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June 19, 1935

Co-660

The

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Mercer Monitor

Captain M.H. Henry, F.A.-Res., Commanding Officer



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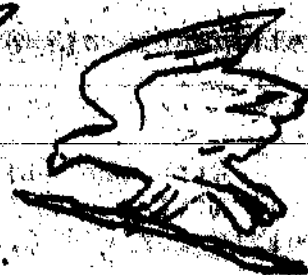
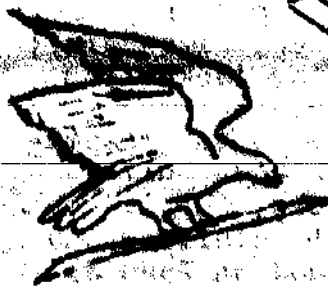
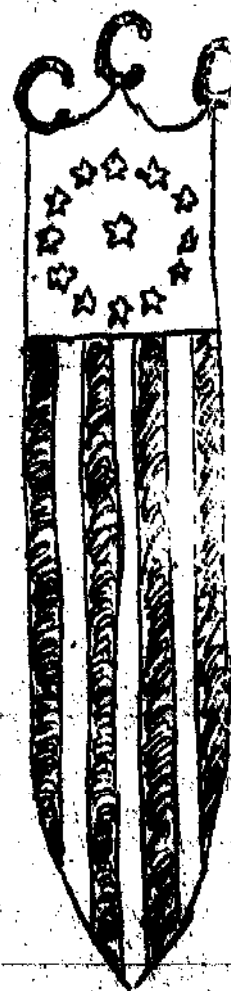
Dedicated

to the

Second
Birthday

of

CAMP
MERCER



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M.H. Henry, F.A.-Res., Comdg.
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Superintendent

Opportunities

Great opportunities for educating themselves are given the boys of the C.C.C. camps. These advantages are numerous for the boy who knows the value of leisure time well-spent. To cite examples:-- Wilfred Hayes and Alvin Erickson have completed their high school courses while at this Camp. Eighteen others are working toward this goal and it is hoped that they will complete these courses. These boys are utilizing their leisure time in a very profitable way, realizing the great importance of a high school education. To everyone a high school education has well-founded values. In order to secure the real significance of these values, it is necessary to bring out some of the characteristics which are endowed to anyone through this wonderful medium of learning.

The first important factor which is gained through a high school education is; It acts as a key to themselves, it opens their minds to clearly visualize their own abilities and it likewise determines what their vocation in life should be by giving them a means to be analytical of their capabilities.

In order to obtain a respectable position in life or profession, a high school education is demanded in practically every station of life. Looking over the papers one will invariably notice the want ads contain this phrase "High school grad preferred", or "High school education desirable". Sooner or later all boys must face this question, "What shall I do?" So now is the time to work toward some goal. Work intelligently directed and persistently pursued, masters the difficulties and secures the desired results.

With the aid of the Educational Advisers and Teachers it is possible for all C.C.C. enrollees

to secure a well-rounded education during their leisure hours.

(E. Pawlicki)

Fire!

We are again in the season of the year, when there is constant danger of forest fires in the slashings and timber about this Camp and elsewhere.

Possibly, there is nothing more disheartening than to be aroused from one's deep slumber at approximately four o'clock in the morning to fight fire. This is especially so after a trip to 'town' on a Saturday night. When the bugler calls one at this time, your only desire is to be left alone for a few--hours anyway. In an emergency such as this; we learn to know what it means to swallow smoke, eat dog-sandwiches, to be covered from head to foot with an enveloping smudge of dust and grime and to work from sun-up until sun-set.

But is these fires were left to be taken care of by us at our leisure, they would in a short time become a fiery hell-demon --- destroying everything in its path. This red destroying monster picks no set time to go about his fiendish rampage of destroying beautiful timber and wild-life of our State and Nation.

In closing might I add, that in later years if you should choose to go through this section of the State and find it verdant, thriving with wild-game, and as beautiful or more so than at present;--you can say with a great deal of pride and justification "I had a hand in the protection of this forest primitive".

