



# The Rio Grande Rattler.

THIS NEWSPAPER  
Is Published  
For the Enlisted Men  
of the N. Y. Division

SPECIAL  
Cavalry Number  
Send Your Friends  
THE RATTLER

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

## ENGINEERS--MEDICOS HOMEWARD BOUND

### 1st Battalion of 22nd, 1st Field Hospital and 1st Am. Co. Entrain.

### FIRST ARTILLERY OFF THIS WEEK

Moving just as if they had rehearsed the part for months and were trained for the moment, the 1st Battalion of the 22nd Engineers entrained for New York Friday afternoon, leaving McAllen about 2 p. m.

Not a flaw marked the work of entraining, and the difficult task of loading field wagons and equipment was performed with an eagerness and speed which showed a will to back it up. Major Harvey Garrison, commanding the Battalion, had the privilege of seeing McAllen recede into the horizon long before the sun set, while his men forsook the rattan cushion of their palatial tourist sleepers to wave a parting salute at the town which had been their home for three months of busy Border life.

Friday afternoon also witnessed the helms of the 1st New York Field Hospital, Major James G. Dunseith commanding. This detachment moved out from its quarters back of the new base hospital in early afternoon and found their places on the train without confusion or delay. Like the Engineers, they settled down to pullman life and travel rattled with martyr-like resignation.

Entraining is slow work, and darkness had dropped over the McAllen station before the 1st Ambulance Company, homeward bound for Binghamton, found refuge in the coaches that were to be their home for four or five days to come. A farewell rain, one of McAllen's surprises to speed the parting guest, wet their hat-brims before they left, and the sudden darkness of McAllen's forsaken streets made a farewell sight that impressed itself on the memory of those who stood by. But the "doctors" were cheerful to the last.

The 1st Ambulance Company carried with it the full quota of draft ambulances, which have proved their efficiency in daily trips from Sterling's Ranch and La Gloria through mud and over bumps and ditches, were left behind for a further period of usefulness. The mules were shipped to the army remount depot at San Antonio.

All of the detachments which left Friday have seen a remarkable development in the efficiency and standing of the New York Division since they arrived, a matter of less than four months ago. The 1st Field Hospital has probably had as remarkable a story as any. During the early days of this encampment the hospital units of the Division struggled against many kinds of obstacles. Tropical storms almost daily during the months of July and August made the question of housing the patients a peculiarly painful one, and the regular field tentage was soon laid aside. The 1st Field Hospital has seen a transition from a clump of brown canvas wall-tents to the archipelago of tidy little hospital buildings, with their wood and screen walls, permanent kitchens, perfect nursing facilities, and other conveniences that make up the new McAllen Base Hospital.

Next to depart, unless orders are shifted, will come the 1st N. Y. Field Artillery, the 1st Battalion of which is already in camp and awaiting transportation to take them to Broadway and 68th Street or some place within walking distance of it. The 2nd Battalion of this regiment is now at La Gloria, completing the regular tour of target practice, but will be in readiness to depart within a few days, probably before their brothers pull out of the McAllen station.

No new orders for the removal of troops are in the hands of the Division Adjutant of the New York Division. Whether any such orders will be received this week is a matter of conjecture, but conjecture without profit. In another column of this paper we publish an account of the new sort of entertainment that those who direct the patrolling of the Border have arranged for the benefit of those of us who remain.

### "ALL'S QUIET ALONG THE RIO GRANDE"

Bayonne, N. J., an armed camp with 12,000 strikers virtually besieging police and special deputies. Constable Hook section a battle ground. Bullets flew freely and several were killed on both sides.

## REAL BORDER PATROL FOR N. Y. DIVISION

### All Infantry Regiments to Guard Rio Grande in New Service Program

### 2 COMPANY POSTS ON 4 DAYS DUTY

After three and a half months of camp duty which has included ditch digging, interior guard duty, hikes and more hikes but very little if any border duty, the infantry regiments of the N. Y. Division enter a program of actual patrol duty along the Rio Grande. The military road from Madero to San Juan Hacienda will be patrolled daily by a two-company post from each regiment, each patrol doing duty for four days before being relieved.

Five sectors of territory have been sketched out by the Division Commander, the purpose being to assign each regiment to a locality most convenient to its own base. Thus the 7th Infantry will patrol Madero, the 12th will cover the district surrounding Granjeno Ranch, about three miles from Madero, and the 69th will be assigned to Hidalgo.

The 23rd Infantry, stationed at Pharr, will patrol the Capote Ranch sector, and the 74th holds the extreme left of the patrol at San Juan Hacienda.

The military road, which is the road immediately to be patrolled, dates back to 1845 and the days of the Mexican War. For the first time New York's troops will enter the scenes where soldiers for generations before them have made history. Probably never before have troops entered this district so well equipped, so fresh and vigorous or so eager, although the eagerness to fight is tempered with restraint and discipline which will prevent any outbreak from this side of the line.

