

WORK OF Y. M. C. A. IN CAMP AND FIELD

What the Association Has Done and Will Do for the Boys in the Armies.

By GEORGE G. WALLACE.

Secretary State Committee Y.-M. C. A.

The readers of The Bee are all undoubtedly interested in the welfare of the young men who are enlisting at the call of their country. Many of us are unable to go into active warfare or help in any way that requires physical effort. Most of us can do something financially, some of our people can do a good deal. The medium through which we can do it is an important question. Just now the Young Men's Christian association offers a most excellent opportunity to help the boys in a way that they cannot be helped otherwise. I am wondering as I watch the growth of the \$20,000 allotted to Omaha in the Young Men's Christian association war work fund being raised over the country, if our people know just what is to be undertaken with this money. Only comparatively few of your readers have heard the excellent addresses delivered by Major Todd, Dr. Donald Macrae of Council Bluffs, who has enlisted for his third year, and others who have had experience with the work of the Y. M. C. A. at the war front, and few have heard their testimony as to the splendid service rendered by this organization. These men have only spoken before small groups of leading citizens. Neither have they heard the fine addresses of Mr. George T. McDill, a former Omaha man, and connected many years with the International Young Men's Christian association, and who has told much of what has been accomplished by the Y. M. C. A. on the war front. So permit me space to tell something of what the association is doing and proposes to do, and thus reach through your columns a much wider hearing.

In the Spanish War.

When the Spanish war was on it took a little while to get the Y. M. C. A. into action at Chicamaqua and other camps. As soon as plans could be made the association erected their tents, or their shacks, and, as best they knew how, looked after the social and moral welfare of the young soldiers. Before that war was over it was found that the Y. M. C. A. was in every way adapted to look after these two sides of the four-square soldier. During the Japanese-Russian war the Y. M. C. A. got in its work, but because of the lack of familiarity of those in authority with the organization, and the conditions, they were not able to do anything like as much for the men of either army as could be done in a similar case now. However, in both the Spanish war and the Japanese-Rus-

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Mrs. Earl Stanfield

sian war the military heads, as well as the rank and file of the army, were loud in their praises of the association work, and since have given to the Y. M. C. A. workers every opportunity to help their soldiers.

Ready in the Great War.

When the war broke out in Europe, with all its unexpectedness, the International Young Men's Christian association sprang to the front and as quickly as possible were ready with their tents and "huts" to serve the men of both sides. It was only a few months until the praises of the work done by the Young Men's Christian association were being sounded on all hands. Hundreds of capable association secretaries from America were sent over; numbers of them have already given their lives to the service; others have with great self-denial and remarkable ability served the interests of the soldiers in the concentration camps, among the reserves and in the trenches. The social side of a soldier's life, especially when he is in the camp in the course of preparation, or on the reserve lines while he is recruiting from the dreadful strain of trench life, is of extreme importance. Military authorities have learned that he must be looked after at this time and they have also found that no one can do this like the Young Men's Christian association. He must have a place where he can meet his fellows and relax from the strain of military life; he must have a place where he can read, write letters home. For his evening's entertainment he must have something to do in entertaining his fellows; have music and games and stunts of various sorts. Wonderful are the stories told of the help given

and brought about through this social work of the Young Men's Christian association in the armies of Europe and on the Mexican border.

Care for Prisoners.

The prisoners on both sides have been kept from drifting into a condition of mental depression by the splendid policies worked out by Young Men's Christian association secretaries who have been given free access to prison camps by both sides. Schools have been established and many of the prisoners, being competent instructors, some of them professors of great universities, are used as instructors in these prison camps, and this takes the time and occupies the mind and tones up the whole man. Mr. McDill in his splendid address before the Commercial club Thursday spoke of the prison camps as being a chain of universities across Europe because of his efficient work. These camps, too, have ministered to the physical needs through the Young Men's Christian association in many little ways that cannot now be mentioned.

Religion for the Men.

