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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS START BIG WAR DRIVE

"It only remains for me to speak of the sincere gratification with which I have learned of the co-operation of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Knights of Columbus and their harmonious and successful work in the training camps.

"Cordially and sincerely,
"WOODROW WILSON."

Approved by Roosevelt, Taft, Pershing, Fossdick, Baker, Daniels and Bryan

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K. of C. War Work

Under the direction and authority of the War Department, the Knights of Columbus has built and is maintaining 73 recreation camps for soldiers and sailors in the cantonments and training camps of the United States, and is preparing, under the authority of General Pershing, to carry this work into the camps of the American Army abroad.

The K. of C. are working with the Y. M. C. A. in these camps, and each has all it can do. They are co-operating to strengthen the heart and arm of the United States soldier and sailor, to make him happier in camp and braver in the field.

Union and Wallowa counties' quota is \$5,000.

All of the money raised goes for war work.

There is no simultaneous national drive, each state making its own campaign. The Oregon State Council of Defense has designated the week of January 14-20 for Union and Wallowa counties.

Upon the declaration of war, the Knights of Columbus pledged the unqualified support of the entire membership to the President and Congress in measures for the protection and security of our country's honor and humanity's liberty and right.

As earnest of that pledge it was voted to raise a fund to be spent in behalf of our soldier boys, to help furnish them such creature comforts as will lighten their lives and such spiritual consolations as are needed to keep them wholesome and clean. The War Department at once recognized the great value of the K. of C. organization in this respect and gave ranking place with the Y. M. C. A. in the conduct and control of training camp activities along religious and recreational lines.

The Y. M. C. A. was officially recognized as representative of the Protestant people, and the Knights of Columbus as representative of the Catholic people, the recognition in each case being secured because of the previous experience of these organizations in such work done on the Mexican border last year, and also, because of the completeness of their respective organizations, each of them having one or more well-equipped units at every place in the country where it was proposed to establish a camp.

Except in things pertaining to the spiritual, there is practically uniform co-operation between these bodies and no duplication of ways and means or of effort will be permitted where in due regard to circumstances it can be avoided.

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal insurance order and

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stepped into this war work because best fitted to represent the Catholic needs of the soldiers and sailors. Its war work is in no sense lodge work. All creeds and no creeds are welcome at its recreation centers. Its huts are homes for the boys.

No expense is charged for handling the funds; the officers of the committee, national and local, volunteer their services, and the books are open to investigation.

To safeguard the morals, to insure the spiritual welfare of those who go to battle, to alleviate somewhat the burdens, the discomforts, the hardships, the sorrows that must be their inevitable portion away from home, should be considered a sacred obligation and a pleasant privilege.

When the troops were mobilized on the Mexican border in 1916 the K. of C. undertook recreation for the soldiers. Sixteen stations were established. This work received the commendation of President Wilson and the officers and enlisted men, irrespective of creed. The border experience served as a training ground for an extension of this line of endeavor when war was declared.

In June, 1917, the Knights of Columbus, through its Supreme Council, decided to establish huts, and the urgent request of the Federal Training Camp Activities Committee compelled the Knights of Columbus to construct two smaller buildings in addition to a large one in each cantonment of the National Guard and National Army. Need for similar work in Europe has also become apparent.

So many officers and men have testified to the practical value of the K. of C. recreation stations on the border as contributing to the physical, moral and spiritual welfare of those who enlisted in the service of the country that when the United States became involved in the world war, a continuation of this labor was necessary.

It is an undertaking outside the normal functions of the Knights of Columbus, and in this work the Order is acting merely as an instrument to carry on the service for which there is an urgent need.

"Everybody Welcome" is the motto of the Knights of Columbus huts. No line is drawn. The buildings radiate liberty, equality and the brotherhood of man. Each is a bureau of information where the secretaries take a personal interest in keeping the people at home in touch with relatives and friends in camp.

The secretaries organize the soldiers into glee clubs, arrange match games, reading circles, debating societies, athletic teams, etc., so the soldiers will largely furnish the entertainment they desire. Pianos, phonographs, books, magazines, newspapers and writing paper are available.

Fraternal affiliation or religious belief makes no difference at a Knights of Columbus hut. All are welcome. The doors are open from 5 A. M. to midnight. The secretaries live in the buildings and their sole duty is to care for the soldiers and sailors.

