

THE DIXIE

The Weather:

The Chamber of Commerce said it was mist.

Dixiedoodle Says:

Wish they'd start a division school in Spanish.

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE DIXIE (31ST) DIVISION

"IT SHALL BE DONE"

VOLUME 1

CAMP BLANDING, FLORIDA, JANUARY 10, 1941

NUMBER 1

General Persons' Career Varied and Successful

Birmingham Banker Won World War Medal

It might be said that Major General John C. Persons has in a brief space lived the lives of several persons.

The commanding general of the 31st Division has been a successful lawyer. He is president of the First National Bank of Birmingham, largest bank in Alabama. At the University of Alabama he reported college news for several newspapers, acted as bursar and registrar, and in 1912, a year before being graduated cum laude from the law school, he was treasurer of the university. In Tuscaloosa, where he first hung out his shingle, he also engaged in the lumber business before becoming a banker.

Back In 1917

But it isn't General Persons' success in civilian life which qualifies him for his post. He was soldiering before a great many men of the 31st were born; soldiering in France, where the going was tough. Back in 1916, before this country entered the war, General Persons went to the Plattsburg training camp. In September, 1917, he was commissioned at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, as a captain of Infantry.

Two months later he was in France. Assigned to the Forty-seventh Infantry he fought at St. Mihiel, at Toul, in the second battle of the Marne, and the Vesle river. For extraordinary heroism at Vesle river—he saved the life of a wounded corporal—General Persons received the Distinguished Service Cross of the United States. He was also awarded the Distinguished Service Medal from Alabama, has four stars on his Victory Medal. And he was a major of Infantry and adjutant of the seventh Division when he was discharged in 1919.

Led 62nd Brigade

The World War didn't end his

TOP MAN



GENERAL JOHN C. PERSONS

military career. Entering the National Guard after that conflict, he became a lieutenant colonel on the 31st Division staff, as operations officer, and from 1931 until his elevation in October of this year, he was brigadier-general of the 62nd Infantry Brigade.

A quiet, incisive man with a close cropped mustache and a vigorous figure, General Persons neither smokes nor drinks. When he speaks of soldiering, he knows what he's talking about.

This is what he has to say to the men of the 31st:

"All of us are part of a defense program which may mean the very existence of our country. Time is the essence of that program. That means we must use every minute of our time to perfect a fighting machine so coordinated and well-trained as to make impossible any attempt to defeat the United States. In that machine, the 31st Division can become the most effective cog. It's up to us."

And it might be remembered that General Persons has been successful at everything else he's tried.

Mississippians Go To Orange Bowl

Mississippi State had a special army cheering section New Year's Day when the Bulldogs defeated Georgetown in the Miami Orange bowl game.

Thirty men from Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion of the 114th Field Artillery, all erstwhile students at Mississippi State were furnished student passes by the college and transportation by Colonel A. G. Paxton. The battery's home station is Starkville, where Mississippi State is located.

Saluting Limits

This may end a lot of confusion and arm lifting—the military kind anyhow.

Saluting is not required between officers and enlisted men when they meet more than a thousand yards from the camp limits.

However, if enlisted men are addressed by an officer at any time and anywhere, they must salute and the salute must be returned. In camp the customary military courtesy of the salute will continue as always, and outside of camp limits men are subject to commands of officers in specific situations.

Dixie Troops Lead Parade

Florida Units Cheered At Inauguration of Holland

Greatcoats swinging and bayonets upthrust at the lowering sky, a tin-hatted battalion of the 124th Infantry led the parade in Tallahassee at the inauguration of Governor Spessard L. Holland of Florida last Tuesday.

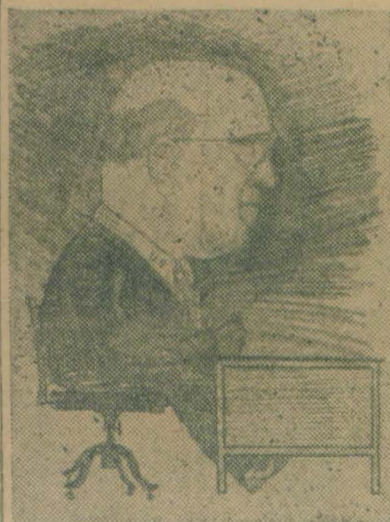
Behind them lumbered the prime movers, trucks and reconnaissance cars of the 116th Field Artillery in full strength, past the reviewing stand where stood the governor, Major-General John C. Persons, Brigadier-Generals Louis F. Guerre, Sumter L. Lowry, Jr., and Joseph C. Hutchison and other ranking officers of the 31st Division and the Navy. Also in the vanguard were detachments from the 106th Engineers, the 106th Quartermasters, 62nd Brigade headquarters and the bands of the 124th and the 116th, to provide Tallahassee with its largest military spectacle since the World War.

The Florida troops participated in the parade at the end of a 158 mile maneuver, executed without a hitch, which brought them to Tallahassee for the ceremonies. The conduct and appearance of the men, and the sight of the motor vehicles and sleek '75's brought from the thousands of spectators the greatest applause given any part of the eight-mile, three hour long parade.

Both Governor Holland, himself a combat veteran of the World War, and General Persons, praised the soldiers during and after the parade. The units made a return march to camp early Wednesday morning, with no casualties other than an officer who understandably fell asleep during an afternoon division school class.

