

**NEGRO SOLDIERS
CAPTURE GERMAN BAND**

Doughboy Laden Down With German Helmets, Leading a Bicycle With One Hand and Carrying a Trombone With the Other Explains That He Was One of the Negroes That Had Captured Entire Military Band.

Red Bank, N. J., Jan. 24.—Miss McMein (white), who has just returned from France, where she spent six months with our doughboys, is the bearer of many glad tidings. As the only American girl artist at the front, not to mention her activities as a Y. M. C. A. entertainer, Miss McMein had unusual opportunities to observe the attitude of our soldiers toward the dear unfair sex of more or less sunny France. And she reports "nothing doing."

Naturally Miss McMein had many tragic as well as scores of amusing experiences. A young American girl at the front for months could not fail to meet with adventures.

The funniest sight she encountered was during the September offensive on the St. Mihiel salient. Coming along the road was a Negro doughboy laden down with captured helmets, leading a bicycle with one hand and carrying a trombone with the other. "Where he got the bicycle and what he intended to do with it I don't know," said Miss McMein, "but the presence of a trombone was easily explained. He was one of a group of Negro doughboys who had captured an entire German military band. After making the band play for them, each doughboy confiscated the instrument that most appealed to him. It doesn't sound funny, I know, but the sight of that soldier with his assortment of helmets, bicycle and trombone will always linger in my mind as the funniest thing I ever saw."

LA GRANGE, TEXAS

H. L. Vincent, Agent.

The "New Year" began with some very disagreeable weather, yet the people in and about this little town have been busy with their several lines of work. Rev. D. A. Scott, Austin, the State Superintendent of S. S. Missions, has just closed out here Sunday night a four days' instructive and beneficial Bible institute at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Rev. S. A. Tillman, pastor. Total collected and given for the work, \$40. Rev. C. N. Crewell, Houston, spent two days at the institute. Rev. I. D. Coffee held regular services at St. John A. M. E. Church Sunday and Sunday night. Rev. William White is at his new post, at Hondo, Texas, and has shipped his household goods, etc., to that place. His wife and little son follow soon. The household effects of the newly appointed pastor, Rev. Napier, for St. James M. E. Church here, have arrived. His work includes La Grange, Rabb's Prairie and Sandy Point. The sad

news came here last Friday of the death of Deacon Cicero C. Howard of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Eagle Lake. Rev. Mr. Tillman, pastor, left Saturday last to conduct the funeral Sunday. The Monitor extends sympathy to his aged wife. Eleven scholars from Ebenezer Baptist Sunday School were invited to the church last Sunday morning during the session of the Sunday School. Dr. L. D. Cook is heading a movement to organize the N. A. A. C. P. for Fayette county. Mrs. Nellie Brown Brooks, who has been here helping to settle claims and other things against the estate of Mr. Sydney Brown, left for her home in Ft. Worth last Saturday. Mrs. Hattie E. Hatten is visiting out of town this week. Sick: Mesdames Edith Johnson, Julia King. Henry Washington died here Sunday. Interment Monday evening.

PALESTINE, TEXAS

A. G. Howard

The weather has cleared off and things are looking good. The farmers are getting down to work and the people have started their gardens.

Mrs. Cora Watkin, of Waco, has returned home after visiting her sister, Mrs. Lizzie Tipitt.

The Mt. Vernon A. M. E. Church held its first quarterly conference and reported good success. Rev. F. F. Washington was presiding elder.

St. Paul M. E. held its first quarterly conference with Rev. G. W. Carter as district superintendent.

The influenza is still busy and the deaths this week include: Mrs. Laura Johnson, Nora Martain, Edna Mae Reaves, L. C. Wallace, Dave Barnett.

The sick are: Mrs. Amanda Stanlan, Mrs. Mary Forney, Mrs. Vina Nadax, Mrs. Lulu Carson and Mrs. R. F. Jimerson.

Mrs. Lulu Anderson was a visitor at the office today; also Mrs. H. L. Price.

