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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1919.

"Y" REAL BUDDY TO U. S. FIGHTERS

Lightened War's Burdens With Entertainment, Good Cheer and Comforts.

UPHELD MORALE OF ARMY.

Gave $1,400,000 in Free Canteen Supplies to American Doughboys.

"ALL of the ammunition used during the three days' battle of Gettysburg would have lasted on the Western Front in the world war just seven minutes. The supplies used by Sherman on his three months' march to the sea would have been consumed by the Allied Army in ten hours."

This statement, made recently by an American officer, a veteran of the Spanish war, who later rendered service in the Mexican campaign and with our armies in France, should convey some idea of the gigantic contest which terminated in a glorious victory for allied forces over the Teutons. But there were other mighty tasks connected with the winning of the titanic struggle for the preservation of civilization, additional to furnishing the necessary men, munitions and supplies. One of these, and far from the least important, was the care of American soldiers and sailors when not actually engaged in their war time duties, that the morale of men in khaki and blue should be maintained at the very highest possible point.

Back in those days when the war clouds had spread over practically all Europe and it was obvious that the United States soon would be compelled to take a great part in the struggle the Young Men's Christian Association began to make its plans for the care of the Americans who would be called to the colors. The tentative program included the placing of recreation centers in all home camps and at many places abroad, furnishing amusement aplenty for the idle moments of the men of our forces and many other things essential to a successful welfare program. This was much, but when the storm finally broke and the President sent forth the call which plunged the United States into the struggle, the Y. M. C. A., at the request of General Pershing, took over the canteen service for the American Expeditionary Force. At that time it was agreed that goods were to be sold at the several "Y" centers at the purchase cost price, plus cost of transportation, and if any profits should arise the "Y" would use them exclusively for the men in the army. There have been criticisms to the effect that the Y. M. C. A. operated these canteens at a profit. These charges, oft repeated, are utterly untrue.

Free Canteen Supplies.

Naturally, in consequence of war-inflated transportation charges, supplies in the canteens had to be sold at a rate higher than charged in this country. The following from a recent statement by William Sloane, Chairman of the National War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A., indicates the true state of affairs. He said: "Free distribution of canteen supplies to American soldiers by the Y. M. C. A. to a value of $1,400,000 and a loss on operation of post exchanges overseas, exclusive of the soldiers' stores in Great Britain, amounting to $832,181, has been reported by E. C. Carter, Chief 'Y' Secretary in Paris. This total of nearly $1,750,000, which does not include the post exchange department for November and December, is the most emphatic answer the Y. M. C. A. can make to the charges of profiteering. In neither of these items, however, does the magnitude of the 'Y' free service appear. There is no mention of the free use of athletic supplies valued at over $1,000,000; no mention of $600,000 item for stationery furnished the soldiers who wrote home upon it more than 14,000,000 letters; no mention of the gigantic entertainment programs."

It should be kept in mind that the Y. M. C. A., at the request of the army authorities, was put up against a practically impossible proposition. It was asked to take charge of a great business spending $100,000,000 a year. Most of the trained secretaries never had had experience in any line at all similar to canteen work. It was a task akin to that of taking a group of men out of the streets and assigning to them the problem of operating a great railroad.

Adverse Criticism Dwindling.

However, adverse criticism has been relatively small and is dwindling daily as the real facts are understood. As one war correspondent, recently returned from Europe, stated the other day: "When most of the soldiers get home they, no doubt, will tell the real story of the self-sacrificing, earnest service by the 'Y' men who toiled long hours under great difficulties and frequent danger. Most of them asked for front line service, and they paid a heavy price in killed and wounded. In spite of all difficulties the 'Y' brought the home touch to the soldiers. The people of this country appreciate more than ever the true worth of Dr. John R. Mott, head of the National War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A., who, patient under unfair criticism, has directed his forces to a successful termination of the greatest philanthropic task in the world's history."

French Children Play Baseball

Photo by Y. M. C. A.

That "baseball follows the flag" is a statement long accepted as a fact by the sport lovers of America. In truth, the national pastime of the United States has found favor in every country in which it has been played by our men-at-arms. The picture shows a group of French "kiddies," coached by a "Y" secretary and encouraged by some of Uncle Sam's doughboys, taking a first lesson in baseball. From July to December of last year the Y. M. C. A. shipped 11,223 cases of athletic goods, valued at $1,248,854, for the use of the American fighting forces in France.

