

STUDENTS OF HIGH SCHOOL LISTEN TO A HELPFUL TALK

B. R. VARDAMAN OF DES MOINES TELLS THEM THEY CAN DO WHAT THEY WILL TO DO

STRIKING INSTANCES ILLUSTRATE POINTS

"More Is In Me," Is Slogan of European Duke That Everyone Could Adopt With Help to Living

When Ben R. Vardaman stated that he could talk for five days on a given subject, the high school students before whom he was standing last Friday morning, gave a deep sigh. When, however, he told them that he would only use a few minutes of their time that morning, they were interested. After that few minutes they were still more interested and wanted him to go on, for Mr. Vardaman gave them a most wonderful talk.

In beginning his talk Mr. Vardaman said, "Don't you know it is the hardest thing in the world for people to realize they are living. You ask the boy in the high school what he is studying for and he answers 'I am preparing to live.' Ask him the same question when he gets into college and he will reply that he is getting ready to accomplish some specific work. Ask the business man what he is doing by planning his business and he will invariably answer that he is getting ready to do some bigger and better thing. And even when you ask the old man what he is expecting to accomplish by the work he is doing you will get an answer hinting at a preparation to live. We don't seem to realize that we are living right now."

"Now I want to talk to you a few minutes this morning about your possibilities in life. What you put into it today and every day. Hence I want to talk to you about ENJOY. To illustrate my point I want to tell you about a little bob-tailed dog I used to own. The little fellow would go out in the field close to a wood and begin to bark. As he barked another dog seemed to be barking back from the woods. Then the little dog would bark louder and the voice in the woods would increase in volume. It was echo of my little dog as he barked in the field coming back to him. So is life what we do from day to day is echoed back to us. We reap what we sow."

"Should I come in to your community to analyze your life and offer suggestions for betterment I would not go to the prominent men of the community, nor to the business men along the streets, nor to the professional men, but to the young business men of tomorrow, the boys and girls in the school just like you young people here. I know more about you than you think I do, although I never saw you before. The future of this community will be your echoes. You must work today to make the future of your community better."

"When ex-President Cleveland was asked by college students what he thought was the greatest thing in America, his reply was: 'The greatest opportunity in the United States is the fact that you can be just what you want to be.' I have thought of this saying of Cleveland's much. I have heard me complain because they don't get their just dues. But I tell you they are getting just what is due them. You cannot get out of life more than you put into it."

"The other day I stood in Keokuk, Iowa watching the water flow over the big dam there. I inquired about the beginning of the great dam and was informed that it was originally the idea of Robert E. Lee, the great general known to you all. Lee came there years and years ago and dreamed of the possibilities of the power to be gotten from the waters of the Mississippi. He went away without reducing his dream to practical use. But his dream was picked up by a second man by the name of Cook. Cook came there when young. He looked the possibilities over and went away. Months after he returned with some papers and figures which he showed to some other men. Then he went away and in later months returned with blue prints. After studying the whole situation he again departed. The next time he came he had men, horses and machinery. The dirt began to move, the river was dammed, cofferdams were built to exclude the water and blasting began for the foundations of the great dam. Finally the dam was completed and a result Keokuk, St. Louis, Quincy, and scores of other cities are receiving light and power. All the echo of the life and dream and actions of the men who conceived it."

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REV. AND MRS. NORTON GIVEN FINE RECEPTION

Gathering Was Largely Attended. New Pastor and Wife Made to Feel at Home Here

Friday evening a largely attended reception was given to Rev. and Mrs. P. R. Norton in the parlors of the Methodist Episcopal church. It was a delightfully informal affair and gave evidence of the fine feeling existing between the churches of the city, several members of other congregations being present.

After the introductions to Rev. and Mrs. Norton an informal program was given. Vocal and instrumental selections were features of the program, and the orchestra selections were highly complimented. Rev. Norton spoke briefly following a hearty welcome, and told of his desire to make the church a power for good in Belding.

Refreshments of coffee and doughnuts were served in the church dining rooms at the close.

HARRY CONANT TAKES MARY STULTZ AS BRIDE

Rev. P. R. Norton Officiated—Orchestra Members Give Benedict Member Rousing Home Reception

A very pretty wedding took place last Wednesday evening at eight o'clock at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Milo Peterson, Morton avenue, when Miss Mary Stultz, youngest daughter of Mrs. M. E. Stultz of Okfield, and Mr. Harry Conant, one of the popular young men of our city, were united in marriage by Rev. P. R. Norton of the M. E. church.

