



CPS CAMP No 5

Volume II, Number 16

Colorado Springs

April 17, 1943

DAIRIES OPEN

When things happen, they happen in a hurry. Sunday morning we learned by telegram that El Paso County, the county in which this camp is located, had been approved as one of the few counties in the country eligible for the use of CPS men on dairy farms. 22 men have been selected and placed on 16 farms in the county. The men were drawn from both our main and side camps and also from the camp at Fort Collins.

Most all of the farms on which men are placed have been long known to the men of this camp, and the fellows are happy about the new work. They will be happy to work on detached service with these farmers, and they will be glad to do farm work with which they are so familiar.

The men will be detached from camp and will be furnished maintenance by the farmers. In addition, the fellows will receive a monthly allowance to be used for the purchase of clothing and incidentals. The men will not be very far from camp so it will be possible for camp fellowship to include those detached to the farms.

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SPIRITUAL HELP

On Saturday, April 3, Rev. A. J. Dyck of Inman, Kansas, arrived at our camp to bring us several messages and to give the individual boys encouragement with their problems. Rev. Dyck is the Elder of the Hoffnungsau Church

About forty of the boys assembled in the lounge room Saturday night for their regular prayer meeting where Rev. Dyck spoke to the group. His comments concerning the meaning of prayer were helpful to us.

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RETURN VISIT BY GAEDDERT

For the second time within two weeks, Albert Gaeddert has visited with us here at camp. He came this time to assist in the placing of men on the dairy farms in the county.

Albert had several matters of interest to report. The men who are to be assigned to dairy farm work should be placed within the next week. When more men will be taken for the same work is not yet known.

Units are expected to open at three agricultural schools with very little delay. The MCC will have the administration of a thirty men unit at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. The Friends will have the unit at Iowa State in Ames. The Brethren will have a unit at an agricultural school in Michigan. These three units will be the only ones opened for a while according to present plans. It is possible that the success of these will lead to the expansion of the plan.

The much talked of cooking school is to be held at Grottos, Virginia for twelve weeks beginning soon after Easter. Men from all MCC camps will be eligible for the school. Selections have not yet been made.

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NEGRO GUESTS

At the evening meal on Thursday, April 8th, the camp was given an opportunity to put into practice those Christian principles of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. We had as our guests ten Negro Episcopalians from Epiphany Mission in Colorado Springs. Epiphany has a history as old as that of the city itself, and its members are prominent within the Negro community.

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UNITED FOR PEACE

Harold A. Bender, in writing about the result of constant persecution to which Mennonites were subjected for hundreds of years says:

"One unfortunate effect of the centuries of persecution upon Swiss and South German Mennonites was the creation of a quietistic spirit. The passive attitude toward the world, and even toward aggressive action within their own groups, created a spirit of resignation and self-depreciation which amounted to a strong inferiority feeling which inhibited action. The sense of witness was largely lost, even to their own children."

The present crisis, however, is leading Mennonites to reexamine their feelings of inferiority. Many people are now talking and writing about the peace testimony which the Mennonites are helping to give. Present church leaders are not the retiring, quietistic, and self-depreciating individuals of a hundred years ago. They find themselves dealing with many high officials of our government. They find themselves working daily with many ranking religious leaders representing nearly every faith in the country. The change is not coming about through an overthrow of the doctrine of "separation from the world". It is coming about through a new vision of what it means to "let your light shine".

This change from the self-depreciating attitude which says "we have nothing to offer" to the creative spirit which says "we believe in a good principle which we wish to share" carries with it many new implications. Among the things that we need is a well-knit and active peace organization with units in every Mennonite congregation, which keeps in close touch with what our peace groups are doing. This organization should keep church members informed and "on their toes". It should know what other groups are doing and cooperate with them in worthwhile projects. This is happening now in CPS. In every camp men are strongly urged to study the foundations on which their non-resistant beliefs are based by enrolling in the Core Course. At camp, also, men have become acquainted with the peace efforts of other groups. The MCC, AFSC, BSC, ACCO, the Methodist Peace Commission, and other groups are now seen as fellow organizations with many goals in common, and as groups each adding its own distinctive genius to the total effort. Before coming to camp the men knew practically nothing about these groups. Prior to CPS there was almost a complete blackout about the MCC among other peace groups. Now it is gaining recognition as an organization which is doing things, quietly but with good foundation.

