



The Rio Grande Rattler

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"The Strength of the Wolf is the Pack, but the Strength of the Pack is the Wolf"

STARTING THE MOVEMENT TO STATE CAMPS

Three Regiments of the New York Division off for the North This Week.

COMMANDING OFFICERS PLEASSED WITH SERVICE

On the night of Wednesday, August 30, the War Department issued orders for the return to their state mobilization camps of 15,000 National Guardsmen now on the Mexican border. General Funston was directed to return three regiments from New York, two from New Jersey, two from Illinois, two from Missouri and one each from California, Oregon, Washington and Louisiana. Earlier in the day the department had ordered to their home stations 6,000 regular coast artillery men who have been serving as Infantry on the border.

with troops now in their mobilization camps in the several states. Department officials think that the force now on the border is ample to secure proper protection and with the gravity of the Mexican situation constantly lessening, it is not considered necessary to strengthen General Funston's command. At the present time, it is the policy of the government to give all the regiments called to the colors an opportunity to see service on a war footing along the international line. This will probably be done as much to train the troops as to protect the border. The men of the New York Division who want to go home, can draw comfort from the fact that soon after the opening meeting of the Mexican-American joint commission at Portsmouth, N. H., scheduled to take place September 4, General Pershing's troops will probably be withdrawn from Mexican soil and used to reinforce the border patrol. This move, many officers believe, will lead to the early return home of all the guardsmen, as Pershing's troops, added to the regulars already on the border would make the patrol sufficiently strong unless some new trouble should develop. Division Headquarters expects additional orders for further troop movements in the near future, and the bugbear of Christmas dinner for the militiamen on the border seems to be strangled for good.

Reports that the recall of the regiments was inspired by the threatened nationwide railroad strike, are discounted by officers who are in a position to know. Now that the strike order has been revoked by the leaders of the Brotherhoods and no orders have been issued, the movement north, it may be confidently stated, of the entire National Guard will soon be returned to their own states and there mustered out of the federal service.

Later The 71st Infantry entrained at McAllen Tuesday and are on the way north. The 14th Infantry are scheduled to leave Mission today and the 3rd Infantry to leave Pharr tomorrow.

All will go to the state mobilization camp in New York State.

The Brownsville Sentinel, in yesterday's issue says: "Early in October the militiamen stationed in the Brownsville patrol district, and doubtless those stationed along other sections of the border, will leave for their state mobilization camps to be mustered from the federal service. Preparations for the demobilization will commence at once. Although no official information as to the proposed moving of the militia has been given out at district headquarters, the reports come from a high source and are direct from the Adjutant General of the Army."

BASE BALL LEAGUE OPENS.

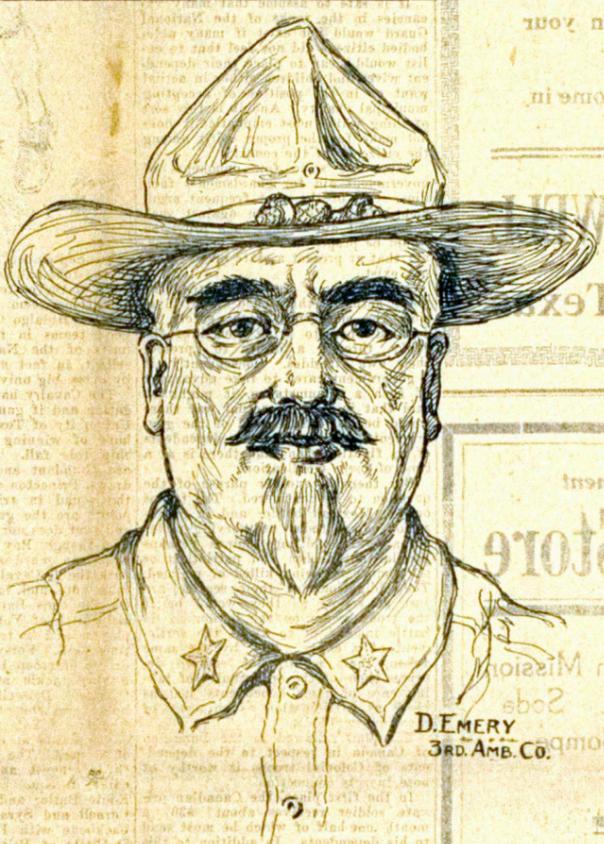
The 1st Cavalry base ball league got away with a flying start with a pre-season game between Troops C and D. Might better have called water polo, but anyway a base ball is base ball, whether played in 100 in the shade or at the north pole. After a short fighting practice, the slaughter began. "As skirmishers" the teams lined up and Troop D did a manual of arms with a bat, but after porting arms three times were called to quarters. This happened for several innings while C made the most of their chances and killed off the team running to bases. It developed that there were many players on each side who had never played in the big leagues. Lieutenant "Ham" Barnes held down third for D, and on close plays demanded that he be saluted, naturally C thought something was being slipped over on them; so put in Captain Backhaus. The watering trough in center field played a star game. C Troop insisted on sliding to first after getting their base on balls, D claims that this is not good base ball. Well, you know what Sherman said about war, that was mild to what C did to D, not a mere run in inning; as many as twenty in one inning. Indesparation, Lieutenant Barnes sent word for the Captain to call the troop for watering, but the call came too late. With an adding machine the score was rumored to be about 30 to 3.



