.

Lieutenant and Mrs. Franklin Quick entertained eight guests at a theater party at the Orpheum Wednesday evening.

Major and Mrs. R. T. Crawford entertained Major and Mrs. Martin J. O'Brien for dinner Wednesday evening.

Among the recent arrivals at Fort Omaha are Lieutenant and Mrs. Vich from Washington, Lieutenant Vich taking the course of instruction here.

Major and Mrs. R. T. Crawford entertained at tea Sunday afternoon. Her guests were Lieutenant and Mrs. William Sanders, Lieutenant William Taylor, Lieutenant Steward Kirkpatrick, Miss Gertrude Thompson and Miss Flora Buck.

Major and Mrs. Eugene Crockett entertained most informally at a dinner Sunday evening. Their guests were Lieutenant and Mrs. John Crowe, Lieutenant and Mrs. George Baer and Lieutenant and Mrs. Walter Foterall.

Lieutenant and Mrs. William F. Collins were hosts at an informal dinner Sunday evening in honor of Major and Mrs. Eugene Crockett and son of Fort Crook.

Major and Mrs. R. T. Crawford had a dinner Tuesday evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Strong, who have been the house guests of Colonel and Mrs. Jacob Wuest, and who have left for their southern home in Florida.

Lieutenant and Mrs. John Crowe, Lieutenant and Mrs. John McKay, Lieutenant Edward Hotchkiss, Lieutenant William Taylor, Lieutenant Joseph Spang, jr., and Miss Elizabeth Davis had dinner together at the Fontenelle Saturday, later attending the Victory ball at the Auditorium.

Lieutenant George Adams entertained at dinner Wednesday evening, having as guests Captain and Mrs. Wriston Alexander, Lieutenant and Mrs. Otto Weimer and Lieutenant and Mrs. Frank Dennen.

Her many friends will be glad to know that Miss Dorothy Phipps, who has been the house guest of Lieutenant and Mrs. Edwin Kassler, jr., and who was taken to the hospital ill with the influenza last week, is on the road to recovery.

RED CROSS.

The Red Cross club room at the Union depot, which is being decorated, will be completed soon.

Fifty wounded soldiers which passed through Omaha last week

were taken to the Fontenelle hotel for dinner, followed by an Orpheum theater party.

The Red Cross Christmas roll call masque which was to be given at the Auditorium, December 19 and 20, has been postponed indefinitely.

This masque, written by Percy Mackaye, is to be given simultaneously all over the United States during the week preceding Christmas, in order to stimulate interest in the roll call which aims to enroll every person in the United States in this great humanitarian organization.

The plan for the masque stage setting has been designed by Captain F. DeP. Townsend, as a development of the original plan of Mr. Mackaye, which is better suited to the practical requirements of the Auditorium.

The cast for the masque is as follows:

The Despoiler—Hart Jenks.
The Mother—Mrs. Howard H. Baldrige.
Daughters—Miss Katherine Lowry and Miss Pleasant Holyoke.
All Hearts—Mrs. Henry Dooley.
The Aviator—Captain F. DeP. Townsend.
Pantomime Characters—Misses Arabel Kimball, Miss Margaretha Grimmell, Mr. Lawrence Brinker, Mr. Frank Pollard and Mr. Oscar Lieben.
Sons—George McIntyre, Captain Townsend and Hugh Wallace.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Lieutenant Theodore E. Nelson, assistant adjutant of Fort Omaha, took an aeroplane flight last Saturday afternoon with Lieutenant Shimmom, aviator, Fort Crook, encircling the city of Omaha twice, and flew over Fort Omaha at an altitude of 2,500 feet.

Lieutenant Nelson is an Omaha man and received his commission at Fort Omaha.

Captain T. L. Harrington, M. C., visited Fort Omaha last week to deliver a lecture on sanitation.

Lieutenant Roscoe Conklin played one of the drums at the Henshaw last week, while he was there dancing.

Lieutenant James T. Neely and Miss Hazel Peterson stayed at home last Thursday evening.

Lieutenant "Larry" Sparks, who left Fort Omaha with the First Balloon squadron, now commanding the Niety-first Balloon company, was married recently to an attractive girl of Lawton, Okla.

DANCES.

The "Smiles" have issued invitations to another one of their dances, Saturday evening, December 21.

The girls of the Bee business office are giving a dance at Turpin's academy Friday evening, December 20.

Victory club gave a dance Wednesday evening at the K. of C. hall, Fort Omaha.

D. T. A. club entertained at dance at Florence field Wednesday evening at the K. C. hut.

The Foch club are entertaining at dance Saturday evening at Jacobs' hall.

The Army and Navy club entertained a dancing class Tuesday and will have another class on Friday.

Swift & Co. entertained fifty soldiers of Fort Omaha at a dance at the Rome hotel last Friday evening.

