

# PEACE NEWS

C.P.S. CAMP NO. 5

Volume II, Number 13

Colorado Springs

March 6, 1943

## DIRECTOR RETURNS

Harry Martens, our Camp Director, returned on March 3 from Washington, D. C. where he had been taking directors' training. The following is a brief word from Mr. Martens concerning this experience.

"After being in camp for only about three weeks, I was called to Akron, Pa. and Washington, D. C. to get better acquainted with the program of Civilian Public Service. Even though I had been with the boys but a very short time, I had a great longing to be back with them here at Colorado Springs.

"I can't help but say that my experience at Akron and Washington is, and will be, one of the high-light experiences of my life. The meetings were most inspirational and unusually informational and certainly will help us to be of greater service in the field of Civilian Public Service.

"Above all other things, these meetings helped us to more fully realize the great opportunity that is ours. The average member of our constituency has no conception of the manifold ways in which our C.P.S. men are witnessing for the salvation and life of Jesus. And more, most of us don't realize what an impression it is making on our country. A large percentage of American citizens are not ready to cheer us but highly respect our courage in our determination to suggest another method of dealing with nations' misunderstandings, problems and disagreements. Rather than the use of the method of warfare, we suggest love and kindness. We suggest the returning of good for evil. This we say can be done if the world will accept Christ and His teachings. This message of love is made real to the world by our young men in Civilian Public Service camps."

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## TEN MORE MEN TO TRINIDAD SIDE CAMP

Last Saturday evening at 5:00, when the men came in from work an immediate decision had to be made. Ten more men were needed at the Trinidad Side Camp. Who should go? The project Superintendent had a list of 20 men who were not at present in essential positions in the work program, and out of this group 10 were to be transferred. In a few minutes time the required number volunteered, some with eager anticipation and others with some reluctance. The more they thought about the transfer, however, the more eager they became to try their luck at Trinidad.

Monday morning saw them loading their belongings into a truck and heading south for a 130 mile trip. The group consisted of Galen Becker, Reuben Becker, Menno Boese, Paul Buller, Doyle Butler, Elmer Frantz, Ralph Koehn, Eugene Kopper, Harvey Unruh, and Amos Yoder. The Trinidad Side Camp will continue at least until May, and possibly longer.

## CAMPERS FILL PULPIT

In the absence of Reverend Kendal, Pastor of the First Church of the Brethren in Colorado Springs, who has been attending a conference at McPherson, Kansas, some of the campers have been in charge of the Sunday Morning Services the past two Sundays.

His congregation asked that he be replaced in his absence by some of the men from our CPS camp who would take charge of the two services. At both services our camp was represented by a male quartette and a speaker. The members of the congregation received the men very well and seemed to appreciate their efforts. The men also enjoyed the privilege which they found there for making new acquaintances and contacts.

## POST-WAR CONSCRIPTION

Millions of American young men have already been called to compulsory military service under the Selective Service and Training Act of 1940. Thousands of conscientious objectors have also been called by this same act to perform "work of national importance" under the Civilian Public Service program. Before this act was passed many sincere Americans protested against conscription and worked toward the defeat of this bill. When this protest failed to stop the measure, steps were taken by the historic peace churches to include a clause in the bill providing "work of national importance" for religious conscientious objectors to war and military training. Thus the Civilian Public Service came into being.

However, we must beware that our service under the present draft law does not blind us to the implications of conscription itself. First let us ask ourselves the question: what is the real purpose of conscription? Conscription is a war measure. It has been described by its adherents as the quickest method of providing men for a large army. Whether this army is raised in time of peace or in war does not alter its purpose any. The purpose of conscription is to prepare for and carry on war. Even the drafting of labor is now gaining support only because of the shortage of labor in "vital war industries." We as conscientious objectors to war and military training because of our belief in Christ's way of love and peace, cannot help but consider conscription as basically wrong. No doubt there are other arguments against conscription but this one point of view stands out in the mind of the Christian as possibly the strongest and the one clearest to see.

At the present time there are several bills before Congress concerning future conscription. One bill proposes to draft men into war industries. Another bill threatens to bring into being, the conscription of women. These drafted women would be required to fill jobs in essential industries in order to release more men for military service. The latest bill (known as the Gurney-Wadsworth Bill) is attempting to set up a permanent conscription system to begin 6 months after this present war has ended. This measure would draft all 18 year old men for one year of military or naval training in peace time as well as in war. This bill is admittedly being pushed now because it is felt that there will be little support for it after the war.

In the face of these many bills, we must come to the realization that the subject of the draft may not be so easily forgotten at the end of this war. Perhaps we who are in camps now, would not be greatly affected by a future peacetime draft, but the younger generation undoubtedly would. Shall we become deadened to the future problems arising from a perpetual draft system which are facing these young people, just because we may be exempt from it?

