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RIKE VIEW PEACE NEWS



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"PIKE VIEW PEACE NEWS"

Published monthly by the men in Civilian Public Service Camp No. 5, administered by the Mennonite Central Committee.

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THANKSGIVING

It hardly seems possible that another year has passed since last we celebrated Thanksgiving. How numerous are the things for which we should give thanks and praise? Truly, the world is in a turmoil: many have been the hardships, and much suffering has occurred. After examining the happenings of the past, we find many things for which to be thankful. It is through varied and hard experiences that the Christian comes to the realization that "All things work together for good to them that love God." Many are the blessings that God bestows upon us, and there is no better way of showing our appreciation than by giving thanks. How can any man receive these countless gifts without feeling the responsibility of returning thanks?

We all know the origin of our Thanksgiving Day. Do we just celebrate Thanksgiving Day for self-satisfaction, or do we sense the true and much deeper meaning of this particular day? True Thanksgiving is a condition that comes from within the individual. It is a condition of love and appreciation coming from the recognition of some favor received. Unless one has this inward

condition, our celebrations will turn into satisfying ourselves.

Let us enumerate some of the things for which we can be thankful. We in CPS should be especially thankful for the privilege of serving our country in this way, rather than in the armed forces. We have the privilege of acting according to the dictates of our conscience. It is therefore possible to express this appreciation, not only in words, but we could have a much better attitude toward our fellow men. Might it be possible that we show society that our mode of life actually works, and is the true way of establishing a world dominated by peace.

Another thing for which to be thankful is health with all its physical characteristics. We enjoy the benefits received from our several senses. The ability of vision--the seeing of the beauties of nature created by our eternal God. The sense of hearing--communications with our fellow-men. Taste---the enjoyment of our food which God has so graciously bestowed upon us. Touch and smell are the other senses. We could show our appreciation to God for our physical fitness by keeping our bodies clean; not indulging in intemperance and other habits that may harm the body.

Can we be thankful for work? Indeed we can. Life would be quite dull and probably cause mental agony without work. We receive great pleasure in the knowledge of a task well done. It also gives one an opportunity to express the qualities one possesses.

Many are the everyday occurrences and gifts for which to be thankful. Also, we have many spiritual gifts; life itself, with all the possibilities for living a more Christian life; the opportunities of being examples of true

Christian living. For the love of God, That passeth all understanding. For the one and only perfect gift in Christ Jesus, who came to save all men. The opportunity to serve God and not man alone. And so we can continue.

The nation as a whole can be thankful that this war with all its horrors has not reached the United States. We feel acutely the loss in human life, but destruction has not come to this hemisphere.

May we during this Thanksgiving Season be more expressive of our thankfulness than before. And not only during this season, but may we resolve to be more thankful in the future. It is not difficult to express our appreciation; may we do it in the spirit of love and gratitude.

— THE LIBRARY —



A number of new books have been added to the library. Some of them are as follows: THE SOCIAL RECREATION PRIMER published by the Church of the Brethren and will be used to guide them in their recreation. TVA-DEMOCRACY ON THE MARCH by Lilionthal is the story of TVA and how a poor community threatened by seasonal floods was developed into a prosperous community. GREY EMINENCE by Aldous Huxley is a biography strongly recommended by Donovan Smucker when he was here. Another book, YOUTH'S COURTSHIP PROBLEMS by Murray may be a help to some of the men on their courtship problems. OUTLINE OF MENNONITE HISTORY by J. John Friesen is one of the latest books published on Mennonite History. The Beard's BASIC HISTORY OF THE U.S. is said to be one of the best histories written in recent years. Several government bulletins on various topics on farming have been placed in the library. Some of them are: Livestock and Poultry, Farm Planning, and Useful Aids and Suggestions for the farm.

— HOW TO SETTLE A BOUNDARY DISPUTE —

Panama ---- While Europa wrangles over frontier questions, two small nations of Central America have set an example for the world by peacefully settling, through arbitration, a border squabble dating back 119 years.

The peoples of Panama and Costa Rica believe they are entitled to praise for regarding no extra bits of territory, no irredentist ambitions, as of equal importance with harmonious international relations. They are disappointed, however, that their successful handling of an oldtime irritation has received so little notice in a world whose eyes are fixed on conflict.

