

News Sent in by Our Division Units

(Continued from Page 6)

Great interest is being displayed by the regiment in the coming horse show. It should indeed prove to be a gala day. Those in charge of the entry lists report most interesting progress.

Where do all those dogs that are continually trailing about camp come from Private Wilton Copinger of A Troop, it is said, has taken accurate count of them. If the number should increase he will become a strict vegetarian.

Private Phil Kenney of K Troop has returned from the hospital at San Antonio feeling fine. Sporting writers and M. Bustanoby please note.

George Bacher of L Troop finds it hard to combine advertising with such soldierly duties as picket guard and kitchen police, but he manages to edge in a few advertising layouts for The Rattler from time to time to keep his hand in. Bacher is responsible for those snappy snapshots we printed in our page written by Sharyland in the last issue of the Rattler.

7TH INFANTRY.

We're beginning to feel much like Robinson Crusoe must have felt as he sat staring at P. 459 of his voluminous diary and wondering what he would chronicle there that might be of interest to someone besides Friday and the goat. (On second thought we feel more like the latter than we do like B. C.). Of course we are vitally interested in all that takes place within our lines and a great deal that doesn't take place outside but it's ten to one that the great world without doesn't care a continental being more interested in ante-world-series dope. We have found from observation that the only ones who read this particular column besides ourselves are a few misguided girls who send us fudge once in a while and an occasional postcard. You can't blame them much for the postcard thing as a fellow in hand is worth six on the Border.

The 7th. is still going about its own cheery way, eating three meals a day and standing guard ever so often. One week is much like the rest in McAllen and the passing days bring little novelty by way of diversion. Some days we hike out into the cañons and after spying the "enemy" in force, entrenched in yonder thicket, proceed to deploy as skirmishers and think of pretty things to say about guats, cactus, Spanish lay-onet and Second Lieutenants. Other days we joyfully scramble aboard auto-trucks and go forth in great glee to unload 2x4's from side-door Pullmans or pile bricks in a large heap on one side of the road and then carry them back again for some cross-eyed Sergeant who started growing a beautiful grouch soon after the Crimean War. Yes, it's a great life if you don't weaken, as the dancing master remarked when they fastened a rope around his neck.

You'd have to go a long way to find a better equipped camp than ours. Every man has a cot; every tent has a board floor; every company, a mess shack; and every battalion, a shower bath. Now that we have been supplied with a few of the comforts of home, we are beginning to forget the two

months we spent without them. It isn't so much what you didn't have then, it's what you've got now. But again rumor hath it that as soon as the goat season is over and the bugs of yellow hue and crimson disposition have returned to a more friendly climate, the greatly esteemed government will supply us with screens for the tents. Contrary to general expectations the extra blanket per man was issued soon after the nights began to take on an unaccustomed chilliness. The only explanation we can furnish is that the blankets were being held in neighboring storehouses for next Summer's use and some officer had the courage of his shivering convictions. Ours not to reason why!

Last Wednesday the 7th. marched forth to do battle with the Green or the Red or the Blue forces, we forget which, and although the events of that day and the one following are still confused and hazy as to details, we haven't the slightest doubt but that the regiment covered itself with glory. It remains for someone whose range of observation was greater than the width of a battle-sight to specify with what special sort of glory we covered ourselves. Whatever kind it was there was scarcely enough thickness to it to render the one night on the field less chilly.

As to news, Private Soandso has left on a furlough and Lieutenant Whatsisname is visiting New York on a leave of absence. About the same number of men have adopted burros, goats, scorpions or snakes as pets and an equal amount have received a large number of letters from certain young ladies—and all that sort of thing.

Somewhere the bright lights are shining, attentive waiters are hovering, appetizing dishes are waiting, pretty girls are sweetly smiling—but not "somewhere in Texas." H. I. Y.

COMPANY I ON BORDER DUTY.

The first unit of the New York Division to do actual border duty, Company I, 7th. New York Infantry, discharged its mission efficiently and conducted itself with such decorum that the residents of Madero, where the pumping plants, were reassured of their safety and expressed regret when the company was relieved.

The order for the moving of the company from the post at McAllen came through on the afternoon of September 11 and in less than an hour all rolls were made and cots and baggage packed on the motor trucks which left with the first squad about 5:30 o'clock. The recent rain made the going so heavy that a delay in returning for the company seemed inevitable. In order to reach their destination promptly the first platoon hiked to Mission before they met the returning trucks. The time, one hour and five minutes, was particularly commendable.