Representative girls from various patriotic league clubs entertained at a dance last Tuesday evening at Jacobs' hall for the officers and nurses of Fort Omaha and Fort Crook.

The Ben Hur club entertained at a dance Tuesday evening at Turpin's Dancing academy.

The 48th Balloon company of Fort Omaha entertained a featured program dance at the Rome Hotel, Tuesday evening with an attendance of fifty couples. Colonel and Mrs. Jacob W. S. Wuest visited the dance. Lieutenant James Bird and Gorman Howell were also present.

The 50th Balloon company of Florence Field entertained at a dance Wednesday evening at the Rome Hotel, with an attendance of seventy-five couples. The officers present were Lieutenants Theodore Faulk, Charles Ogilbee, Maynard Lydiard, Wallace Griswold and John Riggs. Patrick H. Williams and Francis A. Groeger, field artillery officers of Camp Sheridan, Alabama, who have received their release from service, were guests.

MAGAZINE SECTION

Brute's Benediction

Ned E. Williams

"May the words o' my mouth, 'n the med'tation o' my heart—!" muttered the man.

The little golden-haired nurse bent over the bandage-swathed form on the litter to catch the remainder of the strange words. But they trailed off into silence, broken only by a low groan as the bearers transferred their burden to the snowy cot.

The delirious phrase was the strangest she had heard in her experience in the ward of the big base hospital. Scores of shattered fighters had been carried back from the mobile hospital near the front lines. Some murmured names of loved ones and others swore picturesquely.

But none had ever been brought in with prayer-poems upon their lips.

"This bird deserves all the medals they can hang on him!" remarked one of the litter-bearers, helping the little nurse straighten out the huge frame on its creaking bed.

"He looks brave," she said, with a glance at the square jaw and deep-set eyes.

"Brave? They'll have to coin a new word for this fellow's nerve! He dragged two wounded buddies back from a shell hole through a hail-storm of lead that would have bleached the average man's hair!"

"Carried them both at once?"

"That's what he did! A trick. I'll bet no other man in the sector could do it!"

When the surgeon stopped, a few moments later, he shook his head gravely over the hero's gaping wounds. Then he made a startled exclamation as his gaze rested upon the face of the injured man.

"This is 'Brute!'" he told the little nurse. "I've dressed that square cranium of his more times than I have fingers on this hand. That was when I was police surgeon at the Pell street station back in New York."

"Brute was about the hardest-

boiled character in the Chinatown district. He had a periodical habit of mixing with gangs of gun-men and professional murderers. And while he always required medical attention afterwards, they never raised a crowd large enough to kill him.

"His nickname is apropos. I have never met a man of such huge physical proportions who could be so active. He has always done more than one man's share, but I'm afraid he attempted too much this time. There is practically no hope."

The nurse recited the tale she had heard from the litter-bearer.

"That's what I would have expected of him," said the surgeon. "His means of living were a source of interest to the police continually, but I know that he always fought upon the side of the weak. He had a white past at some time in other years."

The medical officer hurried on to other wards and the girl with the Red Cross on her arm inspected the cleanly-chiselled features more closely as she adjusted the bandaged head of the unconscious man to a more natural position.

"About the hardest-boiled character in Chinatown," the surgeon had said. A tough police character nick-named "Brute," and yet the words of the litter-bearer came back to her, "He deserves all the medals they can hang on him!"

How many "hard-boiled" ones were fighting out their redemption in the trenches up front? "Greater love hath no man than this—!" Could there be any doubt about their destination when they had gone West?

And the incompatible words of prayer that were on Brute's lips when he was carried into the ward. Did he say them when he was struggling through the hell back there with a dragging burden in each arm?

That night the surgeon stopped again at the low cot.

"Poor Brute," he said.

"I'm going to stay here," remarked the little nurse, simply. "He might regain consciousness before—"

Through the long hours the pretty golden head was bowed at the side of the still form on the white cot. The rumbling and crashing of the big guns disturbed the dead silence of the ward.

The little nurse, wearied by the extra vigil, slept.

She dreamed of a small boy, clad in knickerbockers and white shirt, standing with a class of other youngsters in the large bare room of a village church.

He was reciting the benediction that Brute had spoken in his delirium.

"May the words o' my mouth—!" She awoke with a start. It was the man on the bed at her side that was saying the words!

She looked anxiously at his pale countenance. His eyes were still closed, but his lips were moving slowly.

"And the med'tation o' my heart—," he continued steadily but softly.

Then he paused.

A deep breath filled the broad chest. The little nurse leaned closer to the cot and pushed the hair back from his forehead.

The lips moved again.

"Be acceptable in Thy sight—!" he murmured.

She thought again of the surgeon's description—"About the hardest-boiled character in Chinatown."