The home was prettily decorated with autumn leaves and at the appointed time Mr. and Mrs. Milo Peterson attended the happy couple to the altar, where the ceremony was witnessed by only the immediate relatives. The bride was gowned in white orranderie.

After the ceremony a dainty luncheon was served, after which Mr. and Mrs. Conant accompanied by some of those present went to their newly furnished home on Ann street. At a late hour the members of the M. E. orchestra came to pay their respects to the newlyweds. They showered them with all kinds of foods and vegetables to lower the high-cost-of-living. Many fine selections of music were rendered by the guests before their departure.

Mr. and Mrs. Conant will be at home to their friends at 314 Ann street of this city. The best wishes of many friends are extended to them.

ARTIFICIAL ICE MORE SANITARY FOR CONSUMER

HEALTH OFFICER LITTLE HAS RECEIVED DATA RELATIVE TO COST OF ICE PLANT HERE

Health Officer E. W. Little has had some communication with outside firms relative to the cost of artificial ice for Belding. He has data showing that a good plant with sufficient capacity to supply Belding, can be built here at an approximate cost of \$9,000 to \$12,000, depending upon the cost of power, etc.

A firm from outside the city and yet near enough to deliver ice to Belding on a cheap freight rate and with dispatch names a price of \$3.00 a ton for ice f. o. b. its plant. Dr. Little believes that the ice can be delivered to Belding consumers at a reasonable figure and with complete satisfaction to them. He states that artificial ice is all made from distilled water and hence is much more sanitary than any natural ice. It is possible to obtain He classes any and slush ice as unsanitary and dangerous to the health of users. He is interested, along with many other citizens, in procuring the best and most healthful supply of ice for Belding it is possible to obtain.

Will Get Monkey Elmer E. Cook has arranged to get a monkey to add to the collection of animals at Cook park. He will make the trip after him Thursday. The "missing link" is being procured near Lansing.

LOCAL MASONS TO HOLD A SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION

GRATTAN AND GREENVILLE LODGES WILL COME HERE NEXT MONDAY NIGHT

Belding Lodge No. 355 F. & A. M. will have its first big event of the season next Monday night, October 22, when a lodge of instruction will be held under the direction of Grand Lecturer Frank O. Gilbert of Bay City. The Masonic lodges from Grattan and Greenville have also been ordered to appear at the communication on the same evening.

A good supper is being prepared by the local Masons for the event. The banquet will be served at 6:30 sharp. Unusual interest is being attached to the feast, because of the contemplated rabbit hunt next Saturday to supply the meat for the occasion. The members, who are hunters, have been divided into groups and headed with captains of tried and true ability. Each captain has guaranteed his full quota of game for the feast.

Following the supper Belding lodge will work the third degree and receive instruction in the work from Mr. Gilbert. Word has been received that good delegations from Lowell and Saranac will also attend the communication.

RURAL SCHOOL LOYAL TO PROCLAMATION

A patriotic rally was held at the schoolhouse of Eureka, District No. 4, Monday evening, October 15, in accordance to the proclamation by Governor Sleeper. Over fifty people were present. The school children furnished a fine program; also patriotic speaking by Byron Brown, C. M. Loomis and J. C. Taylor. If the 8,000 schools in the state of Michigan have shown the same patriotism that was displayed here by the program and speaking, it would show the people of the world that the people of Michigan are behind the president of the United States.

Ambrose Ailchin. Mrs. S. E. Dean of Barryton came Monday to visit relatives in this city.

Wanted—300 bushels of cider apples.—Art Strong.—Adv.

Proclamation

by C. A. Knapp, Mayor

The United States Navy's second call for men has reached Michigan. It is a call that should be considered seriously by every citizen.

The first call for sea fighters, to combat the menace that has claimed a heavy toll of American lives and property came shortly after the United States entered the war. The Navy called for approximately 200,000 men to join the 50,000 who at the outbreak of the war went forward to meet the enemy.

The United States answered as it should. Men arrived at the Navy Training stations by the thousands. The Navy machinery had to turn with lightning speed. A steady stream of untrained men poured into the stations and a steady stream of well drilled fighting men poured out, seaward. Every available foot of ground at these points was covered with tents and temporary buildings to accommodate the recruits, but finally the strain became so great that restrictions had to be placed on recruiting. Michigan was limited to thirty men a week and for a while these had to be sent to their homes until room had been made for them at the training stations.