ATCHISON, KANSAS

W. A. Covington

Mrs. Donie Gilbert, a highly respected and well known citizen, died Tuesday from a paralytic stroke. She was buried from Mt. Zion Baptist Church under the auspices of the Daughters of Tabernacle. Rev. J. W. Lee officiated.

Mrs. Janie Cook of Omaha attended Mrs. Gilbert's funeral.

Mrs. Lulu Evans, Mrs. Bessie Johnson, Mrs. Mattie Pain, Miss Cyrene Miller, Mrs. Anna Covington, Mrs. Lil-

lian Waters, Henry Paine and George McAllister, all of Omaha, are visiting Atchison.

Rev. Mr. Cartwaite of Parsons, Kas., has accepted a call as pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church.

Mrs. Anna Belle Murphy of Chicago is visiting her mother, Mrs. Mary Gruehart.

Mrs. Emma Johnson died last Monday after a long illness. She was a member of many lodges and at her request Rev. W. H. Hill, formerly pastor of Ebenezer Church, came 600 miles to preach her funeral sermon.

Mrs. Winnie Moore was found dead in bed last Wednesday. She was a member of the S. M. T. Lodge, which took charge of her funeral.

Charles Ferguson, of Port William, is doing nicely after an operation.

James Jackson returned from Topeka Sunday where he had been visiting his daughter, who is ill. She is improving.

Mrs. J. D. Colbert went to K. C. Sunday to visit friends.

The former Atchison girls, Misses Evander Hoy, Armeta Brown, Irene Johnson and Hattie Jones spent X-mas with relatives.

**A LITTLE TOWN IN SENEGAL
By Will Thompson**

I hear the music throbbing down the lanes of Afric rain:
The Afric spring is 'breaking, down in Senegal again.

O little town in Senegal, amid the clustered gums,
Where are your sturdy village lads, who one time danced to drums?
At Soissons, by a fountain wall, they sang their melodies;

And some now lie in Flemish fields, beside the northern seas;
And some tonight are camped and still along the Marne and Aisne;
And some are dreaming of the palms that bend in Afric rain.

The music of the barracks half awakes them from their dream;
They smile and sink back sleepily along the Flemish stream,
They dream the baobab's white buds have opened overnight;

They dream they see the solemn cranes that bask in morning light.
I hear the great drums beating in the square across the plain,
Where are the tillers of the soil, the gallants' loyal train?

O little town in Senegal, amid the white bud trees,
At Soissons, in Picardy, went north the last of these!

**LAURELS FOR 325TH FIELD
SIGNAL BATTALION**

(Continued from Page 1)

Heroic Work of First Platoon.

In writing the "finis" to this brief mention of this important army unit made up of young Colored men, it is fitting that I tell of the particular work done by the boys of the First Platoon on the first day of the Hetz battle. Shortly after the barrage was lifted the big guns of the enemy began shelling Pont-a-Mousson. The first shells, as I vividly recall, hit on the edge of the city, and then gradually they began peppering the Signal Battalion's station. Sergeant Rufus B. Atwood of the First Platoon was seated in the cellar near the switchboard; Private Edgar White was operating the switchboard, and Private Clark the buzzerphone. Several officers and men were standing in the "dugout" cellar. Suddenly a German shell struck the top, passed through the ceiling and wall, and exploded, making havoc of the cellar. Lieutenant Walker, Colored, who arrived just at this time, displayed admirable cour-

age. He took immediate charge, and directed things. Sergeant Atwood tried out the switchboard, and found all lines broken. He found, on tying it, the buzzerphone out. Private White then received orders to stay on the switchboard, and Corporal Adolphus Johnson on the buzzerphone. The 12 drop monocoord board was nailed up by White, and then began the connecting up of the lines from the outside to the monocoord board. All this time the shelling around this point by the Germans was fierce and deadly—shells hitting all around the boys; struck a nearby ammunition dump, causing the explosion of thousands of rounds of ammunition, which caused a terrific shock and all lights to be extinguished. But still these men worked on, and would not leave this dangerous post, a veritable target for the enemy's big guns, until the Lieutenant of the Military Police arrived and ordered them out.