The work mapped out for the ten patrol companies which will be on guard simultaneously is in effect a locked door patrol of the Rio Grande, preventing any fording or crossing of the river except at Hidalgo, where crossings come under the jurisdiction of the Immigration Authorities. Each Commanding Officer will direct an inspection of all fords each morning to detect evidences of crossing, and sharp lookout will be maintained at all times especially along roads and trails leading to the river bank.

The location of camps for these detached posts is left to the discretion of each of the five Commanding Officers. During the weeks to come permanent defenses will be constructed, the work falling on the various regiments at each post. Instructions will also be given in the making of gabions, fascines, hurdles and other revetting material, as described in the Engineer Field Manual. The outposts will be entrenched as well.

While for a few days the units forming these detached posts will be without electric lights and canteen facilities (although no necessary comforts will be slighted) the Signal Corps promises to link up the five posts with the base camps at McAllen and Pharr and also with Brigade and Division Headquarters. The Engineers, or all that are left of them, are instructed to keep open the roads connecting all points covered by the N. Y. Division.

The first relief will take their posts as soon as the necessary details have been worked out, probably within a very few days.

At the same time, the Commanding Officer of the Divisional Cavalry, consisting of the 1st Cavalry and Squadron A, will maintain a one-trump or two-trump post in the town of Mission. One trump has been stationed in the park opposite the Mission station for the past two weeks.

### UNCLE SAM TO TRAIN GUARDSMEN AERONAUTS

Plans for the expenditure of seventy-six thousand dollars appropriated by Congress for the training of officers of the National Guard to become military aviators at the North Island Military Aerodrome near San Diego, Cal., have been outlined by the War Department and will be put into effect at once.

The adjutant general of each state has been instructed to select the best man fitted to command an aerodrome, as well as a man qualified to become second in command. These men will receive the same course of instruction that officers of the regular service are given.

FOUND—A chance to get in solid back home by sending all of them copies of The Rattler.



## FIRST CAVALRY TO HOLD TRACK MEET

### Competition Keen Among Troops for First Honors in Big Event Soon

### PROMINENT ATHLETES NOW IN TRAINING

With the inter-trump meet but a few days away, all the first Cavalry men are plugging along and getting in the best of form for this big event to be held on Sunday, Oct. 22nd. It promises to be a most interesting set of field games and combined with the several novelty races will be full of thrills from start to finish.

All this week the first Cavalry camp resembled a stadium the week preceding a set of Olympic games. Some men running, others jumping, and here and there troopers struggling with the mysteries of a sack race. The entire camp appears to be in training and each troop believes that the big prize trophy for the troop winning the greatest number of points, will rest in their own hands. A short quarter mile run before stables every morning seems to be the most popular form of troop development but those who are not greatly interested in track fail to appreciate this form of sport.

It is quite probable that elimination events will take place this Saturday as the entries already sent in have fairly swamped the entry committee. The 100 yard dash and the other short races seem to be the more popular and the jumps retain their popularity.

One event that will cause real sport will be the "man on back" race. A team consists of two men, one man carries the other man on his back for fifty yards, then reverse positions and race back to the starting point.

There are many track men from prominent Eastern colleges in the ranks of the Cavalry so college competition will be keen in the different events. As a whole the time for the events will be exceptionally fast when one takes into consideration the condition of the

track that is being built especially for this occasion.

As yet no one has tried to dope the winner since the caliber of the men is unknown in this climate. The men are entering every event with the set determination to win and the hard training this week will be a great factor in picking the winners.

The relay race will be the big feature of the day. In this race each man will run 220 yards. A beautiful cup will be given to the winning team. In every event the winners will receive prizes such as kodaks, crops, stick pins, blankets, cigaret cases and other trophies.

Eddie Butler deserves great credit for his work as chairman of the executive committee and having completed the more important details, success for the meet is assured. Programs are being printed for this occasion with every entry listed.

### CAVALRY'S BROWNSVILLE TRIP POSTPONES TRACK MEET

Brownsville—for four months an oft repeated name in the N. Y. Division—is now to become a reality to the 1200 men of the 1st N. Y. Cavalry.

"On or about Wednesday, October 18th," so the orders read, Col. DeBovoise's crack regiment will depart, bag and baggage for a ten-day hike to Brownsville. Three days will be spent on the road, arriving in Brownsville the regiment will in all probability be reviewed by Brigadier General James Parker. The regiment will probably camp on the site of the departed 1st Illinois Cavalry in West Brownsville, a mile and a quarter from the town by electric perambulator.

The road to be covered on the ride to Brownsville is one of historic if hardly scenic interest. Eight miles this side of Brownsville they will cross the battlefield of Palo Alto, where General Zachary Taylor and 2,500 men opened the Mexican War on May 8th, 1846. Much of the road is almost impassable to motor and wagon trains, but this will be easy riding for the cavalrymen after their rigorous training over the rocks and rills of the Magic Valley.

