

Volume II, Number 15

Colorado Springs

April 3, 1943

KIRBY PAGE VISIT

Kirby Page has become a favorite again just as he becomes a favorite everytime he speaks. Mr. Page spent the late afternoon with us at camp, had supper with us, and spoke to a large audience in the assembly hall at the evening meeting.

The campers were pleased to have quite a number of folks from town come out to join with us in our great privilege. Rev. and Mrs. Berneking of the First Christian Church, Rev. Bayles of the Calvary Evangelical Church, Rev. Nervig of Our Savior's Luthern Church, and Rev. Kendall of the Brethren Church were among those that were with us.

Mr. Page commenced his present tour at the Japanese Relocation Center at Poston, Arizona, on February 13. He has been as far east as Illinois and has been in 36 different communities since starting out this time. He will be in about 40 more communities before the trip ends on May 20. Kirby Page seems to have endless resources as he gives his message of pacifism to his vast audience.

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MEN TO MENTAL HOSPITALS

A number of men are eagerly waiting to receive their transfer to work in mental hospitals. The men from this camp have been selected for two hospital units.

Six men have been chosen for the Rochester, Minnesota, Mental Hospital. These men are: Adolph Duerksen, Lee Jantz, Titus Jost, Ralph Marke, Gerhard Peters, and Dave Regier.

The following eighteen men are on the list for the Norristown, Pa. Unit:

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C.O.'s UNDERGO "SPRING FREEZE"

On the evening of March 30, we received a telegram direct from General Hershey. But the nature of the message was such that we weren't fully appreciative of the personal attention given us by the Director of Selective Service.

General Hershey advised us that we could have no furloughs or weekend leaves until further notice. He did not get confidential about the reason. Consequently, we will be staying close to camp spending our time guessing for the next few days.

We have since learned that the order applies to all C.P.S. camps and that it is not a penalty. Beyond that we know only that we are temporarily frozen stiff in the midst of fine spring weather.

DAIRY FARM PROGRAM

Word was received on March 24 that 500 men will be expected from C.P.S. camps for work on dairy farms over the country. It is not known how that request for men is affected by present activities in Washington.

According to the original plan, 250 men were to be drawn from MCC camps. Those men were to be placed 25 men to a county in some of the best dairy producing counties in this country. There were to be 5 counties in Wisconsin, 2 in Michigan, 3 in Ohio, and 1 in California.

Men would be working on individual farms but each unit of 25 men would be within an area small enough to give a feeling of unity to the group. There would be for every 125 men a director who would make the rounds of the farms regularly to look after the welfare of

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WANTED--A DIFFERENT DEFENSE

A war-tired population can upset the visions of our conscription-minded Congressmen. What the motives of these men may be, we cannot say. But this we know - we must all say that we will not approve their corruption of the personalities of youth with thoughts of killing those who we yet would have to make our enemies.

For those who believe some military preparation is necessary, a normal standing army should be adequate. Surely we would not wish to start a competitive race among all nations to prepare for attacks one upon the other while we yet have no contention among us. Or are we planning a peace which we already know will furnish contention?

There is no place for conscription in a Christian world. But war has come upon us despite some fine expressed ideals. If we are not to spend our efforts and money in preparation for war, what will be our alternative defense against the repetition of what we now have?