Let us now do the kind of work in C.P.S. which will be of high quality and which will testify of our faith and belief; let us work toward the establishment of such a peace as will make plans for future conscription wholly unnecessary; and let us pray that God will see fit to save the world from this pitfall of military ambitions. --I.R. (Next issue: In Case of Peace-time Conscription)

## RECREATION CENTER

The laundry drying room has acquired sudden popularity. The campers are spending their spare minutes at the laundry but they surely are not drying clothes there all evening!

You find two regulation ping pong tables busy all the time. One side of the floor has been sanded and made into a very satisfactory shuffle-board court. Other features may be added. Organized indoor recreation now has a place.

## PIKE VIEW PEACE NEWS

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Co-editors

Richard C. Hunter Arlo Sonnenberg  
Irvin E. Richert

Contributors

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Gordon Engle   | Roy Wenger     |
| Ted Troyer     | David Toews    |
| Paul Ratzlaff  | Gerhard Peters |
| George Classen | Franklin Harms |
| Harry Froese   | Allen Miller   |

Leonard Johnson led our devotions this morning--but first he spoke about prayer meeting to-night. "Our prayers are something unseen by the outside world, but have a lot of meaning for us," he said.



He wanted us to think of two phases of a question in the field today: Why are our prayer meetings so important? and Why is prayer so important today?

Attendance at our meetings has been nearly perfect. There is a reason. It helps! We find that we forget the grumbles of the day when we pray.

After prayer meeting we sing the old hymns, sitting on our beds in groups. Tonight it shall be nicer still because ten new men have joined our group.

Yes, covered with snow they came, and cold. Hello's were exchanged and beds were unloaded and set up and the white

# LIFE AT THE TRINIDAD SIDE CAMP

on them melted when we carried a red hot stove over from the reading room to their dorm. Hats were hung and so Trinidad became a home for ten more men. It's more than four walls here. We're one big family--two big tables full of family. And then there's Tuffy.

Tuffy is our dog. The Cahill's gave him to us when they moved out. He's one of us now and shares our appetite too, but he gets only scraps and twenty five hungry men see that there are not many of them. He's sort of getting used to hardship, like we are, and doesn't bark when he's cold anymore. Then there's a little skinny puppy that comes sometimes and begs for a little care, like the world today--hungry and tired and wishing that the war would cease. And that's the way it is, day by day--joy and pity and work and griping all mixed up with trying to serve and do right and be brave and to keep our faith in God and men when no one else seems to believe the way we do.

On Monday evening we have a class in First Aid. Several are taking the class a second time to keep it fresh in their mind. We hope aid never need be given but want to be ready.



Fifteen minutes or so before supper time one sees many fellows industriously studying and writing rapidly. You see, it's almost spelling time. We spend five minutes after supper each night in a spelling class, much in the manner of progressive high schools. Ten new words are given and ten old words are spelled. Each person corrects the words he writes. This is a world of written things--letters and applications and records. Here is a new opportunity to grow and develop--to make CPS more than working and waiting.

Arrangements have been made to get books from the Trinidad Public Library. With new men, our list of books should

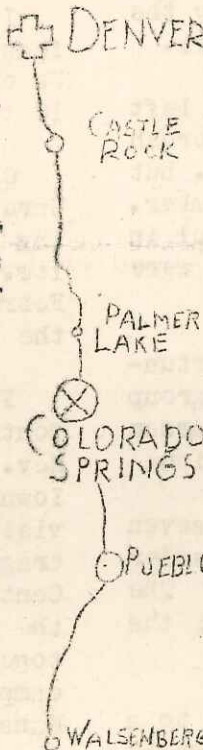
continue to grow. After all, the world of books is a world of its own.

Each morning rows of paper sacks stand on the kitchen table here--sandwiches and fruit and perhaps a cookie. Because tastes vary, so do lunches, and so each sack has a name on it.

Perhaps you would like a list of those names because they are the men who are here and for whom the farmers of this region are so grateful:

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Galen Becker    | Eugene Kopper  |
| Reuben Becker   | Herman Quiring |
| Menno Boese     | Arthur Rediess |
| Alvin Buller    | Bennie Schmidt |
| Harry Buller    | Martin Schmidt |
| Paul Buller     | Paul Schmidt   |
| Doyle Butler    | Vernie Smith   |
| Jake Doerksen   | Harvey Unrau   |
| Elmer Frantz    | Marion Wichert |
| Leonard Johnson | Amos Yoder     |
| Ralph Koehn     | Tobias Yoder   |
| Rodney Koehn    |                |

Jake Guhr and Arlo Sonnenberg keep the home fires burning.



