



The Rio Grande Rattler.

Reveille
"Good Morning!"

Taps
"Good Night!"

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

HOME ORDERS COMING RAPIDLY

With Departure of Troops,
New York Division Be-
comes a Memory.

SEVERAL UNITS MOVE NORTH TOMORROW

Orders were received from the War Department last Thursday for the return to home stations of the Headquarters 3rd Brigade, 1st Battalion, N. Y. Signal Corps, 2nd Battalion, N. Y. Engineers, 2nd N. Y. Field Hospital, and 2nd N. Y. Ambulance Company.

Headquarters 3rd Brigade, is stationed at Buffalo, the 2nd Ambulance Company at Rochester and the 2nd Field Hospital at Albany. The remainder of the organizations slated to leave are stationed in New York City.

With the departure of these troops and Squadron A, N. Y. Cavalry, the 4th N. Y. Division becomes a thing of the past, and the Division Commander with his staff and Headquarters Detachment will return to home station.

When the above organizations arrive in New York, over three-quarters of the N. Y. National Guard will be at home stations, there being nine regiments of infantry, one of field artillery, three of coast artillery, and one of Engineers at home, namely, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 10th, 14th, 47th and 71st N. Y. Infantry Regiments; the 1st N. Y. Field Artillery, the 8th, 9th and 13th N. Y. Coast Artillery Regiments and the 22nd N. Y. Engineers.

To these should be added the signal troops, cavalry and sanitary units.

The N. Y. troops remaining on the Border will in all probability be organized temporarily as a reinforced or provisional brigade, and will become part of the command of Brigadier General James Parker, U. S. A., commanding the Brownsville District.

Brigadier General James W. Lester who now commands the 1st N. Y. Brigade will in all probability assume immediate command of the troops remaining at Pharr and McAllen.

Orders for a further movement of N. Y. Troops are expected daily.

During the past week, rumors spread through the infantry commands that orders had actually been received for their immediate movement north; no orders had actually been received for Southern Department at San Antonio or at Division Headquarters at McAllen regarding the departure of any of the infantry regiments, although little doubt is expressed at either place but that such orders may be received at any moment.

MICHIGAN GUARDSMEN ORGANIZE REVOLT

But New York Division Discipline
Doesn't Make For Rioting.

The following article appeared in the New York Tribune under date of December 2, from El Paso, Tex:

Bearing his silver eagles from his shoulders, Colonel Louis C. Covell of the 32nd Michigan Infantry, invited the ringleaders in a mutiny in the Michigan camp here to meet him as man to man. The invitation was not accepted and the threatened revolt was stopped.

Five hundred men of the regiment organized a revolt during the night, demanding that they be taken at once from the Border. They marched through the streets of the camp, yelling "We want to go home!" When the camp of the 31st Michigan was reached Captain Isaac Godfrey and Captain A. C. Wilson turned the rioters back into the camp of the 32nd.

Colonel Covell met the men there and attempted to pacify them in a speech. They would not listen to him, and shouts of "Nonsense!" came from some of the men. It was then that Colonel Covell offered to meet the mutineers "man to man," and the revolt subsided.

Mint may still be grown in the South, but it isn't of much use only for remembrance sake.—Exchange.

Not while the New York Division is in the South!

GREAT EFFICIENCY IN OUR DIVISION

As Seen By a Distinguished
Correspondent on
The Border.

HAS TAKEN MANY OF THE HIKES HIMSELF

By CARL DICKEY
Special Staff Correspondent New York Times

Pale-faced clerks who remained contentedly at their \$18-a-week-desks and their smoky hall bedrooms when 25,000 men of the New York National Guard gave up their jogs and contracts ranging in profits from \$10 to millions to answer the President's call in June are now having their complexions contrasted with the horny hides of the returning guardsmen, who had "guts" enough not to back out when Uncle Sam needed soldiers wherever he could get them. And the pedestals are all for the men who made the sacrifices, the men who volunteered to spend their "vacations" on the Border as the guests and minions of Uncle Sam at the munificent "salary" of \$15 a month—that wouldn't have been even beer money if the General hadn't given the Division a general order No. 7.

