

News From Our Division Units

SECOND FIELD HOSPITAL.

The 2nd Field Hospital celebrated Halloween by giving an entertainment the night of the 31st at the camp quarters. It was enjoyed by a large crowd from the 4th Ambulance Co, 3rd Ambulance Co., 3rd Field Hospital, Troop B, First Cavalry, Wagon Supply train and some men from the various regiments. A three-hour show, comprising the following bits of talent shook off any gloom that might have been running around camp. Sergeant Joe Crook made a very able announcer and many of his sallies were regarded as part of the performance. The committee in charge was Joseph Harrison, Joseph Crook, William McGill and Frank McCullough. The overture by the camp orchestra opened the show and the first act on the bill was Messrs. Nerney, Denn & Company, in a comedy sketch, entitled "The Battle of Too Soon." Comedy ran amuck in this farcical gem and the participants were hardly to be classed as amateurs. The cast consisted of Privates James Denn, Frank Nerney, John Prescott, Thomas McConnell, Henry Kelly, and Joe Chaplain" Waugh.

The work of Prof. Farnett, a hypnotist, from the 4th Ambulance Company was one of the features of the evening. He put a couple of subjects to sleep and after demonstrating a number of scientific problems he put them through some comic antics that put Charlie Chaplin in the shade.

A quartette from Troop B, 1st Cavalry, was easily the stellar vocal hit of the evening. Three numbers were put over to the complete satisfaction of the audience. Don Woods, Reggie Woods, Corporal Friez, and Private Harris were the able entertainers and are conceded to be the best quartette on the Border. It was greatly appreciated by the 2nd Field Hospital as the true Albany spirit as usual came to the front. Troop B Boys, we thank you.

Private Coster, Third Field Hospital, sang "The Night That Murphy Died." in a pleasing and very entertaining manner.

A sketch depicting studio life of a movie company was put on by Sergeant Stark of the Third Field Hospital. He is an actor connected with the Vitagraph Company, and his impersonation of Lionel Bellmore was almost perfect. The sketch was a home scene in any large city, with the abduction of the fair maiden and the ultimate capture of the villain. When the fair maiden appeared on the scene the boys wondered how it was possible for a female to enter the lines through the guard. The camera consisted of a twenty-five pound Q. M., R-G, O-D Coffee can, mounted on a pyramidal tent tripod with the handle of a meat chopper for a crank and a bunch of nails as a ratchet. The company included:

Lionel Bellmore, Sergt. Starks, 3 F. H. Cameraman Frank McCullough. 2 F. H.

town the 2nd Field Hospital hails from.

Nerney and Goodrich, camp boot blacks, have the "Chine Cinco" marchants of McAllen, lashed to the mast for efficiency. They do a rushing business on and immediately after pay day, but after that they do not work.

A big election parade, comprising men of all the sanitary units, paraded into McAllen the night of November 3rd, and amid many speeches and much merry-making, the parade finally broke up in McAllen Park, where a mass meeting of prominent speakers was being held. The Democratic donkey was brought up on the Republican platform and caused many a laugh by the presence of the Democratic emblem in the enemies camp.

BATTALION SIGNAL CORPS.

Last week the Battalion hiked on Wednesday morning to Saturday noon, camping at different sites each night. It gave the fire and radio companies a chance to solve a field problem which Major Hallahan had prepared. It reminded the veterans of the Massachusetts Maneuvers of more or less fond memory. The weather, however, was far different from the Massachusetts' rainy season, but reveille was sounded before the sun appeared. Radio and wire communications were maintained with the camp during the hike.

Sergeant Conner has returned after his extended vacation, which he enjoyed at Monte Cristo and Brownsville.

Sergeant Fay and his chief assistant, Motley, have been busy maintaining the Border line and detached post telephone system from their Headquarters at Mission, with excellent results.

Lieutenant Colonel Edgar Russell, Department Signal Officer and Major F. E. Hopkins, District Signal Officer were recent visitors. We regret that illness prevented Major Wildman from being with them.

Yes, our overcoats came last week. Our Supply Sergeants are prepared for the severest weather conditions. Call early and obtain a selection from the latest styles.

2ND AMBULANCE COMPANY

As has been the case ever since its arrival at Pharr, last July, the Second Ambulance Company is, still keeping busy. A detachment of the Company is still at La Gloria and four ambulances are with that detail. In addition to these, one ambulance of the company has accompanied each battalion of the 23rd and 74th regiments that have gone to the range so far, and one will go with each of the remaining battalions of these regiments.

