

NEWS FROM THE 3RD BRIGADE AT PHARR

23RD INFANTRY

On October 14th the Regimental Athletic Games of the 23rd were held on the drill grounds at Pharr, Texas. The number and beauty of the prizes was a great incentive. The well-nigh perfect physical condition of the men, coupled with the usual inter-company rivalry to excel for the point trophy, will give an idea of the spirit of enthusiasm that animated every ardent 23rd man. The games began at 3:00 p. m., with Brigadier General Wilson, Commander of the 3rd Brigade, 6th Division, present, as also was Colonel Frank H. Norton and staff. The officers were highly interested and thoroughly enjoyed every moment of the keenly contested events. From the outset it was very evident that success achieved would be of an unusually high order and that it was to be a day of notable achievement for the athletes of the 23rd. A smile of keen satisfaction was noticeable on the face of Captain W. J. Evans, the official announcer, as time after time he told in stentorian tones from the field, of the victories of "his own boys" of Company M.

The 100 yard event resulted in a blanket finish, the three leading contestants seeming to touch the tape simultaneously. The 220 yard event was easily an M victory, Bob Eldridge breasting the tape first with Jack Manson a close second, both of Company M. The half-mile event went to Billy Grunden of Company M. The race held the crowd tense with excitement. The wheelbarrow race, after six heats, a semi-final and final, was won by Chef Williams of M Company.

M succeeded in piling up the grand total of 29 points, with its leading competitor, Company D, scoring only 13 points.

In the evening a celebration by parade was held by the boys of Company M, who carried lanterns, brooms, tin pan drums, mess cans and water pails, and headed by L Company's "Band," kindly loaned by Captain Shiebler and led by Sergeant McKay and Private Murphy, the procession headed through the entire camp and marched down "Bedford Avenue," the main street, past officers' quarters. In passing Brigade Headquarters, Buglers Flip Fresh-

ler and Hal Hays, without premeditation (!) sounded the now unfamiliar "Pay Call," which easily was the principal witticism of the evening, since the boys have been patiently waiting for the past fifteen days to hear from Uncle Sam's pay master. The shaft of humor was at once appreciated and the mess pans were rattled the louder. Although 2500 miles from home under trying conditions there is still much pep, humor and good nature left in the Brooklyn boys.

The 23rd nine beat the 74th at baseball last Sunday to the tune of 14-0.

Company I's new mess sergeant, Ted Bridger, is making good on his job and so are Cooks Lens and Ludwig. Keep away from the Mexican dishes, is all that we ask, Ted.

Pop Wescott and little Louie enjoyed a trip to Brownsville last Sunday. Dick Etselgroth, the popular M. P., also seems to be popular with the phone operator at Pharr and distracts the boys' attention from the movies. We'll get you yet, Dick. How do you do it on 15 per?

Corporal Lloyd of Company I still has his note-book and pencil handy, so be careful, boys.

Company I, under the supervision of Lieutenant Ireland, constructed a trench last week that evoked the admiration of our Lieutenant Colonel Welch, Major Sawyer and Captain Langer.

Company I's genial clerk, old boy Williams, is kept very busy these days with descriptive lists, pay rolls, finger print records, etc.

The non-commissioned officers played baseball against the privates of Co. H Sunday, October 8th. The non-coms emerged the victors by a score of 13-3. Much credit is due to Corporal Fox for his superb pitching, which held the privates in check. The hitting of Colston, catching for the losers, had much to do with their scoring.

Many suggestions made by Lieutenant Simonson, who was assigned to H Company lately so as further improve the appearance of the Company street, are being adopted, and Co. H is striving to have the model street of the regiment. Lieutenant Simonson's efforts to aid Captain Cooke in putting Company H at the forefront are much appreciated by the company.

The recent promotions in H Company were Corps. Robitsek and Seeley to sergeants; Privates Lackenbauer, Crosson and Kelleher to corporals. 1st Sergeant in place of Sergeant Foster, discharged. Private Johnson has been appointed musician in place of musician Leonard, discharged.

