

CAMP IS NOT READY FOR STATE TROOPS

Southern Training Grounds for Pennsylvania Guard Totally Unprepared

SITE NOW WINTER RESORT

By J. HAMPTON MOORE

AUGUSTA, Ga., July 25.

About 500 feet above sea level, 220 miles from the ocean following the course of the Savannah River, and overlooking the pretty city of Augusta, which is less than 150 miles above the sea, is the site of Camp Hancock, the new home of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, now numbered into the service of Uncle Sam for the purpose of the European war.

In fact it is the same site that President McKinley visited December 19, 1898, when troops of the National Guard were stationed there. The Spanish-American War camp was known as Camp McKinley, and covered about 500 acres, while the new European war Camp Hancock will cover more than 2000 acres.

The Government does not buy a foot of this property—it simply leases it for the modest sum of \$1 for a period of two years from a group of citizens who have subscribed a fund to buy up the crops and property rights of the owners.

At the present time cotton, corn and other vegetables are ripening in separate tracts of ground to be covered by the encampment, but they have been taken over and will not stand in the way of the contractors, who are to erect mess halls, hospital buildings and the like. There is also scrub timber on the ground, much of which has been cut away and much more of which will have to be cleared before the Pennsylvania boys set up their tents.

The only visible evidence of preparation for the encampment at this time is the introduction of a 16-inch water main from the city water works which borders the camp, to serve such streets or sections of the camp ground as the army officers may determine.

Augusta folk pump their water from the Savannah River and consequently the water they get from their pumping station is so conveniently located. They also point with some pride to the fact that this same water is served to the handsome houses of the well-to-do residents of Georgia and many wealthy northern families who make those attractive hills of Georgia their winter abode. It is the same water which goes to the Country Club and the big hotels which are frequented when the snow is flying in the North, by such northern and eastern notables as Henry C. Frick and former President Taft. President Taft's cottage and that of Robert T. Lincoln are pointed out to visitors to the camp site.

Mr. Taft's interest in Augusta is well known. His aid, the popular Major "Archie" Butt, who went down on the Titanic, was an Augusta boy, and to his memory the people of the city have erected a beautiful stone bridge. They have also marked with a stone memorial the place on the present camp ground at which President McKinley disembarked from the train to inspect Camp McKenney in 1898.

The Pennsylvania boys will thus have substantial reminders of northern interest in Augusta. If they are students of Civil War history, they will also find much to interest them in and about this famous southern city, whose Federal arsenal was taken over by the Confederates at the outbreak of hostilities, and many of whose citizens attained distinction during the war. They will pick up much of the history of Sherman's march to the sea, and of the reconstruction period, since Hamburg, the scene of the negro riots, is over in South Carolina, just across the Savannah River. It is only a few miles out of Augusta and along the levels and hills bordering the Savannah that the story of "The Clansman" and the scenes of "The Birth of a Nation" were laid.

But when are the Pennsylvania boys coming to Augusta? That's the question. When the orders came to mobilize it looked as though Mount Gretna would hold the troops for a few days only. Then there was a good deal of talk about going south in hot weather. The people of Augusta do not deny that the summer months are warm, but not more so, they think, than a city like Washington. They do not have the tropical heat, and they do assert that the hills where the soldiers are to live, are cool at night and free from mosquitoes. But, hot or cool, any concern about climatic conditions is unnecessary at the present time.

Camp Hancock is not ready for its guests and cannot be for some time to come. The army has its own way of doing things, and soldier officers who have a good big treasury behind them are not half so rapid as they would be if a good strong money were in sight.

The army is preparing to keep Camp Hancock in working order for two years. That seems evident. A few officers have put in an appearance here, and there is a dispute about contracts. No one seems to know exactly how much money is to be spent by the Government on this 2000 acre leased for one dollar, but it is approximated at a million.

It is to be a tent camp rather than what is known as a cantonment, but many wooden structures are to be erected nevertheless. A body of 17,000 men will make a good-sized city and a city's accommodations will have to be provided. But at present there is no water-supply pipe on the ground and no other structure material except a few wagon-loads of lumber.

The army was tendered the use of a commodious new stone and brick building for hospital purposes capable of receiving 600 sick men, but the offer was declined upon the ground that plans had been prepared for a one-floor wooden structure that would cost probably \$100,000. The preferred building, which is at the edge of the camp site, was erected with great care for the Sisters of St. Joseph. It is a landmark resting in the hills in full view of Augusta, about miles away, and will now probably be turned into a hotel to accommodate the wives of officers and other visitors who will come to camp from distant points.

