

PIKE

VIEW

PEACE

NEWS

Volume III, Number 2

September 18, 1943

A VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

Dr. Klassen, instructor in Art at Bluffton College came here on Sunday afternoon for a short visit. In the evening he spoke to us concerning some of his experiences in Russia. Dr. Klassen was a native of Russia and lived there until 1923. One can read about the trials and testings of the Russian Mennonites, but it becomes more impressive actually to hear a person who himself went through those experiences tell about them. Dr. Klassen told of the many homes that were broken and of the fathers that were exiled to Siberia never to see their families again. At the time of the Civil War in Russia no one was to shelter any of the refugees, but many felt that it was their Christian duty to do so. As a result, many Christians were persecuted.

Monday evening Dr. Klassen lectured again, but this time he used slides (cont. on page 3)

TRINIDAD CLOSES

This was a day of activity at Trinidad. The boys there were busy packing and loading their belongings, for they were going back to Colorado Sprgs. Everything was checked and rechecked. When everything was ready, another look was taken to be sure that nothing would be left behind. Then everyone into the truck and the trip was started.

Late this afternoon they "pulled into" Colorado Springs, and more activity in CPS 5. The fellows here had to be greeted, and then to find out what kind of work they would be doing. Next, beds and suitcases had to be taken to the dormitories and things arranged in order to be able to get to bed tonight.

(cont. on page 4)

M.C.C. MEETS AGAIN

The office force has again taken over, as Harry Martens, camp director, left Wednesday, September 15 for another directors' meeting with the M.C.C. in Chicago.

Mr. Martens met with the different regional directors on Thursday and Friday. Today Harry was conferring with the M.C.C. board. One of the problems probably discussed was the reorganization of camp administration, since Dr. Fast has resigned as general director of camps in favor of a teaching position at Bethel College.

The C.P.S. Camps have been divided into regions, and there is to be a regional supervisor for each. The details of the new arrangement undoubtedly received considerable attention. Mr. Martens is expected to return to camp sometime next week. WW

WHAT WE DO WHEN WE GET TOGETHER

Wednesday evening, September 15, was our bi-weekly evening for fun. What did we do? Just don't get excited and I'll tell you. At 8:00 o'clock the men gathered in the assembly hall where they sang some of the old favorite secular songs.

After everyone had participated lustily in the singing Dick Hunter led a short discussion on two questions which were referred to the camp body by the camp council. At this discussion the men pledged themselves to try to give at least \$25.00 to the Greek Relief Campaign. This money was to be raised by personal contributions. The other question for discussion resulted in the plan to try to have an occasional formal dinner which in turn might help us to wipe the rust off our badly deficient table manners.

(cont. on page 4)

TIME TO CONSIDER A NEW AGREEMENT

What do you think of C.P.S.? This is a question which must soon be answered not only by the campers themselves, but also by C.P.S. officials and the pacifists not in camp but giving support through time and interest and personal resources. The annual agreement between the Selective Service System and the religious administrative bodies expires with the end of the year, and at that time some new agreement must be completed. This matter, if faced carefully, is not a simple one; there are a host of issues that must be decided. The first and foremost question is the matter of the conditions under which the administrative agencies will continue participating in the C.P.S. program. And second, if the present arrangements would not be continued, then what would be the alternatives?

To some, the major issue seems to concern whether or not the religious bodies can continue to compromise with Selective Service officials in planning the work programs, and in the general supervision of the camps and the fellows in them. This group is of the opinion that in an endeavor to maintain harmony with Selective Service, the Historic Peace Churches have been forced to compromise beyond any point that can be justified; and because of the seriousness of the necessary compromise, this group favors the abandonment of C.P.S. To others, the difficulty in the present set-up consists chiefly of insignificant work and some too much control by Selective Service. This group believes that a revision of the program is all that is necessary, and they believe that such a revision is possible by continued efforts exerted upon Selective Service.

There have been several sore points with the men in the camps which have entered into their thinking on the subject of the new agreement. Almost all of them center around the dictatorial attitude of Selective Service with the religious agencies serving merely as intercessors for the campers. Last spring Selective Service put a ban on furloughs for several weeks and refused to give any reason. The transfer of men from one camp to another has been requested by the religious agencies for various good reasons, and in several instances Selective Service has refused to grant the request and has refused to give any explanation. They have even refused to transfer certain men to any unit except one of Selective Service's own choice. Since the establishment of one government camp in which the church groups have no say in the administration, a number of men have received transfers to it even against their own wishes. These are just a few of the things that cause some persons interested in C.P.S. to think that the program is still no solution to the basic evils of militarism against which we protest. There is discrimination, there is Star Chamber procedure which judges campers without their having any chance to speak in their own defense, there are arbitrary decisions which make the relationship in the program one of dictatorship rather than cooperation for the greatest good and the wisest administration. The issue before us now is the determination of the course to be followed by the church agencies as they consider their agreement for the coming year.

Along with rethinking the C.P.S. program, the conscientious objectors should re-think their own position on pacifism and evaluate the worth of their position to others as well as to themselves. A question well worth careful consideration is this: Upon what is my conviction against war based? On the traditional stand of my church or my group? On a general belief that socially, war is futile? Or is it based on a deep conviction evolved as my own as a result of a genuine belief in Jesus Christ as the Supreme Example and the Savior of all men who will turn to Him? Allied with this last question comes still another: Do we not frequently follow Christ's teachings on war, and yet very few of His other teachings? Pacifism should not be the basis of our religion but it should be the result of our faith.

