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## MEN ON THE BORDER ANXIOUS TO KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER THEY MUST REMAIN

Some of the National Guardsmen Fear Their Families Are In Want, as Few Employers Didn't Make Good In Pay.

Other Little Stories of Daily Life of Our Boys—Razors and Tobacco In Demand. Need Cooler Uniforms.

WHEN are we going home?" is the question heard more often than any other around camp these days. The men are at the point of drafting a petition to be sent to the secretary of war demanding the fixing of a date for their withdrawal. With a definite time limit in sight, even though it be a long one, they feel they can better stand the monotony of camp life.

Officers receive letters daily from wives of their men asking for information on this subject. Some of them show that actual want is being caused by the continued absence of the breadwinner. In three instances it has been claimed that the offer of the employer to continue the payment of salary while the man was at the border has been withdrawn now that the prospect of war has been averted. Three of the largest mercantile firms of New York were mentioned among those that had failed to live up to their agreement.

### Writes She Got No Pay.

Here is part of a letter written by the wife of a soldier in the Seventy-first New York regiment who refused to join the depot battalion before his regiment left New York until he was assured his employers were going to pay his salary while he was away:

New York, Tuesday. My Dear—Now, dear, don't think I am crazy for writing so often, as I just can't help it. Your mother called up today to let me know that your father couldn't get your money. I had not got a cent. I only hope that Queenie will never know the hunger for something to eat as I had since you went away. Florrie and Ida and Rita have given me some money since you left, and I have been down there quite often for supper, but you know how I am. I don't like to be always going down there.

Well, Honey, as the days go on I seem to be getting more and more disgusted with life. Here I am, can't go out, for I expect some one from the Seventy-first regiment up. I have not got a cent and nothing to eat. I don't worry any more, for I really don't care what happens to me now. I tell you, Honey, if it wasn't for the children I never would put up with it. I don't know what I will do tonight, for I have not got any supper for the children. \* \* \*

P. S.—Don't forget to try hard, as hard as you can, to come home, for we need you badly.

When this case was reported one of the officers of the regiment at once telegraphed to his wife to aid the family, and it is supposed that the auxiliary has considered the case also.

### Cookie Takes Night Off.

Private Frank Dorres, second cook in Company C, Thirty-first Michigan Infantry, stationed in El Paso, spent a day under guard.

Dorres, who speaks Spanish fluently, got the wanderlust one night and, changing his khaki garb for civilian attire, walked across the international bridge into Juarez. Down the Calle Commercial and up to the Plaza Independencia sauntered the disguised guardsman. He stopped at numerous cantinas, where, with fingers crossed, he says, he was forced to drink to "Muertos los Gringos."

A Mexican dance was in full swing, and Private Dorres grabbed himself a senorita and took step. The sun was just peeping over the well known peaks of the Casas Grandes mountains when the dance broke up and Dorres came home to be arrested.

### "Indians" on Warpath.

Several "Indians" from Chicago now doing their bit for Uncle Sam have held a council of war—a council of war with a cold peace pipe, which is quite unaboriginal—and the reason is to be found in the following soldier's letter:

Sunday. Camp Wilson, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Tex.—Just a few words from the "Indians" of Company I, First Illinois Infantry. The Indians called a council of war and decided to hit the trail at 7 a. m. After making blanket rolls they started on the warpath, on their thirty ponies, commonly known as shank's mare. By the time they had tramped for an hour and a half they suffered their first defeat at the hands of General Sun and his army of 19 (degrees). The Indians held their ground, but soon retreated to the shelter of their cool and comfortable tepees—cool and comfortable in this case meaning 106 in the shade and no shade.

We do not want the people in Chicago to get the impression that the Indians are uncivilized, as they originated in Hamilton park. The cause of the outbreak this morning was due to the lack of tobacco for their peace pipes. As soon as we receive a supply of the weed, which we expect from our fellow tribesmen in Chicago, peace will once more reign on the reservation. Hoping that our friends will see this article, we remain,

JAMES WALKER, HOLLY MIDKIFF, Chiefs.

### Guardsmen In Mud.

With quantities of mud to the right of them, mud to the left of them, mud underneath them, with mud in their puttees and with mud in their hair, 6,000 national guardsmen from Nebraska and Indiana are gazed in Llano Grande, Tex. In a morass which makes the New York encampment sites stand out like million dollar, paved, sidewalked, street lighted, suburban developments.

It was raining hard when the first of the troops, a battalion of Indiana artillery, detrained. It has rained hard several days since. Sun baked fields

which until a couple of weeks ago had known nothing but duststorms for more than a year have become swamps. The three mile road to Mercedes, the nearest town, offers the same sort of thoroughfare to autos and motortrucks that flypaper does to a fly, and half-way along that road the men must toil to reach their water supply, hoofing it. Only two trains a day pass over the nearby branch line railroad, and the only other reliable transportation to town is a handcar that the "saps" kindly lends to Uncle Sam when it is not employed in transportation—the transportation of Mexican track hands. In the north the water that repays the men for the long, sticky haul would hardly be considered worth going after. It comes from an irrigation ditch and is unfiltered.