Reflections

Two years ago the 660th Co., CCC arrived at Manitowish, Wisconsin to make what is now known as Camp Mercer. Under the able guidance of Lieutenant Ellis, Commanding Officer, and Mr. V.A. Moon, Forestry Superintendent, the men set up tents and made their home in Northern Wisconsin.

Since the tent days, there has been much progress. Buildings have been erected to take the place of the approximately 3000 square yards of canvas. The first of these buildings was a mess-hall made of logs and put together by such men as Dan McDonald, Dan Wier, and Mike Barry; three venerable lumber-jacks from the Paul Bunyan Days.

In the fall of 1933 the remainder of the buildings were built. They were the barracks, supply house dispensary, Officer's quarters and

(Continued on Page 3)

(Odds and Ends)

Major Roberts and 'Bob' Avery formerly of this Camp and at present stationed at Camp Sparta visited Camp Mercer a short time ago.

Donald McGlone of Bear Creek, Wisconsin left Camp Mercer on May 27 to accept employment near his home. 'Cyclone' was a member of this Camp for approximately five months. Loads of luck, Donald.

Six members of old 660 left us on May 31. They were namely:-- Alvin Brei; Shawano, Wisconsin accepted a job in a mill in his home town. Brei was in Camp for about five months. He will be remembered as one sweet little pitcher. Leonard Chevalier of McCallister, Wisconsin accepted employment as a cook in his home town. 'Len' had been a member of Camp Mercer for about 13½ months. His savory cooking will be gone but not forgotten. Gordon Hicks of Rhinelander, Wisconsin accepted a job in his home town also. He was an occupant of the Camp for just a little better than a month; so we will only be able to remember him as another 'rook'.

Lawrence Haulotte of McCallister, Wisconsin took a job as truck driver in his home town. Haulotte was a tenant of 660 for 13½ months. Recollections of Haulotte will always remind of his EARS.

Edward Seeger of Appleton, Wisconsin received employment in his father's garage. Seeger was one of our buddies for five months. Seeger's ping-pong ability should never be forgotten.

Ernest Tanck of Wausau, Wisconsin accepted a job of delivering milk in his home town. Tanck was a member of this Camp for 11 months. Best of luck in your future undertakings, fellows.

Milfred Golisch of Wausau, Wisconsin left Camp June 1 to accept employment. 'Tim' was a member of Camp for 11 months. Success in the future, Tim.

Ralph L'Allier of Webster, Wisconsin left 660 June 8 to accept a job in Superior. Ralph was a member of this Camp for 11 months. May success follow in your wake.

William Wohlfarth of Rhinelander, Wisconsin left June 7. Wohlfarth was in this Camp for just a little better than a month. Best of luck.

Richard Davis of Ladysmith, Wisconsin left June 11 to accept employment. 'Dick' was a member of Mercer for 10 months. Lots of luck, Dick.

Robert Eidsaune of Mosinee, Wis., left June 18 for his home. 'Bob' was a member of this Camp for 11½ months. He will always be remembered as a competent First-Aid Man. Success in the future, Bob.

garage. They were no sooner complete than Old King Winter came along and found he was locked out. Very few here know what it is to wake up in the morning and find about two inches of snow on their blankets, such as we remember of the trials of the tent days.

There are only five of the original Company still at Camp Mercer. They are namely;--'Red' Campbell, Wilson Coxe, Clarence Leuthner, 'Slim' Peterson, 'Frenchy' Wafford, and Edward VanRens. These five can tell you that the barracks were the most welcome sight, that they have ever seen.

In November, 1933 Captain Merritt H. Henry relieved Lt. Ellis as Commanding Officer. Captain Henry, Major Roberts, Lt. F.C. Doering and two hundred able and willing men cleared up the Camp Area, planted trees, built a ball diamond and made Camp Mercer the next best thing to a popular summer resort.

Very few of the inhabitants of 660 can tell you what it meant to have a bath-house to clean up in instead of the good old Manitowish River; a mess-hall to eat in instead of mess kits and eating out in the open; barracks to sleep in instead of tents, which are the coldest things in the world when the mercury gets around zero. But the men took it with a smile being thoughtful that they were doing something, instead of laying around at home with nothing to do.

In December 1934 a new mess-hall was built and the old mess hall was made into a recreation hall and canteen -- making one of the finest in the Fifth Forestry Sub-District.