School Days Began Again For Selected Officers And Enlisted Men Of Dixie Division This Week

FRONT MAN



Purposeful Program Of Coordinated Training Entered Upon By 900 Students

Approximately 900 officers and men of the Dixie Division went back to school this week.

Handicapped in instances by lack of equipment and facilities, but with one of the most ambitious and coordinated instruction programs yet devised as a basis, the students of the division schools had as their guide the goal set by their commanding general and brigadiers at the opening session.

The goal in brief is to standardize the training of the entire division, with no compromise with its quality.

Bayonets To Stoves

So, in class rooms and training areas this week, men jabbed at each other with bayoneted rifles, pored over books on military law and intelligence, peered into cook stoves, studied tactics, got the feel of '45's and hand grenades and army rifles, approached the complexities of army traffic control and clerical procedure. Their attitude, and that of their instructors was purposeful. It was their job to learn so that in the words of Brigadier-General Sumter L. Lowry, head of the schools, they could become "the fountain head of instruction for the division."

The Instructors

Every school scheduled to start during the week was underway by Thursday. Several courses are not to begin until later in the month. The schools and the instructors—who in most instances have officers or enlisted men as assistants—follow:

Gunnery, Major Robert H. Holmes, Jr., 114th FA; Executive, 1st Lt. Dozier S. Bryan, 117th FA; Survey, 1st Lt. Edmond J. Swann, 116th FA; 60 mm mortars, Capt. Howard O. Roy, 156th Inf.; 81 mm mortars, 2nd Lt. Bart W. La Hatté, 155th Inf.; 37 mm AT gun, Capt. Earle M. Shine, 124th Inf.; Cal .50 MG, Capt. Harry J. Lewis, 124th Inf.; Rifle, .30 Cal., 2nd Lt. Sanford C. Tolbert, 124th Inf.; Light MG, 1st Lt. Percy C. Still, 167th Inf.; MG .30 Cal., 1st Lt. Alphonse H. Fritol, 124th Inf.; Pistol, .45 Cal., 1st Lt. Samuel E. Williams, 167th Inf.; Grenades, 1st Lt. L. E. Pauley, 156th Inf.; Bayonet, 2nd Lt. Robert Q. Smith, Jr., 155th Inf.; Motors, Major Mark W. Lance, 106th Qm Regt.; Supply, Captain John Heilich, 106th Qm Regt.; Cooks and Bakers, 2nd Lt. Roy P. McRae, 106th Qm Regt.; Communications, 2nd Lt. James V. Mickle, 31st Sig. Co.; Radio, 1st Lt. John P. Sweeney, 31st

(Continued on page 4)

Contributors Wanted

The Dixie wants and will acknowledge contributions from all officers and men of the 31st Division.

Cartoons, photographs of general interest, and news stories and humorous squibs are desired to supplement the work of the staff and to make The Dixie more completely representative of the entire division.

Deadline for cartoons and photographs is Saturday morning of each week. Deadline for stories is Tuesday of each week. Contributions should be turned in to the editor at G-2, Divisional Headquarters, or to your regimental publicity officers, whose names appear on the editorial page masthead.

THE DIXIE

Official Newspaper of the
Dixie (31st) Division
Camp Blanding, Florida

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The Dixie is published Friday of each week in the interest of the officers and men of the 31st Division, with publication offices at G-2, Division Headquarters, telephone 186.

THIS IS IT

Like the army itself, this first issue of The Dixie is just an indication of things to come. Or so we hope. It all depends on whether or not the officers and men of the Dixie Division with writing, photographic and artistic ability hide their lights under a pyramidal tent.

We want The Dixie to represent every regiment in the Division. Each regiment has a press officer, but the job isn't up to the press officer alone. No item of news is too small or too big for them or for us. So let us know what your unit or your tent mates are doing, if it bears telling—and tell it often.

The rain may have bothered us some, but from what we've heard, the men of the Dixie Division are more concerned with being properly uniformed. That's as it should be. A soldier feels more like a soldier if he's dressed like one. So here's hoping that before long, more men will have more to wear than a pair of pants of the vintage of 1917 and a reconditioned wool shirt or two. And when the new issue stuff starts spreading joy, we'd like to see the Guardsmen getting at least an equal division with the selective service men.

Maybe Starke is dazed and Jacksonville bewildered by this increase in their population—especially week-end population. But those neighbors of ours are setting a mark for cooperation that other camp cities might well follow. We particularly have in mind the absence of gouging. Rents may have jumped, but in such matters as food, hotel rates, cleaning and laundry, general entertainment and services the two towns that are getting most of the 31st's unofficial business aren't taking unfair advantage of the situation. (Other camp cities please note.)

THE DIXIE is starting at the same time as that lusty infant, 1941, and they seem destined to do the same job. The new year has a lot of dirty laundry left over it will have to give a good cleaning; the paper has a lot of things about this Division to clear up for you. Remember—if you have anything to say—send it in and we can't promise—but we'll try to print it.

Back to soldiering. An old Bradford county farmer, striking up a conversation with us, observed that "them Germans went through France like a tomcat through a sawdust pile." That's not only good description. It's also a reminder that our job this year is to learn to do things the same way, only better, just in case. The United States has been behind the eight-ball in defense, and all of us have a long way to travel in the coming year. At its conclusion, the Dixie Division ought to be able to make that tomcat feel as if he were standing still.

Maybe the tomcat ought to be our emblem. On second thought, no . . .