To nourish this growing creative spirit and to insure its continuance after the war, there is a need to get information now as to who the persons are who are willing to use the way of love only, and to oppose unreservedly the military way of dealing with problems. A roster of all the persons who feel that they cannot condone the use of military force under any circumstances would be a powerful incentive to stay the hand of any military-minded government from using violence hastily. Such a list obtained now could be considered valid since people would be making their choice quite realistically. Some signers of peace pledges in time of peace change their minds when war becomes imminent, but those who would pledge themselves now would do so with a clear picture of the alternatives. If we wait to gather such a roster until after the war is over, the supporters of peace will be scattered and the identity of many cannot be discovered.

Only by planning for an active peace organization now can we avoid losing ground when the war crisis is over. Peace organizations and church branches and groups are working together in the midst of a war largely because they are faced with a common opposition. When this opposition disappears there is great danger that the cooperating groups will again separate, and thus each will lose the stimulating contributions which come from the other.

Here then, is the task of any peace group--to Christianize human relationships. Let us organize now for action after the war. If we really believe in constructive work for humanity, our activities and our fervor will not diminish when the shooting stops.--RW

FROM THE SIDE CAMP: You who have never been in CPS do not know. You can not feel like we do. These experiences are not yours.

Many of you do not know how it seems to hear from the lips of boys not yet in school the words "You're a Jap, J-A-P, Jap! You're a Jap! Jappie, Germie, Jappie, Germie!" Little freckle-faced smilers sing out the words because someone else said so. After all it must be the thing to do.

Some of you do not hear the sound of the "Oh" after one has tried to explain that he's in a Civilian Public Service Camp. The exclamation falls almost with a thud. It's like the last word in a dictionary.

There are those who have never paid hard earned money to have the privilege of working, or to wear out a pick in frozen ground.

I am sorry you cannot share some of these experiences. I am sorry you can not forget your work as I did a week ago to help pour the last section of our dam here.

Four buckets of water from a fire licked tank, two wheelbarrows of sand, four of rock, two sacks of cement, and the motor kicks harder as Jake pulls the lever which hoists it into the mixer. Then into the bucket it goes to be swung high over head by the drag line to the forms. Alvin pulls the lever and nearly half a yard of concrete clatters down to become a part of a bulwark of concrete and steel. Back goes the bucket swinging against a boundless sky. Again and again and again as the time slips by. Shovelers, water boy, heaver of cement, one by one slip over to see how it is coming.

Smoke from the fire, cement dust, the music of motors, clatter of rocks, gushing water from the pumps, and the shouts of men go into the dam with the concrete. It's not just a ridge across a river, this dam; it is strength and beauty. It is permanence and solidness.

War's battles will be over some day and men will again do building instead of digging fox holes. For now, this meagre river bed will have to be our North Africa. Our fight must be only with a treacherous stream and with ourselves to keep steady, to hear cries of being Jappies and Germies, to be just a one percent without honor--no stripes on our sleeves, no medals for killing, no coveted iron cross! For us just a plain wooden cross, hewn from a tree, carried to Golgotha--a big cross and heavy. To all the world it meant defeat, then!

In ridicule we build our dam. We drive piling down to the rock. Spring rains will swell the river. But that water will bring new life on the land. You who have never been in CPS may not know. You may not feel like we do!

OBJECT - MATRIMONY

The two men most concerned regarding the ban on furloughs were Otto Pauls and Donnell Bartel. Both fellows had become involved in plans to be married in their home communities. General Hershey apparently had not taken that into consideration when he placed the restriction. For Otto the date set was April 11; for Don it was April 15.

As the dates drew nigh and all the arrangements were complete except for the obtaining of the grooms, the situation became tense. A wire was sent to the National Service Board making known the seriousness of the predicament.

There was much joy when J.N. Weaver of the National Service Board replied by wire, "OTTO PAULS AND DONNELL BARTEL AUTHORIZED TO TAKE DEFERRED FURLOUGH TIME IN ORDER TO ENGAGE IN THE RITES OF HOLY MATRIMONY". Even now that the ceremonies are complete, we are informed that the two men are still very happy.