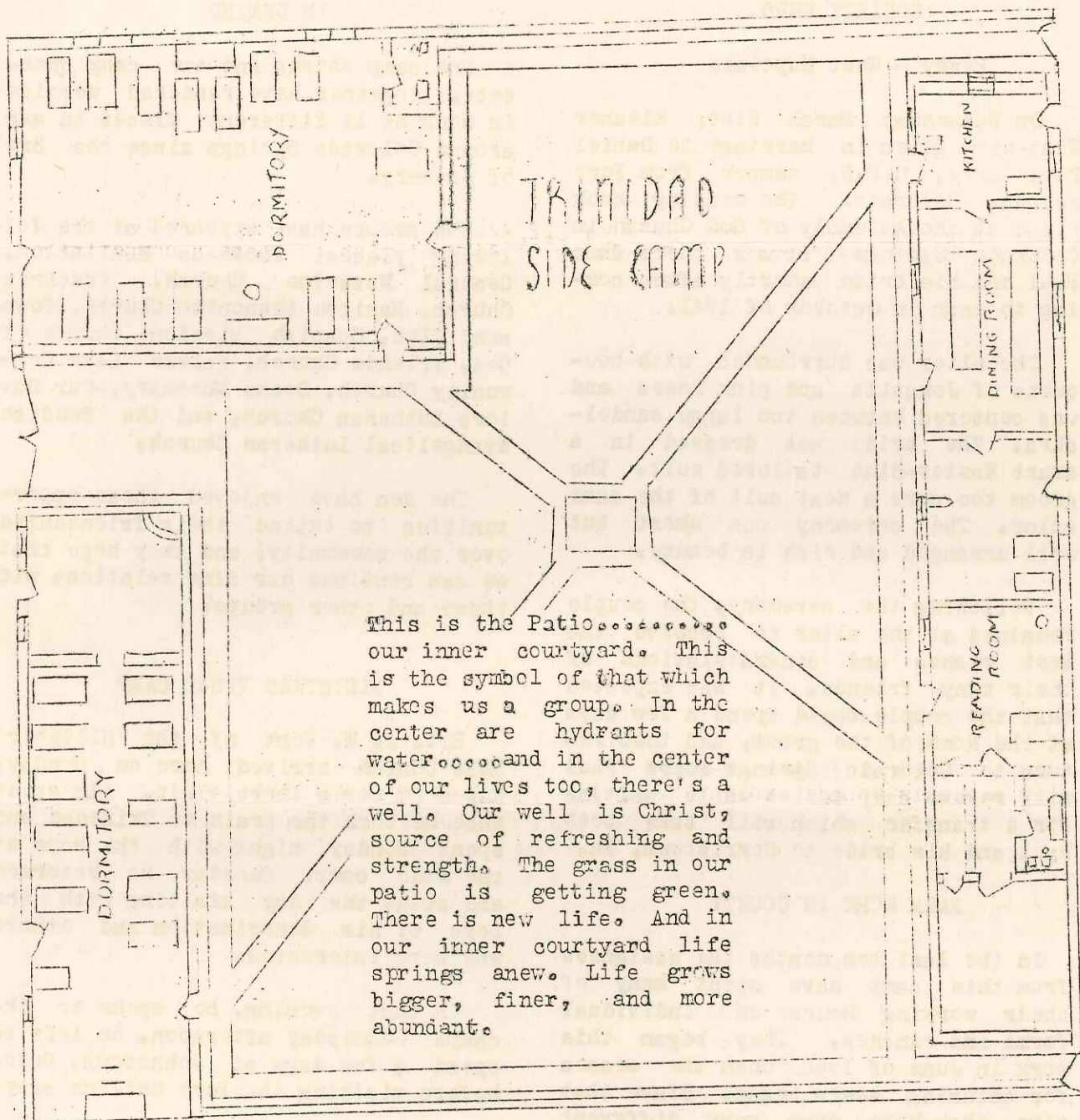
One is not conscripted into the Kingdom of God. It is a realm entered only by desire and choice at any cost. Life in that realm is crammed full with adventure. Not a shallow kind of adventure such as that which is commonly presented to children today, but rather a kind with undying thrill and a worthy end in truth. That fact must be revealed and Kingdom type of adventure must be provided for youth, who with virility and vitality seek adventure in action.

Suppose that churches would cooperate in training all of their boys and girls in Sunday School and Church to a specific manifestation of the principles taught in the training program. Suppose that those groups would point the thinking of their students toward volunteering for a year or more of service following high school or college or some other time when prepared. Not for religious missionary work as it has been known - that doesn't appeal to all young people. Not for a lifetime at the first commitment - they don't know it to be that thrilling at first. Such a plan pointing away from selfish interest to world concern operating upon the lives of church youth would be one invulnerable defense. There would be an equally important secondary effect. What an effect that would have upon youth growing to be the leaders of our nation in the years to come. It would point a worthy goal for their adventurous spirits, and would without doubt leave a permanent print upon them resulting in continued lives of world service.