AS YOU WERE Backward Glances At Officers and Men

GENERAL GUERRE

Senior brigadier-general of the 31st division, General Louis F. Guerre of the 61st Infantry Brigade, has held every rank in the Guard from private to brigadier—except second lieutenant. That's because in his salad days the officers were elected by the men, and the boys jumped top sergeant Guerre to 1st Lieutenant.

The veteran New Orleans soldier, who finished L. S. U. in 1902, got his taste for soldiering as a 1st sergeant in the cadet corps. As a major in the 1st Louisiana Infantry, he saw border service in 1916, then was promoted to major, serving under the then Lt. Col. Campbell Hodges, now a major-general.

When the United States entered the World War, Major Guerre went to France ahead of the 39th Division, with the advance school detachment, and attended the school at Langres. Later he organized the Fifth Replacement Depot, and served as its commander until after the Armistice when he became commander of the classification camp at St. Algnan.

In 1922 General Guerre became colonel of the 156th Infantry, reorganized from his old regiment, the 1st Louisiana, and commanded it until he was made brigadier in 1929. From 1936 to 1940, he acted as division commander while General Blanding was chief of the National Guard bureau in Washington, acting in this capacity in the '38 and '40 maneuvers.

In private life General Guerre is president of the Duralistic company of New Orleans, dealing in roof coatings and paints. During the administration of the late Senator Huey P. Long, he organized the state police in 1934, remaining there until May, 1940.

GENERAL LOWRY

The organizer and first colonel of the 116th Field Artillery and the organizer of the American

Legion in Florida, Brigadier-general Sumter L. Lowry, Jr., of the 56th Field Artillery Brigade has the longest service record of any Florida National Guardsman.

A native of St. Augustine, General Lowry received his first military training as a cadet at Virginia Military Institute. He was a captain in the 2nd Florida Infantry on the Mexican border in 1916, and was a captain of the 134th Florida Infantry in the World War, with service in France until 1919. For the handling of troops in the great Florida hurricane, General Lowry received the Florida cross.

General Lowry became a full colonel at 29, upon the organization in December 1921, of the 116th Field Artillery, and led the regiment until December 18, 1934, when he was promoted to his brigadier-generalship. He was chairman of the committee that brought the Naval Air Base to Jacksonville, his present home, and was instrumental in locating Camp Blanding here, in part the former camp site of the Florida National Guard.

As hobbies, General Lowry likes small arms firing, woodcraft and hiking cross country. It is his present custom to take his staff on a hour of rapid walking each afternoon. In private life he is chairman of the board of directors of the Gulf Life Insurance company, in Jacksonville, and is the father of two children, Sumter L. Lowry, 3rd, student at Riverside Military Academy, and Ann, 6.

GENERAL HUTCHISON

From first lieutenant to brigadier-general in nineteen years is the Guard record of Brigadier-general Joseph Carson Hutchison, commanding general of the 62nd Infantry Brigade, who served in the Field Artillery as a second lieutenant in the World War.

Pleasant, gracious-mannered General Hutchison is a native of (Continued on page four)

PRIVATE TALK

BY PRIVATE JAMES ALSOP

HI'YA SOLDIER—Come on in; and you too Sarge, and you Corporal—We're just having a bull session, with no holds barred. This is your chance to say those things you've had in the back of your head for a long time. Just drop a line to this column and see them in print. If you know any good cracks, jokes or any of your roommate's secrets, tell us;—we'll tell the camp.

The Rewards of Virtue . . .

He was such a faithful lover, was Tommy Hughes of Hq. Battery of the 114th Field Artillery. No wild women, whiskey or other vices since camp.—You know the old story—faithful to the little girl at home—but the other day a letter came from the O. A. O. It seems a letter, post dated Jacksonville, written in a rather inebriated scrawl, had reached her, signed by her true love. Fine bunch of friends a man must have to pull a trick such as that.

Maybe she will forgive after seeing this sad story—and believe.

ONE OF THOSE MOMENTS WHEN A MAN FEELS SILLY: He was hungry when he awoke. His roommates were almost dressed—. "What time is it?" He inquired sleepily. They looked at one another. "Five 'till Six," someone said. Leaping from his bed, he pulled on his clothes and hurried to the mess hall. Seeing one of the cooks, he asked, "Whatta' we gonna' have for breakfast this morning?" The sleepy cook looked at him a moment: "Whatt'nell is this? It's eleven-thirty at night—We just worked late."

That was a tough break the boys of the 156th Infantry Band had the other night. They needed some cash for the band treasury, and someone told them about an Amateur contest in the 106th Quartermaster Corps; with the prize supposedly five dollars. Journeying to the neighboring outfit with their instruments, they were invited to participate, and did so whole heartedly. Well—they brought down the house, running through almost an entire vaudeville show for the boys, then furnishing a jam session. Then came the payoff—they were given whole hearted thanks by the entire Regiment, and a very cordial invitation to come back again and give another FREE show.

The paper was certainly lucky when it requested cartoonists to apply. Two top notch artists will furnish regular work for each issue, in addition to contributions, which will be gladly received. The two staff cartoonists are Sgt. Jack Burkes of Co. K, 156th Inf., and Pvt. Marshall V. Hale of Hq. Det. 3rd Bn., 106th Q. M.

