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GREGORY & CARDWELL

McAllen, ∴ Texas

THE GUARDSMAN AND HIS FAMILY

How to Properly Protect the Families of the Citizen-Soldiers

FROM "ARMS AND THE MAN"

Current news reports concerning the conditions surrounding the recent mobilization of the National Guard, indicate that in every city a certain percentage of the families of the citizen soldiers was left practically destitute by the enforced military service of the bread-winner.

Each of the cities in which such conditions exist has come to the front with relief for these families, so far as has been possible.

But the condition only emphasizes the necessity of some provision by the government for a contingency of this sort.

It is safe to assume that many vacancies in the ranks of the National Guard would not exist if many able-bodied citizens did not feel that to enlist would mean to place their dependent wives and children either in actual want or in the position of accepting municipal charity. And it is this sort of thing which most emphatically does not make for the proper spirit among the citizenry of the country.

There are some few opponents of government aid for guardsmen's families. One of the most frequent arguments heard from them against such government aid is that such provision would be proper in time of actual war, but that at present a state of war does not exist.

As a matter of fact, if this country were actually threatened with invasion, the emergency might safely be counted upon to bring men into the ranks, through a desire to protect their own firesides. Consequently, if a government cared to take advantage of such a circumstance, it might be said that in time of actual war there would be less actual need of the government providing for the dependents of its fighting men than there is at a time of mere mobilization.

But there is another phrase of the question to be considered. The troops on the Mexican border and in mobilization camps today are serving under actual war conditions, minus perhaps the chance of being killed or maimed. The obligations of their service are just as strong as they would be if the troops were on the border to do battle instead of to await the settlement of a crisis. And, by the same token, their mobilization service deprives them of the opportunity of taking care of their dependents just as much as participation as an army of invasion would do.

The plan followed in the Dominion of Canada in respect to the dependents of Colonial troops is worthy of note in this connection.

In the first place, the Canadian private soldier receives about \$30 a month, one-half of which he must send to his dependents. In addition to this the government has provided what is known as the "Separation Allowance," which pays to the wife, mother or dependent family of every soldier \$20 a month. Unconnected in any way with this governmental provision is what is known as the "Patriotic Fund," made up of private contributions and administered by volunteer workers. From this fund every wife, mother and dependent child receives a minimum of \$5 a month, provided that no family receive in excess of \$50 a month. In this way, a dependent family may receive as much as \$85 a month while the bread-winner is performing military service.

UNTIDY PRIVATE PUNISHED

The commanding officer of a corps was much troubled about the persistent untidiness of one of his men. Reprimand and punishment were unavailing. The man was incorrigible and remained as dirty as ever.

A brilliant idea struck the Colonel: "Why not march him up and down the whole line of the regiment and shame him into decency?"

It was done. The untidy warrior, who hailed from the Emerald Isle, was ordered to exhibit himself and march up and down the entire regiment, and the men to have a good look at him.

The unabashed Pat halted, saluted the colonel and said in the hearing of the whole corps, with the utmost sangfroid:

"Dhirstiest regiment I ever inspected, sorr."

Our open air entertainments are running more to music lately than exhibition bouts. But we should not worry as history tells us that music has put the punch in many a battle.

On the rifle range: "Did I hit anything?" "Sure you did!" "What does it count?" "Sh! They'll make you pay for the lumber; you nearly knocked the target post down!"

ATHLETICS



On September 16 the opening game of the foot ball season is scheduled for most of the eastern teams but playing conditions seem out of the question here in Hidalgo County. Material for good teams in the New York State units of the National Guard is excellent, in fact material to be envied by every big university of the country.

The Cavalry have the all star aggregation and if games can be scheduled, University of Texas might give up all hope of winning the state championship this fall. All-American players are abundant and even "Ham" Andrews, Princeton coach, is here to whip the squad in trim. The only weak points are the guards but the weight and beef does not jib with our military life though Ray Bigelow, the All-American guard of Yale is "simmering with the I. Cavalry. Eastern dopsters take note and look over the line-up. On the ends Ballin of Princeton and Kilpatrick of Yale, both rattling good players and in trim to show their old time skill. Forsyth, the husky truck driver of troop H, 1st Cavalry played a star tackle at Syracuse, while "Mike" Driscoll of Williams could hold down the other side of the line. Bigelow of Yale and Ransler of Syracuse, guards at center, Granny Miller of Cornell. The back field should be the strongest and as a scoring machine, its equal would be hard to beat. Eddie Butler and "Red" Wilkinson of Cornell and Syracuse would form the backbone with Freeman of Yale and Doolittle of Princeton to help things along. Substitute players are plentiful, all corking good players with experience. Robb of Cornell. Ray, captain of University of Rochester this coming season, and Glass of Syracuse.

We are informed that Fred Gokenback, a heavyweight, serving with a machine gun corps in Texas, can whip Jess Willard. He probably could with a machine gun.—New York American. It all depends on the machine gun.

The latest indoor sports for privates is giving orders to the porter while en route home on a furlough.

J. Kaufman, better known in the fighting world as "Young Walsh," has still to meet his victor. Kaufman is with Battery A, First Field Artillery.

Saratoga wouldn't have a thing on McAllen if the Cavalry would start a series of horse races between the different troops. Why overlook such opportunities? Get busy.

Base ball is more or less losing its popularity in the different camps, but nevertheless President (Lieutenant) Gibbons of the 1st Field Artillery expects to start his season off this week with six teams.

It is rumored that water polo is to be played in the near future. Guess "in the near future" is the only place it could be played here. 1st Cavalry kick, they claim that they haven't even shower baths to practice in.

Send in your sporting dope, let's get together and start some real competition between the different troops.

AMMUNITION FOR MACHINE GUN PRACTICE

An expenditure not to exceed 3,000 rounds for each machine gun has been authorized by the Secretary of War for target practice among the machine gun units of the National Guards now in the service of the United States.

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By Dreher