To an observer the rejection of such a substantial building by the Government would pay rent and which it could abandon at any time, for a frame structure, which the Government would probably be glad to give away at the close of the camp, though it cost as much as \$100,000, does not look like good business. It spells delay in making ready for troops supposed to be needed immediately "somewhere in France."

But the army has tremendous plans and Congress had voted it vast sums of money, and when it begins to move on Camp Hancock it may move more rapidly than present conditions at Augusta seem to indicate that it will.

Whether the local trouble over contracts will halt the construction work is not clear. Augusta desired the contract work for its own contractors and workmen. The Builders' Exchange co-operated with leading citizens and offered to unite upon one contract to do the work. Another contractor, with the aid of the Mayor, seems to have won the Exchange. All parties, however, seem agreed to push the work to hasten the coming of the troops. They do not know whether this will be two weeks or two months hence. It depends upon orders from Washington.

Of this, however, the Pennsylvania troops may be assured: If the camp is not ready for two months, the boys who came here to occupy it will find themselves accompanied by a host of visitors, who are seeking the same environment for health and recreation. By that time the climate and surroundings should be delightful.

Made Field Head of N. Y. Red Cross

YORK, Pa., July 25.—Eunil G. Steger, general secretary of the Associated Charities of York for the last three years, has been named to become field secretary of the National Red Cross Society for the State of Pennsylvania.



—Photo by Photo-Crafters. MAJOR F. W. SMITH

Major Smith, who when in civil life is one of the best-known postal inspectors of the country and is attached to the Philadelphia inspectors' office, will today report to Washington for active service pursuant to a summons after training in the Officers' Reserve Corps. It is probable that he will soon be sent to France to take charge of the distribution of all the mail of the American troops in the war zone.

Point Breeze Oil Works Still Ablaze

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saved the entire plant. Employees of the company also did noble work. The fire was the most spectacular Philadelphia has seen in years.

The plant of the U. G. I. at Point Breeze was threatened with destruction. A change of wind after the fire had raged for half an hour is the only thing that saved it, firemen said.

As it was, flames came very close to the huge gas tanks, which stand south of the refinery company's plant. In discrediting rumors of a plot, officials said that Point Breeze fires were of most common occurrence. Residents in the neighborhood also said that there have been many small fires at the plant ever since it has been there.

The fact that today's fire surpassed others in recent years, it was said, was no evidence that enemies of the nation had been at work in an attempt to burn or blow up the plant.

Virtually all Philadelphia, Camden and Delaware were aroused by the terrific report which gave the first intimation that the plant was ablaze.

EXPLOSION IN BIG STILL

The explosion occurred in one of the sixteen large stills, which stand nearly 100 feet high and are approximately fifty feet in diameter.

This still, although made of steel, was shattered as though made of glass. The terrific force of the detonation shattered ten other large stills standing nearby and rolled them over like so many nine-pins.

Thousands of gallons of petroleum caught fire instantly. The flames were probably 1000 feet in the time the first alarm was turned in. Four others followed in rapid succession.

Fire engines, ambulances, police patrols and other apparatus clanging together with the mountain of flame that was visible for miles, led many to believe that the navy yard had fallen prey to flames.

No sooner had the oil started to burn than the flames jumped across a space of more than seventy-five yards and attacked three large oil tanks almost simultaneously. These went up in rapid succession. They were 100 feet high and are more than twenty-five feet in diameter.

The boiler house was attacked next. Before the fire had been in progress half an hour the flames were sweeping across Passyunk avenue, more than 200 yards away.

Police were called from all sections of the city. Under Captain McCoch and Lieutenants Frank Boners, Noon, Barry and Daly, nearly 200 bluecoats stretched a dead line from Passyunk avenue and Twenty-eighth street to the Schuykill and would all low virtually no one to pass. Superintendent Robinson was there early.

Thousands of Philadelphians were attracted to the scene. Many stayed throughout the night.

GAS TANKS THREATENED

The crowd scattered on many occasions, when it was rumored that the U. G. I. gas tanks were about to explode. The flames crept dangerously near the monster gas tanks, but firemen and a favorable wind saved them from destruction.

German Arrested at Trenton

TRENTON, July 25.—Magnus Wehrkamm, a German, thirty-seven years old, of Spring Lake, was sent to jail here by Deputy United States Marshal Voll. He was found loitering near the United States radio station at Belmar and had no permit authorizing him to be within the zones barred to alien enemies.