Did you know that Sergeant Lewis Schneider of the G-2 Section of Division Headquarters can speak three languages? His parents, Germans, came to Mexico and lived there until he was ten, and until that time he had never spoken a word of English. When they moved to Texas, Sergeant Schneider learned to speak our language. There is no trace of an accent, and he probably uses more correct English than most of us to whom it comes naturally.

He can speak both Spanish and German fluently, and they should prove a valuable asset; they are two of the most important in our interest at the present time.

THE 31ST DAY

—CALENDAR OF EVENTS—

MOVIES

SATURDAY—DOUBLE FEATURE—"BEFORE I HANG," starring Boris Karloff and Evelyn Keyes; and "WILDCAT BUS," starring Fay Wray and Charles Lang.

SUNDAY & MONDAY—"THE RETURN OF FRANK JAMES," (in Technicolor), starring Henry Fonda and Jackie Cooper.

TUESDAY—"COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN," starring Bob Burns and Una Merkel.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY—"I WANT A DIVORCE," starring Dick Powell and Joan Blondell.

FRIDAY—"THE WAY OF ALL FLESH," starring Akim Tamiroff, and Gladys George.

Matinees will be given on Saturdays and Sundays, beginning at 2 p. m. Evening performances (2 complete shows) begin at 6 p. m. and 8 p. m.

O

RECREATION

MONDAY—7:00 P. M. to 8:30 P. M. Band Concert

TUESDAY—7:00 P. M. to 8:30 P. M. Dramatics

WEDNESDAY—7:00 P. M. to 8:30 P. M. Mass Singing

THURSDAY—7:00 P. M. to 8:30 P. M. Amateur Nite

FRIDAY 7:00 P. M. to 8:30 P. M. Boxing and Wrestling

Athletic Officers of 31st Are Well Qualified For Posts

The division recreation officer and his assistants in each regiment are well qualified by experience to give the men of the Dixie Division plenty of supervised diversion.

Captain Ben A. Hudson, division recreation officer, was on the first Southern football team to play in the Rose Bowl. If you remember his team, Alabama, defeated Washington 20 to 19, back in 1926. Captain Hudson also led the basketball team, played baseball and was a member of the Bama track team. After graduation he coached and taught for eleven years, and for the past two years has been with the Investors' Syndicate and Collateral Investment Company.

A life saver with marksmanship and swimming as his chief hobbies, 2nd Lt. Joseph S. Burrows of the 106th Engineers organized the life guard system at Lake Wales, Florida in 1933. He was the best off-hand shot title of Florida in 1931, and has served with the Engineers since May, 1927.

Sgt. Charles C. Landrum of the 155th Infantry, won letters in three sports at Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss., and captained the football, basketball and baseball teams his senior year. After graduation, he took graduate work in chemistry at L. S. U.

Sixteen years of coaching qualifies Captain Walter D. Newman of the 167th Infantry. A graduate of Howard College in Birmingham, he played four years of college football, baseball and basketball, and three years of track. He was at one time athletic director and commandant of the Locust Grove, (Ga.) Institute, and for the past 16 years has been principal and coach in the schools of Alabama. A guardsman for 13 years, Captain Newman has also had experience as an umpire in the semi-pro leagues around Birmingham, and for six years was in charge of the boxing programs at Fort McClellan.

Captain William D. Smith, Jr., of the 106th Quartermasters was a football and baseball star at Birmingham-Southern from 1927 to 1930, and put in one year of professional ball after graduation. For the past ten years he has been athletic director and coach of Montgomery County High school at Ramer, Alabama, and has directed recreational activities in the county for the past two years.

An L. S. U. Tiger with football and baseball letters to his

credit, 1st. Lt. James E. Brown of the 156th Infantry, has been teaching and coaching since his graduation in 1931. Football and boxing are his specialties at Istrouma High school, Baton Rouge, La., where he has served for the past five years.

Lt. Thomas E. Hebert of the 106th Medical Regiment, has the virtue of frankness. A doctor who got his degree from Louisiana State Medical Center in 1940, Lt. Hebert writes: "Don't know why I was appointed in the present capacity as my athletic experience has been limited to playing on a Junior High school football team and participating in intramural athletics at L. S. U., I believe the reason that I was appointed athletic and recreational officer was that I was seen kicking a football at Jackson Barracks, New Orleans. However, I am happy to serve." (You can bandage them up, Lieutenant.)

2nd Lt. H. F. Milton of the 124th Infantry is no man to fool around with. Tackle on the University of Georgia football team, he fought in the unlimited class on the boxing team for three varsity years, being captain and undefeated his last year. Lt. Milton also won the Southwestern division of the Golden Gloves tournament in 1936, and for the past three years has set an enviable record for his football and baseball teams at Hartwell, (Ga.) High school, where he is coach and athletic director.

2nd Lt. James A. Melton of the 114th Field Artillery had tough luck at the University of Mississippi where an injury ended his football career after his first year. At Meridian High school he played baseball and football for four years, and boxed for two. For two years he was life guard and swimming director at the Meridian municipal pool, and manages and plays on a Meridian softball team.

Lt. Clyde W. Tindell, 116th Field Artillery, was on the football, baseball and track teams of Birmingham Southern from 1932 to 1934, and has considerable experience in athletic direction at boys camps.

In three years, 2nd Lt. Grady J. Flynn, Jr., of Headquarters Co., 31st Division Infantry, won 37 and lost 4 amateur fights. He has held the middleweight championship of the Southeastern A. A. U., the city championship of Mobile, and the camp championship at Fort Barrancas. Since retiring from boxing, he has engaged in YMCA athletics extensively in Mobile.