What these boys of the 325th Signal Battalion have not learned respecting radio, telephonic and telegraphic work is of little advantage to any one. What they learned about it will be of

great advantage to them when they return in making a living. The 325th Signal Field Signal Battalion, whose rank and file is made up of young Colored men, has been a marvelous success.

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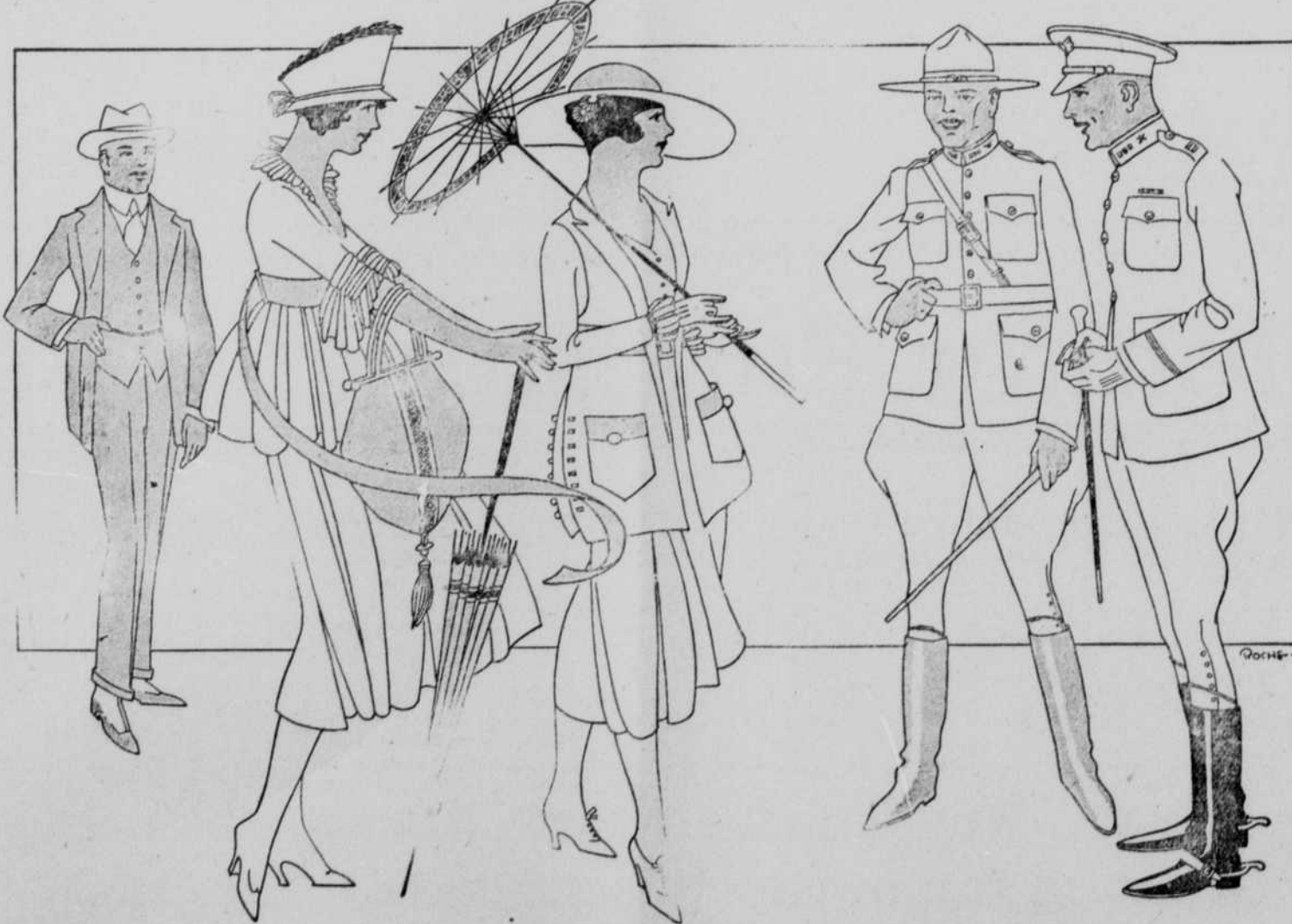
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