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C. 660

The Mercer Monitor

Cap. M.H. Henry Commanding
FA. RES

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We are trying to build anew,
the country, the true
owners of this land once knew

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Just For Old Times Sake

Since shaking the dust of Camp Mercer from my feet, I have been getting the 'Monitor'. This fact reminds me, that I am indebted to the Editor and the Management for an accounting of what has taken place in camp, since bidding the CCC boys good-by on January 1.

As I in fancy go back over the seven months, that Camp Mercer was my home and bring to mind the many pleasant things, that are firaly planted in Memory's Safety Vaults; something that borders on homesickness seems to steal in.

I read a lot about the CCC camps in different parts of this big country of ours. Sometimes complaints are made about different things--food seems to be a favorite topic for some camps. Speaking about food, takes me back in memory to the Mess Hall, Storeroom, and Kitchen at 660, where there is never a scarcity of good wholesome food; served as Bill Watson knows how to serve it.

All my life I have watched our timber resources disappear, but like thousands of others felt no alarm at the march of the lumbermen. One could travel for days thru unbroken timber lands, "Fair as the Garden of the Lord", expresses it I am sure. Altho I never saw this particular garden, I am taking it for granted, that it was some garden. But now going over the same route, we see nothing but blackened areas with here and there a standing rampire, that reminds one of something marking the grave of something or someone dear to us.

There are hundreds of thousands of acres that are useless for agricultural purposes owing to the topography of the country and the condition of the soil. One might think that not even timber would grow, but it has grown, and what has been done can be done again.

Reforestrying these denuded hills of ours must be done or it seems to me, that we are not playing fair with generations to come.

Judging from all appearances, the bulk of this great undertaking will be up to the CCC boys.

So let me say to you CCC boys in closing, that this undertaking that can't be comprehended by the ordinary mind, is to a large extent up to you. Good food, clothing, and sleeping quarters should be an inspiration to do your best. Great minds are continually at work on how best to bring this gigantic thing about. We must all do our best to make it a success and it must be a success!

During the winter months, when Old Mother Nature showers down on us four feet of snow and 40 degrees below zero weather; we should not become discouraged. Take it with a smile and you will be happy.

I would liked to have had the time and opportunity to have shaken hands with each one of the Friends, that I hope I made during my stay at 660. I also want to say in particular, that I feel that I owe the Army Officers a debt of gratitude that will be hard to pay, for the kindness and considerate treatment shown me.

I miss you all and hope sometime to have the privilege of meeting you again. (Vern 'Dad' Nason)

RANGER NEWS --- by Fred Haag
 (Camp Forestry Supt)

Ed King still has a soft spot in his heart for Winegar. Something see to draw him there. Good luck Ed.

The work in the field is going along as well as can be expected considering the great amount of snow we have up to the present time.

All of the men are engaged in burning brush except Bill Summers. He and a small crew are building brush refuges for bird feeding stations. This work should have been done last fall in order to have gotten the most benefit out of these feeding stations, but better late than never.

The Rangers are now settled in their new quarters and are surely enjoying these modern conveniences these cold wintry mornings.

The Area Supervisor, District Ranger, and Camp Superintendent have been working out a program of future work for this Camp and barring unforeseen conditions will be able to provide useful work for every man in this Camp for about 40 years to come. After that there will be nothing to worry about.

Art Evenson observed his 40th birthday, Feb. 5th, in perfect health and we all join in extending him the best of wishes for the next 40 years.

Some of the Rangers have taken quite a little interest in the weekly Church Services. This should help to improve the morale of the Camp. Keep it up.

The Hermit Club!!

Once again the portals of the Hermit Club are opened long enough to give the waiting hungry outside world some more news of their notorious exploits.

The banquet, which was held January 26 turned out to be a complete success for everyone thereto present. Everyone had a delightful time and all are anticipating another one in the very near future. Well, if the fellows can abstain from going to town for a few weeks, they certainly will be able to have a humdinger.

Through stool pigeons it has been discovered, that the two former presiding officers, who were ousted from their positions, have started to formulate a new club. This club, which is still shrouded in deep mystery seems destined to be a sort of Lover's Club. If this club should be able to come about, it is possible it will have a bad effect on the 'rooks', who had planned to join the Hermit Club. These pernetrators will most likely try to entice the 'rooks' to join their midst, but we hope that their will power will overcome this bad influence successfully. No doubt these two wrongdoers will pay for their iniquities in the future.

Through a very reliable source (we won't mention names) we received the following information: That two of the presiding officers are not proving as faithful and honorable as they should be. Up to the present time, they have not been caught in any nefarious act, which would put a black mark against them. A sharp lookout is being kept over their respective actions in and about Camp.