Programs For Week Nights Varied In Scope

Music, Boxing, Stunt Nights Planned For Every Night Except Week-End

Something doing every night, except week-ends.

That's the scope of the recreation program for the Dixie Division, as announced by Captain Ben Hudson, recreation officer, who is assisted by the chaplains and recreation officers of each regiment.

Here's the nightly schedule, to be entered into by regiments in their own recreation buildings:

MONDAY: Music night, with regimental bands giving concerts.

TUESDAY: Dramatics night, on which short skits and plays will be put on in each recreation center. Lt. Joe Bonner will assist in direction, and elimination contests will bring the best dramatic groups onto the divisional stage.

WEDNESDAY: Mass singing night, with the chaplains and other song leaders in charge. The singing will be followed by brief, voluntary services conducted by the chaplains.

THURSDAY: Stunt night, akin to the amateur nights in your home-town theatres. All men with vaudeville leanings can enter, and eliminations will determine the best performers in camp.

FRIDAY: Boxing and wrestling night. The fighters of the Division will have their innings. It is planned to enter fighters in all weights in the Golden Gloves tournaments in Birmingham or Jacksonville.

The program each night will run from seven to eight-thirty. Where regimental recreation centers have not been completed, regiments will participate in their nearest area center.

Incomplete Addresses Hamper Mail Service

The greatest obstacle arising in the operation of daily mail service to the soldiers is the negligence of correspondents in addressing mail, according to Lieut. Horace G. Towell, Dixie Division postal officer. He urges that correspondents be advised to include the full unit designation in the soldier's address.

BLANDING BREVITIES

SELECTEES ARRIVE

Alabama's first allotment of selectees arrived at the Camp Blanding reception center Wednesday. Further groups were to continue to arrive until January 10, when the first Florida men will start coming in.

No final announcement has been made as to the time the new trainees will be allocated to the various units now at the camp.

FIRING BEGINS

The 37 mm. guns of the 56th Artillery Brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General Sumter L. Lowry, will start firing practice with live ammunition next Tuesday. The 37's will be mounted on 75's and 155's and the practice, in which all units of the brigade will participate, will continue for two days.

CHECK CASHING

Officers with proper identification may cash U. S. Treasury checks with the Camp postmaster and the Starke postmaster. The Camp postmaster will also cash personal checks of officers, with the usual identification. Post exchanges in the Division are authorized to cash checks for identified officers up to \$25, and for identified men in the same amount, when checks are endorsed by officers.

OFFICIAL TRIPS

A schedule of transportation for officers and men on official business to Jacksonville or Starke has been arranged as follows:

JACKSONVILLE: Leave Headquarters Administration building 9 a. m. daily; leave Union Bus station, Jacksonville 2:30 p. m.

STARKE: Leave Headquarters Administration building 8:30 a. m. daily; leave U. S. Postoffice, Starke, 11 a. m. daily.

DIVISION'S WEDDING

Cupid took his first casualty in the Dixie Division when Capt. James H. Armstrong, medical officer of the 106th Quartermaster regiment, was married to Miss Margaret Keys, of Oxford, Miss. The wedding was performed in Jacksonville.

PUBLISHES MONOGRAPH

Colonel A. G. Paxton, commanding officer of the 114th Field Artillery, has published an interesting monograph on "The Atlanta Campaign, the Retrograde of the Confederacy."

Social Center In Jacksonville For Army, Navy

Interdenomination Group To Offer Variety Of Attractions In City

Soldiers and sailors of this area are to be provided with a social center in Jacksonville, to be known as the Armed Services Center, through the good offices of the Inter-denominational Planning Committee for the Religious and Social Life of the Soldiers and Sailors at Camp Blanding and the Naval Air Station.

The Center is to be located at 122 West Forsyth street, occupying the second and third floors.

At the organizational meeting for the Center Colonel O. W. McNeese, camp public relations officer, represented General John C. Persons, and Lieutenant Commander Paul J. Leavens, Personnel Officer, represented the Navy. Rev. Harold R. Barnes, Chairman of the Jacksonville group presided.

Far Seeing Program

In general, the Center will offer a variety of services which will be found most welcome by men of the services when in Jacksonville. The ambitious program has as its purpose the "care for the social and religious life of the soldiers, sailors, marines and coast guardsmen while in Jacksonville, and to relate them to the churches, homes and civic life of the community."

Specific services planned include entertainment, a canteen, showers and toilet facilities, a dormitory if possible, religious contacts and influences, a center for meeting wives and friends, and a reading and writing room. Ping pong, handball, checkers and similar games will be provided, and home made food will be sold at nominal prices, under the contemplated set-up.

It is planned to open the Center before February 1. All worthy civic organizations of Jacksonville will be invited to cooperate in the enterprise, which as far as possible will be a city-wide project under church management.