## FIRE!

Two large fires were fought by the men in camp during the month of Feb.

On Feb. 19, a group of 23 men left camp at noon to fight a large brush fire on the slopes of Cheyenne Mt. but just below the heavy mountain timber. The fire was brought under control in about an hour. Several more hours were spent in mop-up work.

Our fire fighters had the opportunity of working alongside a large group of soldiers from nearby Camp Carson which added interest to the occasion.

On Sunday, Feb. 21, twenty-seven men drove to a fire which was under control by the time they arrived. The men spent some time putting out the last smoldering underbrush.

Whenever the men are called to a fire they are escorted through town by the State Courtesy Patrol, which makes the trip safer and faster.

## SCS OCCUPIES NEW OFFICE

Mention was made in a previous issue that a number of portable buildings were being moved to our camp from Idaho Springs, Colorado. One of these buildings has been successfully erected to serve as SCS office and warehouse combination. The SCS office was formerly located at the south end of dormitory I.

The office equipment was moved into the new location on Friday, February 26th. The new building provides sufficient space needed, and it is located at the south end of our camp together with the other SCS buildings, which proves to be much more convenient. A hot air heating system was installed, which well provides heat for the whole building. The building also includes an apartment for the SCS office clerk, warehouse clerk, and his assistant.

Mr. Titman, Project Superintendent, often wished for and hoped in the past that these improvements might be made, and it is with a great satisfaction to him that this has been accomplished.

The old S.C.S. office has not yet been put to use. It will be utilized in the camp program as soon as possible.

## WELCOME GUESTS

It sometimes seems we have either feast or famine in terms of visitors. We enjoyed a real feast from February 18 to 23.

One of the visitors was Rev. Albert Unruh of Montezuma, Kansas, representing the Church of God in Christ Mennonite. He led the morning devotions on February 18 and that evening met with the boys of his group.

February 18, Rev. and Mrs. Eli J. Bontrager of Shipshewana, Indiana, and Rev. and Mrs. Ira Nissley of Kalona, Iowa, arrived here having previously visited 15 other MCC camps. Rev. Bontrager is a member of the Mennonite Central Committee. Rev. Nissley led the morning devotions on Feb. 19 and together they had a meeting with Amish campers. Rev. Miller of Hutchinson, Kansas, father of LeRoy Miller, also was here. It is always of interest and inspiration to have the ministers of various groups visit and fellowship with us.

Saturday, February 20, Dr. Ralph Kauffman of Bethel College, Dean of Men and instructor of Psychology, came to give us two talks. Saturday night he spoke to the camp on the subject of "Freedom". Sunday morning he delivered the morning message. He then left for the Ft. Collins camp to visit there.

Sunday evening we had the privilege of hearing Dr. H.R. Schmidt of Newton, Kansas. He showed moving pictures of South America and told us of the Mennonites in Paraguay. Dr. Schmidt spent several months with the Mennonites there helping his brother who was the settlement doctor at the time. He told us of the many opportunities to constructively work in the Mennonite settlements.

Monday Dr. Schmidt gave some medical advice to some of the campees. He also sewed up an axe wound on Edward Isaac's foot.

Rev. Jesse Johnson and Fred Becker, Church of God in Christ Mennonite of Galva, Kansas were also among the visitors. They stopped here on Feb. 23 while making a circuit of several camps.

## CPS NO. 5 WINGSREAD

## FORESTRY PROJECT

Our camp report shows 151 campees on the roll today. Perhaps you have been wondering what these 151 men are doing or where they work.

As far as the soil conservation work is concerned, no day is exactly like the other; but let us imagine that Friday, Feb. 26, is a typical day. Where are the men and what do they do?

When the gong rings at 7:20 in the morning, 95 men are ready, or busily getting ready, to begin soil conservation work. Thirty men go 20 miles southeast to work on the Chilicott Dam, a large project in the preparation of irrigation system for 2200 acres of land. A tractor crew of 9 goes 20 miles southeast to work on Cucharras Dam. Eleven leave for a ranch 15 miles north to reenforce the banks of an irrigation ditch, and ten go out for forestry work. One campee does research work, another surveys, five do private farm work, and four fence on a nearby ranch.

Seven men are out for the week 35 to 40 miles southeast eradicating poisonous weeds and doing fencing, and two are driving tractors at Pueblo, 45 miles south, in preparation of land for agricultural use. These men leave on Monday morning and return at the end of the week. In a side camp at Trinidad, Colorado, 15 men are working on irrigation dams. Mr. Brown, the soil conservation engineer, says we could have projects scattered all over if we had the men.