Already we have had the period of experimentation in the use of young people in certain types of projects. Work camps have been operating, on a volunteer basis, for some years in blighted areas of our own country rendering service to economically enslaved peoples. For several years, there have been peace caravans traveling over the country carrying a message and challenge to youth. Both of these programs could be expanded immeasurably to spread an attitude of brotherhood by teaching and practice.

Even now there are camps in old Mexico which are made up of young people who are working with the problems of sanitation and health in the more remote areas of that country. South America, the Near East, and the Far East will offer countless opportunities for service. The field is wide open. Who will do the job?

If it is not to be conscription, it must be the development of a people ready to give of themselves - ready to lay down their lives willingly that there will not be another war. Such a defense cannot be matched, and we must begin building it now. Some may say that it sounds like too much work or that it sounds as though it would cost too much. If that thought occurs, blush and rightly so. We surely have not yet forgotten the folly, in terms of attaining our goal, the Kingdom of God, of spending vast resources of energy in army training and army service; and we surely have not already forgotten the billions spent for nothing more than a chance to start again no better off than we were 25 years ago.--RCH



EVENTS IN CAMP

On March 22, Rev. J. W. Vogt from Hillsboro, Kansas, led us to new heights of devotion. He arrived at 6:00 o'clock and at 7:30 spoke to us about "Closed Doors and Open Doors".

We emphasized how God closes doors at times for us to lead us into other doors of greater service. At the time we feel hurt and lost, but often times later we will understand and realize that probably nothing better could have come to us.

It is true that most of us considered leaving our jobs and coming to camp as the closing of a door--for a few years at least. Now we are beginning to realize what a big new door CPS is.

Some new books stand in our library and some new encouragement is ours too because of Kirby Page

For an hour last Sunday afternoon he shared his personality and his experience with us here at the camp. Then at 4:00 o'clock and again in the evening at the Methodist church we thrilled at his convincing way of dealing with the wrongness of war.

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Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wenger, our capable staff members at Camp 5, came down to Trinidad on March 23 to tell us about the new Farm Plan. Long sought for opportunities and dim hopes became real as he explained the plan to us. Ten of our group plan to leave soon to serve on individual dairy farms.

SOCIETY NEWS

Perry - West Nuptials

On Wednesday March 31st, Eleanor West was given in marriage to Daniel Paul Perry, C.P.S. camper from Fort Morgan, Colorado. The wedding took place at the Assembly of God Church in Colorado Springs. It was there that Paul met his bride shortly after coming to camp in October of 1941.

The alter was surrounded with bouquets of Jonquils and pink Roses and was centered between two large candelabra. The bride was dressed in a smart Easter-Blue tailored suit. The groom too wore a neat suit of the same color. The ceremony was short but well arranged and rich in beauty.

Following the ceremony, the couple remained at the alter to receive the best wishes and congratulations of their many friends. It was expected that the couple would spend a few days at the home of the groom, and then return to Colorado Springs where Paul will resume camp duties while waiting for a transfer which will take both Paul and his bride to Norristown, Pa.

FARM WORK IN COUNTY

In the last ten months the assignees from this camp have spent many of their working hours on individual farms and ranches. They began this work in June of 1942 when the season for thinning beets began. Since that time they have done many different jobs which have helped the farmers in the county nearly every day since June.

During this period from June of 1942 until March of 1943 the men from this camp have worked for 45 different farmers with a total of 2643 man-days of farm labor. Nearly all of this work has been on the basis of 40¢ per hour. The total amount earned by these men is \$6500.

The money earned is being held by the government in a special fund until the close of the war at which time it may be possible to have the money placed in relief and reconstruction work where it will do some positive good in the chaotic time which must follow this destructive war.