Engineers Plan Swimming Piers

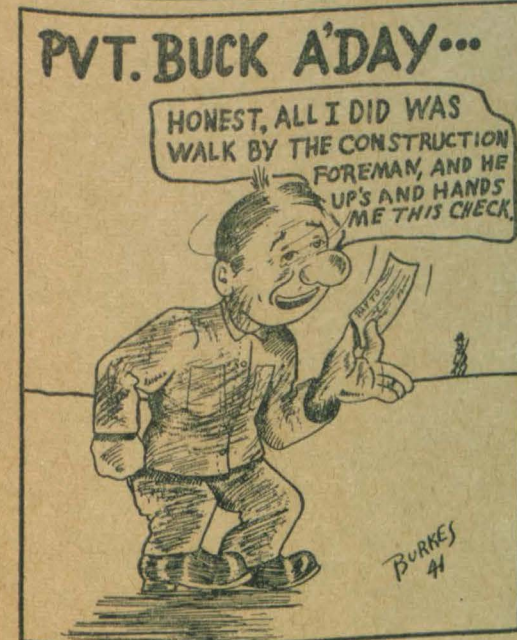
Swimming weather isn't far away, and the 106th Engineers are getting the lake front ready for use.

The Engineers are sounding the waters abutting the camp area, and are laying off the beach front, with an allocation of 400 lake front feet for each regiment.

Piers will be built by each regiment, extending out from the shore along the shallow, gradually sloping sandy bottom of clear Kingsley lake.

No diving boards will be erected until further orders, according to Captain Ben Hudson, division recreation officer. Swimming periods on week days will be from four to five p. m., on Saturday from twelve to five and on Sunday from nine to five. A minimum of two life guards will be on duty with each regiment.

Kingsley Lake is ideal for swimming because of its cool, crystal clear waters and sandy bottom, and should play a great part in the recreation of the men of the division.



Tommy Gomez Wins By K. O.

Petro Georges was climbing painfully to his feet, the fans in the smoky club were yelling for the kill, and a lithe figure stepped in with a sharp overhand right. Georges folded in his tracks and the referee raised the victor's hand without the formality of a count. Tommy Gomez of the Medical Detachment of the 116th Field Artillery had blasted another step in his climb toward national recognition.

All this happened last Monday night, January 6th, and the handsome 19 year old soldier is already preparing for his next bout when he meets Marty Clark of MacDill Field, the army's Tampa air base. Gomez, 178 pounds of ring dynamite, is not a fancy dan, but letting records speak for themselves, he is effective, ninety percent of his fights have ended in kayos, with his opponents always on the receiving end.

Gomez's trainer and his manager, the brothers Lite, are probably his two most enthusiastic rooters, and a letter has already been sent to Billy Conn, who is fighting Joe Louis soon, asking for a match as soon as possible. Only recently graduated from the light heavyweight ranks, Tommy finds lack of weight his chief drawback, finding it pretty hard to spot a top notch fighter twenty or thirty pounds.

School Days

(Continued from page one)

Sig. Co.; Wire, 2nd Lt. James W. Mickle, 31st Sig Co.

Military Intelligence, Lt. Col. Louis J. Wise, G-2, Division Staff; Military Law, Captain Frederick W. Bradshaw, JAGD (Special staff); Chemical Warfare, Lt. Col. Philip S. Pugh, Chem. W. S.; Armorers and Artificers, Lt. Col. Lucien S. Sanders, Inf., Division Staff; Adjutants and Sgts-Major, 2nd Lt. Alvin Gersten, 167th Inf.; Chaplains, Major James N. Faulconer, division chaplain; Advanced Tactics and Logistics, Lt. Col. Charles McD. Parkin, Inf.; Instructors, Lt. Col. William A. Cunningham, Inf.; Traffic Control, Capt. Edmund J. McMullen, 56th FA Brigade; Higher Staff Procedure, Col. Frederick W. Manley, Inf.; Medical, Lt. Col. Frank; W. Young, M. C. Engineers school, Capt. Amos T. Akerman, Corps of Engrs.

Extra School Officers

Extra school officers: Chemical Warfare, 2nd Lt. James Y. Rogers, Jr. Inf., 31st Div.; Captain William T. Gayle, CWS, and Sgt. Arnold C. Greuning, CWS; Armorers and Artificers, Captain Everette W. Faulk, 106th Ord. Co.; QM School, Col. Jacob H. Spengler, 106th QM Regt.; Infantry Weapons, Major Walter J. Hanna, 31st Div. Staff; Signal School, Lt. Col. Charles N. Sawyer, Sig. Corps; Military Law, Captain Arthur N. Sample, Jr., JAGD, Communications, Lt. Col. John T. Moore, Sig. Corps.

Social Minded NCO's Form Club

Sergeants of the Dixie Division are going social in their off-hours.

One of the first clubs to be organized in the division is the Dixie D, which is open only to sergeants. To while away the evening hours the Dixie D clubmen will hold dances in nearby cities and sponsor other informal gatherings from time to time.

Officers and other charter members of the club are Tech. Sgt. Luther B. Ellis, G. S. S., Hq. Det., of Birmingham, Alabama, president; S. Sgt. Paul B. Rodgers, G. S. S., Hq. Det., of Birmingham, vice-president; Sgt. Edgar A. Swann, 62nd Brig. Hq., of Birmingham, treasurer; S. Sgt. Martin L. McCoy, G. S. S. Hq. Det. of New Orleans, secretary; Mr. Sgt. Duncan W. Murphy, 62nd Brig. Hq., of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, personnel director; Mr. Sgt. Frederick E. Dorsam, G. S. S. Hq. Det., of New Orleans; S. Sgt. Elmo Shepherd, G. S. S., Hq. Det. of New Orleans; S. Sgt. Thomas Norman, G. S. S. Hq. Det., of Yazoo City, Miss., Mr. Sgt. David T. Seichsnaydre, G. S. S., Hq. Det., of New Orleans; 1st Sgt. Charles Flemming, Co. I, 167th Inf., of Birmingham.