Now the Navy has caught up, and by increasing accommodations for recruits is now handling the work swiftly and efficiently.

Michigan has been notified that the Navy is ready for more of its men; that there are places in the first line of defense beside the 6,000 or more red-blooded sons of Michigan now serving under the Stars and Stripes on the high seas.

I am informed by Ensign D. J. D. Coleman, the officer-in-charge of this district, that not only is the Navy the best paid branch of the military service, but that the opportunities for advancement in it are now unexcelled.

The Navy depending upon the patriotism of Americans to enlist in this time of need and not being able to get men by the Draft, I, C. A. Knapp, mayor of Belding do issue this proclamation, calling upon the citizens of Belding, to consider the Navy's call, to enlist or if they cannot enlist to urge eligible young men to take their places beside Michigan's first 6,000 who are now sweeping the seas to safeguard the passage of American soldiers and others who must go to foreign lands. Every citizen should lend a hand. Every citizen should do his best. The Navy, the only branch of the service that has seen action in this war up to this time, the Navy that bounded forward to crush the enemy the moment Congress said "War," is calling for men, and Michigan must answer as stoutly and as gallantly as she did when the first call sounded.

COMMERCE BOARD HELD BIG BANQUET

VARDAMAN SPOKE URGED MEN OF CITY AND COUNTRY TO GET ACQUAINTED FOR BETTERMENT OF ALL

Members of the board of commerce were served with an excellent supper in the auditorium of the city hall last Friday night when one hundred and twenty-five men of the city gathered for an educational meeting. The men were well and quickly served with a substantial and appetizing meal. At the conclusion of the banquet tiny flags were rained down on the men from the bunting and flag decorations overhead. Appropriate pins, previously placed at each plate, soon were brought into service to pin the colors onto coat lapels.

The post prandial speaker was Ben R. Vardaman of Des Moines, Iowa, a speaker of national reputation as a beacon light in community building and betterment. He is now president of the National Community Betterment association, and associate editor of the Merchants' Trade Journal. Vardaman was limited to a thirty-minute talk, but in that time outlined some business principles vital to the success and growth of this particular community. His talk should stir the lifeblood of every patriotic citizen of this section. Great action for cooperation and development of local resources and advantages should be a consequence of listening to such a talk.

Later at the opera house Mr. Vardaman talked for an hour to a mixed audience on community building and improvement. The basic thought of his opera house address was that rural and city dweller should get acquainted, mingle one with the other and work for a common end. Make the community a fit place for the young people to live and start a home in. Better the community by local improvement. He said if everyone should send their dollars out of town the community would soon become stagnant, farm and city property values would decrease unmeasurably and the children would invariably follow the dollars to the cities and live lives of misconceptions. Finally the communities would die of dry rot.

The speaker gave many choice, clear and pointed illustrations where communities had worked together and wonderful advancement had been made. Walls between cities and rural sections had been broken down and the slogan of one city, "Get Acquainted With Your Neighbor, You Might Like Him," had transformed one fossilized community into one of the liveliest sections of the country. This was Trenton, Missouri, where formerly the city was what was called a 6000 population but now it is "twenty miles across" although the city itself has really increased but little. The idea is that farmers and city dwellers are working hand in hand for better roads, better churches, better schools, and better ideals of every kind.

Board Will Adjourn The board of supervisors are on the last week of the October session. They will close their work this week. The members of the board from this city—John W. Moore of the first ward; Barney C. Curtis of the third ward; and W. B. Travis of the second ward, together with Supervisor Frank Davis of Otisco have driven to Ionia every morning, returning home at night. At their recent visit for inspection of the county farm and buildings they brought home much praise for the systematic way the business there is managed by S. F. Gates, the farm manager. They found everything about the place in an orderly and tip top shape. They think Mr. Gates is the right man for the place.

PHIL JAKEWAY WEDS A KALAMAZOO GIRL

The announcements of the marriage of Philip E. Jakeway and Miss Helen Staff of Kalamazoo, have been received by friends in this city. The wedding took place September 15 in St. Joseph's church of that city. Rev. Fr. O'Brien performing the ceremony.