### Battery A Has Record.

The most distinguished organization in the camp at Llano Grande is Battery A of Indianapolis, formerly commanded by James B. Curtis, who now has a law office in Nassau street and is president of the Indiana Society of New York.

Under Captain Curtis the battery went into Porto Rico in '98. Its guns had just been trained on the mountain passes beyond Guaymas when word came that peace had been declared.

Battery B is made up entirely of engineering students from Purdue university, and Battery C also was recruited in the university city of Lafayette.

Major Robert H. Tyndall, commanding the artillery battalion, is considered one of the two best posted national guard officers in the country. The other is Major General John F. O'Ryan of New York. The two, both captains then, represented the guard on the executive council of the Field Artillery association some years ago.

Because of Major Tyndall's training (for years past he practically abandoned all other pursuits to attend war schools) the artillerymen are the most comfortable of the troops here. They are encamped on the highest land, have the best equipment, barring ammunition, and the best organized messes.

### Mexican Guards Crossing.

Jose Allendro holds a red flag and the life of most of the officers of Camp Wilson at San Antonio in his hand.

"Wava the red flag, lives all save," he says.

Jose, a Mexican, all day long guards the crossing where trains over the Katy come roaring out of the "cut" across the roadway traversed by camp vehicles. General Funston and General Bliss today passed his red flag twice, and he was "muy hombre."

"Save life of the general," said Jose, "and kill many Mexicans; that is fine. They should be dead, some of them."

There was a bull in the mumps epidemic at Camp Wilson. No new cases. The original seven eye each incoming patient jealously and when he passes to another ward say, "We are seven."

### Many Bryan Likenesses.

Even among the militarists William J. Bryan must have a considerable following at Llano Grande. Anyhow, a great number of officers and men seem to take care to look as much like him as possible, and some of the likenesses are striking.

The Third Minnesota infantry, rather better off in equipment than the Nebraska and Indiana infantry regiments, arrived late one afternoon and went into camp in the mud wallow. As a class they are tall and fair, and the roster naturally runs strongly to Jesus.

To the north when the country is dried out and practice marches are despoiled the men of that camp will come upon two heaps of bleaching bones, a reminder of the strenuous happenings that Llano Grande and Mercedes knew last year. The bones and a few spreads of cloth no longer identifiable as Carranzista uniforms are all that is left of seventeen Mexicans who crossed the river on a raid and met a posse.

### Married by Mail.

Before the departure of the troops to the border Private Louis Ransemer, Company H, First regiment, New Jersey national guard, was deeply in love with Miss Ethel Maud Sergeant. Both live in Newark. When the guard was sent away this young couple decided at once to have announcement of their engagement made public. This was done.

Fearful lest the worst should happen to Private Ransemer, who worked for the Prudential Life Insurance company, and desirous of being married

## WAR ORDERS NOW \$3,000,000,000

Purchases by Allies Reach an Unprecedented Amount.

### SCHWAB'S BIG OPERATIONS.

Has New \$200,000 Plant Solely to Make Boxes to Ship Shrapnel in. Secrecy Marks the Deals, and It is Difficult to Estimate Just What Amount Has Been Expended Here.

America, from Chicago east, is now on the shady side of \$3,000,000,000 in all its war orders, counting blankets, machinery, locomotives and other products not coming strictly under the head of munitions.

Twenty-four corporations alone account for more than \$1,000,000,000 up to Feb. 1 of this year. This figure is said to be "highly conservative." In other words, this item, comprising scarcely one-third of the country's war receipts, is equal to the entire national debt of the United States, with 140 years of existence behind it during which it financed four wars of its own. Innumerable congressional "pork barrels" and satisfied the wants of a population of 100,000,000, or as many people as France and Germany have combined.

Official reports from the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce at Washington show that shipments of war munitions up to date have aggregated \$440,000,000. These figures cover munitions in the strictest sense of the word. They do not include locomotives, blankets, rails, machines for gunmaking or other materials of this class which are indispensable to the nations as part of their war supplies.

It must be remembered also that a tremendous amount of war orders already placed will not begin to run before the fall and next year. Some of these contracts call for delivery as late as 1918.

The Philadelphia district, taking in South Bethlehem and Wilmington, stands credited with \$1,000,000,000 all by itself. As nearly as can be computed, for nothing can be learned accurately with the munitions makers tied lip and tongue by the allies, fear of labor disturbances and other factors, including the government, the Baldwin Locomotive works have received, either directly or indirectly, for the Eddystone Munitions company orders amounting to approximately \$150,000,000. Beside this the company will participate in royalties of at least \$2,000,000 from the Remington Arms company plant at Eddystone, not to speak of two buildings which revert to it on the termination of the war.

