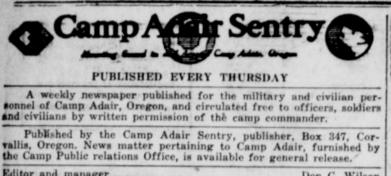
Page Two



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A PLEA FOR READING

The Sea Gull, mimeographed weekly of a Timber Wolf infantry regiment, makes a plea for more reading about the war. It says:

"A check-up around the area shows that about five men in every 200 are reading newspapers daily. No wonder officers sometimes wonder if some of the men know there is a war going on.

"Take it from the Sea Gull, it's well worth your while to buy a paper. You want to know, for instance, how soon you'll be getting home. Well, that question is being decided every day and reported in the press. You want to know if the folks back home are backing you up with bonds and bombers. That's in the papers, too.

"We're all part of a big team, part of which has already got its hands bloodied and part of which has died. Don't you want to know how your team is making out? Buy a paper, buddy, and get into the spirit of this war. You won't really feel part of this army until you feel yourself part of this war.

ABOUT WAR SONGS

For some time now a lot of people have been demanding that a fitting war song be written - a song that would stir the fighting men on to bigger and better fighting.

We got on the band wagon along with the rest and wondered why somebody didn't write one. We now realize that what everyone wanted without knowing it was a singable, whistleable song NOT about war.

Proof of this is the amazing success of a song, paradoxically enough written by a fellow who in the last war wrote war songs that were about the war. The song is "White Christmas," an Irving Berlin number that is hitting an alltime popularity high.

It not only isn't a war song. It isn't even a love song. Yet it has sung its way into practically every home and heart in the country. No one seems to be able to explain just why. Even Berlin is puzzled. "People read things into that song I had never dreamed of," he admits.

It amazed public-wise Hollywood producers of "Holiday Inn," the film in which it was introduced, who had confidently plugged "Be Careful It's My Heart" and left "White Christmas" to take care of itself-which it did to the tune of more.

Dreaming of a White Christmas brings memories to alevery American. Soldiers hum the tune on far away battlefronts. Snatches of it may be heard in almost any barrack in Camp Adair. We are not suggesting that "White Christmas" be adopted as the Battlecry of World War II. But we're not yelling any more for somebody to write a stirring "war song" either. We think soldiers want to be happy and sing happy songs-It's being like that that makes them the greatest soldiers in the world.

Thursday, December 24, 1942.

OMMANDER'S JOLUMN Camp Adair Christmas is the holiday of the heart. Because of all that it stands for, and because our most tender memories, all the way from infan-

time of the year. Death seems sadder at this sea- It is true that the sad fact of war on, cruelty more inexcusable, and on the other hand we take delight n trifles and are receptive to

gentle influences which ordinarily may not touch us. All of us must believe in Christ-

all, and we mean to keep it here. No doubt most of the camp personnel have been concerned, somehow ike it as possible.

are being sung. The sacred story is holiday of hope. This year it is a being read. Pictures of the Nativity hope that through our efforts a are charmed by the traditional up in a world of war.

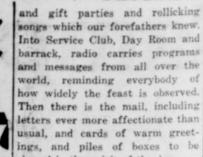
symbols of the day. Christmas is the holiday of kind-Here, as everywhere, are trees ness, of people who care. Our miliresplendent with silver tinsel, tary service is caring, in action. lights and colored balls. We see We care about what becomes of the glittering star, the figures of our country and of the world. And the herald angels and the shep- we know that the world's salvation herds in the field, the Holy Family depends on making Christmas come Christmas must be merry, as true in the hearts of men, all the

well. We have Santa Claus tokens time. You know the exquisite lines of Phillips Brooks, addressed to cution. It's a beautiful thought the little town of Bethlehem:

considering the fear and persecu-"The hopes and fears of all the tion that prevails in the world today. I admire our army because we are going to give Mr. and Mrs. Are met in thee tonight." Poland and Mr. and Mrs. Norway and all the Mr. and Mrs.'s of thos conquered nations the chance to live again in honor as before. Through our efforts, they will be happy once again and look upon the United States as a great na-

tion of honorable men which has made happiness possible for them. Although my friends and I are quite a distance from home, we don't mind it. Although we are in the infantry we don't mind it because regardless of what branch

of the army or service we are in



shared in the spirit of the day. Most important, in our Christmas here, is the good fellowship among men who share a single mode of life and a single purpose. ey to this camp, are bound up It is true that some men will be with Christmas, we are more sen- longing, more than usual, for woitive right now than at any other men who are waiting, across the continent, for them to come home.

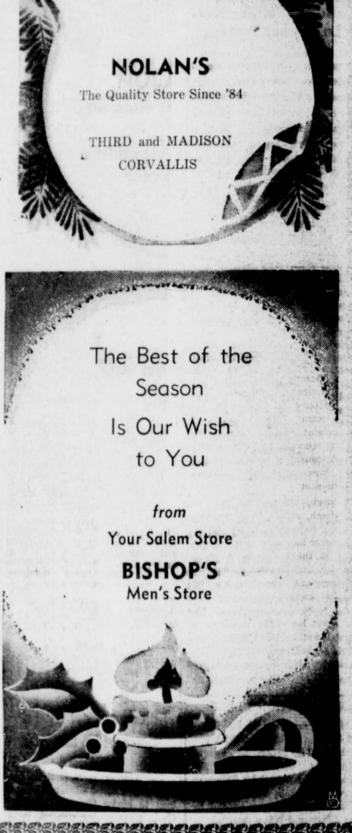
itself, on Christmas Day, will seem sadder still.