Already established in the United States are 73 buildings, with more under construction and others in contemplation. These are in addition to the buildings which will be prepared for the American troops abroad, and other buildings which will be located at navy yards.

Three buildings have been erected in the following cantonments:

Ayer, Mass.; Yaphank, L. I.; Wrightstown, N. J.; Annapolis Jet., Md.; Petersburg, Va.; Columbia, S. C.; Atlanta, Ga.; Chillicothe, Ohio; Louisville, Ky.; Battle Creek, Mich.; Rockford, Ill.; Little Rock, Ark.; Des Moines, Iowa; Fort Riley, Kans.; San Antonio, Tex.; American Lake, Wash.

One building has been erected at the following encampments:

Charlotte, N. C.; Spartansburg, S. C.; Augusta, Ga.; Anniston, Ala.; Greenville, S. C.; Macon, Ga.; Waco, Tex.; Houston, Tex.; Deming, N. M.; Fort Sill, Okla.; Fort Worth, Tex.; Montgomery, Ala.; Hattiesburg, Miss.; Alexandria, La.; Linda Vista, Cal.; Palo Alto, Cal.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Great Lakes, Ill.; Tenafly, N. J.; Fort Egan Allen, Va.; Fort Thomas, Ky.; Fort Snelling, Minn.

Buildings are under contract at the Navy Yard, Newport News, Va.; the Navy Yard, Quantico, Va.

A building is in contemplation for Vancouver Barracks.

A special commissioner is now in France arranging for huts in the war zone. It is the plan to have these huts available for the American Expeditionary Force within a few months.

A Matter of Percentages

The Catholic population of the United States is 20 per cent. In the National Guard on the Mexican border in 1916, 21 per cent were Catholic.

In the Army, exclusive of the selective service, 25 per cent are Catholics.

In the Navy, before the draft, 40 per cent were Catholics.

For example, out of 1200 men on the battleship Minnesota, 800 are Catholic—over 60 per cent. On the U. S. S. Von Steuben, with 1200 men aboard, 900 are Catholic, or 75 per cent.

WAR DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION ON TRAINING CAMP ACTIVITIES
WASHINGTON

June 21, 1917.

Mr. James A. Flaherty,
Supreme Knight, Knights of Columbus,
New Haven, Connecticut.

My Dear Mr. Flaherty:
At the meeting of the Commission on Training Camp Activities

held June 19th, it was unanimously voted to recommend to the Secretary of War the acceptance of the generous proposition of the Knights of Columbus of June 13th, in regard to the erection of buildings for social purposes in the army training camps in the United States. Secretary Baker yesterday indicated his agreement with our resolution, and I understand that word has already been sent to the officials of your organization.

May I take this opportunity to express our appreciation of this offer by your organization? Many of the training camps will contain forty to sixty thousand men; indeed, they will be sizeable cities in themselves, and the need for social and recreational facilities is going to tax the efforts of all those of us who are interested in providing a sane, well rounded life for the men in the camps. May I say, too, that we welcome the strong position which your organization has always taken in regard to the moral hazards surrounding a young man's life, and I am confident that your influence in the camps will add much to their general tone.

We shall be very glad to co-operate with you in every way possible, and we sincerely trust that success will follow your efforts to raise the money necessary to prosecute your work.

Very sincerely yours,
RAYMOND B. FOSDICK, Chairman.

Secretary of War Baker Says

"The Y. M. C. A. represents the Protestant denominations, which will constitute roughly 60 per cent of our new army. The Knights of Columbus represent the Catholic denomination, which will constitute perhaps 35 per cent of the new army. While this society is a fraternal organization, it will sustain exactly the same relation to the camps as is sustained by the Y. M. C. A. and will hold no meetings to which all the troops in the camp are not invited, regardless of religious or other preference."

(Signed) NEWTON D. BAKER,
Secretary of War.

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt Says

"I wish most heartily to congratulate the Knights of Columbus and the whole American public upon their action in thus lining solidly behind the United States Army and Navy. If I had been allowed to raise the Division of Volunteers which Congress authorized me to raise, and had been given a brigade as I requested, I should have appointed as Headquarters Chaplain Mons. Vattman, a retired Chaplain of the regular Army, and a member of your church."