When the permanent settlement of the ancient argument and adjustment of a frontier line seemed essential, Chile extended her friendly offices and sent a skilled engineer. Atlantic and Pacific commissions were appointed by the two countries concerned, each responsible for its own end of the line, and each consisting of two Panamanian and two Costa Rican engineers.

When the border was finally established with commemorative posts and plaques without forts, barbed wire or other defense systems --- the central plaque was made of bronze cast from historic cannon used by Chile in her war of independence. (Worldover Press)

— — REGIONAL DIRECTOR — —

Rev. Erwin Goering, our new regional director, made his first official visit the last Sunday in October. He was formerly director of Weeping Water & Camino Calif. before taking his present position. Many of the men in camp took the opportunity to discuss their problems with Rev. Goering.

? ANOTHER QUESTIONNAIRE ?

The MCC is making its plans for a post war rehabilitation program. They have asked us to share in our thinking. Their letter states "It does not mean that the MCC will undertake the kind of rehabilitation program that meets the desires of all men, but I am anxious to get the thinking of the men into the planning of our program here. I am sure a good many of the men have been thinking and talking about this matter, and I should welcome the chance to share in that thinking..... What type of assistance are the men thinking of? Is it counseling or financial assistance that they need? Would the men expect outright grants or loans? Do the men think of assistance for educational purposes on the same basis as assistance for farming, business or other occupational assistance?"

Included in this issue are the findings of this questionnaire.

----- PLANS FOR THE FUTURE -----

With men planning to be anything from the president of a business concern to a hobo, it will be a problem to know what sort of aid should be given to discharged CPS men. A recent questionnaire at CPS No. 5 attempted to answer that question for the MCC.

60% of the men are planning to farm when discharged from CPS, 20% plan to continue their education, 7% plan to enter some business and 13% plan to enter other occupations such as teaching, laborers, etc.

The MCC is interested in knowing what sort of aid the men would need or desired. 51% of the men didn't know what sort of aid they would need and 21% said they wouldn't need any help. 15% desired a grant of money which they hoped to repay, and another 10% wanted a loan at a low rate of interest. Since

a majority of the men do not know what sort of aid they will need, it might be profitable to have counselors help the men become acquainted with factors confronting them in the post-war period.

The men in this camp feel that all should be given aid on an equal basis regardless whether they plan to farm or go on to school. A few felt that students should be given scholarships or jobs in school to help them finish their education. An interesting feature was that in the group planning to continue their education, not one said that he would not need help. The farming group was the most independent as 25% said they would not need help in the post-war period.

Discussions are continuing on this subject in the Camp Council meetings in order to crystalize our thinking and to make recommendations to the MCC.

--- COUNCIL MEETING & JOB ROTATION ---

The council elected Elmer Schmidt as secretary of the council. The discussion of Job Rotation took most of the meeting. A plan was proposed whereby jobs should be rotated about every 6 months on the overhead. As that time the position would be opened for volunteers. It was hoped that the project might find it useful to inaugurate such a plan also. It was agreed that there might be specially skilled jobs in which rotation would have to be less frequent. No decision was made by the council as they did not feel ready to give the camper opinion on this subject.

----- SUPPLIES -----

On Monday and Tuesday, the first week in November, one 1175 lb. heifer and 6 hogs were butchered for the camp by a special crew consisting of Ed Schmidt, Waldo Wedel, Walt Stucky, Dick Wooten and Gene Sallaska.

IN THE PAST

-- Three Years Ago --

CAMP TO HAVE SHORT WAVE RADIO STATION

N. Paul Stucky, Moundridge, Kansas, has set up a small but completely equipped short wave radio station in a corner of the dining hall. The station, W9HOM, operates on two wave lengths, 1941 kilocycles and 29,032 kilocycles. The first wave length has a daytime range of 100 miles and night time range of 2000 miles. The second wave length will reach receivers at daytime of more than 1200 miles and has a very uncertain range at night.

Expectations are that the station will serve a real purpose in camp life. Men can communicate with friends who have access to another short wave station. It is possible to receive messages on your radio at home by making use of the short wave band.

N. Paul in the past has contacted stations in every state, several foreign countries, and ships at sea. Within two weeks after setting up his station N. Paul contacted stations in 20 different states.