Farmer Injured in Runaway

LANCASTER, Pa., July 25.—The team of Harry M. Arment, a farmer, near Millersville, became frightened while he was operating a binder in his wheat field and ran away. He was caught by the machine and one leg was severed from the body, his shoulder broken and spine injured. His recovery is doubtful.

Recruiting Farm Hands for Gloucester

The Bourse farm station today started recruiting farm hands for Gloucester County, N. J. An effort will be made to get forty-five youths about sixteen years of age as well as a number of men. The boys will be paid \$1.50 a day and the men from \$2.40 to \$2.50. The boys and men will live in a community camp at Glassboro.

The Hahnemann

to appeal to friends of the institution where for financial assistance to the \$50,000 base hospital fund. It is the hope of the Hahnemann to provide the most complete units which has yet offered to the Government, owing to the fact that the first offer of the college furnish a unit was refused.

Big Shipyard Assured as Row Is Settled

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satisfy Mr. Denman about all the details of the two plants, and the struggle became so bitter and personal that General Goethals sent his resignation to the President.

One friend of General Goethals, who is familiar with all phases of the wrangle, said that General Goethals had been sacrificed to personal politics. Mr. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, who is a close friend and supporter of Mr. Denman, whom he selected in place of Bernard H. Baker. It is asserted, influenced the President to bring about the resignation of both disputants.

The contracts as drawn up, awaiting action by the Shipping Board, provide that Hog Island will be leased for ninety-nine years, and the Government is either to buy the plant outright or make proper provisions with the New York Shipbuilding Company for its erection. It is agreed by the concern that it shall receive 5 per cent profit on the cost of materials and labor for supervising the assembling of these fabricated steel ships and that the steel shall not cost more than \$150 a ton.

REGRET IN WASHINGTON OVER EXIT OF GOETHALS

WASHINGTON, July 25.

Regret is expressed by friends of General Goethals that the President could not settle the dispute without accepting the resignation of the builder of the Panama Canal, who by his tireless energy had completed elaborate plans for the Government merchant ship program.

That the differences between the head of the Emergency Fleet Corporation and Mr. Denman, chairman of the Shipping Board, were irreconcilable was apparent to close observers, and the President, apparently believing that both were at fault to some degree, took the course which would effectively end the dispute and allow for the carrying out of the plans by new men.

Mr. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, who is a close friend and supporter of Mr. Denman, whom he selected in place of Bernard H. Baker, it is asserted, influenced the President to bring about the resignation of both disputants. One friend of General Goethals, who is familiar with all phases of the wrangle, said that General Goethals had been sacrificed to personal politics.

A member of the board said that the irreconcilable point of dispute was over the cost of the plant to be built near Philadelphia and what the Government should do with it after the war. Mr. Denman, who opposed the Government expending any money, also wanted to know at what figure the steel would be sold throughout the entire period of construction.

General Goethals was unable to satisfy Mr. Denman about all the details of the two plants, and the struggle became so bitter and personal that General Goethals sent his resignation to the President, which was accepted. His plans, a member said, would be carried out in every detail as to the fabrication plants and the steel ships, as the new head of the Emergency Fleet Corporation is favorable to such ships, and it is known that the board as it will be constituted will strongly support such a course.

Within the next ten days, as soon as the Senate confirms the next Shipping Board, the contract will be made for the erection by the New York Shipbuilding Company of a plant on Hog Island, below the Philadelphia Navy Yard. The island will be leased for ninety-nine years, and the Government is either to buy the plant outright or make proper provisions with the New York Shipbuilding concern for its erection. It is agreed by this concern that it shall receive 5 per cent profit on the cost of materials and labor for supervising the assembling of these fabricated steel ships and that the steel shall not cost more than \$150 a ton.

The Girard Cigar advertisement with logo and text: 'The Girard Cigar Never gets off your nerves. The Cigar that doctors recommend. Shade-grown. Real Havana. 10c and up.'

Large advertisement for Clicquot Club GINGER ALE featuring a bottle and a child's face. Text includes 'Clicquot Club GINGER ALE', 'Pronounced Klee-ko', and 'The Clicquot Club Co., Millis, Mass., U. S. A.'

Large advertisement for Liberty Six cars. Text includes 'What do you know about the Liberty?', 'Become the Owner of a LIBERTY SIX', and 'L. S. BOWERS CO. 338 N. Broad St. 245 N. Broad St.'