Owing to the heavy roads the 2nd. platoon was delayed in leaving until the next morning. On their arrival they found tents pitched and camp made inside the breastworks, which had been occupied by the 2nd. Texas troops, and the regular duties of the

outpost were assumed immediately. Guards stationed on the river protected the two pumping plants and the approaches from either side.

Captain Wade Hayes, in command, and 2nd. Lieutenant Beavers, who had been assigned to the company in the absence of leave of 1st. Lieutenant Nichols, kept the men busy repairing the stockade and buildings and building gabions to protect the entrances. This work, entirely new to the men, was executed as if done by veterans and received the commendation of Col. Finke when he made an inspection of the camp.

The installation of a telephone by the Signal Corps enabled Headquarters to keep in touch with the situation hourly and although nothing untoward occurred every detail which would enable the company there located to properly protect the plants and to receive assistance if necessary was worked out with precision.

The town of Madero is located about three miles directly south of Mission on the Rio Grande. Its population is practically all Mexican. The pumping plants are important as they furnish the water supply for Mission and Edinburg and for the irrigation of that whole section. It has been reported that shots had been exchanged across the river and when the Texas troops were removed there was fear of trouble. Very little effort would put the pumping plants out of commission and consequently the importance of the assignment to this post was great. Aside from a post of insects the stay of Company I was a pleasant change from the routine of camp life at McAllen. The work was instructive and the recollection of chicken dinners at neighboring houses, which a few were fortunate to indulge in, will always prove a pleasant memory.

Company I was relieved on Friday, September 17 by Company G, 7th. N. Y. Infantry, Capt. Nesbit commanding.

74TH INFANTRY.

After several days of preparation and rehearsals the 74th minstrel troupe made up of men from all companies of the regiment entertained the residents of Pharr and men from other regiments stationed at Pharr in the National Theatre, Friday night, Sept. 15, and Saturday night gave the same performance in the 74th. Y. M. C. A. At both performances capacity houses prevailed and many were turned away. All agreed that the boys gave a splendid performance and kept the audience in a constant furore with the antics of the endmen. Little Miss Anita Gawthrop and Master Olan Reed, both juvenile residents, assisted with song and dances. Following was the program:

FIRST PART

Overture, 74th Infantry Orchestra, under the personal leadership of J. Schwitzer, Opening Chorus, "Leading Up the Mandy Lee," by entire company. Baritone Solo, "Goodbye, Good Luck, God Bless You" by Private Dohmeyer, Co. D.

Medley, Popular songs and chatter, by Machine Gun Co. Quartette.

Tenor Solo, "Mother Machree," by Private Metcalfe, Co. F.

Tenor Solo, "My Own Iona," by Private Sidman, Co. I.

Bass Solo, "Asleep in the Deep," by Sergt. Goss, Co. L.

Coon Song, "And they Called it Dixieland," by Corp. Johnson and Pvt. Churchill (Ends.)

Eccentric Clog Dance, By Corp. Haug Co. E.

Baritone Solo, "You'll Always Be the Same, Sweet Girl," by Corp. Shriner, Co. M.

Old Fashioned Rube Song, by Sergt. Wallenberger, Machine Gun Co.

Bass Solo, "When It's Twilight Neath the Old New England Hills," by Private Daily, Co. G.

Tenor Solo, "Don't Bite the Hand That's Feeding You," by Graham, Co. G, accompanied by the "National Harmony Four" of Co. G.

Finale, Chorus of Medleys, by entire company.

Intermission—(Fifteen Minutes)... Overtures, 74th Infantry Orchestra.

SECOND PART

Olio

"Camp Life as Seen in Texas," by The National Harmony Four" of Co. G, Introducing Private Churchhill, Graham, Daily, Corp. Johnson in Harmony and Nonsense.

Cornet Solo, by Sergt. John Bolton, leader of the 74th Regimental Band.

Hypnotic Act, by "Prof." Lawrence & Co., Mach. Gun Co.

Minstrel, Dr. Frederick Strickland, That Lone Star Minstrel Favorite in Old Fashioned Songs and Stories.

Special Feature—(Local), Pharr's Greatest Juvenile Entertainers, Little Miss Anita Gawthrop and Master Olan Reed, in songs and dances De Luxe, accompanied by Miss Marie Gawthrop.