A queer smile illumined his features.

"Oh, Lord!" he began again, faintly. Then more softly and falteringly. "My Strength—And my—Redeemer!"

Brute completed benediction and life with the same breath.

The smile of the little golden-haired nurse shone like a rainbow through the cloud of tears that veiled her eyes.

VETERAN BALLOON MAN AT FORT OMAHA

By R. A. Baker.

One of the most interesting personalities at Ft. Omaha, is Pvt. Geo. R. Howard, of the 63rd Balloon company. He is a veteran free balloonist and the word "veteran" means that he began his balloon career long before many of us were born. It was in 1888 that Pvt. Howard's career began.

Pvt. Howard's first experience was with hot air balloons, with which he toured the country, making many spectacular flights, single, dual and triple parachute jumps. In many of these events Mrs. Howard took part and the name of "Howard," or the "Howards" became universally known.

The only person living today who made flights in the United States before Pvt. Howard, are Maj. Thomas S. Baldwin, his brother, Samuel Baldwin, Leo Stevens and Mr. H. Jewell.

Howard's greatest experience began in 1907, when he participated in the first International Balloon Race, at St. Louis, Mo. The race that brought him universal fame, was in Chicago, the following year, at the big International Ballooning Championship which was conducted under the auspices of "The Aeronautique Club," of that city.

Howard's balloon, the Cincinnati, was considered a very dangerous contender and started off with prospects of winning the greatest balloon race ever staged; but Howard willfully and heroically sacrificed all his chances of winning the race. Sailing well out over Lake Michigan, he passed over the "Ville de Dieppe," which had collapsed. Helpless as they were in their sailing bag they saw their comrades destined to death. Making for the nearest landing, which was Covert, on the Michigan coast, they summoned aid to rescue the unfortunate pilots, A. E. Mueller and Geo. Shoeneck.

The race was won by the "Fielding San Antonio" and defeated the record made by the "Pomeron" the year before. The winning time was 23 hours and 15 minutes for 895 miles. This was a world's record up to that time.

Probably the most spectacular balloon race ever pulled was on November 15, 1909, by Pvt. Howard and following is what was printed in a "Special Extra," of the New York Journal:

"3 BLOWN OVER LAKE ERIE. Three men in balloon are twice blown over Lake Erie. Buffalo, Nov. 16.—Three Cincinnati men in

Pigeon Finds His Calling

By Frank D. Bianco

Another burst of laughter and the incident was forgotten. Time began to fly, the boys ran here and there, and in the wash room the water whipped the dirt from their faces and sleep from their eyes. Bunks were made and the men lined up ready for roll call. Top Sergeant Casey finished calling the last man's name.

"The following men will report for K. P. immediately, so fall out as your name is called. Private Pegloe Johnson, Grebe, Austin, Callahan and Devine."

You must remember that Pegloe Johnson is the official title of Pigeon and his official title had to be used on some occasions, and this was one occasion in which it is used and will be used quite frequently, in fact too frequently to suit the pleasures and tastes of Pigeon. But, as was said before, Pigeon was very obedient. It was a sort of second nature, perhaps an inborn instinct of years of service by his forefathers on the cotton plantations of sunny Texas. At any rate Pigeon was the first to fall out and he went straight to the mess hall, scratching his head and thinking as hard as he could. He carried vivid pictures as he had heard them described by his grandfather, told by the fireside. Vivid pictures they were of rugged soldiers. The life of camp, on the march, skirmishes, and then the pitched battles. He trembled with excitement in his own imagination. This was Pigeon's idea of a soldier. The romance, action and life, the spirit of adventure had seized upon him and when he saw the hum-drum life of camp, fatigue, day after day, he began to lose interest. But underneath his torpid body lay that spirit of action ready to burst into flame and break its bond in the task set before him. In that frame of mind he entered the mess hall. Amid pots and pans and the odor of the kitchen Pigeon dozed and dreamed. Someone was speaking to him and then he awoke from his reverie.

"Her! you Rookie, shake a leg, shake a leg, come on!"

Pigeon was all attention.

"Yes, sah! Yes, sah!"

Slowly his feet began to beat a tattoo on the kitchen floor. He glided across the kitchen in a cataclysm of gyrations, his feet always keeping a steady rattle, like the beat of a clapper or the rolling of a snare drum. This way and that, he turned and squirmed, carefully beating time, in clattering music. Everyone stopped their work and watched him. Cooks dropped their ladles and the K. P.'s their mops and brooms to witness the whirling jigs of Pigeon. Someone kept time on a tin pan, as the even step of his shoes clattered their song on the kitchen floor. With a final sweep he leaped from the floor, clicked his heels together in mid-air and dropped into a graceful bow before his audience of cooks and K. P.'s. For a moment no one said a word, so surprised and pleased had they been. Some of the boys shouted exclamations of admiration. Then Cook Jensen, six foot, raw boned and lanky, approached Pigeon, who stood silent, half embarrassed.