Lt. Col. Henry E. Walden, G-1 of the 31st Division is the club's sponsor. First activity will probably be a stag get-together for the purpose of better acquaintanceship—and how.

The road to Starke is paved with good intentions.

As You Were

(Continued from Page Two)

South Carolina, heart of the antebellum South, and is a graduate of Wofford College of Spartanburg. He has spent most of his adult life in Florida, however, and is president of J. C. Hutchison and Co., of Sanford, distributors of fruits and vegetables. He enlisted for service in the World War from Florida, his adopted home, and in April 1921 entered the Florida National Guard as a 1st lieutenant.

General Hutchison rose in the Guard to colonel of the 124th Infantry, holding this command until November 18, 1940, when he was promoted to the brigadier-generalship of the 62nd Division, left vacant by the elevation of Major General John C. Persons.

During the World War, General Hutchison was sent to the Saumur Artillery school in France, and for several weeks was instruction in the Bordeaux school. His active service was with the 33rd Field Artillery, as a second lieutenant, in France.

The commander of the 62nd is the father of two daughters, one a freshman at Florida State College for Women at Tallahassee and the other a sophomore in high school. He is a deacon in the Presbyterian church, a Mason and a Shriner.

General Hutchison is willing to take time out from his martial duties to talk of Sanford, his home town. It's the biggest celery center in the world, he says, and he should know—for celery

and Georgia peaches are his business specialties. So maybe in peach season — — —

Back during the Florida Boom days, when land was selling for sky high prices, and poor men were becoming millionaires overnight, the old Southeastern League was also seeing a heyday. That was in the days when Al Lopez, Ripper Collins, Sam Leslie and Ben Cantwell, were still prepping for the big leagues. Another ball player in the same league was slated to go up, following in the footsteps of his older brother. An auto accident cut that career short, but some of the old timers still remember Laz Bandrimer, now a Corporal in the Regimental Headquarters Co. of the 124th Infantry.

It's a long step from the pulpit to the parade ground, but private Auburn C. Hayes, Hq. Btry, 117th Field Artillery, made it. Finding no opening in the regiment for a chaplain, he enlisted as a regular soldier. A member of the National Evangelistic Association, he has served as both Evangelist and Missionary, at home and in foreign countries. Nominally Baptist, his work is principally inter-denominational. The Reverend Hayes has conducted religious programs over WAGF in Dothan, Ala., and WPTF in Raleigh. Publishing his own religious paper, he is hoping to continue his work through that agency, and also continue his studies as much as possible.

EYES RIGHT . . . Along Dixie's Company Streets

117TH FIELD ARTILLERY

Since arrival in Camp Blanding, the Service Battery has been attached to Regimental Headquarters Battery and no longer functions as a separate unit. Officers of the battery have been reassigned.

Lt. Maston O'Neal is Acting Adjutant of the Regiment; Captain W. B. Lee has been assigned as Regimental Supply Officer; Lt. James L. Stough is Regimental Motor Officer; Lt. Henry C. Williams, assistant regimental supply officer; Lt. Clyde W. Tindell, Regimental athletic and recreational officer and Lt. Jack Parsons, regimental press officer.

114TH FIELD ARTILLERY

Headquarters Battery is dwindling; three men lost during the past week. Lt. Hodding Carter, Editor of the Dragon, was transferred to the staff of Divisional Headquarters in the G-2 Section. Tech. Sergeant James (Bing) Crosby left to report to Ft. Sill Oklahoma for a course in Communications. Private James 'Al' Sop was transferred to G-2 Section of Division Headquarters, and is now a member of Division Headquarters Company.

106TH QUARTERMASTER

Captain Dixon of the Headquarters Company announced the following promotions: Corp. Craig, Robert L., to Sergeant; Pvt. Mashburn, Joe L., to Sergeant; Pvt. Taylor, Olin C. Jr., to Sergeant; Pvt. Buford, Freddie M., to Corporal; Pvt. Holcomb, John C., to Corporal; Pvt. Holder, Joe E., to be Corporal; Pvt. Johnson, Alex G. Jr., to Corporal; Pvt. Morgan Jack, to Corporal; Pvt. Sanders, David L., to Corporal.

The following enlisted men of Company F, received promotions: Walter A. Rudnik, to Technical Sergeant; Virgil H. Christensen, to Sergeant; Ira D. Smith, to

Corporal; Grover Mathews, to Private First Class.

Six men of Company F made a reconnaissance trip into northeast Florida during the afternoon of December 30, visiting Green Cove Springs, Palatka and St. Augustine. Those making the trip were: Sergeant Blackwell, Sergeant Osborne, Corporal Howell, Corporal Stuckie, Corporal Christensen and Private First Class Smith.

The Regiment received 47 new trucks January 3, for distribution to various units. The convoy was commanded by Captain William D. Smith. Two other officers, Lt. C. E. Sellers and Lt. J. S. B. Johnson, and sixty-two enlisted men were in the detail which drove the trucks from Atlanta.

Captain N. T. Braswell, C. O. Service Co., has been appointed fire marshal for the 106th QM, and the Service Company has been designated fire and salvage company for the month of January.

