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THE TOMAHAWK

Published in behalf of, and to secure the welfare of the Indians of the United States.

"Truth before Favor."

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THE TOMAHAWK.

GUS H. BEAULIEU, Founder.
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Just now the public press is loudly protesting, and it is perfectly justifiable to, against the rape of Belgium, the heartless dismemberment of helpless Russia by Germany; the sickening horrors of Armenian butcheries by ravening Turkish hordes and the lawless brigandage of the Balkan states by Austria, yet we hear not a word of public protest against the wonted and profligate expenditure of Indian tribal funds or the confiscation of tribal lands. How about the despoilation of Star Island, State swamp land, Forestry lands and the sixty-three thousand acres of Reservoir land and, by the way, the northern portion of the White Earth reservation and since known as the Thirtetep Towns?

Charity should begin at home.

And the latest prehension legislative measure concerning Indian matters was tacked on the Indian appropriation bill, undoubtedly fostered by Indian bureau officials, to effect that all tribal funds, including miners' deposits, excepting some of the southern tribes, be confiscated, or terms to that effect, and that all said tribal funds be invested in government bonds. The public has been acquainted, through the medium of the public press, with the autocratic proceedings of the German invaders in (extracting heavy tribute from the helpless people of conquered provinces) but it was hardly to be expected that such high-handed proceedings would find countenance in Democratic America.

"A Scrap of Paper," that is the worth and merit which the German statesmen placed on the treaty, "sacred compacts," which was to warrant Belgium and other small nations from being molested or trampled upon by the heels of ruthless invaders. Perhaps some of these erudite German statesmen had, at some time or other, read something about Indian treaty making.

Sh—e! This is on the Q. T., we learn that an investigation (?) was held last week within the precinct of the agency the purpose of which was to try and find a "goat" upon which to saddle the "blame for the wreck of the boys' domitory heating plant," last December, and of which THE TOMAHAWK made a report at the time. And as civil service employees of the Indian bureau are practically immune from censure in the capacity of the subject above mentioned the investigators failed to discover the desired "goat" and, as usual, it is presumed it will result in the same old worn out and thread-bare shibboleth of "let the injuns pay for it." And it is proposed to purchase an entire new heating plant. "Goats and Incompetents," in the Indian bureau service, who ever heard of such things?

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With The Colors.

White Earth Boys Write Interestingly of Army Life at Different Camps

Base Hospital, Camp Bowie, Texas, March 8, 1918.

THE TOMAHAWK, White Earth, Minn.

I have now been in the army for seven months and sure do like the life of a soldier now.

When I first enlisted at Fort Snelling, Minn., I thought that I would never like the life at all, but as time passed I grew to like it very well. I have nothing to complain of as we are well clothed and fed and have very fine quarters. I was at Ft. Snelling for about three weeks and we did only drilling there and had lectures and different studies of medicines.

There was a rumor started that there was to be a shipment of some of the corps men but we did not believe that we (Jordan and I) would be included in the shipment that was to be sent, and a day or so after the names were all posted upon the bulletin board and our names were on there and I felt homesick right away and I did not want to leave, I was not very well posted on drills and the duties of a soldier. But I made up my mind that I would stay with the best of them and so I did.

We left on a Sunday evening at 5 o'clock P. M. and we all (190 in all) marched about a mile to the Quartermasters, there were seven Pullman cars and two baggage cars there, and in ten minutes time we were off. When we were leaving the yards we had to go through a grove of timber and when we were going through I pulled off some good old Minnesota leaves off of a twig that hung close to the cars and carried them until we landed here in Texas. We had a fine time all the way down. We would all get off at every stop and walk around a bit and then we had to run to get back on again. Well, it took us 43 hours to come down here. When we got into Fort Worth we were all disgusted and it was so hot that we did not know what to do. We had to wait about an hour for a large army truck to come after us as we had all our baggage with us, (I forgot to mention that 120 of the boys left us at Kansas City and went to Ft. Sill, Okla.) Well, when we got out to the camp we drove all over to find out where we were to be stationed at, and about 4 P. M. we found out where we were to be stationed, it was then the warmest part of the day and we had to pitch our tents, and hot, it was 115 degrees in the shade and you can imagine how we all felt, after 20 minutes work we had our tents pitched and all ready to move into. We all went to a bath house about a half mile from our camp and we were all going to take a cold shower bath, we turned on the water and got under the shower thinking the water would be cold, but we were all disappointed, the water was hot and we could not get a cold drink anywhere. It was supper time when we got back and we got our mess kits and went to the cavalry mess hall and had supper and after supper we had to haul water for breakfast the next morning, when we were done hauling it we got ready and went to town and on our way back we stopped off at a park for a few minutes and proceeded to our camp. That was our first day in Texas. Give me good old Minnesota any time.

The next morning I was put in the kitchen and had to wait on

table with four other fellows that I did not know, but before the next meal was ready I knew them all. I worked in there for fourteen days and during the hottest part of the month. When I was relieved I was put on carpenter detail with a fellow from Tennessee and I had more fun with him while I worked with him, I used to go to his tent and visit with him just to hear him talk.

