

Our Delayed Texas Letter.

Athletic Event, Monster Military Parade and Big Hike Keep the Men Busy.

By Corp. Harry J. Cohen.
Camp Thomas J. Stewart,
El Paso, Texas, Sept., 23rd.

While writing this letter there is in progress on the drill ground in the rear of our camp a monster military athletic meet, held under the direction of the Pennsylvania Athletic League of America, where contests in running, jumping and all other kinds of field and track events, as well as special events for buglers, musicians, cavalry and artillery, with mounted races for officers and enlisted men. The day is without doubt a gala one, but the same old story over again, the dust spoils it all. It hasn't rained here for some time, and Texas is loose now on the surface to the depth of a foot and any little gust of wind or breeze is enough to stir up sufficient dust to make it impossible to see the man you are talking with.

Society has turned out in full bloom for the occasion, and the sight reminds one of our own State College, with the difference of grass in Pennsylvania and dust in Texas. From all reports the infantry in our State is taking everything in the field, notwithstanding the fact that every State represented here in a military way is taking part, as well as some of the regulars.

The largest prepared military parade since the Civil war was held in El Paso on Thursday. Twenty-six thousand men, fully equipped and ready at the moment to go into a skirmish, passed and was reviewed by General George Bell Jr. The line of march was estimated at fourteen miles, and it took exactly six hours to pass the reviewing stand located at Fort Bliss. After passing the reviewing officers the entire division massed on the drill ground at that place and was later inspected. It was one of the incidents that will surely be recorded in history, and a sight never to be forgotten. It was given in honor of General Bell by his senior, Major General Clement.

Only the First brigade of the Pennsylvania troops, and the artillery took part in the parade. The other ten thousand were excused to see the spectacle. All but the cavalry were allowed to go to the city for the occasion, so naturally the boys in our regiment, being only human, took French leave from drill, and being found out later, when the colonel ordered a forced roll-call at 10 a. m., were sentenced to two weeks within the regimental confines, while all non-commissioned officers were reduced to the ranks. Troop I, of Sunbury, held the record with thirty-eight absences, and our troop came to life with sixteen, while quite a few were also missing from the Governor's troop and the Pittsburgh outfits. But who wouldn't be willing to give up two weeks in order to be able to say that they had seen that parade.

Last Sunday we took a pleasure hike to Tobin, and visited the ranch of J. M. Nation, considered to be the largest in the State of Texas. While there Lieut. Taylor explained and showed us the system of branding and clipping on a monster ranch, which surely is very interesting.

Three new recruits joined us this week, having arrived from Fort Dupont, Del., where they were mustered into the service. Their desire to belong to the cavalry branch of Pennsylvania brought them to Troop L. They are Harry Lee, of Johnstown; Sam Smith, of Curwensville, and Fred Johnstonbaugh, of Martha Furnace.

Pay day being last Monday we are all a little flushed, with the emphasis on the little, but it sure was a relief for those who needed the coin, as pay day doesn't come very often down here.

John Morrison left on Wednesday evening for home and no doubt by the time this reaches you, his smiling face will have already radiated the stories of life down on the border, thereby saving us a job when it is our good fortune to return to Bellefonte.

The big event for us will start next Monday morning, when we take part in the divisions four days hike. Already all is bustle getting in shape. We have been drilling yesterday and today, with a full pack saddle, exactly as it will be when we start on the hike. The boys all think that after this is over, the next move will be toward the train, and there isn't a man in the outfit that will regret such a calamity.

Will now close with the assurance that the health of the boys continues good.

Got the Summer Anyway.

"Going away for the summer?" "It doesn't seem necessary. The summer seems to have come to us."—Detroit Free Press.

Field Day at Snow Shoe.

A field day and fertilizer demonstration will be held on Thursday, October 12th, on the fertilizer demonstration plots which have been conducted by The Pennsylvania State College one mile west of Snow Shoe, Centre county, on the Clearfield and Phillipsburg highway.

More than ordinary interest attaches to this experiment which is an attempt on the part of the college to ascertain the possibilities of reclaiming cut-over timber and abandoned farm land which is found to such a large extent in a number of counties in the State.