So until they hitch the horse to the Saturday Evening Post, I wish to remain your reporter for the illustrious Hermit Club.

(P.P.P.)

Ratings

The following men received ratings just recently:

- Earl Higgins, Asst Leader to Leader
- Francis Bouche'r, Asst Leader
- John Marecki, " "
- Loren Noll, " "
- Carl Johnson, " "
- Howard Petersen, " "
- Mike McCarthy, " "
- Harry Strelow, " "

Congratulations!

Eddy Wright and Merrill Nehring received Honorable Discharges, January 31. Best of luck, fellows.



Why is Hon saving all of his pennies? Where does Ames get all of his ambition and initiative?

We wonder if Berg gets all of his strength from eating candy-bars. He sure eats plenty. What is your brand, Don?

Frank Moehrke is getting 'sweet' around Yarosh. Watch your step, Casimir!

Wiley's radio is proving to be a source of enjoyment to the men of Barrack 1 plus Dingeldein. 'Ding' comes over with the excuse that he wishes to play '500', but we know better.

'Pat' Thomas is said to have purchased his timepiece at a clearance sale.

Doesn't the new dog-robber, Johnny Szurek, look keen in that new white cap which he is now wearing. How are chances borrowing it sometime?

Has anyone noticed how often Pinky takes a shower lately?

What is the matter with Wiley's cornet. We never hear it any more.

Bill Smith intends on joining up with Rubinoff's Orchestra, when his time has expired in the CCC's.

Marecki and Andrist came out from their stage of hibernation and went to town last Saturday. Possibly to celebrate Marecki's rating. Andrist even went back on Sunday afternoon to finish the debut.

Bon Chalonder visited Camp last Sunday. We wonder if he misses his old stamping grounds.

'Buck' Companeski is still going quite steady to Mercer for one reason or another

Why does a pretty girl have such an influence over Hether? Censor Besides having many leaders and assistant leaders, it would be well to know that we have a few more interesting characters such as:

- 'Engineer' McConnel, 'Contractor' Piccinelli, 'Chief Wa-Hoo' Allord, 'Professor' Yarosh, 'Sister' Moehrke, 'Canteen Annie' Genz, 'Big Flabby' Ames, 'Grandma' Maki, and 'Flat Face Bohemian' Dingeldein.

Perhaps Zanella can tell us, who Sally Shoestring is.

Johnny White Dog has turned out to be a very competent glazer.

The 'rooks' sure are entertaining the 'Veterans' with their pugilistic antics.

Renovations About Camp

Many alternations, adjustments, and renovations have come about within the past few weeks.

The old Recreation Hall has been turned into a barrack, while the old Mess Hall has been made into the Recreation Hall. The Canteen is now found in Bill Watson's old quarters.

The Cook's Barrack, which was part of Barrack 1 was moved over to the old Ranger's Quarter in Barrack 4.

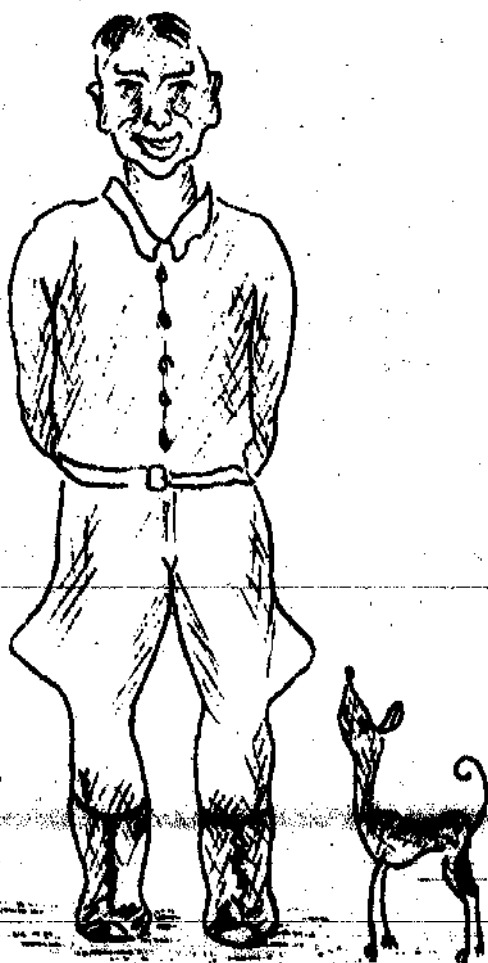
The Ranger's Quarters were moved to Barrack 1, while their Office also was moved to Barrack 1. The Ranger's tool shed, blacksmith shop, and Coxe's and Haynie's abode was transferred to the new addition placed on the State Garage.