RETURN VISIT (con't)

All indications point to an early start in the foreign relief work in China with men to be chosen from camps of all agencies. The MCC is soon to open a unit of its own in Puerto Rico. It will be a unit of six headed by a medical man. This will be a companion unit to the already well established unit sponsored by the Brethren Service Committee.

When Albert left camp, he took with him Roy Long r, our educational director. The two of them traveled to Missoula, Montana where they will collaborate with the Forestry Service in the selection of the men for the Smoke Jumpers Unit. Roy will be the director of the camp at Missoula. He will return here after the selection of the men, to remain until he must report sometime prior to the camp's opening on May 15.

Albert's visits here are always much enjoyed and appreciated. We hope that he will be back with us again before very long.

NEGRO GUESTS (con't)

One young man, Mr. Harry Groves, has just achieved the distinction of being the only Negro student ever to receive the Phi Beta Kappa award at the University of Colorado.

The Reverend Earnest D. Richards, director of the various Episcopal Church activities in Colorado Springs accompanied our colored guests. The keynote of the evening was expressed when he said "Fellowship is the one great curative for so many of our social ills".

Mr. Ben McConnell, the member of our camp who officiates as Lay Reader at Epiphany Mission, arranged for this distinctive meeting to be held.

QUARTET GUEST AT GIDEON BANQUET

Tuesday evening, April 13th, the quartet composed of Gordon Engle, Gerhard Ens, Franklin Harms, and John Frierson were guests at a banquet sponsored by the local Gideon Camp. The great mission of the Gideon organization at present is to bring the gospel to the men in the army and the navy by distributing Testaments among their number. Prior to the war the Gideons placed Bibles in schoolrooms and hotels.

The banquet took place at the First Presbyterian Church. Ministers and laymen from the various churches of the community and a number of army chaplains from Camp Carson attended. Some very interesting and highly valuable acquaintances were made. This occasion presented opportunities to sing to and contact members of the community who had not been previously contacted by our groups. Such opportunities prove ideal to testify of our way of life to those whom we have not met before.

PIKE VIEW PEACE NEWS

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MORALE BOOSTER

Yes, we confess that with all the uncertainties of camp life our morale is not as high at all times as it should be, but had you been here last Friday night you would not have noticed anything of the kind.

Lamb says, "Alaugh is worth a hundred groans in any market". And if that be the case; then certainly the market went soaring Friday night when, through the efforts of the social committee, our camp participated in a program of fun and laughter.

Wearing a black cowboy hat and a smile that is his very own, Elmer Miller opened the program with a guitar solo. Later in the program more numbers of music were rendered by an instrumental sextette under the direction of Edward Martens. Two skits, "Out Of The Mouth Of" and "The First Client" were given. Perhaps they were lacking in real lesson value, but certainly they lacked nothing in being comical; especially since boys had to substitute for the two feminine characters in the play. Probably the fairer sex would disagree--we don't know how---but anyway the boys did their best to imitate them in action, make-up, and dress.

Gordon Engle gave a reading on "Diagnosing Love". He couldn't have expected us to take it seriously. Toward the end of the program, stunts and contests, for which fine prizes were awarded, made for humor and laughter. The last number of the program was composed of questions on things we should have known, asked by the Master of Ceremonies, Dick Hunter, and answered by the group.

To top it off, ice-cream and cookies were served in the dining hall through the generosity of one of our recently married campees, Paul Perry. You guessed it; we enjoyed the evening.

SPIRITUAL HELP (con't)

Rev. Dyck was especially called to help us in our pre-Easter meditations. Sunday morning his topic for meditation was "The Meaning of the Cross". In the evening he spoke on "Taking an Inventory". He brought out very vivid-

ly the importance of taking an inventory of one's life from time to time. The following evening he again spoke to the group at 8:30. His subject was "The Resurrection". In these messages he made the meaning of the cross and resurrection very real to us. We were very glad to be reminded once again that Christ is not only a Savior of the World, but a personal Savior.

The campees are grateful to Rev. Dyck for giving of his busy time. His fellowship with us was genuinely appreciated and our invitation for his return is extended.