Two years has been a long time, but Camp Mercer is looking better and better every day. In that time Camp Mercer has become one of the most efficient and self-relying Camps in Northern Wisconsin.

Now with the split up of the Camp coming, we know that Lieutenant Johansen will ably carry on those high ideals that has placed Camp Mercer amongst the best camps in the District.

(Edward VanRens)

'Rookie', our Camp pet deer, has been shipped the past week to be put in a State Park. No doubt everyone in Camp will miss 'rookie', who had become just like a member of this Camp.

Chaplain Richards, District Chaplain, has been conducting services in the Recreation Hall once every week.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS

Expansion of the CCC to a new peak strength of 600,000 men will begin in all sections of the country on June 15, Robert Fechner, Director of Emergency Conservation Work, announced today. The Director stated that a survey had disclosed it would be necessary to enroll a total of 328,570 young men and war veterans to bring the enrolled strength of the CCC camps to the 600,000-man figure. Of the 328,570 new men, a total of 247,000 will represent outright additions to the Corps made necessary through President Roosevelt's CCC expansion program while 81,570 will be replacements for enrollees who have dropped out of the CCC in recent months or who will be discharged prior to July 1, next.

Two hundred and ninety-eight thousand, eight hundred and six of the new enrollees will be juniors and 29,764 will be war veterans. When the Corps is at peak strength, 545,000 of the enrollees will be juniors and 55,000 war veterans.

Selection of the new expansion and replacement quotas is now under way in all sections of the country. The Labor Department, which is responsible for selecting the young men's group, has sent out letters of instruction to all state directors of selection advising them as to the number of men to be selected in each state. The task of the state selecting agencies will be to interview young men who wish to join the CCC, determine whether they are eligible and then direct accepted applicants to report to Army stations for physical examinations. The Veteran's Administration, which selects the veteran's quota, has forwarded instructions, including the new veterans' expansion quota for each state, to all its regional offices. The regulations governing the new enrollment stipulate that all new enrollees must be taken from families on relief rolls.

The number of new men to be selected in each state to bring the CCC up to full strength under the expansion program is as follows:--
Wisconsin - 8,695.

The Camp Library received forty-one brand new books of recent publication from the Supply Base at Sparta, June 3. These books are for the Permanent Library of this Camp. There is a good deal of variety in this group of books so that everyone should be able to find one to suit his own individual taste. The Library also received about a dozen decks of cards.

H A C heard about Camp

Does Haynie ever rate around this Camp on Saturday nights.

We didn't know that there was any rhinoceros about this Camp. Someone claims to have found rhinoceros hair on Strelow's bunk. Since when have you taken up big game hunting, Strelow?

Why is it, that Smokey Joe scrub the floor around his bunk every morning?

What is Block's pet peeve?

Otto--"Oh, yes Mr. Layman I can drive No.-9 truck."

Barrack 4 made use of the old Indian gauntlet in putting Fust through the mill. Just like a bunch of savages?

It seems that Beardsley can't sleep well, when Strelow's alarm clock is running. Is there a few jewels missing, Beardsley?

Hodagging is always brought up whenever Sutton drops around. Why?

Rice reports losing a pair of hi-tops because of the ravenous appetite of our mosquitoes.

Why do they call Laedtke - 'Bright-Eyes'?

Speaking of snake-charmers, we have one in Camp in the person of Torkelson.

Is White living up to his nickname of Jazz-boy?

'Bubbles' is wondering when we have strawberry shortcake again. The five pieces you had last time should last you for awhile yet, Bubbles.

'Bob' Dietrick was quite worried at the time we had the group picture taken of the entire Company. He thought his mustachio wouldn't show up. He seemed to be satisfied with the results after seeing the negatives.

Haynie says Cleopatra was not good looking as compared to some of our modern girls. Where do you find them Haynie?

We are wondering who were Cross' good looking girl friends.

In a recent fire drill it only took C.P. John Marecki 35 seconds to extinguish it.

Several of the 'Rooks' have found that it doesn't pay to go A.W.O.L. while a member of this Camp.

Through the transferring, this Camp will be losing its radio operator, namely 'Seldom' Zellmer.