ALBERT GAEDDERT SPEAKS AT

— MENNONITE CONFERENCE —

"Our Youth As Light In The World" was the subject of an address by camp director Gaeddert at the Western District Conference of Mennonites on Oct. 23 in Newton, Kansas

In the afternoon session, the conference voted unanimously to give complete financial support to the CPS camp program. The conference which began in Convention Hall, Hutchinson, Kans. moved to Newton Thursday morning because flood waters were high.

— CAMP STORE ESTABLISHED —

A camp store, stocked with a variety of articles needed by the campers, is being established this week by the administration office.

Ray Schlichting was appointed to set up the store. Articles are to be sold at cost at the camp store.

MATRON ADDED TO CAMP STAFF

Mrs. Eddie Linscheid arrived in camp November 20 to assume the duties as matron of the camp. Having been without a matron since September, the campers received their new "camp mother" enthusiastically on Thanksgiving Day.

RADIO PROVIDES MIDNIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

To the strains of the song, "I don't want to set the World on Fire", Galen Widmer's sensitive radio burst into flames several nights ago.

No damage done. Harold Reschloy was the hero of the moment.

-- Two Years Ago --

NEW ROOMS

Two new rooms have been constructed on the stage of the assembly hall. One room is being used as a crafts room and the other as living quarters for the carpenter shop attendant. New lighting fixtures were installed in the assembly hall.

— MISSIONARY FROM INDIA HERE —

Rev. J. N. C. Hiebert, returned missionary from India, of the Mennonite Brethren Church, spoke Monday evening, Nov. 23, giving the campers a brief account of the work in their mission field. He illustrated his lecture with colored slides showing the people of India, their customs, problems and needs.

Albert Gaeddert, former Director of Camp #5, stopped in over the week-end of Nov. 15. He served in the camp pulpit Sunday morning; helped to fight a forest fire in the afternoon; and led a gathering in a group discussion in the evening.

FORUM

Question: DO YOU THINK THAT THE M.C.C. OR ANY OTHER ORGANIZED GROUP SHOULD PLAN A PROGRAM FOR POST WAR CONSCRIPTION?

Jesse Diener, Canton, Kansas

I definitely do feel that the MCC or similar organization should plan a program for Post War Conscription. I feel that the testimony we are giving in CPS could and should be carried on by our younger brothers and future generations.

Benno Habonicht, Yoakum, Texas

I think that the majority of people are against Post War Conscription. All the churches should shoulder themselves to not let it pass, or we will be under a complete change into a Military Setup. If it passes the churches should have a Soil Conservation or Forestry set-up --something like CPS now-- ready to take care of their own followers.

Norman Teague, Kansas City, Kansas

I think that if Post War Conscription becomes a reality the MCC should sponsor the Conscientious Objector's program and its "set-up". The MCC has already had experience, as a committee, in dealing with our program of today which will most likely be about the same in case of Post War Conscription. Also the MCC could deal with our problems better than any other group since they are already acquainted with them.

Edwin J. Schmidt, Buhler, Kansas

I definitely feel the MCC should plan a program for Post War Conscription. Total exemption for Conscientious Objectors might seem to be the ideal thing for which to ask; but, would we be able to say we are sacrificing our share for what we believe to be right? Would we be able to feel right, following our regular life's work, while our buddies go and serve a regular term of Military Service? Civilian Public Service with a few modifications: like a government financing

program; better selection of work projects, including openings for relief workers; and less Selective Service regimenting might improve the program. I believe we should be ready to present to Selective Service a definite program of Alternative Service in case a Post War Conscription law is passed.

Sam Jantzen, Moundridge, Kansas

My answer is no.

I feel this CPS program isn't really what Christians want. But under the present condition and pressure it is the best we could do. I am for complete-exemption. Same as saying to put ourselves at the mercy of the government.

First: I feel the Church can not exist under such pressure. Second: We read in Mark 12:17, And Jesus answering said unto them, "Render to Ceasar the things that are Ceasar's, and to God the things that are God's". I Cor. 7:23 "Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men".

Vernie Smith, Ringwood, Oklahoma

My Answer is no.

One reason is because I see a great danger of weakening the Church by taking the young men of 18. Most of them at that age are not grounded in the Faith very good, and a young man is going to fill his mind with something. If he is not grounded in the Faith, and concerned about his soul's salvation, and of others, he will fill his mind with something else. I don't mean to say that camp is a bad place, because I think it is a good school, and a building up Spiritually if a person comes with the right attitude, but if he comes unconcerned it is a downfall.