An important decision is near at hand. A personal inventory is as important as an inventory of the C.P.S. program. We must begin to introspect to greater depths, and when we know what God expects of us in our endeavors, we must act in our relationship with Selective Service solely according to His will with concern for naught else. --RF

TRINIDAD PAGE

Now that Trinidad is closing; there will no longer be a page from "--the Trinidad Side Camp". We are certain that our readers have all enjoyed the very fine work of Arlo Sonnenberg who has prepared that page for each issue.

A VOICE OF EXPERIENCE (Cont.)

portraying his art work to do much of the talking for him. He has done oil painting, drawing, and carving to help in the portrayal of the life of the Memnonites in Russia. These two evenings spent with Dr. Klassen helped us realize more and more the wonderful blessing which we are permitted to enjoy in this land of ours.

As Dr. Klassen had two other camps to visit in his circle trip of 11 camps, he had to leave us on Tuesday morning. We were glad that we were included in the circle. KB

THANKS

We wish to express our appreciation to the many persons who have resubscribed to the Peace News. Our list of subscribers is not as large as it was during the first year when it totaled about 1300, but some dropping off was to be expected. This was one of the first camp papers published, and consequently drew the attention of a large percentage of persons interested in knowing about the camps when they were in their beginning stages. Now it is quite different. Many of the early subscribers have their closest friends and relatives in other camps which also publish papers. In addition, the novelty both of camps and of papers has worn off. It is good however to know that there are so many still interested in our activities.

We also wish to thank those folks who have assisted us financially by unsolicited contributions over and above the subscription price. We have endeavored to maintain a minimum price for the paper, but it does mean that we operate very close to the margin. The first 25¢ of each 50¢ goes into stamps for the 25 issues per subscription. the second 25¢ provides for the paper, stencils, ink, and miscellan-

eous overhead. We are managing to stay solvent, but we owe special thanks to those folks that have saved us at least a few gray hairs.

COMING AND GOING

Since the last issue of the paper, 5 of our men were released from camp because of physical disability. They were John Rigney, Ed Ratzlaff, Arlo Plenert, Elmer Brandt, and Henry Ediger.

Arlo suggested that Dick Hunter take over as foreman of the goldbrickers crew. We are wondering who will occupy Elmer Julius Ernest Brandt's seat in the corner of the dining hall by the door.

The camp is still having ice cream provided for by the fellows before they left. We wish these men the best of luck and God's richest blessings.

We also want to extend a cordial welcome to a new assignee, Ray Firestone from Wichita, Kansas. He is a Methodist and was attending Friends University until he was called to camp. We hope he will enjoy his experience here with us. VB

LATE ODDS AND ENDS

Alfred Hinz is scheduled to arrive here today from Hill City, South Dakota. He is being transferred.

A group of the fellows are to be in charge of the evening service tomorrow night at the Spanish Mission.

The speaker for the morning service here at camp tomorrow will be Dean Roger Hazelton of Shove Chapel at Colorado College. He should have a good audience since it is the Sunday when the Dairy boys visit camp.

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PEEKS FROM THE PEAK

In spite of all the warnings given him by his bachelor friends that marriage is not a word but a sentence, Eugene Salleska is carrying out plans for the exchange of I do's at Fairview, Okla. on the 19th. His friends are lamenting the fact that Eugene will no longer be present at the love-letter writing sessions held nightly in Dorm 5.

The kitchen gang reports that Roland Duerksen just back from furlough again failed to bring his wife from home. Does Roland bring too much about his cooking?

George Yamada is now in possession of some print splattered clothes due to his work in preparing a new location for our library. It is expected that this winter will see quite a few campers worm their way through a number of books and magazines.

Our business manager, concerned about our beef supply for the coming winter bought a steer for fattening. This time it seemed Ed had slipped in his good judgment, for some claimed it was a wild bull. We are happy to announce, however, that Ed won out in the controversy.

The age old rivalry between Kansas and Oklahoma again burst forth in a number of spirited soft ball games in the last few weeks. Before the game the "Okies" would bravely prophesy a lopsided score, in their favor of course. Once they tied the Kansans, but the other times they were humiliated with defeat. H.G.

TRINIDAD CLOSES (cont.)

"Foreman" Clarence R. Ono, "Barber" Herman Quiring, and "Watchmen" Arthur Rediess set up housekeeping in Dorm 1. Ralph R. Kochni is going to "bunk" with

Though man sits still and takes his ease;
God is at work on man;
No means, no moment unemployed,
To bless him, if he can.
--Young

the fellows in Dorm 2. Ruben "Romeo" Becker moved into Dorm 3. Elmer "Slick" Frantz and R. Eugene "Gene" Kopper "parked" in Dorm 5. "Director" Arlo Sonnenberg and Waring Smith drug their beds and belongings into Dorm 6. Hervey Unruh decided to live in Dorm 7. Tobias "Toby" Yoder thinks he can get along with the fellows in Dorm 8 for the duration.

Colorado Springs bids you welcome.
FELLOWS. MM

WHAT WE DO (cont.)

But this wasn't all the fun for this evening. Immediately after the discussion Chief Chatter-box (Ed Martens) and the Colonel (Roland Duerksen) conducted a public auction, where an accumulation of unclaimed laundry was sold to the highest bidders. The money from this sale was put into a fund for the purchase of needles, thread, and patching to be used as needed on camper's clothing.

The entire evening was one of enjoyment for all those who attended and everyone will be waiting for another session, planned by the recreational committee. GE

TWO SICK MEN

Milton Grundman is at home in Wiley Center, Kansas, recuperating from an appendectomy performed at the Bethel Hospital in Newton, Kansas, on September 6.

Elmer Miller underwent an operation for congested sinus and is now undergoing treatments at his home at Pryor, Oklahoma.

We wish "Wing Ding" and "Grumpy" speedy recovery and hope to see them about and "chipper" again before too long. MM

Section 562 P.L. & R.

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