Of course the biggest change was to the new Mess Hall. With this new modern building any Camp should be contented.

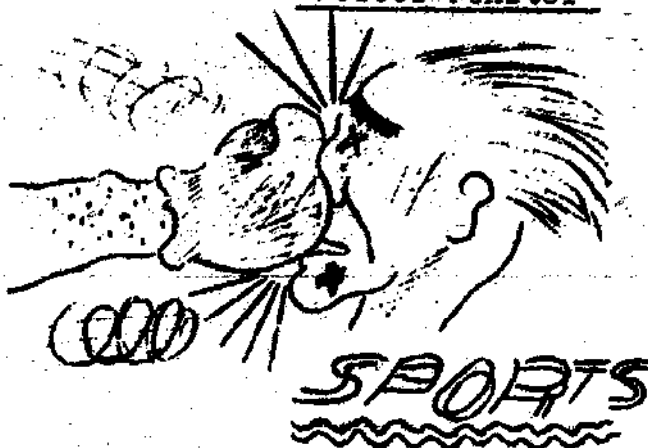
It almost seems as if we were in a different Camp now, what with all these changes.

The Camp Library received the following articles for the use of the men:- 2 basketballs, Health scale, 2 Monday Morning Coaches, 1 set of gym horseshoes, and 4 games of checkers. You are welcome to use them at any time.

as Fashions by D.S.O. as



as The Newest as Creations in Pegsies



Ping-Pong

A ping-pong tournament to determine the Camp Champion will be held starting February 12. The winner will represent the camp at the District Tournament at Wakefield, Mich. March 2. Pairings have been posted on the bulletin board in the Recreation Hall. Matches will be two out of three games and the final match will be four out of seven. Thirty men are entered in the tournament. Among the favorites are Avery and Ahles (The Dispensary Twins), Seeger, Czech, Genz, and White Dog. Avery, present Camp Champ, is generally conceded the best chance to win, but he will be hard pressed to win from some of the other contestants.

New nets and paddles have been acquired and we are anxious to see the new assortment of hooks and curves, which the new rubber paddles will make possible.

The new Recreation Hall has met with great favor among the boys as is attested by the number of fellows there at all times.

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Basketball

Camp Mercer won its first basketball game last Friday night from Camp Watersmeet at the Ironbelt Gym. The final score was 27-26. This game was decided in the final minute of play, when Mercer's quintet came from behind to take the lead. The final and winning basket was in the air as the gun went off ending the game. The boys certainly clicked in that last minute.

It is hoped that the winning of this game will serve as an inspiration for the team in its remaining games.

#####

Boxing

Anyone interested in boxing, who would like to get in the District Boxing Tournament to be held at Wakefield in the near future; please sign up at the Adviser's Office.

Found!

An Army winter issue cap in the Reading Room. Owner please call for and identify at once; (as the Adviser and Asst. don't relish the job of delousing the Library and Reading Room??)

#####



Zatt und Gatt



Times have certainly changed. It used to take two sheep two years to produce material for the outfit of a well dressed woman. Now a silk worm can do it on his Sunday afternoon off.

#####

VanEpps--Dad says I ought to be reading something deep now and then.

VanRuth--What are you going to read?

VanEpps--Guess I'll pick up, 'Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea'.

#####

"Beg your pardon, but what is your name, sir?" the hotel clerk asked.

"Name," echoed the indignant guest, (Koszubowski) who had just signed the register. "Don't you see my signature there?"

"I do," answered the clerk. "That is what aroused my curiosity."

#####

Rice--Did you hear what they do with ferry boats when they're late?

Rude--No-what?

Rice--Dock 'em.

#####

Sympathizing Friend--Your wife's must have been a terrible shock to you.

Scotty--It certainly was, especially after I got the gas bill.

#####

Rooster--What you grouching about now, mother?

Old Hen--Why, first our folks went and bought an incubator to take away my job, and now I see they've brought home some egg plant seed. There ought to be a law about it.

#####

"Did I step on your foot?" asked the big, fat man (Daily) as he crowded into a seat at the movies next to a pretty girl.

"It was either you or an elephant," remarked the victim.

#####

Wife--Dear, I've set my heart on a Rolls Royce.

Hubby--Yes, well, that's the only part of your anatomy that'll ever set on one!"

#####

Twining--How soon will I know anything after I come out of the anesthetic?

Doctor--Well, that's expecting a lot from an anesthetic.

#####

It's all right to go on a lark, but be careful they don't make a jail bird out of you.