"Phil" will be remembered as a graduate of the class of '16 of B. H. S. He is employed by the Michigan Railway company in Kalamazoo at present and likes his work very much. The bridal pair were entertained recently at the home of Mr. Jakeway's sister, Mrs. Edna Ward. Other guests on the occasion were: Asa Jakeway, the cottoner, Florence, of Moscow, the Delta, Mrs. Geo. Whitten of Belding, and Kittie Lessiter. The bride and groom are at home to their friends at 735 Academy street, Kalamazoo, Mich.

PYTHIAN LODGE REWARDED BY ITS EFFORT IN PLAY

SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS IS RECEIVED FOR BENEFIT OF WAR FUND BEING RAISED

The Knights of Pythias cleared approximately \$75 from the production of the play, "The Elopers," at the opera house last week Wednesday and Thursday nights. The receipts from the engagement were used to swell a certain war fund the Pythian lodge is raising.

The play was a light comedy filled with musical numbers. The leading parts in the plot were taken by Ethel Jersey, Celia Crowell, Norman Johnson and Chauncey Chase. Will Brown, posing as Willie Hicks, the four-year-old son of Hiram and Samantha Hicks, was much in evidence all during the play. The trusty rival for popular favor was Policeman Glenn Brown. This pair appeared at most opportune times to cause laughter and fun for the audience.

Hazel Sturges, and her girl associates, evoked much applause by their singing, "O, You Wonder Child," accompanied by marches and dancing. The play was not void of patriotism, many of the songs being of a patriotic trend. Art Strong was the hit of the evenings, when singing in his most exquisite voice the song, "You Can't Tell the Mothers." "Good-bye Girls," sung by Mr. Kerr, was appreciated by everyone and received an encore applause.

Altogether the play was a success. The second night's engagement was much better than the first, but the rain of the afternoon prevented many people from attending. F. A. Ogden is deserving of much credit for the success of the event. The Pythian Sisters who helped also were deserving of praise.

Announcement The local orchestra will give a Halloween dance at Crawford's hall October 31.

Local dance lovers will be pleased to learn that Hale's orchestra will give a big special Halloween and confetti dancing party on Wednesday evening, October 31, at Crawford's hall, Belding. This will be the big fun dance of the season and among the many new features will be two barrels of confetti; also 45,000 yards of serpentine, which is more fun than confetti. These will be passed out free to the dancers. The hall will be beautifully decorated and light furnished by dozens of Japanese lanterns. An invitation is extended to all. Five hours of solid fun is guaranteed to all. Everybody turn out and give the local orchestra a boost.—Advertisement.

WARREN L. BERRY WRITES A LETTER TO GRANDFATHER

IS A RECRUIT IN 20TH REGIMENT FOREST ENGINEERS WILL GO TO FRANCE

Washington, D. C., Oct. 4, 1917. Dear Grandfather: It has been a long time since I wrote you, but will try and make it up now.

Well, grandfather, you were one of the "boys" that saved our nation during the Civil war; so I am to one of the boys that are going to save it now. As I think back at you and my great-uncles who made such great sacrifices for the grand old flag, I feel proud of the fact that I have enlisted and have the chance to serve now. Grandfather, the "boys" have the same enthusiasm now as they must have had then. We are going to bring back old glory without a stain, or the trying.

I am in the 20th Regiment of Engineers (Forest). Just experienced lumberjacks or men trained in that line can enlist. It is to be made up of just volunteers; no drafts whatever. Our work will be to go into the French forests and furnish timber products for the army.

I myself have enlisted as a mechanic and have reason to believe I will get such work, but we cannot tell for sure until we get across. We are mobilizing at a camp here in Washington, D. C.

We have a nice camp here and have fine officers. That is one thing about our regiment. Our officers are to be men of lumbering experience. I believe that they will all be men who know how to handle men and do it right. The military discipline is a little hard at times in some ways but I like it nevertheless. We have quite comfortable beds and very good food. A great deal better than I expected to get in France. The government is having a hard time equipping us, but they are doing their best and better than any other country now in the war, so we have no kick, although some fellows do.

I haven't had time to see what the city of Washington looks like, but hope to before I leave. As near as I can find out we will go to France sometime between October 20 and 30. Well, grandpa, this is about all I can tell you at all. I will close now. "Here's to Old Glory."

Your grandson, Warren L. Berry, Company A, 20th Engineers (Forest) American University, Wash., D. C.