### \$60,000,000 Worth of Orders.

The Midvale Steel and Ordnance company, so William P. Burba, vice president of the Nicetown plant, testified before the house committee on naval affairs on March 23, was working on \$60,000,000 worth of war contracts. At that time the Remington Arms plant had not started work on the second order for 2,000,000 rifles for the allies, which, it is understood, the company took at \$16.20 apiece, or a matter of \$32,400,000 for the whole contract. In the Midvale business must be included the orders taken by the Cambria Steel company, which, consolidated with the Midvale, brought a dower of rail contracts.

The war orders of the Bethlehem Steel corporation at one time at least were an open book. They are placed at \$300,000,000 up to February last. Charles M. Schwab, the salesman extraordinary of the war order business, made no secret of scalping the cream of the allies' business before J. P. Morgan made such a bargain as to be appointed the virtual representative of the foreign group. And to prove that his profits were not mere paper figures Schwab is reported to have gone so far as to distribute Christmas presents of anywhere from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 to "deserving employees." One of these to receive the "cross of gold" to the extent of \$1,000,000 as a bonus, it is said, was E. G. Grace, president of the company. Other "boys" fared proportionately well, depending on the way in which they had dug up their talents to further "getting out the stuff."

The Bethlehem Steel corporation has produced munitions far in excess of any other plant in the country. Its payroll now equals 55,000 men. Only the other day Schwab announced he had a war fund of \$70,000,000. Bethlehem's output averages 350,000 shells of all calibers a month. These include the English "three 29's," sixty pounders, ten inch explosives, naval projectiles for England and a large order of the famous "75's." In addition to finished shells it is making accurately rolled bars out of which England and France will cut shrapnel bullets. It is said that the price of an English 329 or a French 75 at Bethlehem is \$12,000, while a sixty pound gun is reputed to bring \$22,000.

The Du Pont company, at Wilmington, next to Schwab, is said to be the big profit maker with a foreign war account of more than \$200,000,000. The profits arising from this business can be appreciated when it is known that powder brings \$1.10 a pound. As given out it costs something in the neighborhood of 50 cents a pound to manufacture this explosive.

## CONDENSED REPORT OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OREGON

As made to the comptroller of the currency at the close of business, June 30, 1916.

### RESOURCES

Loans and investments	\$381,910.55
Overdraft	71.29
Stock in Reserve Bank	3,000.00
Realty and fixtures	9,363.43
Cash Reserve	197,808.44
	\$592,243.62

### LIABILITIES

Capital	\$ 58,000.00
Surplus and profits	52,965.13
Circulation	22,500.00
Deposits	466,775.49
	\$592,243.62

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Every Bell Telephone is a Long Distance Station.

Malheur Home Telephone Co.

### YOUTHFUL SNAKE HUNTERS.

Boys Handle Dangerous Reptiles Like Professional Charmers.

Galena, Kan.—Two small boys, Willie and Robert Shorl, the elder of whom is about fourteen, have produced a new sensation in the vicinity of their home at Five Mile, where they have a cage full of writhing snakes of many varieties. They play with these reptiles without the least sign of fear, going through with all the stunts of professional snake charmers.

The collection consists of black snakes, blue racers, chicken snakes and three ugly looking rattlers. On Saturdays they usually go to Snake branch and hunt for more reptiles. However, these new reptiles are not placed with their "pets," but kept in a separate cage, and are usually shipped to owners of small shows and museums, from whom they get from \$3 to \$5 for each reptile.

Neither of the boys has ever been bitten. The older boy gave a lecture on snakes before the pupils of the Shorl Creek school. He surprised teacher and pupils alike by his classification of reptiles, giving their Latin names and discussing the harmless or dangerous varieties, taking each from a box as he explained their varied habits.

### HIS LUCKY NUMBER 13.

Farmer Tells How Mystic Numerals Stuck to Him.

Live Oak, Cal.—No matter how other people may feel about the number 13, Howard Grimes of Douglas county, Ore., considers it a messenger of good luck rather than a harbinger of evil.

Grimes was in Live Oak recently on his way to Davis, where, although he is sixty-four years of age, he is taking a course in agriculture.

On the back of his auto hung its license No. 1313. When reminded of its hoodoo proclivities the Oregonian smiled and volunteered a bit of history.

"I was born on Sept. 13, 1852," said he, "and was the thirteenth child in the family brood. When thirteen years old I left home to make my fortune. At twenty I married, and our wedding fell on the 13th of the month.

"While riding a Northern Pacific train in 1912 I was in berth 13 and the train was wrecked. Every occupant in that car was injured but myself. In 1913 I made a little investment in mining property and cleaned up \$16,000. I took the money and purchased \$1,300 acres of land, and I am farming a part of it and learning how to farm it better."

The instinct of self preservation may tempt Carranza to prefer the attacks of United States soldiery to those of treacherous mutineers in his own country.

When truth is your guide you never leave the track.

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