The morning after the Heavyweight Championship fight:--

Vaughn - What do you think of our new Heavyweight Champ?

Skeezix - Who?

Vaughn - Braddock.

Skeezix - Did he beat that guy over in Barrack 4.

Why does Durbin go home every week-end?

Nonsense

Reber - Bought a saxophone?

Frank - No; I borrowed it from Van-Epps in Barrack 7.

Reber - But you can't play it.

Frank - Neither can he while I've got it.

###

Cornelius - What are you scratching your head for, Estberg?

Estberg - I have some arithmetic bugs in my hair.

Cornelius - What are arithmetic bugs?

Estberg - They are head lice.

Cornelius - What do they have to do with arithmetic?

Estberg - Well, they add to my misery, subtract from my pleasure, divide my attention, and they multiply like everything.

###

Weber - How do bees dispose of their honey?

Hirte - They cell it.

###

Traffic Cop - Let me see your license.

Tourist - Marriage, car, driver's, campfire, fishing, hunting, & etc.? Open the license trunk, John.

###

A furrier was selling a coat to a lady customer. "Yes, ma'am," he said, "I guarantee this to be genuine skunk fur that will wear for years."

"But suppose I get it wet in the rain," asked the lady. "What effect will the water have on it? Won't it spoil?"

"Madam," answered the furrier, "I have only one answer. Did you ever hear of a skunk carrying an umbrella?"

###

Salzman - Your letter won't go. It's overweight.

Ledger - And what is that?

Salzman - It's too heavy, You must put another stamp on it.

Ledger - Sure, it's joking you are. Another stamp would make it heavier than what it is already

###

Erickson - My girl is the picture of health.

Wiley - Yeah, and she painted it herself, too.

###

Davis - Gimme a cigarette.

Dietsche - I'll see you in-hale first.

###

Boucher - I hear you've bought a

radio.

Cambell - Sure thing.

Boucher - How long have you had it?

Cambell - Three payments.

###

Oberg - I'm saving up for a trip abroad this summer.

Piccinelli - How are you getting on?

Oberg - Fine! I've already got enough for the tips, and as soon as I can scare up traveling expenses I'm off.

###

An idle man is always a bizzzy one—he spends all his time hunting for nothing to do.

###

An optimist is a tourist who starts out with poor brakes, no spare, a knock in the motor, and who wires 250 miles ahead for hotel reservations.

###

Abe - Do you play golf vit knickers?

Levi - No, vit vite peoples only.

###

VanRens - And so, we can come to the conclusion that nothing is impossible.

Marschke - Well, I'd like to see you ram this umbrella down your throat and open it.

###

Kurek - Name one of the greatest Generals of history?

Leuthner - General Motors.

###

Cornish - What is the difference between a rich man and me?

Fust - I don't know. What is the difference?

Cornish - A rich man doesn't know where to go and I can't afford a trip.

###



NEVER INSIST ON ROOK'S GETTING UP.

Athletics

B A S E B A L L New League Formed

A baseball league has been formed between the eight camps of the 5th Forestry Sub-district. These camp teams are namely:--Crystal Lake, Mineral Lake, Upson, Star Lake, Phelps, Mercer, Nine Mile and Moose River.

The following are the rules and regulations, which are to govern games scheduled between these teams:

--(1) All games previously scheduled between camps of this sub-district are to be cancelled, and games are to be played on date of schedule. If, for some reason, a game cannot be played on day scheduled, the two companies concerned arrange to play at another date. (2) Teams will be made up of camp personnel only. (3) Each camp furnish an umpire and the two umpires should alternate behind home plate and on the bases. The home umpire makes all decisions on home base and third, and the base umpire makes decisions for first and second base. (4) All games will consist of nine innings with the exception of the games played with the veterans of Camp Phelps, which should be seven inning games. (5) Ground Rules:--Before each game the two captains and officials are to decide upon ground rules. (6) The winner of each game will report the scores of each game to Mr. Edwards, Educational Adviser at Camp Phelps, Co.-V-1680, and a standing of the teams will be sent to each camp weekly.