Private Fred Maaloe has decided that it is poor policy to deride his more unfortunate comrades on detail. He was invited to join them in a digging tournament in which he had no choice.

An event of supreme satisfaction, which has added in no small degree to the usually high spirits of the boys of Company M, is the recent qualification and promotion of Lieutenant W. J. Evans to the Captaincy of that company. Loud cheering greeted his appearance before his command when the boys, while standing at "attention," noted the presence of the bars on his collar. Popular at all times, since his entrance into the company some four years ago, by incessant and undivided interest in company matters, studious application to things military, natural executive ability of a high order, coupled to an exactness of military discipline to which the men of his command are happy to submit, his has been by far the most popular promotion in company circles for some time. His interest and participation in many sports have tended in great degree to place Company M in the lime light in regimental athletic circles, and to him in the main the excellent showing recently made at the regimental games is due. His oft repeated exhortation to "play the game squarely" has become the slogan of Company M.

3RD TENN. INFANTRY

The Third Tennessee Infantry had a pay day Wednesday of last week, the first since it came to the Border. As it has not yet been here a month, most of the boys now have real money for the first time since they came to Texas. The regiment was paid in hard cash, yellow money, the first time the men of the command have been paid in gold since they entered the service last June. The sound of the yellow metal certainly "listened good" to the Tennesseans who proceeded at once to enrich the coffers of the canteen proprietors and the Pharr Merchants, while peddlers, who put in their timely appearance in the Tennessee camp, reaped their part of the harvest.

The Tennesseans were ordered out Monday for the first hike of their Border stay. They were to have made a practice march of two days about three weeks ago, but when the regiment was placed under a brief quarantine, because of the appearance of a few cases of measles, this was called off, so the march ordered for Monday was the first for the Tennesseans through the cactus and mesquite. However, it was only a one day hike. The men prepared their own dinners while afield.

The Third has been ordered on the rifle range beginning the 11th of November, and will go by battalions, in numerical order. It will require a two day's march to reach the range, two days will be taken up by each battalion in shooting the course, and two days spent on the return march.

Captain Green, an officer of the 28th U. S. A., has been detailed for duty with the Tennessee regiment, and reported to that command Friday. The 3rd has not had a regular army officer with it since it left its mobilization camp at Nashville, and is glad to welcome Captain Green, because problems frequently arise on which the advice of an experienced officer is needed.

The boys of C company have a pet in an armadillo captured by some of the men while out in the chaparral the other day. The mountaineer who captured it calls it an "army villa." The boys are proud of their pet and expect to take it back to Tennessee with them.

The ditching crews were out in full force Thursday and Friday. The fre-

quent rains had so filled up the ditches along the streets that it was a case of "dig in" and clean them out, or be flooded by the next heavy rainfall.

The Tennesseans envy the New Yorkers one privilege, and that is voting in the presidential election. The Tennessee laws allow no voting away from home. Sometimes, 'tis said, they vote more than once at home, but they can't enjoy the suffrage, even once away from there. Voting is one of the best things they do, and they certainly do hate to be deprived of the privilege just because they are doing their bit on the Border.

74TH INFANTRY

The officers of the 74th Infantry have begun a series of social events of various kinds to continue throughout the remainder of the regiment's stay in Texas, and the first two functions have been so successful in every particular that others are anticipated with a great deal of pleasure.

On Saturday evening, October 14th, the field and staff of the 74th tendered an informal dinner in honor of the field and staff of the 23rd New York, the affair providing an excellent opportunity for the officers of the two regiments to become acquainted and to promote good fellowship between the organizations which, in spite of frequent changes in the composition of the Third Brigade, have formed a part of it from the first.

A social gathering of a novel character was the military hop given last Friday evening by the officers of the 74th at their new mess hall. The grounds about the building were illuminated by means of electric lights and Japanese lanterns, and crash was laid for dancing in the open air to music provided by the 74th band. There were guests in attendance from the 23rd New York and the Third Tennessee, stationed at Pharr and from many of the nearby towns and garrisoned posts. Dancing was continued until long after midnight, the music being of unusual excellence. Refreshments were served in the mess hall. The affair was a marked success in every particular, all of the appointments being perfect and the response on the part of the invited guests indicating a gratifying degree of interest.

