

TWENTY THOUSAND MORE TO COME

At Least That Number of National Army Men will Arrive Soon, Says General O'Ryan.

Camp Wadsworth is going to have its population doubled. Into this reservation will come at least 20,000 more men. They will come to fill up the New York regiments whose ranks were depleted to bring the Twenty-seventh Division up to European war strength.

Into Broadway and Forty-second street, the four principal, pine-clad corners of this camp, will soon come marching company after company of national army soldiers. Originally they came from up York State, and down York State, and from other places in that State from which also came the National Guard regiments that were emptied of men. These are the gaps they will fill—the gaps in the old 1st, 2d, 12th, 47th, 74th, and 10th, and perhaps some others.

New Problems Arise.

They will bring further problems to the camp officials, and just as perplexing ones to the city of Spartanburg, whose streets are now dotted with more soldiers than there are civilians.

Major-General John F. O'Ryan has said that the new troops will come within the next few weeks. He said that a week ago. He said:

"Camp Wadsworth is soon to have additional troops from New York, and I think it is but right that the business interests of Spartanburg have this information, that they may be prepared to meet such additional demands as may come upon them by reason of the increase in the soldier population."

No official announcement had yet been made, at the time this issue of the *Gas Attack* went to press, as to what place the new troops would have in camp; that is, whether they would be a part of the Twenty-seventh division, or whether they would have a separate camp of their own. These are the things for the rumor fiends to feed upon.

Changes in the Camp.

Camp Wadsworth has changed a lot since the early days of September, when the first National Guard units came here and found it the Sunny South, and cut down trees and dug up stumps, and made habitable streets out of virginal forests. Its personnel and spirit have changed.

More than a thousand enlisted men have been discharged because of physical defects, and some fifty or sixty officers have met a similar fate. The exact number of enlisted men thus discharged is said to be

CANNIBALISM!

All the beasts, numbering thousands, formerly in the vast supply zoo of the Hagenbeck Brothers, at Hamburg, Germany, have been butchered and fed to the kaiser's soldiers. The zoo's daily feed bill was enormous, so instead of feeding the animals, the government decided it was better to feed the animals to the soldiers. This is the story G. W. Meredith, of Los Angeles, brings home with him from Germany. The collection included lions, tigers, jaguars, leopards, the rhinoceros and hippopotamus—specimens of almost every jungle beast and reptile.—Exchange.—After dinner yesterday, some of the Camp Wadsworth soldiers wondered what zoo in Carolina had been commandeered by our Q. M.

1,100. Of the officers who have been recently rejected, some have been asked to resign and others will be transferred to non-combatant branches of the service. The eliminations are said to be part of the weeding-out that is being done and will continue to be done until this division is fit and ready to go to France.

With this weeding-out process has occurred a change of spirit. The malcontents disappear. The soldiers remain. Discipline grows, efficiency improves. These platitudes are the natural concomitants of such changes in the personnel.

Spartanburg's Help.

Gen. O'Ryan says that the health record of the division has been remarkable—that it has probably been the best of all the army divisions. He attributes this not only to the ability and energy of the officials at camp, but also the help that the city of Spartanburg has rendered in protecting the soldiers from disease. "Spartanburg has made good," said the general.

Civic Morale.

"Civic morale, the morale of the civilian population, is perhaps a factor you have not thought of, but there is much importance to be attached to the attitude of the public towards this war and its issues. Optimism and loyalty count heavily and where the public maintains and expresses those things, the effect is to be felt not only by those high in authority, but by the men in the army. And now is the time for optimism and encouragement, and not for criticism and fault finding. Those of us who are absorbed in the details of one division may sometimes be impatient and restive, but think if we could retire to some place alone, and away from concerns of our own immediate duties and see the whole line of achievements of the government in the last few months pass before us in review, we would understand that great things have been accomplished and that the government is making progress in the great undertaking."

PROLONGED HARDSHIPS.

Officers Must Be Able to Stand Them Before They Can Go "Over There"

"Capacity to perform a highly specialized and arduous type of service" is the test by which the fitness of general officers of the army for service "Over There" is to be judged.

Physical examinations have already proved the unfitness of a number of high officers in the Regular Army and National Guard to stand rigorous service in France. Announcement has been made that these officers and others who cannot pass the examination will be utilized in training troops in camps and cantonments in the United States.

Following is Secretary Baker's statement regarding the physical examination before being detailed for service overseas:

"All general officers of the Regular Army and the National Guard are being examined by medical boards and efficiency boards with a view of determining the advisability of sending them for service abroad. The conditions of foreign service in this war are unusually severe, requiring that general officers shall be not only adequately grounded in military science and adequately alert physically to acquire rapidly the lessons which the new form of warfare require, but able to endure prolonged hardships.

"The determination of these boards are impersonal and in the interest of the success of our armies and the welfare both of leaders and men, and will be affirmed by the War Department. This policy will no doubt commend itself to the people of the country as being in the public interest, and even where it is necessary to delay the opportunity for foreign service to soldiers of long experience it will be understood to imply nothing in any way prejudicial to the officers involved.

"Boards of this kind have already found some of the general officers of both the Regular Army and the National Guard physically unfit. Such finding does not in any way reflect upon the past services of the officer or upon his present zeal and willingness to make personal sacrifices in the further service of his country, but the question to be determined is one of capacity to perform a highly specialized and arduous type of service."

A GOOD SOUP.

"That's what I call a good soup," remarked the lieutenant, putting down his cup. "Thank you, sir," replied the mess sergeant, "but we have been serving it as coffee."