Child Labor Law Hereafter no child under 14 may be employed in any factory, mill, workshop or cannery in the United States whose products are to be shipped in interstate commerce, and no child under 16 in any mine or quarry. The working day of children under 14 and 15 years of age in factories may not be longer than eight hours and they may not be employed between 7 a. m. and 6 p. m., according to a new law which went into effect September 1.

Miss Susie Johnson of Lansing was here this week calling on friends. She was at one time a weaver in the White mill and made many friends while here, who deeply regret that she has decided to remain in Lansing. She will return to that city on Thursday.

A Business Man Talk Frisette & Divine have a special straight talk to business men in their advertisement this week. It is a talk that everyone should read for his own benefit. There is something reasonable and very true for you to consider in the thoughts expressed.

L. HARTWELL TAKES SEC. C. F. ANGELLS PLACE

Began New Work in Ionia "Y" Circles Tuesday, Angell Will Still Live in Ionia

W. Lee Hartwell of Marshall has been engaged by the Ionia County Y. M. C. A. cabinet to succeed Secretary C. F. Angell, who resigned a few weeks ago. Hartwell has had considerable experience as a local worker in "Y" work, having led numerous Bible study groups and been prominently identified with the general work of the organization in Marshall. He came to the new work in Ionia county Tuesday.

Mr. Angell has been county secretary for several years in this county, with headquarters in Ionia. He will immediately take up new employment as sectional worker in Michigan. He has been given this section of Michigan and will continue to live in Ionia for the present at least. Mr. Angell has a large acquaintance in the county who will be pleased to hear of his advance into the ranks of state workers. His work among the boys of the county the past few years has been great.

Annual Meeting The annual meeting of the Belding Bird club will be held at the city hall next Saturday evening, October 20, at eight o'clock. As this meeting is for the election of officers and directors for the coming year a good attendance is desired. G. P. Kimberly, Secretary.

HUNTER WAS SHOT BY A COMPANION--CHARGE IN LEG

D. McROBERTS VICTIM OF ACCIDENT WHEN DWIGHT JOHNSON'S GUN WAS FIRED

D. McRoberts is at the home of Chas. Barton suffering from a badly lacerated thigh, caused by being accidentally shot by Dwight Johnson last Sunday. The whole charge from a shotgun shell entered the man's body and lodged. The shell was filled with steel shot and this fact makes the wound less dangerous.

McRoberts, Johnson and two other men were hunting near Gowen Sunday. The game was running slow and when a rabbit jumped from behind a stump McRoberts was circling he quickly grabbed it in his hand. It wiggled loose and started to run. Johnson, who was to the rear of McRoberts, cocked his gun for a shot at the fleeing animal, when one of the barrels was accidentally discharged, the load entering McRoberts' leg. The two men were about twenty feet apart at the time, and the shot had just begun to spread.

The wounded man was brought to Greenville where a physician painted the wound with iodine. He then was brought to Belding. It is expected that he will get along all right if infection can be kept from the wound. McRoberts is about thirty years old and is married. He has lived in Belding only a short time. He formerly lived near Greenville.

NEW IDEA CLUB LADIES BANQUET THEIR HUSBANDS

TWENTY-ONE COUPLE EVENING FEAST AND IDEAL EVENING AT HOTEL BELDING

The ladies of the New Idea club entertained their husbands at a banquet at Hotel Belding Tuesday evening, the occasion being an annual affair with the club. Twenty-one couples attended. The table decorations were purple and white, the color scheme being cards and menus were used to complete the aesthetic portion of the dinner.

Following the banquet, in which the hostess management portrayed the usual skill, the guests repaired to the parlors, where five hundred was played. Mrs. A. J. Rummel received the single prize offered, a large bunch of chrysanthemums. A. M. Hall furnished the guests with some choice music, the final selection being the "Star Spangled Banner."

The New Idea club was organized five years ago. Its membership now numbers twenty-four. Mrs. C. A. Knapp is president of the club. At Tuesday's banquet three of the members were sick and not able to attend. Those who enjoyed the evening were: Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Knapp, Mr. and Mrs. V. R. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Wortley, Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Willoughby, Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Strunk, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. O. N. Wilton, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Rummel, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. French, Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Warner, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Kemp, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Leonard, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dimmick, Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Rockefeller, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. S. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. Frank O'Bryon, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rodgers.

Attended His Second Wedding Mrs. Daniel Cameron went to Grand Rapids Tuesday to attend the wedding of her brother, A. O. Bush. This will be the second time she has attended his wedding, the first being fifty years ago when he and his first wife were married. She died several years ago. Mr. Bush is now sixty-eight years old.