DAIRIES OPEN (con't)

The following men have been selected and played from this camp:

Donnell Bartel	Menno Martens
Abe Epp	Dale Palmer
Melvin Gaeddert	Dave Pauls
Jake Guhr	Martin Schmidt
Marvin Janzen	Paul Schmidt
Henry Boepp	Glen Stucky
Amos Yoder	

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Sunday, April 5

Leader--Titus Jost

Singing led by Franklin Harms accompanied at the piano by Erwin Schrag.

Quartet composed of Gordon Engle, Gerhard Ens, Franklin Harms, and John Friesen sang "Lead Me To Calvary"

Rev. A. J. Dyck delivered the sermon, "The Meaning of the Cross".

In the evening Rev. Dyck spoke on "Taking an Inventory".

Sunday, April 11

Leader--Gerhard Peters

Singing led by Pete Ens accompanied at the piano by Erwin Schrag.

A quartet composed of Gordon Engle, Franklin Harms, Jonathan Janzen, and Erwin Schrag sang for us.

Sermon by Mr. Martens on "Lest We Forget Gethsemane"

C. E. Sunday evening, April 11.

Leader--Milton Grundman

Singing led by Art Fadenrecht

LeRoy Wedel spoke on "The Beginning of Man".

Clarence Joe Unruh spoke on "The Fall of Man".

Mrs. Linschied read a story, "The Last Postage Stamp".

THOSE WE HAVE MET

Edward Classon...Moade, Kansas

A farm boy who likes the farm well enough to make that his life's occupation...a friendly chap and liked by all. (Kleine Gemeinde, Mennonite Church)

Harry Froese...Buhler, Kansas

Was a farm boy and hopes to continue this work after CPS.....plays a guitar...works on the forestry crew. (General Conference Mennonite)

Paul Horn...Corn, Oklahoma

Wants to continue his farm experience...a short, stocky, friendly fellow...(General Conference Mennonite)

Walter Owens...Oklahoma City, Okla.

Was formerly occupied in the meat packing industry...wants to be a farmer after CPS...is a married man and the father of one. (Church of the First Born)

CPS CAMP EXCHANGE

Luray, Va.

The camp experienced its first forest fire in the Shenandoah National Park. It was the men from the overhead that rushed to the scene and after some good honest fighting subdued the flames.

San Dimas, Calif.

A special event for the men at the camp was the arrival of a few days supply of Elk and Buffalo meat. It was obtained through John Parker from South Dakota. The meat was very welcome because of the many meatless days that the camp experiences.

Walport, Oregon

Three tracts of ground totaling four acres have been leased for a camp farm. Thirteen hogs are being fed on the farm. Plans for the future are to add chickens and rabbits as other sources of meat.

Marion, North Carolina

A group of twenty-five men comprise the Buck Creek Reconstruction Group. They are endeavoring to equip themselves for postwar service by studying the social, economic, and political factors that have shaped Central Europe to its present catastrophe.

Marietta, Ohio

All men who are physically able to fight fires are being trained in fire-fighting by the assistant Project Superintendent. The camp has been divided into four groups of twenty men each. Each man receives a four hour training course in the cooperative method of fire-fighting as set up by the Forestry Service.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Men's Chorus from the camp sang at the evening service of the Calvary Evangelical Church last Sunday evening.

Mrs. Selma Linschid, camp matron, took leave of the camp for a week's visit at her home at North Newton, Kansas. Fortunately for her, she was not frozen like the rest of us and found it possible to take the short well-earned vacation.

Henry Loeppe and Allen Wiers were both fortunate in having visitors from home. Henry was visited by his parents and some neighbors. Allen was visited by his mother and a niece.

Mrs. Harry Martens visited her home the week prior to the planned regional conference at Newton, Kansas. It was expected that she would return to camp with Mr. Martens and rest of the conference delegation following the close of the conference. Mrs. Martens took advantage of the conference postponement and stayed away for an extra week. We were all glad to have her return last Monday.

Section 562 P.L. & R.

From:

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There is a destiny that makes us brothers;
None goes his way alone:
All that we send into the lives of others
Comes back into our own.

--Edwin Markham

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