"Well, son, what's that for?"

"Sah, when ah hear's yo say 'shake a leg,' ah jest couldn't keep mah feet still, and it sho heps to work de blues off yo, yes, sah."

"Listen here, sonny, that's all right for this time, and we all liked it, but when I say shake a leg that means ruse those pans a

little faster and no more sleeping on the job, see!"

"Yes, sah—o-h, yes, sah, I sho do."

For the rest of the day Pigeon worked faithfully, though sullenly to himself, saying little to any one except when spoken to. Dinner passed and the afternoon wore on without event to break the monotony of cleaning and scrubbing dishes, pots and pans. Pigeon was setting the tables for supper when he began to catch fragments of a conversation between two of the boys. Austin was speaking to Grebe in a rather matter of fact tone of voice.

"Say, Grebe, what do you think of the Step Ladder Corps?"

"Great thing, boy. I heard they were being organized from all branches of the service. I wrote the folks I was going to join."

"It sure is the place for wild action."

Pigeon's ears stretched a mile to catch the next words, but he was in the other end of the room and he could not hear the answer. When he got back within ear shot the conversation was dropped and nothing further was said. Just then the cook called chow and the mad rush was on.

The boys worked like lightning to get through early after supper and in a short time the mess hall and kitchen were looking spick and span and shone like crystal. Then Pigeon got the opportunity he was looking for. Seeing Grebe and Austin leaving together, he hastened to overtake them.

"Listen here, fellas, can I ask yo a question?"

"Sure, fire away, Pigeon!"

"I heard yo all talking about dis yere Step Ladder Corps and I see powful interested. Can yo all tell me about it?"

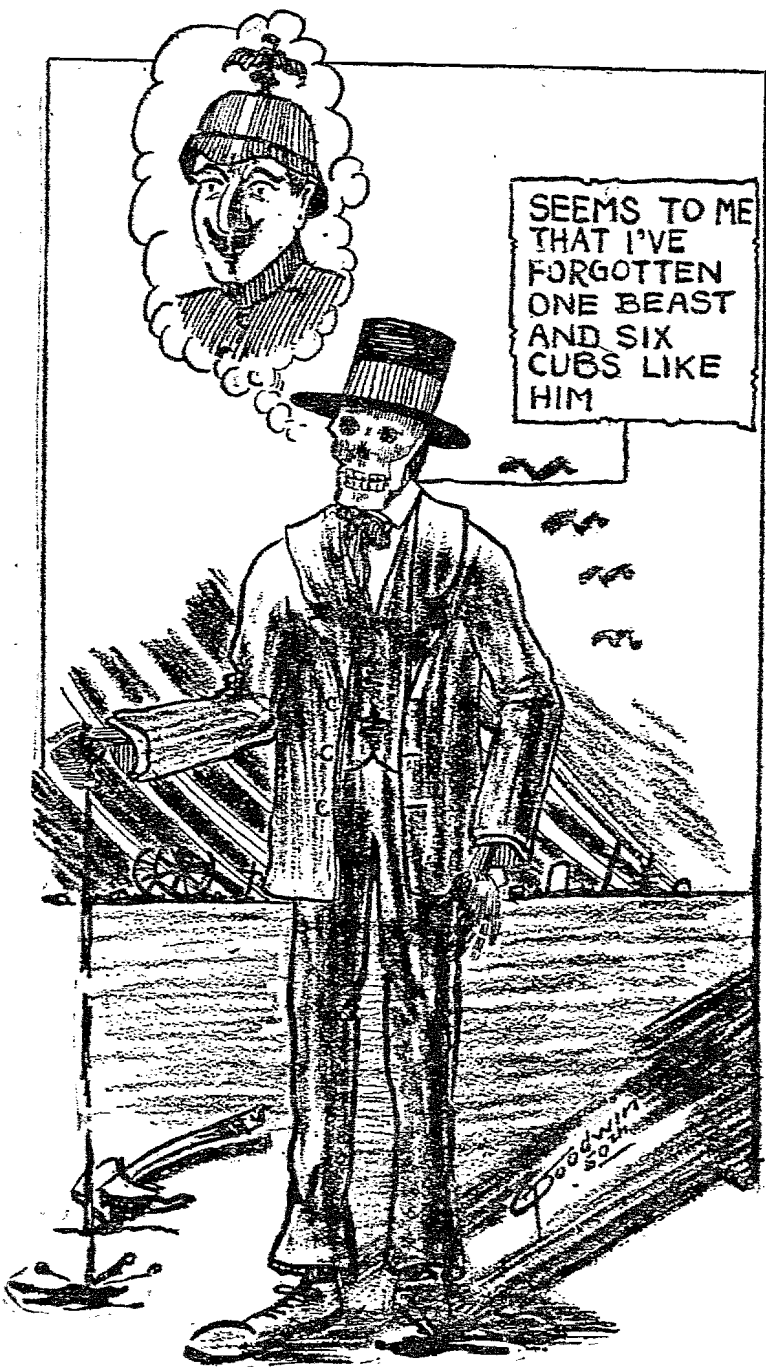
"Well," volunteered Austin, "the Step Ladder Corps is a new organization in the army. You see, fighting in the trenches has made it necessary. It's dangerous and exciting and the only place to get action, if you are looking for it. The point is this, all the men of the Step Ladder Corps carry a ladder with them into the front line trenches, get me, front line trenches, and when they are called upon it's their business to set up those ladders for the doughboys to go over the top. Think it over, son, and if you want to join let me know and I'll tell you all about it."

