

# SOCIAL SWIRL

By Adele Adair

The Christmas spirit is coming into its own, and the usual holiday spirit of fellowship and good will is evidenced at Camp Adair, only to be reflected by what we call the lighter side of army life... the "social swirl." Elaborate and extensive plans are already underway on the post, for the approaching holidays of Christmas and New Year's, with parties and dances and entertainments topping the list of social outlets from the daily routine of army life.

Perhaps overshadowing the most popular social activities on the post proper... the enlisted men's dances every Friday night at the Service Clubs... was the appearance last Monday night at the Field House of Bandman Ted Fio Rito and his refreshingly entertaining troupe. The news account of his visit is covered elsewhere, but an interesting sidelight is the high tribute paid the camp through one of the popular hostesses, Mrs. Florence Merriam. Mrs. Merriam, social and recreational hostess at Club 2, was official hostess for the band... and she was a busy person from the time Fio Rito and company arrived on the post until they had boarded their train in Salem at 1 a. m. the next morning.

Hers was the job of seeing to the band's accommodations... and for her efforts in its behalf, she was presented with a floral and verbal bouquet... the veteran far nicer than the flowers. She was told that of all the army camps they had thus far toured, before they had played at Camp Adair, never had they had such a fine reception and been shown such excellent cooperation. Maestro Fio Rito further complimented the U.S. army as a whole, saying that "No one can compete with the efficiency of the Army." Nice, eh?

**Dances Draw Crowds**  
Last Friday night's Service Club dances drew record attendance crowds, and little wonder with such fine music and entertainment crammed into a few hours. At Club 2, the appearance of a new dance band, made up of instrumentalists from the 96th. Many of the band members were formerly connected with the big name bands, and the present musical aggregation is one of which the Division, and the camp, can be proud. Intermission featured novelty dances conducted by Pvt. Cecil Bernkrantz, who introduced the "Humps-A-Daisy" and the "Co-ki-o-ki." Cpl. Nick Sansonia who sang and emceed the show and the appearance once more of Miss Ila Schweiser, popular singer.

**Complimentary Movies**  
Another of this week's Adair Orchids (for distinctive service on the social front) goes to Mrs. Margaret Blodgett, director of Service Club 1. Last Thursday afternoon, Mr. Gene Balcom, representing Motion Picture Productions, Los Angeles (handling Chesterfield ads) called on Mrs. Blodgett at the suggestion of Capt. Frank C. Wimer of Special Services, regarding the showing of free movies for the men in camp.

By 7 o'clock, Mrs. B. had rounded up well over 300 men, assembled them at Club 1, and the show proceeded. It was a two-hour program with the principle feature being the Andrews Sisters-Ritz Brothers hit of a few seasons ago, "Argentine Nights." Selected short subjects, including travelogues, news reels, a Chesterfield March of Time and other features rounded out the show. So popular was the show that Mrs. B. persuaded Mr.

But did you notice that smile of satisfaction on Pvt. Greene's face when the band swung south of the border (musically and several soldiers and hostesses danced, with the assurance of native Latin-Americans. Reason? He taught them what they know. Pvt. Greene conducts Latin-American dancing classes weekly in the Club, on Tuesday nights from 7 until 9. So if you want to learn to "Sweeng and Sway, Zee Souze American Way," why not join the class?

**Distinguished Visitors**  
Added to the roster of distinguished personalities visiting Camp Adair are three names. Last Saturday, General Lowe, of Camp

**ELKS CHARITY BALL**  
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White, was shown around Club 1 by Col. Gordon H. McCoy, post commander, and Mrs. Blodgett, director of the club. The General stated that he was impressed with the furnishings, development, and healthy atmosphere of the Club.

Last Friday night at Club 2, wives of high-ranking officers came over with the Salem Senior Hostesses. They were Mrs. Thomas E. Rilea, wife of Brig. Gen. Rilea, now in Australia, and Mrs. Elmer V. Wooton, wife of Lt. Col. Wooton, Selective Service official.

**Lost and Found:**  
Miss Elizabeth Rogers, Service Club 2 directress, announces that a leather cigarette case, found recently in the club, is awaiting identification and return to the owner. Does it belong to YOU?  
The cigarette case was lost. On the "found" side, Miss Rogers revealed that the Salem Hostess League will donate rain (ha) and colored lights to decorate the Club's Christmas tree. Lost: one cigarette case; found, a philanthropic group.

**Pleasant Addition:**  
Have you seen and heard those new cabinet victrola-radios at either Club? They arrived this week and are certainly swell. An Orchid to Special Services!