Tuesday evening of this week, the field and staff of the 74th entertained with a dinner in honor of the field and staff of the Third New York Heavy Artillery, formerly the 65th Infantry, N. G. N. Y. Other social affairs are to be arranged at later dates.

The past week has witnessed many changes in M company. Captain Chas. Floyd formerly in command was forced to retire on account of ill health. The entire company expresses regret that he could not remain with them and lead them up the streets of Buffalo on the regiment's return in the dim distant future.

1st Lieut. Lyman A. Shaw of Co. N, has been detailed to the Motor Truck company.

2nd Lieut. Frederick Spawton who has practically been in command of M company for the past month has been detailed to Co. C. After the Sergeants bade him farewell with many a tear (he was a sergeant himself when we were called out) he returned the next day and told the bunch that he has made the delightful discovery that in moving to Co. C, he would at least have some good non-coms. The Sergeants, nothing daunted, apologized for living and stated that they were getting a good Lieutenant now.

1st Lieut. Chas Taggart formerly of H Co., has been transferred to M Co., and is in command. The boys have expressed the opinion that they couldn't have picked a better one to replace those we have lost. And they are all going to show him that they appreciate him. Lieut. Stanley Burns, of Co. B, who had been in charge of the company since the resignation of Capt. Boyd some months ago and under whose command the company left Buffalo has been relieved pending his resignation approval. He was banqueted by his company, and Maj. Kemp presented to him a beautiful gold watch on behalf of the company. The banquet was held in the company mess hall and was a huge success. The hall was attractively decorated with palms.

Baseball is still very popular in the camp even though the season is over in the north. B Company won an exciting game from Co. E last Saturday by an 11 to 9 score. The non-commissioned officers and the privates of the M. G. Co., are holding a series of five games to decide the championship and on Saturday the non-coms evened up the race by taking the game to the tune of 21 to 11. This makes it two games a piece and the rubber will be played on Saturday.

Company A, which has been doing outpost duty at San Juan Hacienda returned to camp late Sunday afternoon. Sergt. Rooth took the boys' mail to them on Friday. Everyone seemed to be perfectly satisfied there, and wished that they could stay a month or two longer along the Rio Grande!

There is plenty of game near camp and when not on actual duty, many of the men are out hunting. Sergt. Shelly started out early Thursday morning for a deer, having seen the tracks of one the previous evening. A few hours later the sergeant came back with a poor innocent goat over his back.

Cook Teall skinned the "deer" and everyone enjoyed goat stew Friday. Sergts. Cannon and Redding started out to see what they could find early Thursday. They got lost in the woods and didn't return until late in the evening. Each one was covered from head to foot with mud. They claimed they were after game, but the others knew better, as neither one of them had any ammunition.

First Lieutenant McMichael, commanding L Company, spent one of the morning drill periods last week instructing the company in the resuscitation of the apparently drowned, also the use and application of the first aid packet. Illustrations of the correct method of bandaging the ankle, foot and other difficult parts to bandage were ably demonstrated.

Lieut. Wallace has returned to his company from Brownsville where he has been assigned for the last two months.

Bugler Farel of L Co., has adopted a baby rattle as a pet. It's about twelve inches long but it's noticed that the new pet is handled very gingerly and not at all with the bare hands.

Private Petersen of Co. L has sent a young coon home in a crate and enough rations to make the trip. There is much speculation on how the pet will be received by north.

The Headquarters Co., has been unfortunate in the last week. Sergt. Anderson was hurt while riding last week and sustained a fractured foot. Sergt. Hemerlein the flying Dutchman was injured while stopping a wild horse. Sam says he would rather be driving the fire boat tender than staying down here all winter.

John Bolton's band will give a concert at Pharr shortly that will surpass anything we have heard yet.