GOWDY WOULD LEAVE PALACE FOR DIAMOND

Paris, Feb. 10.—At the "front" hardships have given place to softships, according to all reports reaching Paris. Consider the case of Color Sergeant Hank Gowdy of Headquarters' Company in the Ohio Regiment, Rainbow Division, the first professional baseball player to volunteer for services with the American fighting forces, who recently nestled in a somewhat insufficient indenture of a hillside near Exermont. He now occupies, with a senior color sergeant, a suite of rooms in a Rhineland palace. Hank never had such rooms before, even after he and the other Boston Braves won the world's championship.

Pictures sent back by Y. M. C. A. secretaries, who a few weeks ago had no huts save the packs on their backs, now show them entertaining doughboys with all the comforts of a millionaires' club. By way of illustration there is Sergeant Gowdy in his Rhine palace. The fittings there are perfect, from silken coverlids and a chaise-longue to a jeweled bedside lamp. The only thing that worries Sergeant Gowdy now is a guidebook which says that "the Seven Hills were placed there by the Giants."

"It didn't happen when I knew them," he says.

Sergeant Gowdy's favorite reading, however, is not guidebooks, but a set of clippings quoting General March as saying that all big league baseball players will be recalled from service in time for Spring training. With this set of clippings Hank is able to pass away whole hours, perfectly contented. Gifts of cigarettes and chocolate from Y. M. C. A. men, the loudest enthusiasm of newly arrived doughboys over the luxurious quarters they have found waiting them, fail to rouse Hank from his lethargic state.

The inside facts of the matter are that Sergeant Gowdy is all fed up on whiz-bangs and shrapnel shells and palaces and castles and, in the midst of what some would call delights, cannot help yearning for something with a real thrill in it—the crack of a bat, for instance. Hank would jump at the chance to trade his present abode—jeweled bedside lamps and all—for a three room flat overlooking the Boston ball lot.

THE DOUGHBOY, NOT THE "Y," WAS WRONG

The doughboy's lordly indifference to French money—for he simply would not bother to learn about francs and centimes—was one of the prime reasons for the accusation that the Y. M. C. A. overcharged in its canteen service in France. Stories are now coming back to the United States which show that because the American soldier thought in American money while the Y. M. C. A. dealt in French money misunderstandings arose, and the "Y" suffered criticism in consequence.

In appearance the French franc looks much like the American quarter, and unconsciously one feels that it should have the same purchasing power. Its actual current value, however, is about seventeen and one-half cents. When used in a Y. M. C. A. canteen to purchase a standard article whose pre-war price had been ten cents, and to whose increased cost the "Y" was forced to add five cents for ocean transportation, it yielded the soldier so little change that unless he took all the facts into consideration he felt he was being robbed.

Also, when a doughboy read the price of an apple, for example, as "25 cts." and thought that the Y. M. C. A. was charging him a quarter, he had quite a right to feel abused—until he remembered that "cts." is the French abbreviation for centimes and that twenty-five centimes equals five cents. Often he didn't remember, however, and that is one reason why the Y. M. C. A. has been said to overcharge.

Comparisons.

"Our wedding trip is all too short,"
She said with drooping sigh.
"Well, maybe so," he groaned, "but it
Is not as short as I."

Wanted to Be Remembered.

They were two days out and the young bride was dreadfully seasick.

"Henry, dear," she moaned, "if I should die and they bury me here you'll come sometimes and plant flowers on my grave, won't you?"—St. Louis Star.

THIS HUN REALIZED GERMANY WAS BEATEN

With the American Army, Andernach, Germany, Feb. 10.—How a German cafe proprietor was forced to abandon the sale of beer to the fraus and herrs of the village so that he could serve hot chocolate to the American soldiers as they marched by on their way into Germany is one of the stories of the advance of the Thirty-second Division. It happened at Andernach. C. P. Kelpman, a Y. M. C. A. secretary attached to the Division, could find no convenient place in the village from which to serve hot chocolate to the men as they tramped by, worn out from their long march. Then he came upon a cafe admirably situated by the roadside. But the Herr Bartender and proprietor at first refused to exchange the joys of drawing deep foamed beer for the milder thrill of pouring hot chocolate for the men in khaki.