Vaudeville Sketch, Wolf Shriner and Dohmeyer, introducing ragtime Piano playing, singing, talking and dancing.

Female Impersonation, introducing dancing of the highest quality, by Pvt. Erling, Co. C.

Motion Pictures.

Finale, Closing Selection by 74th Inf. Orchestra.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Ends: Graham, Sidman, Churchhill (Tambo) MacKay, Daily, Johnson, (Bones.)

Interlocutor, Harold E. Steer, Secy. Y. M. C. A.

Chorus, Dohmeyer, Co. D, Goss, Co. F, Crumlish, M. G. Co., Haug, Co. E, Shriner, Co. M, Wallenberger, M. G. Co., Morin M. G. Co.

Band Leader, 74th Regimental Band, Sergt. John W. Bolton.

Orchestra Leader, Joseph Schwitzer.

OUR NEW FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT IS FIT.

Verily this is a year of preparedness. The military world "do move". To add to her record as the only state to send an entire and completely equipped Division to the Border, New York has organized and trained a new artillery regiment, known as the 3rd. Field Artillery. Formerly the 65th. Infantry of Buffalo, the 3rd. N. Y. F. A. assumed its present name and began training as

an artillery regiment, soon after the order for mobilization was issued last June. New York already possessed more than the required quota of infantry regiments and as artillery was deemed of the utmost importance in the conflict that was then imminent, the change was directed by Washington and was quickly made.

Col. D. W. Hand, U. S. A., was placed in command of the new field artillery regiment and under his direction the officers and men soon became proficient in their new line of duty. The regiment has been encamped at Peeks-kill all summer and has undergone its training under the keen eyes of regular army instructors.

The 3rd. F. A. is equipped with 47 howitzers, twenty-four guns in all to the regiment. There are four guns to a battery, three batteries to a battalion, and two battalions to the regiment. The 1st. and 2nd. N. Y. F. A. now on the Border are equipped with 3-inch guns. No field artillery regiment in the N. G. U. S. possesses guns of as large a calibre as those of the 3rd.

The strength of the 3rd. N. Y. F. A. is 769 officers and men. At the present time the entire command are eagerly awaiting orders to entrain for the Border where they hope to prove the effectiveness of the regiment. They are now at the mobilization camp, Camp Whitman.

OUR BUSY RAILROAD

Way back in the spring of 1916, when McAllen was just a village and not an army concentration point, it only took one station agent to sell all the tickets



Pontoon Building By New York Engineers.

that the two trains a day ever demanded.

But prosperity came with the arrival of the New York troops and now no less a personage than the General Agent of the Passenger Department himself greets you when you step up to the window to buy your excursion ticket to Corpus, price five dollars, or your two yards of stamped paper that carries you back to New York. Mr. Harry W. Pinnick, the G. A. P.

OCTOBER 7TH FOR CORPUS.

This is a picture of Corpus Christi—not the whole town, of course, but enough to show you that it's green and cool and inviting. Corpus Christi is 150 miles from McAllen, which is just far enough so that the 9:45 bugle call to quarters isn't heard on the back piazza of the Nueces Hotel until several hours later, in case you prefer to spend the evening swimming.

Division Headquarters reports that many men are receiving furloughs for four or five days to allow them to visit Corpus Christi, which is aptly described as "the Naples of the Gulf." In most cases the furlough is readily granted, providing the application has received the necessary endorsements from the Company and regimental commanders.

Since the last excursion to Corpus of three weeks ago, many inquiries have been made as to when another special week-end trip can be arranged. At present, the movement of troop trains and the expected influx of visitors to McAllen for Frontier Day have interrupted the plans which the Gulf Coast Lines had made for the next excursion. It is expected, however, that this can be scheduled for Saturday October 7th, leaving McAllen Saturday around ten o'clock, arriving in Corpus Christi at 4 that afternoon, and returning at 10 Sunday night, after 24 hours in and beside the gulf.

The regular excursion fare to Corpus Christi and return is \$5., but a special rate of \$3.50 will probably be arranged for this day only. Watch the advertising column of the Rattler for full and authentic information.

The Division Camp Exchange

announces a fairly complete stock of military goods and camp necessities in spite of its large sales.

Located at the S. E. corner of Division Headquarters parade grounds.

McALLEN - - - TEXAS.