With that the two left Pigeon and strolled on to the "Y" hut to enjoy a few hours' recreation. Pigeon walked back to the barracks, and, as usual when in trouble, scratched his head violently. It was all new to him. The work was dangerous. Here one could get action. In the front line trenches. So Austin had told him, and yet he felt something within saying, "Go to it, boy, go to it."

"All out for retreat, all out for retreat!"

He fell into formation automatically. At the boom of the cannon he stood rigidly at attention. Then he heard the strains of the regimental band playing the national air. "Oh say can you see, by the dawn's early light." The words surged through his mind and awoke that spirit of action that lay torpid in his body. Adventure was calling him and that was what he wanted. He would join the Step Ladder Corps. Pigeon had found his calling.

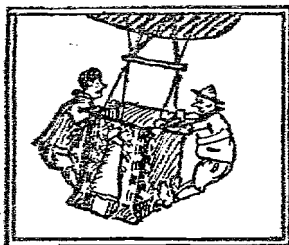
Next week: "Pigeon and the Step Ladder Corps."



loon was 11,000 feet in the air and again it was but 20 feet above the surface of the lake. Before a landing could be made the roof of a house at Derby was partly torn off. When the decent was made great difficulty was experienced, for the anchor had been discarded, and the danger of letting the gas escape too fast was menacing the party. The landing was finally made in a tree top at Derby, eighteen miles from Buffalo. The distance of 550 miles was made in about ten hours and breaks all speed records."

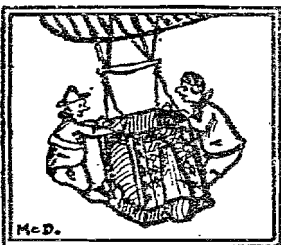
Pvt. Howard also has the unique distinction of piloting the first and only "balloon party in the clouds,"

(Continued on Page 7.)



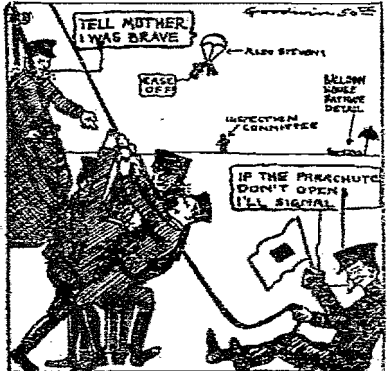
~ ROCKING ~ THE ~ BASKET ~

~ CORPORAL W. O'NEIL GOODWIN ~



Indoor Sports!

Lieutenants Jump from Basket.
One of the most interesting and thrilling features during the past week at Fort Omaha was the jumping of five lieutenants from the basket on last Saturday afternoon at 1:30. The jumping was conducted under the instructions of Mr. Leo Stevens, well-known balloonist and inventor of the Stevens parachute. Having received orders to report to Mr. Stevens at 1:30 at the balloon shed, Lieutenants Spang, Reynolds, Hotchkiss, Mills and Loomis reported shortly before the prescribed hour and prepared for the jump. The first difficulty to be encountered was the question as to whom should jump first. Senior-



ity in rank proved to be of no value and finally Mr. Stevens suggested that we draw lots as to whom should have the honor of jumping first, and in all probability going down on the records of Fort Omaha as having been a martyr, giving up his life for the protection of his fellow lieutenants. Lieutenant Spang proved to be the lucky one and immediately prepared by strapping the belt around his waist and climbing into the basket. Having reached the prescribed altitude and on the signal of Mr. Stevens, Lieutenant Spang climbed to the edge of the basket, and slipped off into space. After a rapid descent and none the worse from his experience, Lieutenant Spang was

with us again and received the congratulations and applause of all present. Lieutenant Hotchkiss was the next in order, and having tested all the ropes and toggles, sprang into the basket and started up. By this time several of the prominent officers of the post had already arrived on the scene, and a high pitch of enthusiasm prevailed throughout the audience. On the signal from Mr. Stevens Lieutenant Hotchkiss dropped from the side of the basket, none the worse from his experience other than having torn a perfectly good pair of trousers. Lieutenant Reber, C. O. of the 59th company, experienced a most thrilling experience, having crossed his lines in making a get-away, and which resulted in bodily injury which we sincerely hope will not interfere with his military duties.