The following are games in which Mercer will participate:--

- June 23-Mercer at Crystal Lake
- June 30-Mineral Lake at Mercer
- July 7-Mercer at Upson
- July 14-Mercer at Nine Mile
- July 21-Moose River at Mercer
- July 29-Mercer at Phelps
- August 4-Mercer at Star Lake
- August 11-Crystal Lake at Mercer
- August 18-Mercer at Mineral Lake
- August 25-Upson at Mercer
- September 1-Nine Mile at Mercer
- September 8-Mercer at Moose River
- September 15-Phelps at Mercer

KITTENBALL

The Camp Kittenball Tournament has started on the fifth week of its schedule. To-date Barrack Four is leading the League without a reversal, while the Overhead (in spite of the stern competition) is in second place with only one loss.

The following are games played within the past few weeks:--

Barrack(6)	16	Barrack(7)	11
Barrack(7)	15	Barrack(3)	9
Barrack(4)	18	Barrack(2)	13
Overhead	8	" (6)	1
Barrack(7)	8	" (5)	5
" (4)	22	" (3)	15
" (5)	12	" (3)	11
Overhead	5	Barrack(7)	4
Barrack(4)	8	" (6)	1
Overhead	19	" (2)	16
Barrack(2)	31	" (6)	8
" (4)	12	" (5)	11
Overhead	17	" (2)	12
Barrack(3)	9	" (6)	0
" (7)	18	" (?)	7

Present Kittenball Standings:

Team	W	L	Pct.
Barrack 4	5	0	1.000
Overhead	4	1	.800
Barrack 7	3	3	.500
Barrack 5	2	3	.400
Barrack 2	2	4	.333
Barrack 6	2	4	.333
Barrack 3	1	4	.200

Memorial Day was celebrated in Camp Mercer by several ball games, both hard ball and kittenball, two canoe-tilting contests and a 100-yard dash.

Possibly the most entertaining performance of the afternoon was the canoe-tilting contests. The entire Company turned out to see the fellows get ducked. The winners of the two contests were:--Rutell and Friday decisively defeated Rozner and Peterson. 'Roz' seemed to have great difficulty in handling his club. Boardsley and Coxey defeated Durbin and Bratina only after they had put up a hard battle.

The 100-yard dash was won by Cornelius over 'Bud' Friday, after both had won their previous trials over such fast-steppers as Dietrick, Guidici and several others.

Kettles and Skillets

(by 'Bill' Watson)

Two years ago to-day (June 19, 1933) the boys who arrived up here in this wilderness were pioneers in that they had to construct a camp for other CCC's, who were to follow them. These original members of 660 had to eat out of mess-kits, while we in a short time will be eating from china-ware.

Through the untiring efforts of Captain Henry this Camp has become one of the best camps of the State. One of the accomplishments, which Captain Henry desired most when he took over the command of this Camp, was to have an excellent mess-hall. You can all see for yourself that he succeeded to the nth degree.

The new table system has given the mess-hall a more orderly appearance. Having eight men at a table and having them keep their seats until all of their 'buddies' have finished certainly creates better order and a neater appearance of the mess-hall in general.

My new cook, 'Alky' Zimmerman, has proven so far to be a very competent man.

* * * * *

RANGER NEWS

by

(Wm. Summers-Acting Superintendent)

Forestry projects are moving along very smoothly and we hope to complete many of them before the summer days are over.

Art Evenson and his crew has made final completion of two fire lanes. The coming week Art and his crew are going to start building a dam on Circle Lily Creek in competition with the astute beavers, who have their abodes there.

Dick Kalliomaa is once more back on the job after having a vacation of two weeks. Dick says it is more fun working than resting. I wonder what a CCC boy's opinion is on that subject?

The rest of the foremen and their crews are working on roadside clearing and reduction of fire hazards.

Plenty of rain and good work by the tower-men has kept the fires down. We have yet to meet our first fire in our territory, and I hope it will be a long time in coming.

I take this opportunity to wish the boys that are being transferred my best regards, and I sure hope they will continue the good work, that they showed me while in Camp Mercer.

* * * * *

Sigwald Arneberg is home at present on a ten-day leave.

* * * * *

INFIRMARY REPORT

by (Art Ahles)

Robert 'Bob' Eidsaune, one of our First-aid men, has left Camp to accept employment with his father. Best of luck, Bob. His place has been taken by Russel Williams.