"Nein, nein!" he remonstrated disdainfully. "It is beer I serve. Heise chokolade—that is a drink for old women!"

"I guess you didn't get me," the Y. M. C. A. man told him. "The American soldiers want hot chocolate. And the American soldiers have got to have what they want."

Herr Bartender said no more. Silently he poured the chocolate made by the Y. M. C. A. man, and with resignation he accepted the small fee that he was permitted to charge. But there was a melancholy and a meditative look in his eyes. It seemed to occur to him for the first time that when a man could be torn from beer pouring thus, it must be that Germany had been beaten in the war!

Y. M. C. A. FULFILLING AFTER-WAR TASK

The war work of the Y. M. C. A. has been a gigantic task, but the "peace work" is to be even bigger, both in Europe and the United States, if the need of American troops for relaxation and amusement during the period of demobilization is to be met.

Figures just compiled by the Eastern Department show that since the armistice was signed "Y" service among soldiers and sailors in New York, New Jersey, Maryland, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia and West Virginia has made an enormous jump, and with these figures as a basis the Eastern Department has set out to provide more and more service for the troops until the difficult period of readjustment is entirely over.

The month following the armistice the attendance at "Y" buildings in these eight states was 6,314,793, making an increase of 184,625 over the month preceding. In the huts the most spectacular jump was, perhaps, in the amount of money orders sold by the "Y." The increase here was $558,645.78 over November, and the total was $742,556.28. In December there were 154 more lectures given under the direction of the "Y" than in November, with a total of 820 during the month, or 205 a week. Library circulation in the huts also was quickened by the armistice; 37,378 more books were given out in December than in November.

Free motion picture exhibitions given by the Y. M. C. A. had their "peak" month in December, when the number of shows was increased by 459, the attendance by 122,467 and the number of feet of film used by 1,988,000. The totals were 2,504 exhibitions, 1,621,465 in attendance and 12,628,000 feet of film used.

Entertainments furnished free to men in uniform in "Y" buildings were attended by 320,944 more men than were those given in November. An additional 176 entertainers were booked at these shows and 281 more shows were staged than during the previous month, making a total of 750 entertainers, 1,684 entertainments and 1,116,094 in attendance.

Not Guilty.

Friend (in Windfall's art gallery)—You certainly show excellent discrimination in the selection of your pictures.

Windfall—Discrimination? Not on your life; I'm too broadminded for that! Why, if the price is right, I don't care a dang whether the painter is American, Dutch, Dago, Pole, Bulgarian, Chinese, Eskimo or even German.

I WANT TO SAY To The People

THAT I HAVE IN STOCK

Farm Wagons and Harness
Top Buggies and Fine Harness

Riding Plows and Walking Plows, Fifty- and Sixty-tooth Drags, Steel Rollers, Acme Blades.

SPRING DEARBORNS IN MARCH

Grain Drills and Spring-tooth Harrows. Everybody is invited to come and see me. Prices shall be right.

W. W. DUKES,
Concord, Maryland.

1-30,26w]

HOW ARE OUR VILLAGE BOYS CHOOSING THEIR LIFE-WORK

The Chautauqua Reading Hour.

Dr. William Byron Forbush, Editor.

Do we realize the difficulties that our village young people face when they try to choose a calling?

In the first place, what do most of them know of the range of worthwhile work in the world? In a certain county seat of 4030 people, 175 years old, a fine Quaker town, the only industries are a cheese factory and a spoke factory. Neither employs American labor. Aside from the lawyer, the cobbler, the grocer and the teacher—the standard occupations—this is the vocational outlook in a whole town of the finest young people.

Do most of us adults know much more? If a boy, in an hour of confidence, asks his father what he shall do in the future, does not that father usually look wise and say, "Well, my boy, whatever you do don't go into what I did. It isn't what it used to be." Which is very well so far as it goes, but it does not give much positive direction. Most of us know no calling but our own.

THEY DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET READY.

What do boys and girls know of the opportunities and requirements of any specific vocation? Go anywhere, and ask the boys, and you will find that more will specify "engineering" as their choice than any other one field. This is so noteworthy that two or three years ago a sort of census was taken of the interests and opportunities of various kinds of engineering in Wisconsin. It was discovered that more boys are planning to become engineers in that State during the next five years than Wisconsin can use in the next one hundred years! "What shall I tell boys?" I asked the professor of engineering physics in a great State university. "Shall I say that there is no more room for engineers?" "By no means," he replied. "There is little room for the short-course graduate, except to lug chain and make blue-prints. Tell the boys that if one will go through a classical college and a good engineering school and than take two or three years in a great plant, if he has brains and patience, he will become one of the world's leaders." Such are the new demands and opportunities of just one of our great professions.