After Lieutenant Reber had been injured Mr. Stevens called a halt in the program and refused to allow any more jumping for the day. Lieutenant Reber, in company with Mr. Stevens and Lieutenant Loomis, proceeded to the post hospital and there had his fingers cared for. Classes will be held every afternoon at the balloon shed for the officers of the command. Six husky lieutenants are needed to pull the basket into position as Mr. Stevens has been unable to get either winch or balloon.

They All Answered.

The other day Sergeant Moan went on a hunt for his assistant, Corporal Hay. This was nothing unusual and the sergeant doesn't mind it at all, as Hay always reports promptly when "Ho Rabbit!" is uttered by Moan. You must remember that this happened at Florence field and the Fifthth was encamped in tents. Sergeant Moan went outside the orderly tent and called at the top of his voice—"Ho Raab-bit." There was silence for a few seconds and then a face appeared from every tent and the answering call of "Yo, yo, what do you want," was heard from every throat. Pretty good record? They all knew their name.

AROUND OMAHA

The streets are crowded	With their honorable discharge
With non regulation soldiers	Some of them are real soldiers
They look nice	Some tin
In their fur collared coats	The women fall for their clothes
And spiral puttees	We can't compete
And white cuffs	Wonder when we can?
And collars	
And feel good	

I THANK YOU.

Things to Worry About

Keep a toad in your garden and save \$19.88 yearly.

The New York Subway System, when completed, will be equipped to transport 3,000,000,000 passengers a year. To carry that number of passengers across the ocean would require 2,200 steamships of the size of the "Leviathan" every day. The first London Subway carried only 10,225,987 passengers in the course of a year.

The medium-sized oysters make the best eating.

West Indian natives paddle their queer little boats with their hands.

The trains of the New York Subway make a total of 109,500,000 miles in a year. A track of that length would go fourteen times around the earth, then to the sun and six times around the sun. The total mileage of the trains of the London Subway is only 589,401 miles in a year. That would be equal to the distance to the moon and fourteen times around the earth.

How far can a chauffeur see a man in dark clothes on a black night?

The population of the United States is approximately one hundred millions; the bacterial population of one cubic centimeter of ice-cream is 37,859,909, or about six hundred and six millions to a cubic inch. That makes quite a crowd of bacteria in a glass of ice-cream soda.

After three years the MacMillan Expedition still had 30,000 pounds of biscuits left.

Learn to like seaweed, it may become a popular food.

"THE POOR NON COM"

Some ways we're lucky, and some ways we ain't;

For instance, we get hell when the company falls out for reveille late.

In many things we have pickin's, and in lots of things we're bait.

Now, for instance, at inspectshun, which you all know ain't no place for a saint.

As a man must be an angel to get everything safe,

A "lute" comes inspectin', a "medie," then a major and a colonel,

And each has a much different way than what you heard the others say.

Some wants you to make corrections; others want you to see that corrections are made,

And a fellow plays around until he almost faints.

When you're not drivin' "K. P.s" or seeing that the floors are scrubbed,

You're answerin' a lot of questions until you've concluded you're a dub.

One man wants to know how his shoes ought to go;

Another wants your idea of folding blankets just so;

But of late applications for discharges are topics of the day.

One man has an uncle who needs a farm hand right away.

Another has a brother who is feelin' pretty sick.

And the cows and chickens are feelin' awfully blue,

So he thinks he ought to get home and help cheer things too.

But fellows won't it be fun, when we're all home,

And think how Uncle Sammie kept us all on the run, as well as the Hun.

And it's all for democracy.

"That's me all over, Mabel."

SERGEANT FRED W. MEIS, Seventy-Fourth Balloon Co.

THE ARMY GOAT GRABBERS



All's Well!

During the wee small hours of a morning not long since, Lieut. "Hug-Em," demonstrated fully to the Guards on Post No. 1 and No. 2 that he was a perfectly good O. D.

Lieut. "Hug-Em" seemingly got restless, this particular night so he started on a tour of investigation.

His first inspection was of Sentry No. 2 and found that Guard very alert and ready to give Lieut. "Hug-Em" his orders about keeping all strangers and etc., away. From that post the would-be O. D. proceeded to Post No. 1. There the Sentry opened the door and Lieut. "Hug-Em" stood up and made an inspection of the Officer's Pass Record. Everything was seemingly all right there, so Lieut. "Hug-Em" proceeds toward Post No. 3. But he probably knew everything was all right there for, he did not inspect the Guard there that night.