IN DEMAND

The camp chorus and two camp quartets, together have rendered service in song at 14 different places in and around Colorado Springs since the 3rd of January.

The groups have appeared at the following places: Woodmans Sanitarium, Central Nazarine Church, Brethren Church, Manitou Mennonite Church, Townsend Club, Spanish Mission, Church of God, Friends Church, Palmer Lake Community Church, Swans Mortuary, Our Saviors Lutheran Church, and the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The men have enjoyed these opportunities to extend their friendships over the community, and they hope that we can continue our fine relations with these and other groups.

MINISTERS VISIT CAMP

Rev. J. W. Vogt of the Hillsboro M.B. Church arrived here on Monday, March 22 for a short visit. Almost at once he took the train to Trinidad and spent Monday night with the boys at the side camp. Tuesday he returned and spent the day visiting with the boys of his denomination and others who were interested.

On that evening, he spoke to the camp. Wednesday afternoon, he left to spend a few days at Johnstown, Colo. before visiting the Fort Collins camp.

On Saturday March 27, Rev. W. F. Unruh of the West Zion Mennonite Church of Moundridge, Kansas arrived for a visit of a few days. Saturday evening he spoke to the prayer meeting group, Sunday morning he had charge of the breakfast devotions, and later spoke at the regular services on the subject "The Suffering of Christ". On that same evening he spoke at the C.E. concerning "How One Mistake Can Ruin a Life".

Monday Mr. and Mrs. Martens and Duane Lee took Rev. Unruh to the Trinidad camp to spend some time in fellowship with the boys there. They returned Tuesday afternoon, and Wednesday Rev. Unruh left for Denver and Fort Collins.

PAUL RATZLAFF TO VINELAND

Paul Ratzlaff, our former chorus director, and an assistant in hydrologic research for Soil Conservation Service, has transferred to a detached service project which is of more than usual interest. The project is at the Vineland Training School at Vineland, New Jersey. This school has established an international reputation for educating slow-learning boys and girls to become useful citizens. The experiments which have been carried on at this school have been valuable not only in improving education for the slow-learning, but also in improving education for normal children. The outstanding characteristic of the school is that it carefully appraises the abilities which the individual has, and then sets up a program of tasks which these limited abilities can meet successfully. This success encourages the pupil and spurs him on to greater efforts.

Since Paul has been a public school teacher and expects to continue in that profession after CPS, he will undoubtedly find that this work provides interesting and fruitful experience. Paul is well qualified for this work. He attended Tabor College at Hillsboro, Kansas, for two years, and then transferred to Southwestern Institute of Technology at Weatherford, Oklahoma, where he received his A. B. in 1942. After teaching music in his local high school at Corn, Oklahoma, for several months, he was drafted to our camp in November. At camp Paul was soon given a number of responsibilities, chief of which was directing the chorus and singing in a quartet. We will miss him at camp, but we are glad that the opportunity has been offered him to serve in a capacity which will more nearly utilize his experience and training.

MEN TO MENTAL HOSPITALS (continued)

Ben Bontrager, Frank Ediger, Gordon Engle, Gerhard Ens, Peter Ens, Arthur Fadenrecht, Paul Hofer, Jonathan Janzen, Louis Kuehl, Bernard C. Loewen, Leroy Miller, Paul Perry, Otto Pauls, Herman Warkentin, and George Wiens.

The hospital unit located in Minnesota is a new unit for thirty men. Men for this unit were also selected from Hill City and Fort Collins. Attendant work is to be done by the men in that unit; there are possibilities

for some opportunity to get into other divisions in the hospital after spending some time in service. The working hours will be divided into eight-hour shifts.

The Pennsylvania unit is securing an additional fifty men, twenty-five men having been there since July. Men from Belton, Montana, Downy, Idaho, in addition to Colorado Springs will be chosen for this unit. The work will be from six until six, either day or night shift.