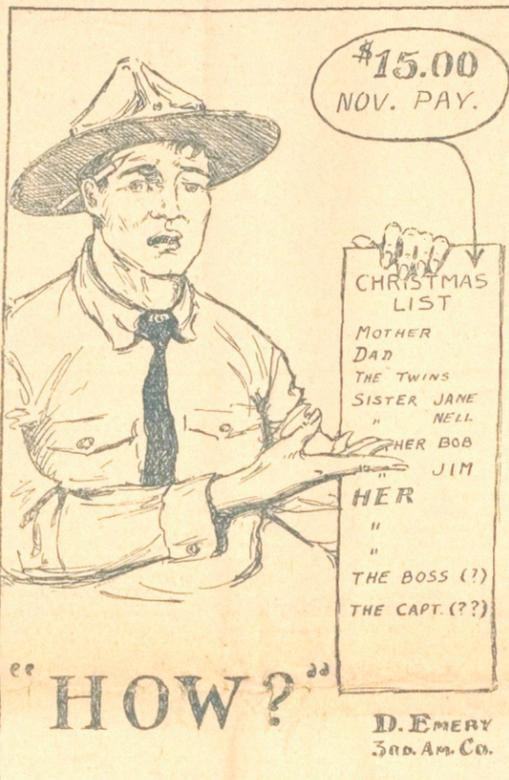
But the point of it all is not facetious, and it is not that any system has failed in operation or worked in a cumbersome way. All that will be fought out by the fellows who stayed at home. One point is that, when the President called in an hour of peril, we said in our intensely patriotic American way: "Oh, hell, let George do it"—George being the National Guard. And George has not only gone and done it, but he has done it well—if we are to judge from the outward appearances in the camps of the New York National Guard.

While all the returning boys are getting the kisses that the stay-at-homes might have sneaked in six months, while they are picking the cactus out of their hides, while they are telling lies about how much they enjoyed sleeping with rattlesnakes, how much they revelled in those Texas ones-in-a-century rains, how good Texas gumbo mud felt in a fellow's ears and Texas sand in a fellow's eyes, how much fun it was to see just how much space there was between the front of a person's personal commissary department and his backbone by going without rations for a couple of days, while the homecomers are telling all these lies, the rest of New York is sitting back to listen. It is because everybody believes these rosy stories of hardships that the old guard never dies, although its stomach might touch the ground occasionally.

No matter how much the general public—those who do not bear the name of George—believe that a fool and a National Guardsman are different terms for the same thing, certainly no persons can stretch the synonymy so far as to say that one is born every minute. Several million minutes have passed since June 18—and recruits can almost be counted on the fingers of a closed fist.

George was delegated to come to the Border, and, although many of the Georges found they had been misnamed or that the sacrifices caused by the service were bearing too heavily upon those who were in the family, but not in the service of the government, most of the soldiers are going home with the satisfaction that they have done all that the country asked—and perhaps more. Whatever he has paid to the Government for the vacation and the privilege of maintaining security and ease for \$18-a-week-clerks to retain their soft complexions, or whatever the government has paid George to watch waitfully or watchfully wait, George is at least going home with the opinion that the sage might have been thinking of him, but certainly not of the American public generally, when he said that every man owed his first allegiance to his country, then to his God and then to his family or home.

George is also going home with the opinion that if the difference between what a man thinks he owes his country and his country owes him were



payable in gold, Uncle Sam would receive about 90,000,000 "please remit" tomorrow. He believes also that it is an extremely sensible thing for a nation in danger of impending war to send 100,000 of its most willing and warlike citizens out as a peace offering.

Whatever George's opinions on all these things the country apparently is at last seeing, with the return of the militia regiments, that "they also serve who only watch and wait." At the same time the country must be acquiring the opinion that there is no harder strain upon military discipline and morale, as well as upon the patience of the individual soldier, than waiting to put the foot in the path of glory and what the poet says the path of glory leads to. The truth of this has been found in two historical instances when foreign forces were waiting to assail Mexico. Cortes prevented mutiny among his men only with difficulty when he held them under severe training for more than five months before it invaded Mexico. The effect of the storm the Aztec capital. General Zach Taylor, whose principal fame in this military road near Hidalgo and the old brick bakery there, held his troops in training for almost a year near Point Isabel, Brownsville and Fort Ringgold, before he invaded Mexico. The effect upon the morale and spirits of the army was seen in the number of desertions and discharges.