Private William Longeway and Edward Szymanski of Co. G, who have been ill in the camp hospital at McAllen both reported back to the company last week. After hearing about the pretty nurses, it's a hard matter to keep the boys off the sick report.

Thursday was clean up day in camp, tents were down, floors were up and the ground all cleared up and it now looks like a real camp and we are proud of the fact that we now have the best looking camp in the division and possibly on the Border, but it took a good lot of hard labor to make it so.

2ND AMBULANCE CO.

It is doubtful if La Gloria, Texas is or ever will be on any map except the military and survey ones but for the Second Ambulance company it will ever remain on the map of memory. Few of the boys had ever heard of the place until about two weeks ago when the company was ordered to send a detachment there, where target practice was in progress. This detachment which is in charge of Lieut. Willis Linn now has an ideal camp, both from the standpoint of sanitation and comfort, which they claim is not even surpassed by the home camp at Pharr.

Besides doing their regular duties, the men are getting a great deal of useful drill and outdoor sports, one of the chief of which is horsemanship.

At the suggestion of Major Chandler the officer in charge of the range, several contests have been held to prove the speed with which a patient could be removed from the battlefield in case of necessity.

It is said that Major Chandler was heard to make the statement that he did not believe any two men of this detachment could carry a patient on a litter one mile in an hours time. This made the men desirous of knowing just what time could be made by a litter squad and several squads were willing to try it out, as they had never made that distance, under the same conditions before. Most of the mile was through saw brush, mesquite and cactus.

The first trials resulted as follows: Lowenguth and Turner, 28 Tarbox, 24½ minutes; Banta and Gale, 23 minutes; Wehbe and Ryan, 24½ minutes; McConnell and Tarbox, 21 minutes.

In the finals Lowenguth and Turner lowered the record to 18½ minutes which up to the present time is the championship.

At the home camp at Pharr many of the men are putting their spare time into the study of Spanish. The class is conducted every Tuesday and Friday afternoon by Eli S. Rodriguez of Co. H, 3rd Tennessee Infantry. E. M. O.

A REAL CHAPLAIN

Some ministers who have been chosen chaplains by regiments of the National Guard have regarded that honor as a mere ornament and have promptly resigned when the regiments were called to service. But some of our ablest ministers have been serving during the hot summer in an effective work for righteousness among the boys along the Mexican Border. A young officer in a New York regiment writes to his father, a Chicago minister, concerning a service on a recent Sunday:

"I have just returned from a big outdoor service just beyond Division Headquarters, at which Doctor Cadman spoke, he having come over from his camp at Pharr at General O'Ryan's special request. Doctor Cadman is Chaplain of the Twenty-third New York Infantry. The service was most impressive, and the sermon was wonderful. Doctor Cadman has the appearance of being stripped for battle, with his close hair cut and his regulation uniform. I wish I could give you the sermon, but he spoke without notes. I asked him if he had it in writing and he said he did not. He told the boys that the discipline of military training is closely allied to Christianity, and that our experience here is a mighty good thing for us. He bade us think that the 100,000 National Guardsmen here on the Border are the really best product of our country, and that instead of wishing we were home we ought to be glad we are here. He said we ought to pray for the degenerate youths of the cities rather than for the men who are dying on the battlefields of Europe. The sermon was a wonder. Doctor Cadman started with St. Paul, which was frankly a disappointment at the outset. But he showed how Paul lived a life of abstinence and military rigor, and how much of the soldier spirit is in religion. Pretty soon he was right here in Texas, and bringing the message straight home to the boys. A chaplain in another regiment talks like an alarm clock running down, and looks like a dying gladiator; but Doctor Cadman is the real thing. He gets right into the hearts of the boys. They hear him gladly, and believe in him. Everybody, from the General down, is right on hand when he preaches, and he gives us a wonderful uplift."

We are glad to print this extract from a home letter, which shows what a real chaplain can do. We are glad also to record that Major-General O'Ryan has positively forbidden any use of alcoholic liquor by any of the New York troops, and that the boys in his division believe the order is right, and for the most part are supporting him.—The Advance, Chicago.

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