All the more reason to make the most of what we have, and we do have a comradeship which will

nas, if we believe in anything at grow more precious as the years pass. Let us cherish it now and try to understand what it signifies in the history of our country and even in preparing for the day, and we in the history of Christmas. see signs of that on every side. It For Christmas, too, has a hisis clear that all of us feel the same. tory. Basically, it is the celebration We want a Christmas just like the of birth. It is symbolic of the joy he we used to know, or as near accompanying birth. There is joy because in every new birth there Therefore the old familiar carols is hope. Thus Christmas also is a

are reproduced, as at home. Again better world may be prepared for we hear the melodies that revive the generation of children now bethe very mood of some particular ing born, or learning about Christbygone Christmas and again we mas for the first time, or growing

years



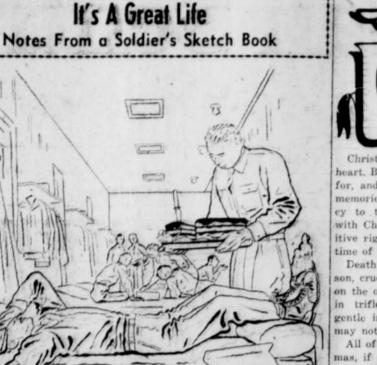
Camp Adair Sentry



MERRY

CHRISTMAS

SOLDIER



lierry

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MUTTERINGS OF AN OLD-TIMER

This is a Christmas reverie phenomenon of our time, possibly about hate, war and peace. It bes the biggest musician of his kind gins with the thought that in all in all the history of music. countries where German is spoken, It is literally true that the noblone song, "Stille Nacht," will be est spokesman for the older, better sung more widely on this Christ- Germany and Italy today is Armas Eve than any other hymn or turo Toscanhii, son of Italy, an carol. And the next thought is orchestral conductor who never that "Silent Night," to the same makes a speech, never gives intertune and with English words which views, never writes for publication. still mean the same, will be sung He does it by transmitting, rather more widely in all lands where than interpreting, the music of English is spoken. master composers.

Yet the song is truly Germanic, No German has conveyed so eloin origin, melody and sentiment, quently as has this Italiau, the and for many of us older men in message of heauty and brothercamp this song is irrevocably iden- hood that Mozart. Beethoven, tified with the voice and person- Brahms, Schubert, Wagner and the ality of one woman, German by other Teutonic composers, have birth, who had sons in the armies bequeathed to us. And the war has of both sides for the other war. Al. not shaken his devotion. He res though American club women fused to play the faseist hymn in once named her the first woman Italy, and was beaten for it, but of America, she sang and spoke, nowadays he plays, on one proto the end of her days, with a Ger- gram, our National Anthem and the symphonies of Beethoven. man accent.

Every Christmas Eve this woman, Mme, Ernestine Schumann- In short this Toscanini, who Heink; used to sing "Silent Night." stopped conducting in Germany

During World War No. 1 she sang when persecution of Jews began, it to us in the training camps and distinguishes between good and later the grand old dame's singing bad in a nation and aets accordingof this song became an American ly at all times. Without so intendinstitution, on national radio hook- ing, he reminds us, merely by playups of the night before Christmas. ing music of bygone Germans, how So much so that now, when she absurd it is to talk-as a few is gone, American families every- Americans do-about annihilating where still play records of her the German people. It is the other "Silent Night" when the tree is way around. Indirectly we fight to lighted. a nation which militarism has al-

Curse of Militarism

The Good In Germany

Now Mme Schumann-Heink rep. most ruined. We can do it only by resented German characteristics smashing through to victory and To the Editor: which the world cannot afford to to a peace that will last.

of winged things, not the heavenly host.

9: Instead of singing praises to God, they released their load of bombs upon the earth beneath, and flew swiftly away into the darkness,

DEMOCRATIC BELLYACHE - "Ohhh, No thanks - Sweeney's

corn beef, Shultz's pigs knuckles, Atkins plum pudding, Mariano's

spaghetti, Olson's smorgasbord, Cohan's gefultafish,-Ohhh, my-but I think I done myself in when I sandwiched the English plum

pudding between the Italian spaghetti, and the German pigs knuckles, Ohhh! Calling Dr. Kildaire, Call Dr. Kildaire, Ohhh..."