**Scolding:**  
Once more the hostesses make the request (yes, we said request) that those men attending the dances on Friday come dressed in what the well-dressed soldier is supposed to wear when he dolls up. Wear your blouses, fellas!

**Bridge Club:**  
A dozen ladies from Corvallis were on hand to act as partners at the regular Tuesday night Bridge Club Tournament held in the upper balcony at Service Club 2. The Bridge Club is now functioning smoothly, and those EM really interested in serious bridge are welcome to come over and play. The tournament starts at 8 p. m.

**Cooking With Gas**  
By T/S Roland C. Rogers  
Of Cooks and Bakers School

Today's soldiers are enthusiastic but they lack endurance. They've had it too easy," according to T/4 Burt H. Simpson, most recent addition to the instructor staff of the School for Bakers and Cooks.  
"When I joined up," continued Simpson, "we weren't coddled."

"I signed up with the cavalry (August, 1914) and was given a horse and told to learn to ride," said Simpson, "After three days of bareback I couldn't sit down. I was given a saddle only after I had learned to ride," the former Cavalryman mused.  
"And then there is the little matter of rain. Soldiers at Camp Adair 'beef' about Oregon weather but they don't know anything about rain. Over in the Philippines," the old sergeant continued, "it rains 6 months out of every 12 and soldiers frequently sleep in the rice paddies." (ed. note: A rice paddy is a man-made lake that varies in depth from 6 to 24 inches.)  
"I have maneuvered on Bataan," said Simpson, "with only an iron ration (1 1/2 pound biscuit which only a chisel could smash) as food. But that was nothing compared to what the 'Men of Bataan' endured last spring."

But Philippine service had its bright side, too.  
In the islands "you didn't have to worry about gas rationing," continued the sergeant, "because if you wanted to go to the Big City you went 'pony back.'"  
If Camp Adair were in the Philippines a seat on the Albany bound pony would cost 10c. And the nice thing about it is that when you had paid your fare you knew you would have a seat throughout the trip. You also knew that the transportation would not stall in the rain due to an overheated engine or other inconsequential reasons.

The Sergeant still remembers the night he had to fall out at midnight to help disarm the Philippine Constabulary when they tried to stage an uprising at Baguio, Manila's summer resort town.  
The weather-beaten ex-cavalryman served three years with the 8th and 15th Cavalry in the Philippines. Several times during the "hitch" T/4 Simpson was sent to Shanghai for prisoners. "The transports were far from being luxury liners, according to the Sergeant, but the laundry service of them was the envy of the best cruise ship. Those in need of laundry service merely obtained a rope, tied their laundry to it and heaved it overboard. There was no tell-tale gray after the "wash" had dragged in the churning wake of the transport for a few hours."  
When the present war broke out

## Military Police Barracks Banter

By Pvt. Wallace Rawles  
Somebody say something about a white Christmas? Looks as if Tom and Jerry and Santa Claus will come to Camp Adair midst tinkling sleigh bells.

Copy of a pertinent paragraph noted in a letter to Pvt. James Tracy from his brunette girl friend in Rapid City, S. D.: "I'm married now, dear." Next?

Entry noted by Pvt. Franklin I. Kniss in the daily diary of Pvt. "Chief" Willie Hernassy, formerly of Oklahoma: "Saw the sun today."

When you write home, write cheerful letters. THEY'RE not getting all the ham and bacon and coffee they want. We don't notice any cases of malnutrition around Camp Adair. Those gas RATIONEERS back on Main Street are doing just as much to help terminate this war speedily as we are. Keep 'em cheering!

Cpl. Eugene C. Pruitt attained heart's desire when he was sent to a Parachute School Airborne Command. Pick a few southern peaches for us, Gene!

In this busy camp of shootin' salutin' soldiers we seem to have everything except clocks, calendars and cuties... But who cares about clocks and calendars?

As I lay me down for a Salem sleep,  
I pray the MP's my soul to keep;  
Comes it dawn, I can't be late,  
So deliver me, please, to the old West Gate.

Editor of the Barracks Banter is an American Legionnaire, a current veteran of some three weeks' basic training in Camp Adair with the Military Police. He asks your co-operation to make this column READABLE. Turn in your items to Pvt. Wallace Rawles and earn a rubber crowbar for Xmas. If you see something in Albany, Corvallis, Salem or Eugene that has more curves than a pretzel, tell us about it. It will inspire our imagination. All grade A phone numbers will be indexed carefully and proper treatment accorded in due course. A bachelor leads a lonely life. Help! Thank you.