Summing it all up, the Guards that were inspected, agreed that although Lieut. "Hug-Em" looked "hard," he did not ask any embarrassing questions about Special Orders or General Orders, and for their part they would like him assigned to Special Duty as O. D. providing the Q. M. C. would furnish some "Tooth- and -Toe -Nail -Proof" uniforms.

SAM SNAGGLE TOOTH.

Some Dream.

"I had a great dream last night," said the private as the last note of reveille died out.

"What was it?" asked the wagoner as he drew on his sock.

"I dreamed that we had finished our job of whipping the Germans," returned the private, "and General Pershing said, 'Sergeant, dismiss the army.'"—The Spiker.—Engineers, United States Army, France.

Incorrigible.

A Canadian soldier, having refused to obey an order given by his superior officer, was punished by being compelled to march before the drawn-up battalion. After he had been paraded up and down between the files for fifteen minutes, the officer stopped him and said: "Now, Jones, what do you think about it?"

"Well, sir," replied Jones, "they are the rottenest bunch I ever inspected."

I've beamed when you hollered 'Oh, Girlie!'

I've hopped when you bellowed, 'Oh, Say!'

I've fallen for 'Dearie' and 'Missus,'

And everything else till today;

But there's one thing that's got to be different;

From now 'Till the great war is done—

Unless you're prepared for a riot—

You've got to quit calling me "Hun!"



THE OLD HOME TOWN

ABOUT FACE.

A negro sergeant was explaining the proper way in which the different commands should be executed. He finally came to "About Face," which he explained as follows:

"Niggahs, you place de toe of yo right foot six inches to the reah of de heel of yo left foot, and jus ooze aroun'."—Judge.

Bolshevik soldier: Why do you awake me to bring me this uniform?

Orderly: It is your turn to be the general today, sire.—Life.

Lieutenant P. N. Wallenstein sleepily gave this parody on "Everything" to the waiting world:



THE NON COM'S SCHOOL.

W. O. GOODWIN 50th Company

ALIBI IKE

WELL YOU SHE JIM, I WASH IN AN ESHENTIAL JOB AND HAD FLAT FEET SHO I COULDN'T GO TO WAR—

HE'S A BAR FLY

MOVIE OF THE DAY

RAY DAY

GIVEN TO ALL K.P.s. AFTER THEY HAVE DISROBED TWO CARLOADS OF SPUDS—OILED FIVE SQUARE MILES OF FLOOR—CARRIED SIX TONS OF COAL—WASHED MORE THAN 2,645,431 DISHES AND NEVER PLAYED RABBIT.

ORDER OF THE POTATO

FT. OMAHA ON A WET NIGHT

BY WILLIE LIVE

FINIS

REVERIES OF A ROOKIE.

(Apologies to Longfellow)

The day is cold and dark and dreary,

We're full of aches and mighty weary.

We cannot see through the inky pall,

And at each new morn some rookies fall,

And the day is dark and dreary.

Our lives seem cold and dark and dreary,

No ray of hope, no thought that's cheery.

Our thoughts still cling to the happy past,

And all of us wonder how long we'll last,

Oh, our lives are dark and dreary.

Be still sad hearts and cease repining,

Beyond Fort Crook the sun's still shining,

Our fate is the fate of all I guess,

As each new morn brings the "Right Dress."

But today we're sure d—n weary.

BY ONE WHO KNOWS.

A Boomerang.

When a bit of sunshine hits ye,

After passing of a cloud,

When a bit of laughter gits ye,

An' yer spine is feelin' proud,

Don't fergit to up an' fling it

At a spul that's feelin' blue;

For the minute that ye sling it,

It's a boomerang to you.