The Texas path of glory has been sandy and long with little water or anything else to drink anywhere along it. But it has been traversed thoroughly and every slip of glory has been picked from the mesquite. There were none of the unexpected thrills event of a real campaign to keep the men pounding away at a hike. They knew only that they had to traverse eighty or one hundred miles, lift their feet so many thousand times, and then return to camp. Only the pride of beating the record of the leading regiment, only the record of coming in with every pack and rifle on a real, live kicking man, only the knowledge that there was a hospital mark to excel, were the incentives for putting fourth every ounce of strength.

And who can say that the individual guardsman—George, to be more explicit—has failed in his duty. It is true that in some regiments George has whined and whimpered because a national exigency put not only a military burden but a financial burden upon him. But most of this whining and whimpering was done because George came to the Border to fight and overlooked the necessity of reducing his paunch, putting something besides lan-

guage behind his punch, and developing a bosom to put the medals on.

When the powers reminded George that he was overfed and flabby, that he had to drop the powder puff and grab not only a rifle but a pitchfork and a shovel and a hammer and a saw and hold his tongue as well, George just grabbed and held on to everything as required by the rules and regulations of war and watchful waiting. If some part of George was forced to transgress the saying of the sage so that the first allegiance was paid to his family, whom the second part of the trilogy of county, deity and home couldn't help on \$15 a month, then George at least is to be forgiven for trying to follow the patriotic rule. George is the only person who can criticize himself justly on that point, because everybody "let him do it," and now he wants to finish the job by doing his own criticizing.

But George is going back a sport, whatever he might have said while he was here. If Mr. Hay or anybody else had a joke on George, George insists on doing the laughing. In his six months on the Border he has become too good a soldier to do anything else. And "the tumult and the shouting may die," but George still marches on, unmindful of his Texas hardships, remembering only that when the bugle called he marched out and that when the bands played he marched back. For George has done it!

Of all that has been said about the military system no word of praise has been withheld from the men who compose the Guard for their patriotism and their "I'll-do-it-and-lose-my-job" spirit. Regular Army officers have been unsparring in their praise of the regiments of this division, of the discipline and morale of the men, and of the great improvement made in the six months on the Border so that the old myth that regulars and militiamen were unfriendly cats in the same bag has been broken—at least in the New York Division.

"This body of troops has nothing to worry about!" said a Regular Army captain, an instructor with the artillery, who has visited all the camps on the Border. "I'll back the 2nd Field Artillery against any other militia regiment on the Border, and most of the other units have had a sergeant and a lieutenant as instructor with every battery, a captain or a major with every battalion and a lieutenant colonel with every regiment. There has been one instructor in the New York Brigade."

What the 2nd Field Artillery has done it has done without whining and whimpering. It remained five weeks

(Continued on Page 5.)

THE JUDICIAL END OF OUR SERVICE

Courts Martial and Summary
Courts Hand Out Pun-
ishment.

THE RECORD OF NEW YORK DIVISION

Courts Martial, the name suggests drumheads, firing squads G. O. 7 and the articles of war. The soldiers of the N. Y. Division who have most intimate acquaintance with the system of military courts have either left on the 1:45 under suitable guard or have been tried by their Regimental Summary Courts and having done their time are loath to discuss the matter. "Suffer death or such other punishment as a court martial may direct" seems to the recruit who hears the articles of war read for the first time, to appear with alarming frequency. The average soldier who personally comes in contact with military court generally finds that he has violated one of the articles of war that he has no recollection of ever having heard of before. Its number is 62 and after listening to the other 61 it did not seem very important.

The man that doped it out, however, adopted a shotgun policy of hitting everything in sight and the soldier who does or fails to do something that his Captain said should not be done or done, finds that old 62 just fits the case, "all crimes, disorders and neglects which a soldier may be guilty of" was the way the author put it, and it was rather comprehensive when properly applied by the summary court officer.

The summary court officer hardly comes up to the recruit's idea of court martial on first sight as the articles of war have rather led the young soldier to expect the real old drumhead style, but he soon dispels the illusion by handing out sentences of ten days and that "takes."

Each regiment and separate organization has its summary court martial, and we need but to tell you that in this Division since July 1, 2,132 men have been tried by these courts to show the effective way in which old 62 works as 9 out of every 10 cases tried is for a violation of that article. Some of the offenders evidently got by with a fresh shave, a newly cleaned uniform, a perfect alibi or some other defense, however, as only 1810 of these were convicted.