KIRBY PAGE VISIT (continued)

It is impossible to brief the message of Kirby Page. There is nothing that can be said than that he should be heard each and every time that there is an opportunity. He has a message of pacifism which will stimulate new thinking even in the minds of the most ardent militarists and will strengthen the pacifism of the strongest of pacifists.

If there is one thing which stands out in the message it is what Dr. Page calls "alternation". If there is to be a new order, men must live lives centered not in self but outside of self. The same must be true of the lives of nations. It means that men must be ready and anxious to lose themselves in the concerns of the rest of the world. But that alone is not enough. There is the indispensable corollary. The establishment of poise and repose through quiet and relaxation living in the presence of God is essential to avoid exhaustion and complete burning away from activity alone. The two factors of throwing oneself away and pulling oneself away in quiet and meditation are necessary to the thought-life of those of coming leadership if there is to be any hope in the world.

PIKE VIEW PEACE NEWS

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Co-editors

Richard C. Hunter Arlo Sonnenberg

Contributors

Gordon Engle Roy Wenger
Ted Troyer Gerhard Peters
David Toews Wilmer Dye
Jonathan Janzen

DAIRY FARM PROGRAM (continued)

the fellows. The men would receive a good allowance for the purchase of clothing and other necessities.

The farmer would have to pay the prevailing wage rate, and that money would be collected by the National Service Board for Religious Objectors. There it would be used to provide necessary medical and dental care for the men, and to pay the costs of administering of the program. Any balance would go to the special CPS fund to be held by the government until the end of the war. Sixteen men from this camp have signed and are awaiting transfer.

QUARTERLY ELECTIONS

At the C. E. meeting Sunday Night, March 27, the election of officers was held. John L. Smith was elected President; Karl Busenitz, Secretary, and Rahlen Unrau as the third member of the C. E. committee.

Monday morning at breakfast, the Sunday School officers were elected. David Toews was elected Superintendent, and Allen Wiens, Secretary-Treasurer. The teachers elected were Karl Busenitz and Mrs. Harry Martens.

RANGE FIRE

Saturday, March 27, 18 men from camp helped fight one of the most destructive pasture fires in El Paso county, destroying valuable grass in an irrigated and productive area.

A total of one hundred men from the surrounding areas and from camp helped fight this fire, which was located in the Peaceful Valley, Northeast of Fountain.

The fire spread from a place where children had been burning weeds along

a fence. Before the fire could be extinguished it had destroyed approximately 1,500 acres of good grass.

A Caterpillar and grader from one of our nearby projects were used by two of our boys to make a fire break. The other men used shovels and wet sacks to stop the fire.

THOSE WE HAVE MET

Jonathan F. Janzen

Buhler, Kansas.....worked in the accounting department of Kansas Power and Light Company.....operated Caterpillar tractor here at camp.....works in kitchen now.....is interested in business first with construction work and farming as second choices....plays the cornet and likes to sing.....going to Mental Hospital in Pennsylvania. ..(Yermonite Brethren)

George Classen

Mcade, Kansas...was going to school before coming to CPS.....a promising speaker...wants to continue his education in the field of theology...wishes to become a minister....going to Pa... (Krimmer Mennonite Brethren)

Frank Ediger

Hillsboro, Kansas.....before coming to CPS was a carpenter and auto mechanic....worked in the Hillsboro Creamery ...is going to mental hospital in Pa... (Mennonite Brethren)

Albert Hiebert

Colony, Oklahoma....a married man... was a farmer and wishes to continue as such after CPS...interested in acrobatics...is going to mental hospital in Pa... (Mennonite Brethren)

Gerhard Ems

Hillsboro, Kansas.....was a student and farmer.....wants to continue his schooling...likes to sing and is interested in all music is also going to mental hospital in Pa.... (Krimmer Mennonite Brethren)

Section 562 P.L. & R.

From:

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

"No one could tell me where my Soul might be.
I searched for God, but God eluded me:
I sought my Brother out, and found all three."--Ernest Crosby