Mrs. Cameron will remain with Mr. and Mrs. Bush a few days after the wedding.

LEWIS DARROW IS IN AERO SQUAD AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

WRITES LETTER TO RELATIVES TELLING OF LIFE THERE. MEN LIKE WORK

Lewis Darrow, son of Martin Darrow of Johnson City, New York and a nephew of Mr. and Mrs. James Darrow, has written a nice letter to his uncle and aunt here. Young Darrow is in the 78th Aero Squadron at South San Antonio, Texas. Here is what he writes to his relatives in Belding: October 3, 1917. 78th Aero Squadron, Kelly Field, South San Antonio, Texas.

Dear Uncle and Family—I received your card and was pleased to hear from you. I passed you somewhere when I was on my way to Texas. There were three hundred of us. We made the trip from New York City in four days and three nights, riding in Pullman sleepers and we altogether a very nice trip. It was seven weeks yesterday since we landed in Texas.

Texas isn't a half bad place, but I liked Broome county, New York better. There is no place like it in my estimation. Camp Kelly, where I am stationed, is only seven miles from San Antonio. We go down to the city every time we can get the chance. It is quite an interesting place.

The 78th has been quartered in tents, until yesterday we moved into the wooden barracks—electric lights, mess hall and other accommodations. I like the service fairly well and am beginning to get a pretty good estimation of what it is like. We haven't had to work very hard yet and they let us play ball and have all sorts of recreations, in fact, they encourage them. So we have a good time. By the way the fellows eat and enjoy themselves one would think that we were on a summer's vacation trip. Would like to hear from you again, Lewis Darrow.

MRS. F. P. HAMMAN GETS NICE LETTER FROM GRANDSON

BEN LONGAN TELLS OF LIFE AT CAMP McARTHUR. DESCRIBES ACTIVITIES IN CAMP

Camp McArthur, October 8, 1917. Dear Mother: Yours received but have been so busy that I could hardly find the time to sleep. Today we had the first Michigan day since we have been here. The people around here say it is the starting of the rainy season which takes the place of our winter and I suppose we will have to spend some of our spare time now cleaning shoes for the city snow here. It just like glue when it gets wet. This week we have been getting bayonet drill most of the time and we all go at it as fierce as the picture I sent you shows.

We have reveille at 5:30 in the morning; get back at 6:30; start on a hike at 7:00; get back at 8:00; police the camp from 8:00 till 9:00, then drill from 9:00 till 11:30, and eat at 12:00; go to school from 1:00 till 2:00, and from 2:00 till 4:30 we do squads right again, and from 4:30 till 5:35 which is retreat we clean up ourselves and our quarters. So you see we keep busy. I will now tell you what retreat is. At 5:30 we line up in the company street in company formation and stand at present arms while the regimental colors are being lowered and the band plays "The Star Spangled Banner," and a soldier who does not stand at salute and is caught is court martialed. Oh, yes, I want to tell you of our Sunday dinner we had roast chicken, mashed potatoes, brown gravy, celery, pie, bread, butter and coffee, so you see that hard-tack stuff you hear about is all "bunk." In a week or two we will have winter quarters and then things will begin to look home-like around here, though things are kind of torn up changing the regiments around for part of the 81st Michigan was put in with us and the other part goes in with the 33rd, which are still in Michigan. Well, we are all set now but everybody is "beefing" for fear we will never see any actual service. The officers are even betting at odds that we won't but they don't know any more about it than we do. Well, guess I will close now and roll in for that 5:30 don't seem very far away. Your son, Ben. Co. K, 126 Infantry, N. C. Camp McArthur, Texas.

BURGLAR ATTACKED O. SLAYTON WITH AXE

Albert and Russell Slayton of Grattan received a telegram Tuesday that Otto W. Slayton and his wife, who are residing in Wayne, were attacked in their home at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday morning by an unidentified man who entered and struck them with an axe. No details of the tragedy have been learned, except that Mr. Slayton is in the hospital at Eloise in a critical condition. It is supposed, however, the intruder was a burglar and put up a fight when caught.

The children were unharmed, but Mrs. Slayton was injured in the fight with the man. Albert and Russell left immediately for Wayne on receiving the message. Otto is well-known here. He was a graduate of the Belding schools.