Col. Bandholtz Notices Col. Bates that the 71st Will Entrain for the North

News that entraining orders had been received at headquarters spread quickly through all the camps of the New York Division. Even those regiments who were far afield on their ten-day hikes soon learned that three commands were to be picked to return home. The rumor had the same electrifying effect in all encampments, especially as it was bruited about that the lucky regiments had not yet been designated. The official order as transmitted from Southern Dept. Headquarters to the commanding general of the New York Division, directed the return to mobilization camps of three infantry regiments, two of them to be New York City Regiments, and one from the northern part of the state. General O'Ryan designated the 3rd from Pharr, the 71st from McAllen, and the 14th from Mission. These three regiments were then in their permanent camps. The reason for their selection was that each of these regiments had completed its field work, while the other six comprising the Infantry strength of the division were still in the course of their hikes. As the order required the regiments to be "prepared to leave without delay," the three encampments were instantly astir with the work of packing up and generally putting themselves in readiness for departure. All tentage will be carried with the troops, but the wagons and horses will be left behind in charge of the Supply companies, who will remain in camp until further orders.

Gathering of sufficient rolling stock to transport the various regiments located at widely distant points along the border is the task confronting both Army and Railroad officials at the present time. Although the problem of bringing troops to the Mexican border from almost every state in the Union was a great one, it is even a more difficult proposition to arrange for their transportation home. Upon issuing the order for the return of the troops, Secretary Baker said: "In view of the fact that substantially this number of troops who have not done patrol duty on the border are now on their way there, it is felt that this number can be spared. In a few days, if the transportation facilities remain undisturbed, the Department intends to order home some more regiments and possibly to replace them



Brigadier-General James W. Lester Commanding 1st. N. Y. Infantry Brigade, N.G., U.S.

U. S. INSPECTION OF NEW YORK DIVISION

Departmental Officers Working at McAllen, Pharr and Mission

FITTING CLIMAX TO TRAINING

Under the general direction of Lieut. Col. Eli Helmick, Inspector General's Department, ten regular officers arrived Monday evening from department headquarters to inspect the N. Y. Division.

Of the party Col. Helmick, Capt. T. C. Musgrave and Capt. John T. Chapman, stopped at Pharr to inspect the troops stationed there. They are being assisted by Major George H. Jamerson, on duty with the 3rd Brigade.

Maj. H. A. Smith, Capt. Chas. A. Thais, Capt. Jas. G. Boswell and Capt. Wm. C. Whitener, are inspecting the troops at McAllen, while Lieut. Col. Paul A. Wolf, Major Frank E. Bamford, Capt. James Blythe and Capt. J. H. Cowan are inspecting the troops of the 1st Brigade at Mission and vicinity.

The 3rd, 14th and 71st Infantry having been designated for return to mobilization camps, were the first to be inspected and they will be followed in rapid succession by all the remaining units of the Division.

WE THANK YOU

Buffalo Courier: "The Rattler is splendid, up-to-date—a real newspaper and full of interesting news."

Albany Evening Journal: "The Rattler is a credit to our soldier boys, and demonstrates how readily they can turn their hands to anything when called upon."

Mission (Texas) Times: "The Rattler is an unique and remarkably well handled newspaper. The management deserves great praise for the excellence of the first issue."

New York Sun: "The Rattler is a lively publication with not an amateurish line in its eight pages. The editorials praise the work of the Active Service Auxiliary, denounce irresponsible newspaper correspondents, express sincere appreciation of the agricultural and commercial possibilities of that section of Texas and last, 'roast' the Vintners' of veterans' unmercifully, and it must be admitted, skillfully."

McAllen (Texas) Monitor: "The Rattler looks up exceptionally well, its first issue bespeaks for its continuous success here's hoping a long and happy life for the youngster."

Albany Times Union: "The Rattler is a rattling good newspaper."

Syracuse Post-Standard: "An excellent newspaper."

We regret that space will not permit the publication of all telegrams of congratulation we have received.