"Construction and Repair" at the base camp requires another 14 campees. They take care of the work in the soil conservation offices, motor repair shop, and blacksmith shop.

Then there is camp maintenance; office, kitchen, laundry, infirmary, shop, heating and cleaning keeps 23 men busy.

Two are on the camp staff, two on detached service, four on furlough, seven on limited service, and, sad to say, four are sick.

That pictures our 151 men; each has had his job when the day is done.

Forestry is a rather independent project here in C.P.S. No. 5. It has very little connection with S.C.S., which is the main work program here. The boys go out each morning as the other boys do but in their own particular Government owned Forestry truck. On the way to work, the crew picks up two Forestry men, Mr. Lancaster and Mr. Jacobsen. Then to the warehouse and garage in town where one of the boys stays and helps the Forestry mechanic.

The work is usually in the mountains, repairing roads, rolling loose rocks off the mountain side so they will not roll down onto the roads during the spring thaws.

The first work for the crew was the repair of a highway tunnel which was caved in on one end. The boys did some blasting, with the help of the forestry men, where the rocks were in the way along the side of the road.

At some places springs seep across the road. In the winter time the water freezes in the middle of the road making it hazardous for mountain travel. The ice has to be picked off about every three weeks.

The roads are almost always drifted when it snows and they have to be opened--sometimes with a bulldozer or with the truck and shovels. When there is no snow the crew is graveling some of the roads.

The government men are good to work with and seem to appreciate the work that is done.

## THOSE WE HAVE MET

Karl Busenitz

Newton, Kansas....a friendly farmer boy who wishes to return to the farm...is liked by all who know him...has been in camp six months...General Conference Mennonite.

Adolph Duerksen

Newton, Kansas....a married man before coming to camp--he was employed as a painter and paper-hanger....would like to continue such work...hobby is reading...General Conference Mennonite.

(Continued on next page)

Pete Ens

Hillsboro, Kansas.....was a school teacher and likes it well enough to desire to continue after CPS.....is the camp infirmary attendant....likes to sing....attended school at Tabor College...Krimmer Mennonite Brethren.

Arthur Fadenrecht

Henderson, Nebraska.....a filling-station attendant before coming to camp...hopes to continue his schooling after such things are possible again attended Friends University in Wichita ....is a good singer....Men. Brethren.

Franklin Harms

Comes from the creamery town of Hillsboro, Kansas....worships with the Mennonite Brethren.....helps with the camp buying...workd in clothing store before camp...a man of business..likes to type letters and keeps camp diary..sings in quartets quite a bit.

Harold Schrag

A Kansas man from Burrton...not so large but quite agile--just watch him pitch horseshoes and play basketball!. ...is interested in music....workd on the Forestry crew.....but that is not all we know about him--he is a married man and a father too...Gen. Conf. Men.

DIRECTOR RETURNS Continued

"Let us waste no time in lamenting or mourning over a few discomforts we have because of the present situation, but rather thank God for this avenue of service and witnessing what has been opened unto us. Let us take an inventory from time to time checking on what each of us is doing to promote the cause of Christ in this dark hour. Some would let us call it the hour of opportunity.

I hope that at some future date, it will be possible for me to share at least in part with our readers, the inspiration that we received from meetings in Washington and Akron.

"The kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it."

--Matt. 13:45,46

MUSIC FILLS THE AIR

The reputation as the men of the hour, was established in a single day by four harmonising voices of the music department.

The four men with such ability, talent and courage were Leroy Shetter, Phil Stucky, Jonathan Janzen and Orlando Warkentin, the newly organized quartet with Leroy and Orlando representing the extreme ranges of harmony and Phil singing second tenor and Jonathan first bass.

The first engagement was in the camp church service.

When the Church of the Brethren morning services began, the boys were there with special gospel singing.

At 3:30 P.M. the quartet entertained the Pro-Latin Club in the Hays House of Colorado College.

The program for the day was not yet complete; for a half hour the quartet entertained at the young people's meeting of the Church of God.

A second quartet composed of Gordon Engle, Franklin Harms, Paul Ratzlaff, and John Friesen participated in the morning service at the Friends Church and then were entertained at a dinner given following the service.

We are proud of men who willingly give "civilian public service" on the Sabbath also!

NEWS IN BRIEF

Henry Ediger just returned from the hospital a few days ago.....Dr's. Draper and Blakely from town came out and again gave the Bernreuter Personality test to 54 men...The weather has again turned cold, giving us a new thick blanket of pure, white snow.

Section 562 P.L.

From:

C.P.S. Camp #5  
P.O. Box 1576  
Colo. Springs, Colo.



941 Mrs. An

Mr. Paul Comly French  
1751 "N" Street N.W.  
Washington, D. C.