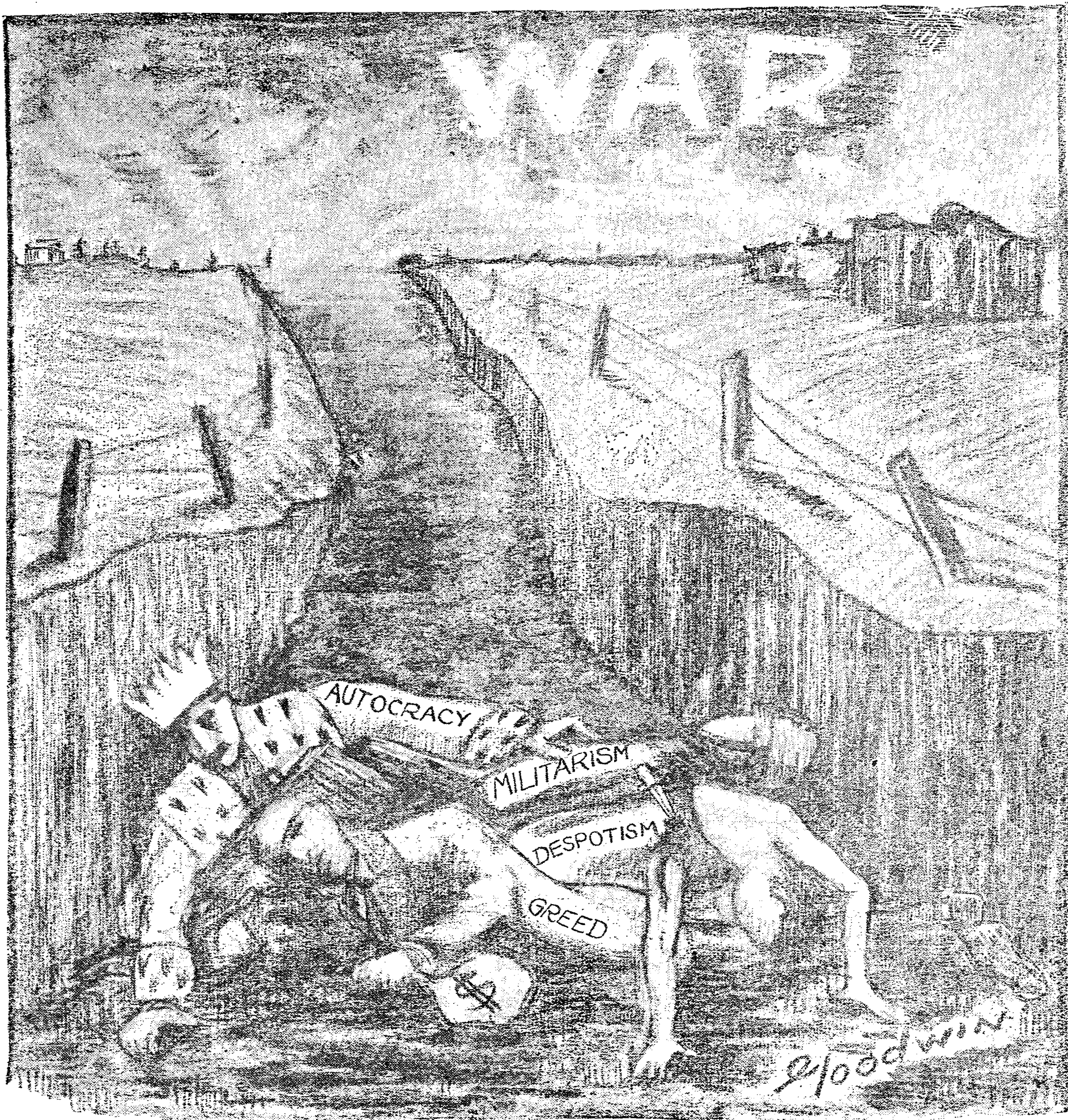
Official
Newspaper
of
Fort Omaha

Editorials

For the
Soldiers
of
Fort Omaha

AFTER THE STORM

—By W. O'Neil Goodwin



BY NED E. WILLIAMS.

The world war is over.

The tornado of war has swept its way across the world, leaving in its path devastation, havoc and waste.

The skies have cleared and the black clouds have been driven beyond the edge of the horizon.

The twirling, twisting cloud, which had its inception in Prussian autocracy and militarism, spread until it involved many of the raging turmoil that has all nations and darkened the skies of the earth.

Only wide, bleak scenes of desolation and chaos remain in mute testimony of the passing of the storm.

The rainbow of peace has flung its

Monumental toll in lives, property and money was exacted by the storm receding clouds.

from the peoples caught in its merciless power. The wrath of the god Mars levied heavy indemnity.

And the bright sunlight that will flood the suffering area with its warmth will disclose the liberal com-

pensation left by the storm in return for the toll it exacted.

It will reveal the huddled bodies of those empire breeders, autocracy, militarism, despotism and national greed.

They were victims of the storm of their own brewing!

The Fort Omaha Gas Bag has been founded by a group of men whose conviction it is that such an institution is necessary to furnish the men with the live news in and out of the post not only, but to bolster the "esprit de corps" and morale of the command and to reflect the opinion of the men themselves.

Contributions are invited. They must be typewritten. Contributors are advised to retain duplicate copies of such, as the Gas Bag will not be responsible for any copy received.

FORT OMAHA GAS BAG

Published every Friday at Fort Omaha, Nebraska.
Rates—\$2.00 a year; \$1.25 for six months; 50¢ a copy.
Mail all checks care The Gas Bag, Fort Omaha, Neb.

Covering the Following Army Posts: Fort Omaha, Florence Field, Fort Crook.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1918.