



Religious Meetings.

much what he was getting just then, that he uttered those words."

How the Situation Was Met.

The International Committee, upon the call for troops to the border adopted a budget of \$500,000 for the erection of forty buildings, the employment of over one hundred secretaries and equipment and supplies adequate to meet the situation. In this they have asked the cooperation of the various State Committees.

Governor Henry Carter Stuart, of Virginia, has agreed to proclaim a Sunday in October as "Virginia Army Y. M. C. A. Day," and will ask the pastors of the entire State to present the claims of the army Y. M. C. A. to their respective congregations and ask for voluntary contributions for the support of this work.

Religion Helps the Company Cook Keep Sweet.

The ninety-eight writing spaces were occupied. Every checker, chess and domino set was in use. The reading spaces were crowded in Army Y. M. C. A. building, No. 1, with the Indiana militia at Llano Grande, Texas, and between one and two hundred men were engaging in the chaplain's mid-week service of prayer and song.

The subject was "Heroes of Faith." An invitation was given to participate. In response a tall Indiana recruit unlimbered his gaunt form and in a drawl that caught the attention of every man within range of hearing, said:

"Men, I am my company's cook. I came into this building tonight because the boys said this was a dandy place to

write a letter. But I heard the singing up at this end of the hall and I saw that you boys were having a meeting. I came and joined the crowd because I need the strength that I can find here. I was converted and baptized just a week before we boys started for the border, and I have stuck true so far. But I want to tell you, boys, if it had not been for my new found faith I never could have done it, going through the experiences we cooks have had.

"I guess you boys all remember our first night in camp. You remember how it rained. After we had done up our supper work and set up our equipment ready for

breakfast and protected our breakfast stuff from the rain that was falling it was well along into the night when I crawled into my pup tent, drenched to the bone.

"I tried to sleep, but I couldn't. Some of the boys had killed a rattle snake in camp about sundown and hung him opposite my tent. Then, you remember, we had seen those tarantulas and scorpions in camp all day, and as I lay there on the ground in the dark I couldn't see



Central Figure, General Caranza. At His Right, Provincial Brigade Commander Colonel Hatch. Taken on Interational Bridge, Brownsville.

anything but rattlers and tarantulas and scorpions.

"There was another downpour of rain and I felt the water flowing against my already wet body. This brought me to myself and I said, 'Now, this will never do. I have got to get up at daybreak and get the boys some breakfast, and I have got to get some sleep, snakes or no snakes.' So I said to myself, 'Now, there are two things I can do. I can ditch my tent for one, and I can pray.' So I got up and ditched my pup tent to turn the water off and then I crawled back and I prayed and put it to God to give me peace of mind and keep me through the night and help me make the best of it. And, boys, with that prayer a peace came into my soul and I slept like a babe till daybreak, and the boys in the company had their breakfast, and had a good one."

Religious Work in the Military Camps.

Ten different Bible classes, held in the tents of various companies of the New Jersey regiments at Douglas, Arizona, have been conducted by the

Young Men's Christian Association secretaries connected with the Army Association building at Douglas. One of the groups gave the leader a unanimous vote of thanks for his work; another requested the leader's return by a rising vote.

It is not often that a Bible class teacher is given three cheers as an expression of appreciation. In the Army Young Men's Christian Association building at Douglas, Ariz., eight nationalities were represented in a group led by the secretary, as follows: Polish, Hebrew, Canadian, American, Italian, Irish, Scotch and English. It was after the class broke up that the three cheers for the leader were given with enthusiasm.

Five hundred men have been enrolled for Bible study in the camp of the Virginia troops at Brownsville, Tex. One hundred and fifty were present on Sunday, September 1st, in spite of an hour's deluge of rain which began ten minutes before the meeting hour.

Two Bible classes are held daily in connection with the branch Young Men's Christian Association which has been established at the army base hospital, Camp Wilson, San Antonio.

One Sunday in August, in the Army Association building with the Minnesota militia at Llano Grande, Tex., a secretary taught a Bible class, addressed two meetings and presided at the organ. The day in the building started with Episcopal communion, administered by the chaplain of the First Minnesota Infantry.

At association building, No. 3, Camp Wilson, San Antonio, three strong evangelistic services, with 1,729 men present, were held on August 13th. The attendance at a fifteen minute devotional service before closing the building numbered 250 men.

Three religious meetings are held week-

vate of Company G, Second New York Infantry, said to a secretary: "I like the meetings you have just before you close at night; I will help you all I can."

A mid-week devotional service, held around the temporary Young Men's Christian Association tent at the Leon Springs, Texas, Rifle Range, was attended by 250 men.

There are many opportunities for personal work among the State troops in camp along Mexican border, especially with lonely men and others who need good counsel or advice. Regular visits are paid by the army Y. M. C. A. secretaries to hospitals, where letters are



J. E. Pleasants, Secretary in charge of Y. M. C. A. Work at Camp H. C. Stuart, Richmond.

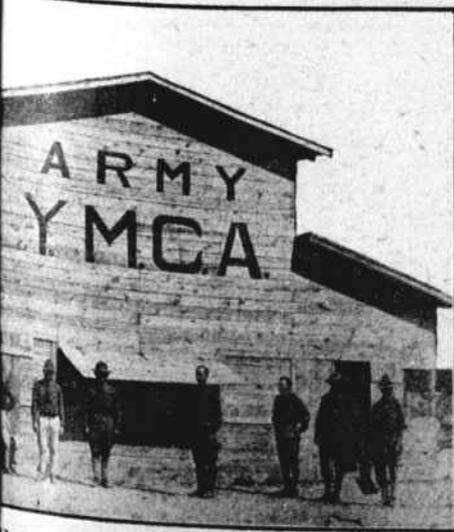
written and cheer carried to the soldiers.

One secretary on temporary duty for three days in a camp, writes: "Had personal interviews with twenty men during these three days and in most cases they were heart-to-heart talks in regard to their fight for many Christian lives."

There is a group of men that the association secretaries seek out especially—the fellows who have gotten into some trouble which has landed them in the guard house. Here they have time to reflect on the mistakes they have made and the secretaries are often able to help them make decisions that will affect the remainder of their lives.

The Young Men's Christian Association provides many facilities for recreation and the thirty-eight big association buildings in the border camps, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, are centers of social life. A regular program of religious work is faithfully carried out. In most of the camps Bible classes are easy to start. One man, head waiter at a big New York hotel, got together two or three men, the Sunday before the Young Men's Christian Association secretaries arrived in camp, to sing hymns. Fifteen men joined his group when they heard the singing, and the head waiter started the first Bible class at McAllen. Another class was formed after a conversation between a secretary and a man who was eager to study the Bible.

When we go home at night from work for God too tired to pray, we have robbed God of that which He needed most. Bring things to pass.—W. E. Doughty.



Brownsville, Virginia. Erected by the State Executive



Camp of First Virginia Regiment, Brownsville.