One class of man seems to make for the summary court the minute he lands in Texas if the figures tell the truth. This is the recruit, 1292 of the 2132, over half the cases tried, were men who enlisted in the New York Division after the 1st day of April, 1916.

There is another kind of court in the Division that really measures up to the recruits' idea of what court martial ought to be; that is the general court martial, and we have three of these at McAllen and one at Pharr. Each consists of 13 officers and a judge advocate, the latter prosecutes the case in the name of the United States and perform practically the functions of district attorney. About forty cases have been tried by general court martial since the first day of July, and a few men convicted of serious offenses, have been dishonorably discharged and sentenced to several year confinement in the disciplinary barracks at Fort Leavenworth, designated as places for confinement. In the other cases, shorter sentences of two or three months confinement with pay forfeitures have been executed at the station of the offender's command. During the service on the Border, however, very few serious offenses have been committed by men in the Division and these few have been properly punished by the military courts.

Major J. Leslie Kincaid, Judge Advocate on the Division Staff has charge of the system of courts martial in the Division and Lt. Col. Croake McLeer, 1st N. Y. Cavalry, Capt. Wm. Donovan, 1st N. Y. Cavalry, Capt. D. J. Cadotte, 74th N. Y. Infantry, 1st Lieut. Cornelius Wickersham, 12th N. Y. Infantry, and 1st Lieut. Frank

"THEY DELIVERED THE MESSAGE"

Dresser and Edwards Finish
Three Thousand Mile
Motor Trip.

GOV. WHITMAN TELEGRAPHS GEN. O'RYAN

At midnight, November 21, Privates Daniel LeRoy Dresser of the 7th Infantry and Harvey Edwards of Battery E, 2nd Field Artillery left on a far-fetched for a record motorcycle trip to New York City via Albany, bearing a special message from Maj. Gen. John F. O'Ryan, commanding the 6th Division, to Governor Charles S. Whitman. They used a Harley-Davidson side-car machine. Each man carried his full equipment and the riding was continuous, except the time for meals, one man sleeping in the side car while the other drove. We haven't heard the particulars of the trip from the men so we cannot tell of the many hardships encountered or obstacles overcome, but the following telegrams tell of the accomplishment of the feat in a little over two weeks, most remarkable time.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 7, 1916.
Major Gen. John F. O'Ryan,
Headquarters 6th Div., U. S. Army,
McAllen, Texas.

Dresser and Edwards arrived in Albany at 2 p. m. today, Thursday. Total mileage three thousand one hundred forty-six miles. Many thanks for your kind message.

C. S. WHITMAN.

New York City, Dec. 8, 1916.
Commanding General,
6th Division, McAllen, Texas.
Delivered message to Governor
Thursday, one o'clock after a hard
trip.

PRIVATE DAN DRESSER.
CONGRESS WILL ASK FOR
COMPULSORY SERVICE

War Department Will Introduce Bill
Calling for One Year's Train-
ing With Colors.

A special dispatch from our Washington correspondent states that a bill looking to universal compulsory service will be introduced at the present session of congress at the instance of the war department. This was learned today from an official of the war department, who vigorously expressed his views upon the subject.

"For the next fifty years we will have to compete in case of war with armies trained on the field of battle," said this official. "I believe that to be successful in such a competition we must have a universal military training. Take our boys at the age of eighteen and give them a year's actual service with the colors in addition to six months' blackboard training and when the necessity comes you will have a trained, reserve army of millions."

LAST DIVISION REVIEW

Tendered to Brigadier General Lewis
Tuesday—General Parker
and Staff Present.

Yesterday morning at 9:30 o'clock the last review of the 6th Division (N. Y. troops) was held on White House Field, being tendered to Brigadier General Edward M. Lewis, National Guard, Indiana, commanding the 13th Division, with headquarters at El Paso Grande. General James Parker, commanding the Brownsville District, and several staff officers were also present and were twenty-four hour guests of Major General O'Ryan.

The review was similar in character to the other reviews of the Division, except that many organizations have returned home and the column is gradually growing smaller. The Artillery was missed, as the Artillery Brigade is marching to Point Isabel. The Signal Corps and some of the Sanitary Units were absent because they are packing up for home.

It was a good review, however. Stoddard, 74th N. Y. Infantry, have been detailed from time to time as trial judge advocates of the various courts.