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GENERAL KENNEDY MAKES YOU FEEL AT HOME AT CAMP DIX

All Uneasiness Disappears When You Meet the Mayor of Busy Army Town



GENERAL KENNEDY

TO EXPERIENCE—just how small and lonely one human being can feel, take a trip down to Camp Dix at Wrightstown, N. J., and get lost in that maze of wooden shacks which is destined to house some forty-odd thousand citizen-soldiers from New York, Northern Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

In case your mission is to interview the camp commander you have first to go to the adjutant to arrange the meeting with the man who is to be the mayor of this wooden city and "laddy" to the future soldiers who will live there. He is Major General Chase W. Kennedy.

By the time you finally reach the headquarters you are feeling all in. You are hot, tired and very much bewildered by the frenzied rush and bustle which you have passed through. The adjutant's office, being the nerve center of the whole camp, is all bustle and bustle. After you have waited in his office for a long time developing a bit of funk over the prospect of meeting a major general, you feel horribly unnecessary and would give anything to be back home.

But it is the pleasant-faced man in khaki who sits at the flat, pine desk that makes you feel entirely at ease. His greeting is so quick, so friendly, so warm, that you explain your business you find that you are doing so in a natural way and not according to the form you had memorized.

Stout with a stoutness of a man well past fifty, with his white hair and his mustache suggest the type of "successful American big business man. But few men of his age in civil life radiate the atmosphere of a "vigor" of this kind. His ruddy complexion, powerful build and quick movements all stamp him as a man of the outdoors.

Not only has General Kennedy the soldier's temperament, but he brings to this big duty a varied military career enjoyed by few men in our service. Comparatively unknown to the general public before his promotion to the rank of major general, recently, his promotion comes as the reward of a lifetime of consistent service as a soldier in the field, a student of higher military subjects and as an organizer and an executive in the administrative branches of the army and on the general staff.

His career lacks the spectacular elements of careers of General Wood and General Pershing, but it is typical of the army career and the process by which the regular army trains its men in the grueling service in out-of-the-way places of Uncle Sam's domain where trouble breeds heroes. As a young lieutenant out of West Point he received his baptism of fire in the strenuous campaigns against the Indians in the Northwest during the sixties. He was with Shafter in the campaign which took San Diego in 1893 as a captain of a company, and later was in the army of occupation of Cuba and took part in the taking and reorganizing of the city of Havana. From Cuba he went to the Philippines for three years' service at a time when it was the steady job of the army to quell insurrections and then civilize the insurgents. Later as a Lieutenant Colonel he served two years in Alaska, where the task was to maintain law and order.

JERSEY ARTILLERY OFF TO SOUTH

First Regiment, With Signal Corps and Hospital Unit, Leaves Camp Edge

CAMDENITES IN RANKS

CAMP EDGE, Sea Girt, N. J., Sept. 24. New Jersey's First Regiment of Field Artillery, which contains a large enlistment from Camden and other south Jersey points, at last got started today on what will be the biggest adventure of their lives. With them went the staff, signal corps and hospital units. They are due in Camp McClellan, Annapolis, Md., some Wednesday, and thereafter have a new port for France, and therefore have been seen the last of their native State, and in most cases also of their families, until after the war.

Perhaps it was this fact that made the playing by the regimental bands of "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," as the troops left today so solemnly. Much the same spirit was noticed yesterday in the final review of the departing regiment and the Third Infantry, which remains here at Camp Edge, Christian Soldiers." Colonel H. M. Reading, provisional commander, said after the review that he had thought "Brighten the Corner Where You Are," as he thought at such a time the two sentiments should go hand in hand.

The first to get away today was the New Jersey signal corps in command of Captain Heidt. It was said on good authority that soon after they reach their destination they would have to march through the streets of the District of Columbia, will be assigned with them to create a battalion and that Captain Heidt will be promoted to its command with the rank of major.

The field hospital, its ambulances and supplies, filled an entire train that got off about three hours after the signal corps, four Pullman sleepers, flat cars with cannon, horse carts and ordinary freight cars that held the surplus kits and the quartermaster's supplies. They looked mighty businesslike as they took their way out of the station with khaki-clad figures cheering from every aperture.

Battery B in command of Captain Dittus, of Camden, on account of seniority of its commanding officer, was the first of the Field Artillery to leave. The supply company and the headquarters company of the regiment went with it. The fourth section of the regiment contained Batteries A and D and the fifth section C and E. Battery E, which completes the regiment, is already in Annapolis, having gone down some three weeks ago.

COLD BREEZES SET CAMP DIX A-SHIVER

Overcoatless Rookies Set Chattering Teeth as Reveille Sounds

GETTING INTO KHAKI

CAMP DIX, WRIGHTSTOWN, N. J., Sept. 24. Gray skies and marrow-chilling winds greeted the 10,000 "rookies" this morning and vanished the pleasant memories of a Sunday which brought thousands of visitors to see the new national. The bugler who bugled "reveille" omitted the screech of adding the "overcoat" call, which would have ordered the men to fall out clad in overcoats. But no overcoats have been issued yet. So it was a shivering outfit that lined up for rollcall.