VERMONT TO AID ITS SOLDIERS

Special Session of Legislature Provides Additional Pay

WILL ALSO VOTE ON THE BORDER

Montpelier, Vt.—Vermont's citizen soldiers who were called to the colors by the recent crisis on the Mexican border are provided for and provision is made for their dependents in bills passed by the special session of the legislature recently and signed by Governor Gates last night. In addition, a bill was also passed by the senate providing means for the registered voters now on the border to vote in the September primaries and the November elections. This was referred to a house committee and was expected to be passed and signed in time for adjournment today.

Dependent mothers and fathers, wives and children, not over fifteen years of age, may secure financial relief from the state to the amount of not exceeding \$35 monthly to a family, according to one measure signed by the governor. Where a wife only is in need she may receive \$20 a month.

Another bill provides state pay of \$10 a month for the enlisted men in addition to their federal pay of approximately \$15 a month. There was a difference of opinion on the question of mileage for the soldiers. The house passed a bill providing a rate of 20 cents a mile one way, but the senate amended this to read ten cents a mile and was taken up by the house.

FOR PRATT INSTITUTE MEN. Graduates of the School of Science and Technology, Pratt Institute, asked to communicate with Mr. F. Behar, M. G. Co., 12th Infantry, President of that school's Alumni Association, who is thinking of organizing a reunion of the Pratt Tech men on the border.

Before coming to terms with Mexico the United States, of course, will insist upon an apology, a salute to the flag and Villa dead or alive.

EXPERIENCE THE ONLY TEACHER

Colonel Bates Tells Things Learned by Regimental Hike

BATTALION COOK WAGONS LIMITED

Colonel Wm. G. Bates of the 71st Infantry in speaking of his impressions and conclusions drawn from the experiences of the Regiment in their recent hike, reiterated with emphasis the axiom that experience is the best teacher. "Up to the hurricane of Friday night at Sterling's Ranch," said the Colonel, when interviewed by a representative of The Rattler, "the work of every unit and man was entirely satisfactory and the morale and discipline of the entire regiment left nothing to be desired. The tremendous storm, however, broke down the latter somewhat, and they were not recovered entirely until the arrival at Laguna Seca. The march across the desert from Sterling to Laguna Seca was hard for all of us, but was of tremendous educational value both to officers and men. If nothing else has been accomplished by that march, it will be of lasting value to every man in the 71st Regiment in driving home forever that cardinal precept: "Husband your water." Had each and every man been issued emergency rations before leaving Sterling that day, I have no doubt that the greater portion of the haversacks would have been empty long before camp was pitched. The experience with the water, however, should teach us also to be careful with rations of food in an analogous situation. And experience in that respect has taught the men a lesson they will never forget."

The Colonel spoke of the change from battalion cook wagons to individual company messes at some length. "The three battalion cook wagons," he said "were designed by Captain Tevy to care for four hundred men each at a time when the regimental strength was about a thousand men. They were bought and are owned by the regiment, which is the only unit in the United States so equipped. The recruiting of the regiment to war maximum has necessitated demands upon the wagons which were never contemplated when they were conceived and constructed. The addition of from seventy-five to one hundred men to each battalion has required that the food be cooked in such large quantities as to seriously impair its value. Cereals especially being oftentimes scorched and half-cooked in the same receptacle.

"The solution of this difficulty seems to lie in company messes, where the food fare will be more satisfactorily cooked under more intensive supervision."

"When are the cook wagons to be abandoned, sir," he was asked. "Not at all," responded the Colonel, "there is absolutely no abandonment of the principle. The European war has demonstrated its soundness. There is no intrinsic superiority of the company mess over cook wagons. If we had three more wagons we could accomplish as good if not better results, than with the changed system. But we are in a permanent camp, and the battalion wagons were primarily designed for maneuvering. I will take this or any other regiment to Whitman or Peckskill for a few weeks. The conditions there demand special preparations to properly cope with them."

ARE YOU THERE? The thing of all things that has enabled more individuals to success and more hosts to victory is that quality known vulgarly but expressively as guts. It is not mere enthusiasm, nor courage, nor persistence, nor valor, nor bravery. It partakes of all these things but it differs in some respects from all of them. It is the quality that took the ten thousand Greek mercenaries, hundreds of miles through a strange and hostile country, and made them sing and beat their shields as they fought and conquered a five fold enemy at the gates of Babylon. The intangible something that works sharply the distinction between men and mere human organisms, between kickers and backbiters and soldiers.

To the man with "guts" the transition from a pen to a pick is an incident; from a bed to a "hobnob" an adventure; from a walk on the avenue to a hike in the cactus, a pleasure; from a tea cart to a mess tin, a picnic. This life here breeds "guts" and red blood! Smile—and take hold as if you were here forever! "Guts" is a connotation that never failed man nor organization of men.

WARNING In writing letters to "Her" describing the terrible hardships of army life be sure that some other soldier with less imagination but more straightforwardness is not also on her mailing list.