Three experiments have been conducted during the past year at the point mentioned by Professor J. W. White, of the Department of Experimental Agronomy at State College. One is a pasture demonstration, another covers the economical application of phosphoric acid and a third is a crop rotation experiment. All of these tests have had for their purpose the discovery of the most economical method of reclaiming the large acreage of DeKalb soil, which represents over 12,000,000 acres of land or 43.5 per cent. of the soils in Pennsylvania. Thirty-three fertilizer plots one-tenth of an acre in area have been used in this test. Up to date most encouraging results have been obtained and it is with the idea of acquainting the farmers in the vicinity of the experiment with the results which have been obtained that the field day has been planned by the college.

The program will begin at eleven o'clock in the morning. Addresses will be given by prominent men from State College, including Dr. Edwin E. Sparks, president of The Pennsylvania State College; Dr. R. L. Watts, Dean of the School of Agriculture; Professor F. D. Gardner, head of the Department of Agronomy; Professor W. H. Tomhave, head of the Department of Animal Husbandry; Professor J. W. White, of the Department of Experimental Agronomy.

The public is invited to attend and see and hear what State College is attempting to do through these soil and fertilizer experiments.

Speed of Dogs.

The wolf can run between fifty and sixty miles in one night, and an arctic fox can do quite as well, if not better. Eskimo and Siberian dogs can travel fifty-five miles on the ice in five hours, and there is a case on record in which a team of Eskimo dogs traveled six and a half miles in twenty-eight minutes. According to M. Du-solier, the speed of the shepherd dogs, and those used on the hunting ranges, is from ten to fifteen yards a second. English setters and pointers hunt at the rate of eighteen to nineteen miles an hour, and they can maintain this speed for at least two hours. Foxhounds are extraordinarily swift, as is proved by the fact that a dog of this breed once beat a thoroughbred horse, covering four miles in six and a half minutes, which was at the rate of nearly eighteen yards a second. Grayhounds are the swiftest of all four-footed creatures, and their speed may be regarded as equal to that of carrier pigeons. English grayhounds, which are used for coursing, are able to cover at full gallop, a space between eighteen and twenty-three yards every second.—Our Dumb Animals.

Squash Borer Makes Trouble for Growers.

It is not an easy thing to make the squash borer suffer for his sins. He does not live on the leaves of a plant where he can be fed poisonous solutions, but finds refuge right in the center of the stalk.

Entering a stalk near a leaf joint, the squash borer proceeds to eat a channel or tunnel lengthwise through the fleshy, juicy tissues. Considering the length of some squash stalks, it is plain that the bug can travel a long distance without danger of running out of food supply.

The favorite method of combating this insect that has wings and flies around during the laytime like a wasp, is to split open the stalk, remove and destroy the offender and then trust to nature to heal the wound. It is useless to employ netting, since the squash borer generally attacks the plant after the vines are too large to be covered.

Bullet-Proof Masks Worn by German Fighters.

From a source which is usually dependable it has been learned that the Germans are equipping their infantrymen with steel masks to shield the soldier's faces from bullets. This signifies that once more during the present great conflict it has been found advisable to revive medieval war equipment. That the Germans are doing this is not to be wondered at, for both French and British trench fighters have been similarly outfitted for some time. The mask which is supposed to have been adopted for the Kaiser's forces covers a man's face and forehead completely, the only openings in it being two small peep-holes for the eyes. At the bottom it curves outward to facilitate breathing. Leather straps, which pass about the neck and head, hold the device in position.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

A Pair of Late Stayers.

"Maud's husband and Kate's are fast friends, aren't they?" "Maud and Katie think they are. They both get home about 2 in the morning."—Boston Transcript.

Washing Dishes.

Common tasks are important, because they are common. For example, washing dishes. Everybody may not wash dishes, but they eat from dishes that someone has washed.

To properly cleanse dishes and eating utensils, they should be washed and rinsed in boiling water. Washing in lukewarm water, even with soap, is not sufficient.

There are numerous communicable diseases caused by germs which are present in the mouths of those who are afflicted. People in the various stages of tuberculosis, diphtheria, syphilis, etc., may transfer disease

germs from their mouths to eating utensils. Unless these are sterilized by boiling water, they are a source of danger to whoever may use them subsequently.

Forks in particular, because of their construction, are difficult to cleanse thoroughly and should be washed with care.

In public eating houses, exceptional attention should be given to the sterilization of eating utensils and drinking glasses. Care in the choice and preparation of food is easily offset by careless handling of the service.

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