The 1st Cavalry Machine Gun Troop moved out Sunday for a two weeks' march to Harlingen for target practice. Tentative orders require the return of all troops to camp "by November 4th."

## N. Y. RIFLE TEAM WINS SOUTHERN MATCH

### Honors go to Major Waterbury's Sharpshooters in Preliminary Event

### NATIONAL SHOOT HELD THIS WEEK

True to the expectations of those who waved good-bye to them eight days ago on their way to Jacksonville, Florida, New York's crack rifle team won the match of the Southern Rifle Association at that city last Friday afternoon. The match was open to seven states south of the Carolinas, forming the Southern Rifle Association. The New York team qualified as a Southern state through being located, for the time being, in Texas.

While no prizes were given for this opening match, the honor of winning it gives to New York a decided advantage and makes clear a pathway to winning the shoot of the National Rifle Association, to be held at Jacksonville, Florida, this week. The course remains the same for the two matches. Following, individual practice matches will be held, and New York's experts are expected to show up prominently in this division.

The Rattler is fortunate in having as captain of the Rifle Team its personal representative, Major Waterbury, who will bring back with him the full details of the victory. A full account of this will appear in next week's Rattler.

### ADVICE TO TRAVELERS.

When leaving McAllen, by train, foot or mud-floating jitney, avoid a stop-over in San Juan, which hides the other side of Pharr on the road to Brownsville. By authority of the military police, San Juan is now pronounced restricted territory, and any man caught there without proper written credentials, will be turned over to the authorities for whatever action is necessary. Better save that thirst until you get home.

The Little Bird.

## PRES. WILSON SAYS GUARD WILL REMAIN

### The Mexican Crisis has not Passed, but Improving, he Tells Gov. Whitman

### NEAR FUTURE MAY SEE A RECALL

Long Branch, N. J., Oct. 14.—A letter from President Wilson to Governor Whitman, which was made public here today, declared that the emergency which caused the sending of the militia to the Border still exists and that there is no present intention on the part of the Government to release the Guard from federal service. It was impossible, the President stated, to get a date on which the remaining New York Guardsmen could be recalled for the War Department had advised him that the withdrawal of the militia at this time "would in human likelihood, be followed by fresh aggressions from Mexico on the lives and property of the people of the United States."

**Situation Improving, President States.**

The President also added that he believed conditions in Northern Mexico are steadily improving and that in the near future it probably will be possible to "do more than has been done to relieve the embarrassment which the organized militia regiments have necessarily suffered." Mr. Wilson also praised the efficiency and character of the Guard and denied that any regiment is being detained on the Border to perfect its military training.

The President's letter was in answer to a communication from Governor Whitman concerning the New York Division. The Governor sought some executive expression as to the probable length of service of the Empire State guardsmen, believing that the men on the Border would greatly appreciate definite information as to the plans the Government had drawn up for their future and that the dissemination of such intelligence would do a great deal to relieve the minds of the men in Texas. The President's complete letter to Governor Whitman is printed on Page Four.

### "FURTHER TROOP RECALL WILL DECREASE BORDER PA- TROL."—FUNSTON.

There is no immediate prospect for state troops now on border duty to return home, other than the organizations already under orders. This was made clear by General Funston when he pointed out that all national guard units remaining in state mobilization camps have been ordered out and are relieving an equivalent number of troops that have been in the service for several months. Organizations not returned in this exchange will be kept on duty indefinitely, he said, unless the War Department changes its policy and decides to decrease the border patrol.

Recent shifts and orders ordered but not yet consummated have been planned with a view to preserving the divisional formation at various border points. Where troops have been ordered home from one station an equal number of the incoming troops have been placed. This plan has been carried out until the reserve supply is exhausted.

As there are no more state troops available for service, those already on duty must remain until further orders from the Washington government. The belief exists in army circles that the administration will not order the strength of the border patrol to be appreciably decreased until a satisfactory agreement has been reached by the Mexican-American commission at Atlantic City. Another factor that may serve to prolong the stay of the guardsmen is the Chihuahua situation. Indications are that the Legalista faction intends making a concerted effort to wrest control of the state from the de facto government.

### WAR

War—the devilish, cruel, and unmerciful despoiler of the abundance of nature and the bounty of God. War—the plunderer, the ravager, the murderer—that maliciously filches from man his reason, that ruthlessly robs man of his life. War—that lays waste the rich land and leaves in its trail beggary, wretchedness, misery, and sin. War—the destroyer of Mankind.

War—the friend of lasting peace and liberty and the foe of oppression and tyranny. War—that causes unthinking youth to ponder, and forgetful old age to remember. War—the soul-stirring, heroic expression of a nation's noblest ideals and the beneficent summation of its patriotic fervor. War—the cleanser, the healer, and the merciful benefactor. War—the savior of Mankind.