The Spanish class is making wonderful progress and students are already practising. The natives in the vicin DIVISION
apt. nd Lieu.

E, F, C, and H pulled out of McAllen early Friday morning, November 3rd, with the firm conviction that they were bidding goodbye to their vote. Each troop carried with it four or five of the big pyramidal tents, leaving the frame work, like demolished umbrellas, behind them. Supplies to last them during their stay in the field were also carried on the transport wagons. Forage for the horses has been sent by train. A detail of eleven men was sent to Donna the day before to take care of this.

The 3rd Squadron, under Major Tobin, will leave on Friday, November 10th, to relieve this guard. I troop will guard the sector to the west of the Donna Canal, while K, L and M will go to Penitas. The distance from McAllen to each of these points is somewhat over 20 miles, and will be covered in one day.

Strict orders have been issued to allow no one to cross the river except at Hidalgo, where the U. S. Customs' House is located. Anyone caught in the act of crossing at any other point will be taken to the immigration authorities at that point. All floating logs which attempt the river journey to Brownsville during the next few weeks do so at their own risk.

The target practice at La Gloria which has been discussed so long that it is assuming the nature of folk lore, will of necessity be postponed. It is expected that the troops will be sent there upon their return. And the Mission Guard, which for many weeks have preserved the fourteen blades of grass to the west of the railroad station from the clutches of the persistent nature fakirs, has been discontinued. This should prove a serious depressant to the Mission ice cream market.

The all too rapid approach of the big gridiron battles in the North has begun to quicken the football instincts in our blood at a time when we would ordinarily begin wondering where we packed those skates last fall, and whether they could be made to slide over another winter.

Since the football season officially opened six weeks ago, the Rochester men have been booting a football back and forth with a faithful monotony, broken only when the ball, sliced by the toe of an army shoe, finds a resting place between the tents where some lathering shaver gazes into a 10-cent, mirror, searching anxiously for some sign of that drawn look for home consumption. As the ball displaces the water in the basin like a fat man in a bath tub and caroming drives the shaving brush down his throat, the realization that the football season is really on is driven home.

I troop has begun to select candidates for a first and second team. During the last week, they have been running through preliminary practice outside the Machine Gun Troop's camp. The tendency toward concrete of Texas soil when not rained on every day

into the impenetrable fog with considerable interest as to whether those turkey wings which we see flapping faintly ahead belong to New York or Texas birds, or even birds of other places.

As we wake up about four in the morning under the impression that we have been cast adrift on an ice floe only to find that the edges of the blankets have parted company in the back it is hard to realize that less than 90 days ago we lay with astonishingly little over us but mosquito netting, trying to decide whether it was best to leave the netting on and dissolve like a candle, or remove it and be consumed like a hamburger steak. We can even imagine a time when setting up exercises may be a pleasure. E. S.

69TH INFANTRY

Co. M. Lieut. W. S. Patten commanding, did some excellent shooting while on the rifle range at La Gloria, last week.

The exercise on the range consisted of combat firing under direction of Major Chandler, range officer, and was one of the most interesting pieces of work the regiment has done since arriving at the Border.

Starting a company on the range, first a squad is deployed as an advance guard and goes into action at once. The first targets represent an enemy advance guard and as they spring up out of the brush firing starts. The targets remain exposed for a short time then disappear and the advance guard goes forward reinforced by its support only to have larger targets appear. Then the reserve is advanced and so on until the whole company is on the firing line. The enemy is represented by about fifty small silhouette targets.

Twenty rounds of ammunition per man is allowed and all advances have to be made as if the company was actually under fire taking advantage of cover, squad column movements through the brush, proper carrying of the rifle, fire discipline and control are all considered in giving a company its percentage. Each target, of course, had its different marks of value and hits were counted accordingly.

Each of the companies of the 3rd battalion in which Co. M belongs, had two days on the range and after the first days firing when Co. M's score looked big 1st Sergt. Connelly of Co. L rallied his forces together for a drive that would beat the boys from M Company. While Co. L in the second days firing had the highest score of one days work, the previous days lead obtained by Co. M was too much for them to overcome and Sergt. Connelly had to admit defeat.

Major Chandler complimented Co. M not only for its good scores, but its work in general on the range, such as taking advantage of cover, good work by squad and platoon leaders and maintaining perfect discipline while on

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