

DEVELOPING GREAT BIG APPETITES COLD WEATHER AND FREQUENT DRILLS RESPONSIBLE.

Three Members of Company A Took French Leave and Are Supposed to Be at Their Homes In This City. Lieutenant Cox Is So Far Recovered from His Attack of Typhoid Fever as to Be Able to Leave His Bed—New Order Is Heard on Men Who Have to Do Guard Duty.

Special to the Scranton Tribune.

Camp Meade, Middletown, Pa., Oct. 18.—About the only thing of importance which has developed in the camp of the Thirtieth within the past twenty-four hours is an enormous appetite which threatens to eat and swallow up everything within a range of several miles. This is entirely due to natural causes which it is not hard to understand. The weather is getting colder; the constant, uniform drills in the open air, and the regularity of the hours for exercising, sleeping and waking are such that the boys are almost ravenous. It seems to them that they are now getting legs to sit in the cold mud that they did in sweltering Virginia—a rule which would be absurd and a reversal of nature's laws and requirements—but, perhaps, this discrepancy is due, in a great measure, to the present generous proportions of the men's appetites. Still, it would not hurt anybody particularly if all the issues, and more especially that of meat, were increased somewhat.

Preparatory to making a good showing in Philadelphia as well as for the purpose of promoting still further the general efficiency of the several commands of the First division, Major General Young has had an order issued to brigade commanders to the effect that they shall have daily instructions given to their regimental bands, and that continuous practice be had till every band can play at the uniform rate of 120 steps to the minute, which is the cadence required for regulation "quick time" marching.

ROUTINE OF DRILLS. The usual routine of drills, prescribed a short time ago, is being carried out every day right to the letter. After guard mount in the morning the companies file out on the drill grounds, where they spend one hour and a half at steady work. The setting up exercises are the first, and after all are limbered up considerably, school of the company drills follow, and sometimes the morning's proceedings end with a run of a quarter of a mile. What are familiarly known as skirmish drills have been resumed once more, and is quite a favorite with the boys. The battalion drill in the afternoon begins at 3 o'clock and continues till 4.30. Yesterday afternoon, for the first time in a week, Major Stowell was on the field and took charge of the First battalion.

Three members of Company A got it into their heads Sunday afternoon to take "French leave" or a "Hodge furlough" as it is generally known here. A scouting party, consisting of Sergeant Morris, Corporal Tolmie and Privates Parry and Kellerman, was sent after them and expected to be able to head them off at Harrisburg. The runaways, however, eluded their would-be captors by going in the opposite direction. They took a train from Clifton to Hummelstown, and thence, it is

supposed, to their homes in Scranton. Word has just been received from Quartermaster H. B. Cox; Lieutenant Johnson, of A, and Lieutenant Harrington, of G, who are still in the Harrisburg city hospital. Lieutenant Cox is much improved, and for the past few days has been able to get up and dress himself, and even to walk around a little without any assistance. Lieutenant Harrington is not quite so sick as Lieutenant Johnson, but neither is in danger.

CAUSE APPREHENSION. Two cases have developed recently which are causing some trouble and apprehension—that of Private Frank Keith, of A, and also that of Sergeant Eugene Smith, of E. Private Keith is at division hospital and Sergeant Smith has been removed to Philadelphia. Both are typhoid patients. Private Keith is in such a bad condition that his parents were sent for yesterday. The physicians at the hospital entertain little, if any, hope of his recovery. The case of Sergeant Smith is less serious, but he is a very sick man. Otherwise the boys are in good health, and taking excellent care of themselves.

From time immemorial there has existed among the Pennsylvania regiments, both in the guard and in the volunteer army a certain custom which the boys considered as good as it was ancient. It was that under which men, after they had gotten off their two-hour tour of guard duty, were permitted to leave the vicinity of the guard house for the two succeeding hours, and go wherever they pleased. It was not in accordance with strict military regulations, but it had grown into a custom which was known to and revered by every man who ever served in the National Guard of Pennsylvania. It exists no longer. Its death-knell was rung when the several regiments of the First division received the following apparently harmless, but meaning, note from Major General Young:

Any regiment which has had the practice of excusing recruits from the guard in the two hours after coming off post will revoke such order at once. (Signed) F. S. Strong, Assistant Adjutant General.

This simply means that the men on guard may leave the guard house only for their meals. Word has been received that at a recent meeting of the board of medical officers at Washington, D. C., a recommendation was made that all companies be supplied with Maignon and Pasteur filters; and that one officer in each regiment or battalion be detailed to instruct at least one man in each company in their use.

Lieutenant Murphy, of C, who had a slight touch of malarial fever and was laid up in bed for a week, is now able to get around, and feels nearly as well as ever. There are twenty prisoners now in the regimental guard house, undergoing sentences of varying degrees for running away from camp. This is the largest number of prisoners that the regiment has ever had at one time. The sick and wounded men are beginning to return by degrees. They all will be back in a short time.

Captain Robling, of C, is officer of the day; Lieutenant Decker, of F, officer of the guard; James Lovelace, of E, sergeant of the guard; George Klemm, of A; Bennett Sparks, of E, and Richard Bourke, of C, corporals. Private Morris Thomas, of C, mounted orderly at division headquarters, has returned from a seven days' furlough. Following is the bill of fare which Corporal Gaines, acting quartermaster of B Company, prepared for Sunday dinner: Roast beef and gravy, sweet potatoes, cabbage, stewed tomatoes, bread, coffee.

Private Alex. Mitchell, of E Company, has returned from his home in Carbonate, where he spent a week on furlough. He is suffering from rheumatism in the feet.

GRANTED AN EXTENSION. First Sergeant Davis and Private LeRoy Benjamin, of D Company, returned last night from furlough. Private Benjamin was granted an extension on account of sickness. Private Harry Angle, of C, says that, to use Shakespearean phraseology, at dinner it is "ham sans bones," but at supper it is "bones sans ham." Corporal Bennett Sparks, of E, who was suddenly called home a week ago by the death of his mother-in-law, the late Mrs. Korb, of Honesdale, returned to camp last night. Privates Percy Johnson, Thomas Watkins and Daniel Mathias, of F, re-

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turned to camp last night after a week's absence on furlough. Private Mathias was sick while home, and, as yet, has not fully recovered. Private Clarence Brown, of G, has returned from a few days' furlough. Captain Gillman, of D, is in Harrisburg today. Corporal Alfred Berry, who was called home by the death of his mother, and Privates Flannery, Gerrity and Boyce, of B, returned from furlough last night. Privates Miller and Mack, of the same company, have gone home for a few days.

Sergeant Robert Vail, Corporal William Crago, Wagoner Edmund Thompson and Private Frank Stipp, of D Company, are home on furlough. Private A. D. Carpenter, of A, who suffered slightly from malaria, is now improving. Sergeant Peter F. Saltry, of H, returned to camp last night after an absence of fifty days on sick furlough. He has serious trouble with his eyes, which are by no means yet cured. Richard J. Bourke.

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