Many boys and girls do not know what an honest day's work is like, or what it means to earn a dollar. They see their future in terms of achievement and fortune, not in terms of sweat and dirt and fortitude.

DIFFICULTIES OF INDIVIDLAL MEASUREMENT.

Most of all, the young people do not know themselves. Some overstimate some understimate their own abilities. Some are entirely astray in discovering their best and most practical talents. The lure of good clothes, the influence of companions, the easy opportunities to imitate one's father, the fatal facility of earning money just now easily, all tend to distract the boy or girl from an independent self-measurement. Not many of them have the foresight to visualize whether they will be contented with the day's work and reward in a calling twenty years from now.

TWO WAYS TO FIND OUT.

Two methods are being pressed at the present time. School marks are one. High marks in school prophesy high marks in college, and the first fourth of a college class has a chance of success in life equal to all the rest of the class put together. By this use, marks are somewhat of a measure than of the exceptional boy or girl, but tell nothing of the quiet average.

The best use of marks is as a life-record of aptitudes and abilities. At this point a good deal of assistance may be expected from the school.

The other method of enlightenment is not scientific, but nothing has yet superseded it—the method of trial-and-proof, guarded so as to make it as little expensive of time and energy as possible. Here comes the values of after-school and vacation employment, of careful visits with father to industries and offices and stores, of interviews with men who have succeeded or young men who are striving for success.

LET THE HOME-TOWN SHOW ITS INTEREST.

An organized effort on the part of the local board of trade or school committee to get business men to give our village boys and girls a vocation opportunity would mean more for our town than many more pretentious efforts. We are all the time talking about "attracting capital" to our town. Do we not understand that our young people are the town's best capital, and that if we let them drift away, through neglect, we are not only losing our finest and most loyal potential citizens, but money besides?

One of the most gratifying experiences that comes to a Chautauqua superintendent or business representative is the occasional one of being approached by some earnest citizen who wishes to express an interest in the future of some especially hopeful boy or girl in the town. Often the Chautauqua is able to suggest or even to place the youth to advantage, but usually away from home. Scarcely ever has such an interview been held, but that it has been perfectly plain that if there were organized local interest these choice young men and women could be held in the home town.

The War Department has decided that American soldiers may marry American girls by letter, but, just the same, we are not fascinated by the correspondence school of matrimony.

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BANK NOTICES.

THE DENTON NATIONAL BANK,
Denton, Md., Feb. 18, 1919.

This bank will be closed Saturday, Feb. 22, 1919, Washington's Birthday, it being a legal holiday. All paper payable here and maturing on that day may be paid on the Monday following.
T. C. WEST, Cashier.

THE PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK,
Denton, Md., Feb. 18, 1919.

This bank will be closed Saturday, Feb. 22, 1919, Washington's Birthday, it being a legal holiday. All paper payable here and maturing on that day may be paid on the Monday following.
T. F. JOHNSON, Cashier.

THE GOLDSBORO BANK,
Goldsboro, Md., Feb. 18, 1919.

This bank will be closed Saturday, Feb. 22, 1919, Washington's Birthday, it being a legal holiday. All paper payable here and maturing on that day may be paid on the Monday following.
ROBERT JARRELL, JR., Cashier.

THE FARMERS AND MERCHANTS STATE BANK,
Denton, Md., Feb. 18, 1919.

This bank will be closed Saturday, Feb. 22, 1919, Washington's Birthday, it being a legal holiday.
SHERMAN E. HIGNUTT, Cashier.

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is worth more to family life today than ever before

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Practically a Daily at the Price of a Weekly.
No other Newspaper in the world gives so much at so low a price.

The value and need of a newspaper in the household was never greater than at the present time. We have been forced to enter the great world war, and a large army of ours is already in France fighting great battles and winning magnificent victories. You will want to have all the news from our troops on European battlefields, and 1919 promises to be the most momentous in the history of our universe.

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THE AMERICAN UNION

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