The church is looking for the young generation to take the responsibility of the church some day. If they don't carry on the true faith, it will be a weak link in the chain, and a weakening to the church.

David Toews, Kremlin, Oklahoma

I don't think that the MCC or any other organized group should plan a program for Post War Conscription. I think that conscription is neither biblical nor democratic. If it were democratic it would automatically be unnecessary because everyone would volunteer his service. If conscription is used after the war and a program is needed, I think there is sufficient program and experience in CPS to start a program (which if necessary, could be improved and enlarged). After Post War Conscription is a law then I think the MCC should plan a program but not until then.

--- EXHORTATION TO THANKFULNESS ---

Above all these things put on charity, which is the band of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and BE YE THANKFUL. Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him. Col. 3: 14-17.

--- CAMP SPORTS ---

The camp sports have narrowed considerably. At the present the temperature has been such to put volley balls on the shelf. Basketball has come to the spotlight with about 30 men participating. Practice is scheduled for each Thursday night.

The YMCA has extended an invitation to the men of CPS #5 to participate in a community basketball league. Teams are to be all civilian. Rumors have it that the league is not progressing as planned. If a league should be formed, what a super team we'd have to enter. CPS #5 has such stars as Paul Schmidt, Ed. J. Schmidt, Menno Schmidt, Leon Friesen and an abundance of good material. Here's hoping the plans progress properly.

--- PROJECT EDUCATION ---

Project Education is conducted for one-half hour every Saturday morning by Mr. Kean Griffith, Camp Supt. The past four weeks of Project Education have been most worthwhile. Many interesting and worthwhile facts were presented.

The topics discussed are as follows:
Water spreading: This is a means of preventing soil erosion and also to utilize run-off water for irrigating land.
Stock ponds: Interesting facts were the placing of stock ponds on the range; locating them so the whole range would be utilized. Also the placing of stock salt. Salt should not be placed at the pond but some where between the ponds so stock would graze the whole range.
Farm ponds: Purpose of pond was a large factor in the location of the pond. Soil should be impervious; if not plating becomes necessary. It was stressed that in plating the job should be done right in order to make the pond hold water for long periods. Fish and wildlife were advocated. Proper size of pond should be determined by the area of run-off. The pond should be neither too large nor too small. The spillway should be constructed large enough to take care of any abnormal run-off.
Encouraging erosion was another topic. In the construction of dams, etc., it becomes necessary to drive to and from work. Roads or trails are made throughout the field. These roads often encourage erosion. Care should be exercised in following contours and not making more roads than necessary. When roads no longer are to be used small dams should be built to divert water from the road back to the grassed land thus preventing erosion.

--- DIRECTOR'S CONFERENCE ---

Dave and Alice left Thursday evening to attend Directors Conference & take some furlough. Ed Balan was asked by wire to attend with the directors. He may be asked to take an administrative position later.

The Christian Endeavor Committee has planned a series of Sunday evening meetings on the theme "Know the Churches in Camp". In this series the history, beliefs, and present contributions of a particular church will be discussed. This will be very informative and help us to understand each other better. An outline has been prepared to help the person presenting the topic to cover fully his church's history. The committee is composed of Jonas Classen, Willard Diener, and Art Pauls.

" THANKSGIVING DAY PRAYER "

For Flowers that bloom about our feet,
Father, we thank Thee.
For tender grass so fresh and sweet,
Father, we thank Thee.
For the song of bird and hum of bee,
For all things fair we hear and see,
Father in Heaven, we thank Thee.

For blue of stream and blue of sky,
Father, we thank Thee.
For pleasant shade of branches high,
Father, we thank Thee.
For fragrant air and cooling breeze,
For beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in Heaven, we thank Thee.

For every morning with its light,
Father, we thank Thee.
For rest and shelter of the night,
Father, we thank Thee.
For health and food, for love and friend
For everything Thy goodness sends,
Father in Heaven, we thank Thee.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

---- HAMBURGER FRY ----

The married men had their hamburger fry at the Garden of God's on Tuesday evening. From the reports over 60 people attended since the supply of buns gave out. Tentative plans are to have a cider and donut feed for the single men.