The Quartermaster's Department, as a result of burning the wires in the last few weeks, has received a large supply of overcoats, which will be issued with the rest of the clothing issue this week. The rookies who arrived last week have been measured and properly sized for their clothing, and the gradual transit from "civvies" to khaki is taking place all the time.

The 511th Infantry, composed of men from Southern New Jersey, and the 512th Infantry, made up of men from Northern Jersey counties, are fully enrolled to war strength and have the distinction of being the first full regiments of the new National Army.

There will be a number of changes made, however, in the personnel of these regiments by the personnel board. Regular army officers are so enthusiastic about the specialized talent and ability that they are finding among their own or other outfits that they have besieged the personnel office with requests for these specialties.

The staff is co-operating with the general staff in Washington. Officers who have been abroad and who have made specialized studies of various training of modern warfare are expected to arrive in the near future. These men will confer with General Kennedy's staff and will have charge of the training of the men in their specialties. Among these officers will be a number of Allied officers. It was announced today that the first rifles that the men will drill with will be old Krag, of Spanish War fame. These guns will be used until the English-made rifles arrive. The Krag rifles are being made in huge quantities in American factories and will be reformed, so as to use the American service cartridge.

Discipline in this matter will be very rigid, and once the men really get into the game, these men who desert will find themselves in the worst mess he has ever had. If necessary, to enforce discipline, a court-martial would not hesitate to impose its maximum penalty on a deserter.

material, food and equipment to build and populate a city of 45,000 men requires the most unusual organizing and executive abilities. General Kennedy brings to this task a very special training, for he has spent a number of years in the purely executive branches of the service. He is a graduate of the War College, a postgraduate school maintained for the intensive instruction in the higher military sciences and arms of service only as a reward for conspicuous services of many years. Then, too, he has served on the General Staff, which is one of the most responsible positions in the army. For the General Staff is the controlling mind of the army and is charged with the function of marshaling the military and natural resources of the country to meet the emergency of war.

This, in brief, is a summary of life that has been full of adventure, romance and hard work. From now on he will be one of the big figures in our war program and the next chapters of his life will read in the fortunes of war.

LETTER FROM A SELECTED MAN AT CAMP MEADE TO HIS MOTHER

CAMP MEADE, Annapolis, Md., Sept. 24. Dear Mother—It may be difficult for me to prove to your satisfaction that I enjoyed my first Sunday in "Little Penn," but after reading my account concerning the day's happenings you will at least agree that a military camp is not a place to find an indigo blue atmosphere on the Sabbath.

To be sure, it was quiet, but that is to be expected in any place where the ordinary conventions of society are recognized. To begin with we had a perfect day, one of those balmy autumn days that make Dittus land a delight, and besides that we had virtually nothing to do, for military drills were suspended.

Being free, or to be more exact, given ample time for pleasure, for we could not leave the reservation, the boys were somewhat apprehensive during the early hours as to the way in which the day could be spent.

But we were not long in determining that Sunday, after all, is a short and profitable day in camp. Uncle Sam has provided for that, and the National Army recruit trainees who had a perfect day, one of those balmy autumn days that make Dittus land a delight, and besides that we had virtually nothing to do, for military drills were suspended.

I learned that much today and was so impressed that I am sending you an abstract of a sermon delivered in the Y. M. C. A. building by the Rev. Francis A. Kelley, chaplain of the New York Regiment, and director of Catholic activities. Father Kelley conducted three masses for his own boys and then conducted a nondenominational service in the Y. M. C. A. barracks.

I shall quote from his sermon, which was based upon Kipling's poem, "Mother of Mine," and let you decide whether it is necessary for mothers to worry about their soldier sons.

"The Boy—What He Owes to His Mother" was the theme of Father Kelley. He spent but few words in reaching the pithy part of his sermon for in a ringing voice he said: "What does the boy owe to his mother? He owes first his life; secondly, his care, and to a great extent his formation; thirdly, his education; fourthly, his guidance and assistance."

According to Regulations. The War Department prefers that each man bring only necessary toilet articles done up in a neat, small bundle. -New York Evening Sun, Aug. 21, 1917.

COLGATE'S COMFORT KIT for every soldier. Containing articles called for on the Government "Red Cards" which summarize the National Army-necessary personal comforts permitted in camp. Packed—soldier-like—to take up the least room—in a waterproof O. D. Khaki case—quickly obtainable today at a store nearby—at a thrifty price. If your dealer is out of the Kits—he is sure to have the separate articles and they are easy to mail—you can send the Kit later. Colgate's Comfort Kit—purchased by Government Camps. COLGATE & CO., NEW YORK. A business house which has seen every war of the United States since the Revolution.