THAT STRANGE FAMILIAR STORY

a decree from a certain Dictator, whose name was not Augustus

Caesar, that all the world would be taxed.

accomplished that she should be delivered.

the field keeping watch over their flock by night;

room for them in the inn.

day the forerunner of Death."

to the shepherds:

1. And it came to pass in those days that there went out

2. And by reason of this decree, a certain Jewish Carpenter,

3. And so it was that while they were there, the days were

4. And she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped

5. And there were in that same country shepherds abiding in

6. And lo, a messegner appeared in the sky overhead, not

7. "Fear and tremble, for behold I bring you tidings of great

and and only there was with the lone flier a multitude

orrow, which shall be to all people, for unto you is come this

an angel of the Lord, but an aeroplane, and it seemed to say

him in ragged strips of cloth torn from her own garments, and

she laid him on the straw in a manger, because there was no

not Joseph, together with his young wife, whose name might

have been Mary, I know not-sought refuge in a crowded town,

not Bethlehem; for the young wife was an expectant mother.

10. And the shepherds came with haste, hoping to find the young couple with the new born babe in the manger;

11. But where the child had been, they found only a shellhole; and scattered about lay bits of cloth and fragments of human flesh.

12. And I saw one like unto the Son of Man; his face was stern with anger, and his words were terrible to hear, for he snid:

13. "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these, ve have done it unto me; and whoso shall offend one of these little ones, it were better for him that a great millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he was drowned in the depths of the

14. Then I awoke, and I knew that it was Christmas Day in war-time. And I thanked my God that Jesus had been born before the age of "Scientific Progress," while angels could sing undisturbed by bombing planes, and the heavenly choir could tell of Peace on earth, and Good Will among men.

15. For how unspeakably sad it might have been, if one chance bomb had destroyed the Christ Child as he lay in that other manger, and men had never known that Love is the greatest thing in the world.

-Gail Cleland Lt. Col., Chaplain U. S. Army

against those who start fights. On over the world. A man stopped me the positive side, let's love peace on the street and asked me a few so much and so wisely that we will questions. He asked me what unite to keep it, when at last we was fighting for, and if I liked the get it. army. In a short time I thus re-

Superficially, it would seem in- lated my story as to his questions. consistent to celebrate Christmas Joe Smith, American, a selected while we wage war. But think in the army of our country, who the matter through and you will is fighting that a nation of free see that in reality we are fighting men and women may remain free to rid the world of the scourge of without becoming slaves to a few aggressive war, so that the demen who seek to conquer and decent elements even in enemy nastroy what all free human beings tions may have a chance to assert hold sacred. I like the army, and I And fill the gunner's shoes. themselves. We are at war at this thank God we have an army, s sacred season so that there may that we free men who are a part To be clean around your barracks, by some chance to establish the lift the curse of militarism from the state of Challeness Day. the spirit of Christmas Day. of speech, our freedom of the press,

and radio, and above all the right to worship God as to our own be-

I'll just call myself Joe Smith, liefs.

lose, yet she was only a simple If we must hate, let's not hate American. I have a little story to When I stop to think for a min- The theory is fine as goldwoman with voice, artistry and a people. Let's hate war and do it tell that won't take me long to re- uate, I can see my folks, my wife, The poetry-it smells. great heart. From her my thoughts intelligently, not by refusing to late. I am a soldier like the many and thousands of other folks walk. pass on to a man of genius, a fight for justice, but by uniting thousands that are fighting all ing about without fear and perce-

or what part of the world we are in, we have a job to do. We do our job seriously because when we do it right, we are closer to victory. I know men gripe and com-plain about various things. Here at Adair men may complain about the weather and the marching, or food, but don't you see only free men have the right to complain about those things! If this were the Jap army or the other army of evil, they would be shot for complaining. Funny though, when complaining. Funny though, when I hear a man complaining about the food and weather, you know what I tell him? I tell him this. How about BATAAN, Wake, Mid-way and Africa? do they com-How about BATAAN, wake, and way and Africa? do they com-plain? Hell no they don't, because they know that the sooner the job is done the sooner they will come home to their loved ones. So as Joe Smith, American, all I can say for us soldiers and Americans: we pledge to our peoples back home and to those conguered home and to those conquered peoples, "keep faith with us and we will never let you down." The American Flag flies as a bearer of honor and glory for all the people of the United States, and a symbol of mercy and kindness for the oppressed throughout the world.

Private Harry Kravitz, Regimental Hendquarters Co. 383nd Infantry, Camp Adair.

Read the Last Line Twice!

Just a little perseverance. Just a portion of restraint, Will often place a chevron Where as of today it ain't.

When you always try your darnedest. And decide you cannot lose,

You may have the "Higher Numbers."

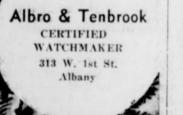
of it may act as sentinels guarding To be clean upon parade, conditions essential for a white against evil. We are glad to give To be the battery's cleanest man-

> These thoughts are just presented

To fill the thinking cells:

-Pvt. Schegtkski,

C Dury, T. W. artillet



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223 W. 2nd St., Albany

SEASON'S

GREETINGS

From Your

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SIGERENE SERENCE SERENCE CONCORDER CONCO CONCORDER CONCO

MERRY CHRISTMAS

to the

Officers, Men and Personnel

at

Camp Adair

We hope that through our efforts we can help make your stay

Phone 880

at camp more enjoyable. Call on us at any time.

ARS, ROEBUCK

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