SPECIAL TROOPS

Promotions in the 31st Division Military Police Company: Corporal James R. Rogers, Company clerk, transferred to Headquarters Detachment and appointed Staff Sergeant; Private First Class, Charles H. Ketcham to Corporal; Private First Class Edward C. Bryant, to Corporal.

167TH INFANTRY

Three members of Headquarters Company were chosen to attend the Radio School at Fort Benning, Georgia. They are: Corporal Robert M. Page, Private First Class Jack Gothen and Private First Class Richard M. White.

117TH FIELD ARTILLERY

Private George W. Orr of Regimental Headquarters Battery has been selected to attend a six

weeks course in motor and truck mechanics at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

106TH ENGINEERS

Tramp, tramp, tramp the boys are marching. Only this time the boys are the Band Company of the 106th Engineers, and they're having a time taking their daily hour and a half hike through the sands of Blanding.

Something different takes place every night in the regimental recreational center. Monday night is band concert night—and the band is doing well under direction of its new leader, Warrant Officer Paul Sheffield.

Privates Bill Cobb, Joseph Simpson, Archie Raigine and Don Nelson have been swinging their arms in a superfluous manner since a tripe has been added to their shirts. Yes, they're now Privates First Class.

156TH INFANTRY

Eleven privates of Company A received promotions to the rating of First Class Private, and seven men received specialist ratings. Captain Joseph Holliday announced the promotions.

Private First Class Ameil Thibodeaux, company cook, was raised from 4th class to 3rd class specialist. Private Benjamin F. Wilson, second cook, was rated specialist 5th Class.

Receiving 6th Class specialist rating were: Privates First Class Alvin J. Matheerne, Charles D. Carmena, William A. Loudon, and Privates Joseph D. Carbre and Vivian B. Lard.

Those promoted from private to private first class were: Joseph D. Cambre, Vivian B. Lard, Wendell E. Morgan, Richard E. Chapman, Paul B. Comish, Lawrence P. DeJohn, Leo Franques, Fr., Raymond B. Griffin, William H. Harrison, Cecile Kennedy, Arthur D. Lard, Donald M. Melanson, Robert G. Moore, Marvin D. Mor-

ris, Joseph E. Pevey, Charles I. Rogers, Henry I. Smith, Everett M. Taylor, Jr., and Darius B. Vohsberg.

Company A enlisted men are forming an orchestra and will soon be open to engagements. They are using various tents at the present for practice halls. Members of the band are Sergeant DeLee Crum, Hawaiian guitar; corporal Willis Dowden, mandolin, guitar or violin; Joseph Cambre, guitar; Marvin Morris, harmonica; Charles Babin, harmonica; Lester Bogue, guitar; William Sharp, guitar; Cyril Sharp, guitar; Everett Taylor, base fiddle; Sergeant Hanson Baden, accordian, Robert Sanders, harmonica; Sergeant Sidney Williamson, harmonica.

Interesting sights in Co. D: former bartenders Privates Eddie Broussard and Treadway making beds; New Orleans ring idol Iron Man Jumbo Rovira darning socks.

The boys of the 156th are given ample opportunity to do the work they like. For example Private Henry Galpin was given a saw, hammer and a few nails and with the assistance of his fellow soldiers proceeded to make the tent-houses more homelike by building clothes trees and writing desks. Private E. P. Smith is painting signs, and Corporal Wallace West does his best work at the mess table.

Promotions in the Anti-tank Company of the 156th Inf., are: Herman T. Reger, to Sergeant; Lloyd Rogers, Sergeant; Beval Hodges, Corporal, John Tabor, Corporal, Melvin Rogers, Corporal; Kelly Elmer C. Barnett, Corporal.

Those raised to rating of Private First Class are: Elmer C. Barnett; Adam H. Broussard, Earl J. Conner, Clarence H. Cullember,

Own A. Dupont, Henry C. Henderson, John F. Legros, Les S. Myers and Oliver D. Williams.

Captain Castille of Company F, 156th Infantry has been made executive officer of the Second battalion, and 1st Lt. Balch has taken over command of the Company.

Promotions of enlisted men in Company F are: Cpl. Woodrow W. Broussard, to Sergeant; Cpl. John Herbert, Jr., to Sergeant; Pvt. 1st C. Harris Champagne, to Corporal; Pvt. 1st C. Joseph Courville, to Corporal; Pvt. 1st C. LeRoy Picard, to Corporal; Pvt. 1st C. Dempsey S. Thibodeaux, to Corporal.

Privates promoted to Private First Class: George E. Burch, William J. Degataire, Alexander T. Comeaux, Lennard J. Martin, Lewis Angelle, Luke Robert, Clorpe P. Dupuis, Clifford A. Broussard, Dudley Cormier, Percy J. Dupuis, David Guidry, LeeRoy J. Molbert, Raoul Troclair.

Floyd Michel, Hilton Michel, Clinton Plessala, Clarence Prestenbach, Jr., Wilmer Robincheaux, Robert Sparks, Joseph Spinella, Louis Topham.

Lt. Charles T. Munn of Company L has gone to Fort Benning to attend the Infantry School.

You've heard of motorizing the army. Well each of the companies of the 155th Infantry has been issued a half dozen or so wheelbarrows toward the motorization program. Volunteer chauffeurs were called for and the most experienced were put to pushing.

We had to omit some copy from this week's issue, but it will appear next week. And don't let that slow down your contributions. We need them.