#####

Pat--What be yer charge fer a funeral notice in yer paper?

Editor--Fifty cents an inch.

Pat--Good heaven! an' my poor brother was 6 feet four inches high.

#####

M. Robinson--Do you like cod fish balls?

W. Robinson--Dunno, never attended one.

#####

Schweigert--Are there any divorces in heaven?

Vaughn--Of course not, you can't get a divorce without a lawyer.

#####

They were walking along the beach in the moonlight, when she asked, "Does the moon affect the tide?"

Larsen--No, jst the untied.

#####

Methuselah ate what he found on his plate,

And never, as people do now, did he note the amount of the caloric count;

He ate because it was chow.

He wasn't disturbed as at dinner he sat,

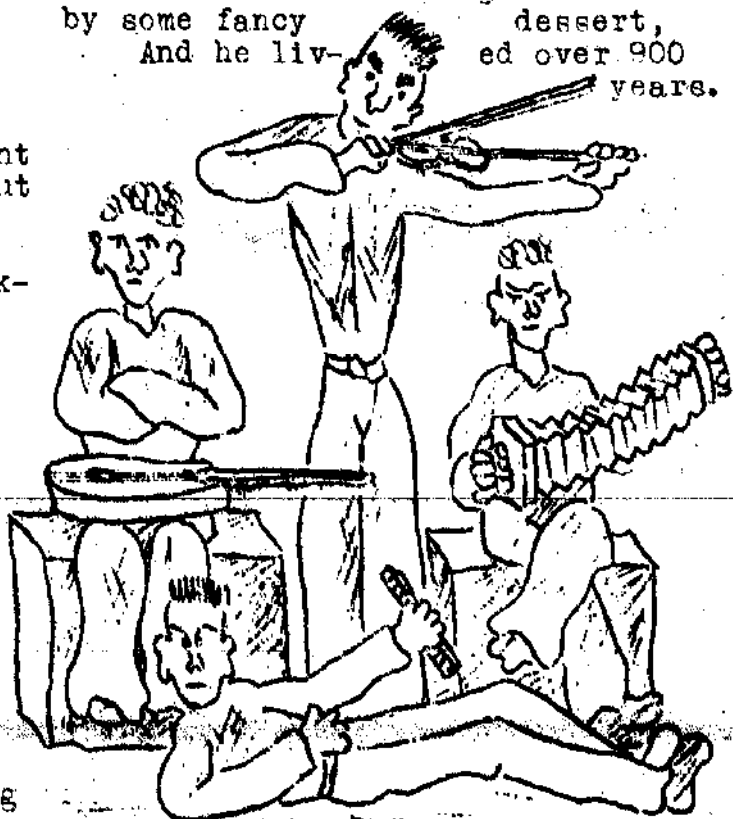
Destroying a roast or a pie, To think it was lacking in lime or in fat,

Or a couple of vitamins shy.

He cheerully chewed every specie of food,

Untroubled by worries or fears, Lest his health might be hurt

by some fancy dessert, And he lived over 900 years.