Sad song of at least three of our MP brethren last pay day: "Paradise me, pals, 'til I run over to the Post Office and send out my all-my-money payment." We know how it is, boys, and we quote Ovid: "Love makes time pass, and time makes love pass."

Send the little woman a War Savings Bond for Xmas... One dozen red roses will fade away, but the bond some day will help remove the mortgage from the bungalow and leave only the fragrance of the honeysuckle! Ah, there, Cupid!

Pvt. Jean E. Nalda is back from a 6-day furlough at Reno.  
Up they go! Sgt. to S/Sgt. John J. O'Keefe; Cpl. to Sgt. Raoul Mound; Pvt. to PFC; James Elbery; Sgt. to S/Sgt.; Elmer R. Bender; PFC to Cpl.; Warren C. Sunblade.

Sweetheart of the MP's is pretty red-headed, blue-eyed Betty Uzzell Oenning, new secretary to Capt. Julius Hale, Provost Marshal. She met a handsome soldier named Joe Oenning while she was secretary to Major Howard Curtis, Provost Marshal at Fort Ord, Monterey, Calif. They were married in Reno, Nev., Jan. 31, 1942 on a 48-hour pass. He's now Staff Sgt. Oenning. Betty weighs 112, plays piano, rides horseback with the dexterity of a Wyoming cowboy, and likes the military life. Capt. Hale calls her the best looking secretary in Camp Adair. We agree!

Let us Arise and Sing!

the sergeant was "chafing" for active service. Too old for the Regulars, he joined the National Guard in 1940 going to the 106th Field Artillery, 27th Division.  
"I would have been overseas now," said T/4th Simson, "but for a case of food poisoning." "Eighteen of us were stricken after eating soldier gathered mushrooms." "One fellow died." "The rest of us almost died. Our pulse was 15."  
Horseman Sampson, was a mess sergeant in the Regular Army and also in the National Guard. He transferred to the school in October, 1942, and is still feeling good about his recent promotion to Technician 4th Grade.

## Dedicate Chapel No. 9 In Sunday Ceremony

A very impressive dedication ceremony was held last Sunday at Chapel No. 9 before an assembly of 500 including visitors. Invocation was given by Chap. Milton E. Berg. The 43rd of the 104th Division was next represented by the singing of Pvt. Raymond Allen, accompanied by Lt. D. D. Sparks and Pfc. Kenneth Lang.

A dedicatory address was given by Lt. Col. Frank J. Worthington. A tribute was delivered by Chaplain Jerome J. Klingsporn. Comments were added by Maj. Gen. Gilbert R. Cook, Revs. F. P. Leipzig, Lael Westberg, E. B. Hart, and Pvt. George Brooks. A token of thanks was delivered by Col. Wel-

## CAREY WINS IOWA GIRL

S/Sgt. Raymond J. Carey, major-domo of Hdq. Btry. mess hall, 387th F.A., and Miss Helen Edith Schulte, Erling, Iowa, were married on Saturday, Dec. 5, at Chapel 10, with Chaplain Mussel officiating. Sgt. and Mrs. Leonard Turpin were best man and matron of honor. Later members of the original cadre gave an informal supper in the mess hall.

## SPINSTER'S BALL

Helping a worthy cause isn't always a pack of fun. But the Spinster's Ball to be held Friday, Dec. 18th at 8:30 p.m. in the Benton hotel ballroom will be just that—

and the proceeds go to the war relief funds of the Red Cross. The duets per couple, set you back only \$1.10; they're bought at the door.  
The Spinsters expect to date a big-time band for the occasion. Soldiers are invited to remember the date and reserve a girl for the occasion now.

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Hold her hands, pull her gently forward and she walks along. She can sit down... and turn her pretty head, too. Beautiful long-lashed glass-like eyes, brunette mohair wig... dressed in blue pique skirt, white blouse.

**BABY DOLL WITH ORGANDY DRESS**  
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**69c**  
Daintily dressed in a white cotton gown with lace trim, matching bonnet, undies, baby socks, soft stuffed body, painted face.

**SOFT, CUDDLY BABY DOLL**  
LIFE-LIKE TILTING PLASTIC HEAD  
She's a cuddly flesh tinted rubber baby that you can bathe... and she'll drink from her bottle... wetting her diaper, too, just like a real baby.  
**2<sup>98</sup>**

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PLAYS UP TO 10-INCH RECORDS  
Improved sound chamber, tone arm and reproducer give beautiful, resonant tone. Self starting motor, for 110-volt A.C. only. Needles included.  
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