John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Mr. Rockefeller on learning of the Knights of Columbus' war work, forwarded a check for \$1000, with a letter stating that he "is deeply impressed with the value of the work which this organization is proposing to do and will deem it a privilege to contribute to its financial support."

William Jennings Bryan

Former Secretary of State Bryan says: "It gives me great pleasure to contribute my mite to this very excellent undertaking and will arrange to forward you \$10 a month for the period of the war. If I can be of any assistance in your great work, be sure to call upon me."

Brigadier-General Foltz

The Knights of Columbus,
Camp Lewis, Wash.

Gentlemen: I desire to express to you my appreciation of the great work which your association is doing among the officers and enlisted men of this command. Your several buildings erected in this cantonment and maintained by your association are sources of great comfort and benefit to the members of the command, and the work which you are performing is extremely commendable and deserves the support of every patriotic citizen.

Wishing for you in the future the unlimited success which you deserve, I am,

Very respectfully,

(Signed) FREDERICK E. FOLTZ,
Brigadier-General, N. A., Commanding.

January 5, 1918.

W. M. Lewis, executive secretary, National Committee of Patriotic and Defense Societies: "Your record is certainly a splendid one and one that may well be used as an example of efficient service."

What the Press Says

"Primarily the Y. M. C. A. is non-sectarian in its management. The Knights of Columbus is a strictly Catholic organization, and in its camp work it is just as non-sectarian as the other. There is no sectarianism and should be none in caring for the material wants of the young soldiers in the training camps."—Chicago Examiner.

"The Knights of Columbus have occasion for congratulation on the large public service they have been able to undertake in connection with the war. In connection with the outside facilities for which a fund is being raised, they provide the most practical means possible for insuring the welfare of the young men in the army."—Kansas City Times.

"While the Knights of Columbus have been asked to do this work, they are also active in the sale of Liberty Bonds, the War Library Fund, the Red Cross and in general the organization may be found actively assisting in all means necessary for winning the war."—Evansville (Ind.) Courier.

"The work the Y. M. C. A. and the Knights of Columbus are doing for the moral protection and social welfare of the men in the camps and at the front is one that should have the hearty support of all the

(Continued on Page 6.)

HILGARD NEWS ITEMS

Mrs. Mabel Scott Substitutes in the School—W. V. Connor Has Eye Trouble—J. W. Scott Loses Two Hooves.

HILGARD, Jan. 14. (Special.)—Mrs. Mabel Scott substituted in the local school last week.

Mr. Bard went to North Powder Friday, returning to Hilgard Sunday morning.

Miss Lana Pieper of Summerville, and Mrs. Freda Rochester of La Grande were visiting Mrs. Fred Tanl Wednesday and Thursday.

J. W. Scott last two horses which strayed across the mountains and so far he has been unable to catch any trace of them.

W. V. Connor has not yet been able to resume his school work which he had to give up some time ago on account of the condition of his eyes.

Mrs. Divens and son, Arville, came up from La Grande Sunday, returning to La Grande on No. 6.

Five Points creek has been washing away the bank just below Hilgard till it threatens about forty cords of wood, which were ricked up ready for shipping out.

Ranchers from up the Grand Ronde report the river road as being very badly cut up and difficult to travel.

Miss Lizzie Wells of near Alice is here teaching for W. V. Connor and will have charge of the school until the regular teacher is able to resume his work.

The recent snows have enabled the men at the Scott-Saling camp to begin skidding, and now the work of getting out logs will go on more rapidly.

"Loss" Burnett and Miss Mabel Brown of Starkey stole a march on their friends last week by slipping down to La Grande, where they were quietly married and were back in Starkey before many were apprised of the fact. Mr. Burnett is a well known rancher, and Miss Brown was teaching at the Starkey school, which position she will retain until the end of the term. We join the many friends of this young couple, wishing them happiness.

Miss Marjorie Condit was in La Grande last week, taking the third-grade examination. As there is no school in their vicinity, the girls' mother, Mrs. William Condit, is teaching her at home and wished to see if she was keeping up with the city school work.

Dr. Ingle Back—Dr. Margaret Ingle has returned from a visit to Portland.



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