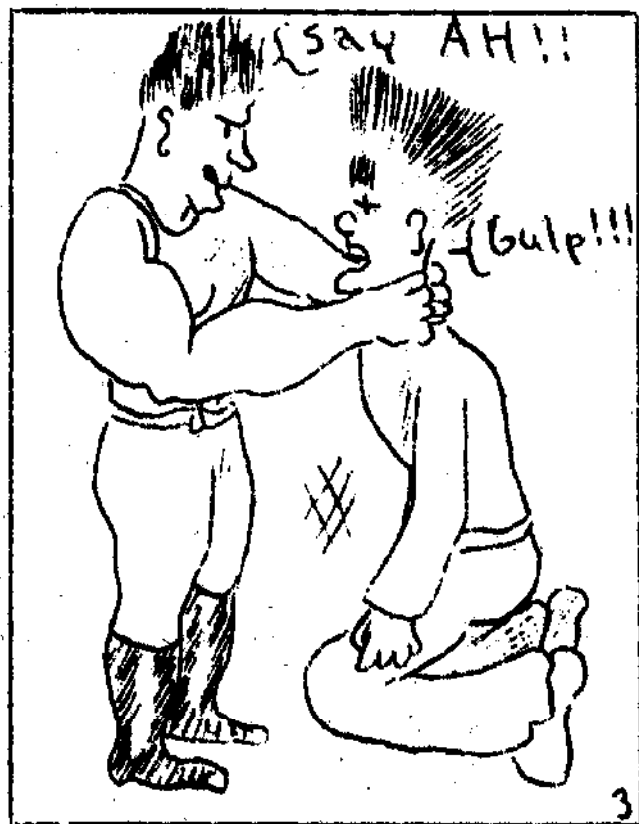
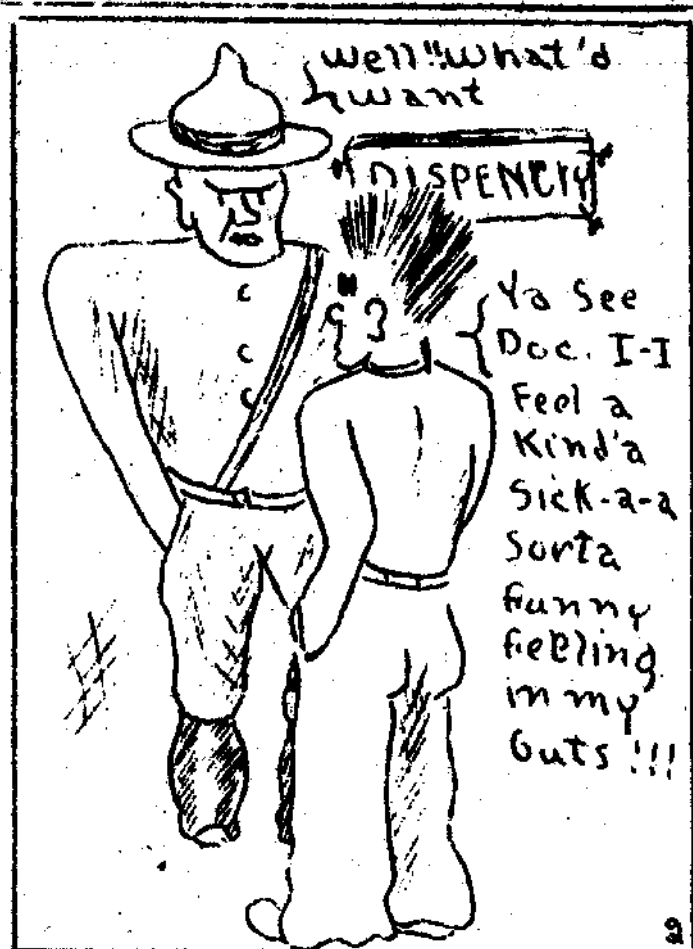
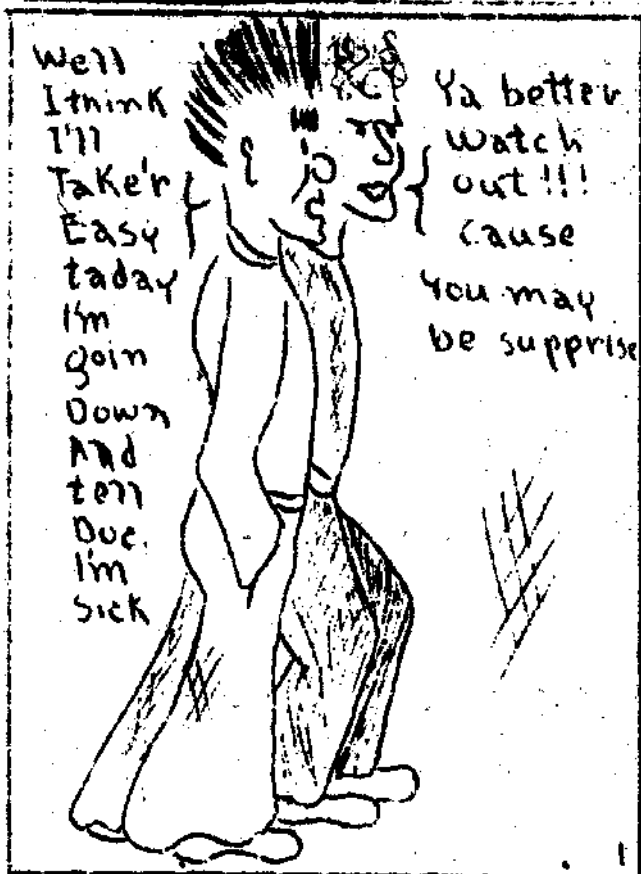


THE 'COOKS' MELODY KINGS
STAND, SIT, and lay for a
PICTURE

SYLVESTER

A REAL DAYS WORK

Gordon Ketter



Dedication To The First-Aid Guys

(by One Who Knows Them)

When you've got the chills,
And go to get some pills,
Don't think those First-Aid guys are becoming
'Cause they will have you a-running.

They will swab your throat,
Until you think you will croak.
They will feed you cough mixture,
Until you think you are a fixture.

And then to top it off, they will
tell you to pass it off
as a joke!