With a few more patients with waxy ears, we will be able to wax the floors of the Dispensary.

Will the one, who stole the gallon of epsom salts, please return to the Dispensary, unless they need it worse than the rest of the Company.

Our needles are being sharpened for the new recruits, who will fill in the places of those being transferred to Company 3663.

The health of the Company has been very good the past month.

First-aid lectures will be conducted in the next few weeks.

The fish in the Manitowish have not been biting on account of high water, but there is still some fish in the canteen and educational departments, who have swallowed our bait in ping-pong, pool, and billiards.

#

As for the fish mentioned in your last paragraph, we believe you have forgotten or else wanted to forget, who really is fish when it comes to playing bridge. For that matter you have not showed us up in ping-pong either. Anytime, anywhere we are willing to back up this challenge.

(The Educational Department)

* * * * *

The Split-up

At last the members of this Camp were relieved of the suspense as to who was going to stay at Camp Mercer and who was to be transferred to the new Company of 3663.

On Monday night of this week at Retreat, Captain Henry called off the names of those, who are to form the new Company. Shortly after this the two Companies were separated by placing Company 660 in Barracks 2-3-4, while the members of 3663 were put in Barracks 5-6-7.

Captain Henry is to command the new Company. The Junior Officer of the Company will be Lieutenant Hope, Second Lieutenant-Field Artillery Reserve, who was transferred to this Camp from Sparta May 24 - last.

The officers of old 660 will be namely:--Lt. Johansen will be in command, while Lt. Ermentrout will also remain here.

Howard Friday will be the Company Foreman of the new Camp. Bob Dietrick-Mess Steward, Winfield Spiegel-Supply, and Wilfred Hayes-Camp Clerk will also go along with the new Company.

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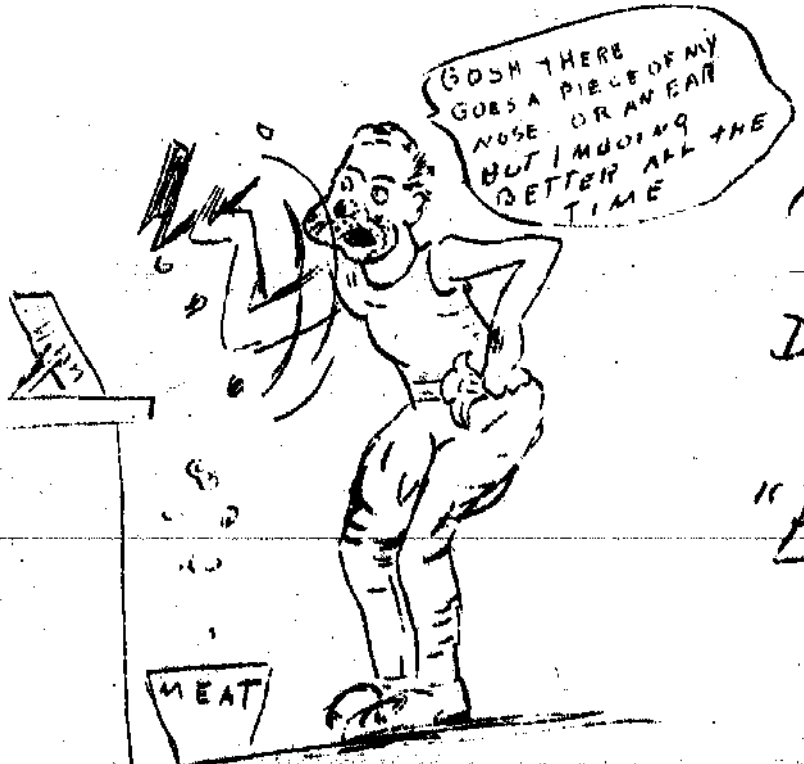
BLOCK GOES HOME.



ONE PIECE UNIFORM WHICH SOLVES THE BUTT PROBLEM



WAITING FOR THE BIG EATER!



"COMPANY DIS-MISSED"

"POLICE UP"

BEST RESULTS ARE OBTAINED BY USING BROAD SLASHING STROKES.