And there was misery in the land of Templeton Gap. The plague hit camp on a Sunday late in October and spread like wild fire. Evidently some part of the food that was eaten consistently changed direction once it reached the stomach regions causing men to feed the proverbial fish (or heaving). By the evening hosts of men were comforting each other in the bath house and relating how it had "Hit" them. Married men were returning to camp VOLUNTARILY. One patient consulted Doc Harms and as he was fixing up a concoction of paragoric, the doc politely excused himself, rushed for the door, and one could hear sounds of strangulation, etc. When he returned he immediately fixed an extra dose for himself and joined the invalids. The night was hectic. Some races were lost-others were successful. The conservative members slept with a fire bucket at their side.....

The morning found approximately 43% of the men unable to work. The crews did not go out. The "untouched" were mustered in on the overhead jobs or given a weed cutting job. Special tables were set up for the ailing. Classes were cancelled for the evening. The Health Officer was not able to ascertain the exact cause of this epidemic but suggested it might be the fresh fruit, the milk, the flies, etc. On Tuesday the crews were patched up with replacements and sent out to work. By this time everyone seems to have recovered.

~~~~~ SPOOKS IN THE KITCHEN ~~~~~

It is common knowledge that men in the kitchen are live wires. However, little did they realize that their stove was throwing off electric sparks. There was a lot of speculation as to the cause of this loose electricity. A loose ground wire proved to be the cause.



" WE THANK THEE "

L. J. Lantz

We thank Thee, God, for symbols of Thy  
passion;  
The bread we break, the sacred cup we  
share;  
And as we see how Thou for us wast  
offered;  
As we behold Thy awful anguish there;  
May we draw near, the bitter herbs rece-  
iving;  
The dull cold steel our cringing members  
cleaving,  
"To die with Thee."

We thank Thee, God, for prayers returned  
unanswered;  
For hopes cast down and fond, deep  
longings crushed;  
Our cherished aims and selfish plans lie  
scattered;  
Our castles fair are crumbling in the  
dust,  
Help us to say, when idle dreams have  
vanished,  
When foolish hopes and worthless plans  
are banished,  
"We trust Thee still."

We thank Thee, God, for clouds that had  
no water;  
For thorns and thistles challenging  
our toil;  
For open doors that lead to hard battles  
For jolts and bruises and the shields  
recoil;  
Teach us to pray, when flesh would faint  
and falter,  
When stubborn pride would draw back from  
the altar,  
"Reign Thou in us."

---- ACTIVITY NIGHT ----

On Friday night's we would like to  
try an activity night from 7 to 9 P.M.  
for the men and wives of camp. Those in  
chorus will participate at the close of  
their practice. There will be an oppor-

tunity to work on and receive instruc-  
tion in Leathercraft, Toy Making, Christ-  
mas Card making, and Bookbinding. This  
will be an informal meeting to work to-  
gether and visit together. Several ex-  
cellent toys have been made in the shop  
for the youngsters and since toys are  
so expensive and hard to buy, it would  
be a chance to make some. Waldo Voth  
is the expert on rocking hobby horses.  
Some of the ladies have been wanting a  
chance to make some leather goods for  
themselves and for gifts. This would  
be an opportunity to do so.

" THANKSGIVING MAGIC "

Thanksgiving Day I like to see  
Our cook perform her witchery.  
She turns a pumpkin into pie  
As easily as you or I  
Can wave a hand or wink an eye.  
She takes leftover bread and muffin  
And changes them to turkey stuffin'.  
She changes cranberries to sauce  
And meats to stews and stews to broths,  
And when she mixes gingerbread  
It turns into a man instead  
With frosting collar 'round his throat  
And raisin buttons down his coat.  
Oh, some like magic made by wands,  
And some read magic out of books,  
And some like fairy spells and charms  
But I like magic made by cooks!!!

By Rowena Bennett

--- CAR OWNERS CONFERENCE ---

The car owners of CPS #5 met Friday  
the 13th of Oct. to discuss some of the  
problems of cars in camp. It was agreed  
that no cars should be parked in camp  
overnight at anytime. Committees were  
appointed to supervise the car repair  
and to look into the matter of building  
an auto repair garage. This committee  
is Alvin Buller, Francis Sallaska, and  
Vernie Smith. Another committee was e-  
lected to supervise the repair of the  
parking lot and roadway on Mr. Nichols  
property.