We were down in camp for three weeks and we moved up here and have barracks to sleep in and a large mess hall. We looked over the place and we wondered how we could ever have so many patients to fill all the wards (44 in all), about a month later we had them all filled.

There were only 100 of the hospital men when we moved up here, the field hospital men came up to help us out and three weeks later 155 national army men came down and are still here.

We now have only 700 patients and the work is not so hard, we are on duty 12 hours a day and we get two half days a week off. We have doctors here from all over the country, the ward surgeon in charge of the ward I work in is from New York City.

Today was pay day in camp Bowie and most of the boys are in town tonight. We are five miles from Fort Worth and have cars run out here. I go down about three times a week to take in the shows.

I get THE TOMAHAWK every Monday noon and I do not do a thing until I read every word in it. I wish all the home boys had enlisted when they had a chance to and they could get into any branch they wanted to get into. The medical department is a place where we have all kinds of different work to do.

Well, I think I have told you about all that is going on in camp so I will close for this time as I have to report for duty at 7 P. M.
Wm. Heisler,
Camp Bowie, Texas.
Ft. Sill, Okla.,
March 8, 1918.

Dear Uncle Bill:—

Received your letter the other day and was glad to hear from you again. Nothing much doing around here, the same old thing over and over every day and it sure gets tiresome; cannon roaring all day long, bands playing, auto trucks and flying machines buzzing, once in awhile an airplane falls down and somebody gets hurt, is about all the excitement that takes place.

I get THE TOMAHAWK every week so I keep pretty well posted on doings at home, thanks. Mr. Eggers has resigned as Superintendent of the Ft. Sill school and has gone to Michigan to live. I used to pay him a visit every Sunday but now since he has gone I hardly know what to do.

Well, I may as well close for this time, hoping to hear from you again soon, I am, your nephew.
Leon Boutwell,
14th F. A. Band,
Ft. Sill, Okla.

Communications from Morris Martin and Paul Bellecourt to relatives here announce their arrival in France.

Rural Carrier Examination.

The United States Civil Service Commission has announced an examination for the County of Mah-

nomen, Minn., to be held at Detroit, Minn., on April 13, 1918, to fill the position of rural carrier at Waubun and vacancies that may later occur on rural routes from other post offices in the above mentioned county. The examination will be open only to male citizens who are actually domiciled in the territory of a post office in the county and who meet the other requirements set forth in Form No. 1977. This form and application blanks may be obtained from the offices mentioned above or from the United States Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C. Applications should be forwarded to the Commission at Washington at the earliest practicable date.

The vacancy for which this examination is announced is caused by the enlistment of the carrier formerly employed on the route. Upon his honorable discharge from the military service of the Government he will be entitled to reinstatement to his former position as carrier on this route.

However, any person appointed to this position may, in the discretion of the post office department, be assigned to other parts of the postal service; or transferred to other branches of the classified service for which he is eligible.

Wood vs Coal.

According to a bulletin recently issued by the Department of Agriculture the relative heating values of wood as compared with coal are as follows: One cord of dry hard wood will equal one ton of coal.

We learn that the agency officials are paying \$3.95 per cord for a limited supply of this class of fuel. Admitting that this is the case the fact develops that the present system of heating the government schools and agency buildings with coal at say \$8.00 or 10.00 per ton delivered costs the Chippewa Indians, (probably we had better say the government,) twice as much as it actually would if wood was employed as fuel. Now here is a splendid opportunity for the Indian Bureau who is inclined to prate much concerning economy and conservation in the management of the affairs of the wards of the government to set a much needed example of thrift and progressive reform by discarding the expensive system of heating with coal and employ wood instead, of which there is an inexhaustible quantity near at hand.

If the system of heating by wood instead of coal were employed it would greatly tend to diminish the enormous and exorbitant inroad which is annually imposed upon the Chippewa tribal funds, besides supplying a field of industry for a large number of Indians who would find ready employment at profitable wages in the cord wood camps.

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Should Live at Home.

We learn that the agency physician, Dr. Louis A. Feldman and wife, lately appointed to the Indian medical service from New York City and assigned to White Earth, have moved from the agency physician's cottage to a suit of rooms in the agency hospital; that to make room for this change some of the hospital employees were forced to give up their sleeping quarters in order to provide suitable private quarters for the physician's family. One of the employees who protested the relinquishment of her room, which she had occupied for over a year, and to remove into a close-like room was given an ultimatum to "vacate the room or resign." This drastic step can find no reasonable grounds for such manifest intolerant actions as there is a first class modern four-room cottage, built and maintained exclusively for the uses and purposes of the agency physician and his family, and located less than two blocks from the hospital.

This is the first time in the history of the reservation that a physician's family have imposed upon the limited space of the agency hospital, especially to the exclusion and discomfort of some of the employees. Under an arrangement of this kind there ever lurks the possible danger of subverting the hospital's nurses and attendants attention to others than the proper patients' services, and likewise serve to deminish the food supply which is for the inmates of the hospital exclusively.

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