Of course, the Young Men's Christian association must first think of its moral work, and here, perhaps, it has done its greatest service. As Major Todd put it at the Lincoln meeting, "It gives the soldier religion in doses that he can take and is willing to take." The tents and huts are the places where all churches have an opportunity to minister on the Sabbath. In the morning the Roman Catholic has the tent for mass. Later in the day the Greek church has its opportunity. On Saturday evening or Sunday afternoon the Jewish soldier has his service. During the afternoon or Sunday evening the Protestant service is held. Testaments, good reading matter, addresses on moral living, warning against the dangers which surround camp life, quiet talks with men individually, bringing together the soldiers who are religious in faith and practice with soldiers who have had no training, and otherwise guarding and protecting the religion and morals of the men, is a great part of the work to be done. As Secretary Denison of the Omaha association has well put it, "there is no hazard in war so great as the moral hazard."

Now as our troops go out we hope to guard them about at the very beginning with every protection beforehand, and not wait until it is too late, as we have had to do in previous wars. Our government recognizes the need, and from President Wilson down to the regimental commander, all are earnest in their urgency that the association have every opportunity at the very start. President Wilson ordered that camp commanders furnish every advantage possible to the association leaders and this is being done. But it requires a large amount of money to pay the secretaries, even at a limited salary and none of them are paid as much as they ought to be; to furnish the musical instruments, the reading matter, the games; to pay the expenses of a great tent suitable for the social and religious headquarters for a brigade of 5,000 men. Some splendid men, business and professional, are

offering their services, but we must have places to do the work and the means with which to do it. The call has come for \$3,000,000 for this work from the country at large. Nebraska has been asked to furnish \$60,000 to \$75,000. Omaha has undertaken to raise \$20,000. Will the readers of this communication not respond at once and not wait to be asked and begged? In no other way can this tremendous need be met, and from the president of the country to the captain of the company, from the soldiers themselves, and from those loved ones who are interested in them, comes the plea for this splendid service. Will you not "do your bit"?

National Gypsy Tours For All Motorcyclists

A great national holiday for motorcycle riders will occur June 16 and 17, when 20,000 riders will take part in over 200 tours to be held all over the United States. The holiday will be known as the national gypsy tour holiday and will be the greatest strictly motorcycle event ever promoted. The big project has the financial backing of the Motorcycle and Allied Trades association, composed of motorcycle manufacturers,

and will be conducted under the auspices of the Federation of American Motorcyclists.

The tours are to be strictly pleasure tours and no effort will be made to hold the riders to a schedule. Instead the riders may go as slow as they please and will be given plenty of opportunity to see the country through which they pass. Stops will be made at each of the cities through which the tour passes and the limit for a day's mileage has been set at 100 miles. Each person who finishes the tour will be awarded a trophy in the shape of a handsome job or medal.

Farmers Buying Motor Cars in This Section

"The great part that vibration plays in the wearing out of automobiles is just beginning to be recognized by the car-buying public," says Mr. Avery of the Auburn Auto company, distributor for the Auburn Six. "One of the big tasks that face automobile engineers is the reduction of vibration in order to lengthen car life." Mr. Avery, who is one of the senior automobile men of the Omaha row, reports a very steady business and excellent prospects. In regard to the war situation he has no fear. The farmers, asserts Mr. Avery, were nev-

er more prosperous, nor had a better opportunity to make money. As long as the farmer is prosperous Nebraska automobile men need not worry. Mr. farmer buys the motor cars in this section.

Funeral Directors of Two States to Meet in Omaha

The Iowa and Nebraska Funeral Directors' associations are to hold a joint convention in Omaha Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week. The Hotel Loyal is to be headquarters.

E. C. Carstensen of Curtis, Neb., is president of the Nebraska association. Peter J. Merten, jr., of Blue Hill is secretary and H. P. Brown of Lincoln is treasurer.

S. L. McIntire of Pochantas, Ia.,

is president of the Iowa association and Charles Emerson of Creston is secretary-treasurer.

The funeral directors have a novel way of getting attendance at their morning sessions. Each morning at the opening of the session a number will be drawn. The member holding that number, if present in the meeting, will be exempt from paying dues for a year.

A dinner dance is to be given Tuesday evening at the Field club complimentary to the visiting delegates by the local manufacturers and jobbers.

Dr. C. W. M. Poynter, head of the department of anatomy of the University of Nebraska, will give some demonstrations during the convention.

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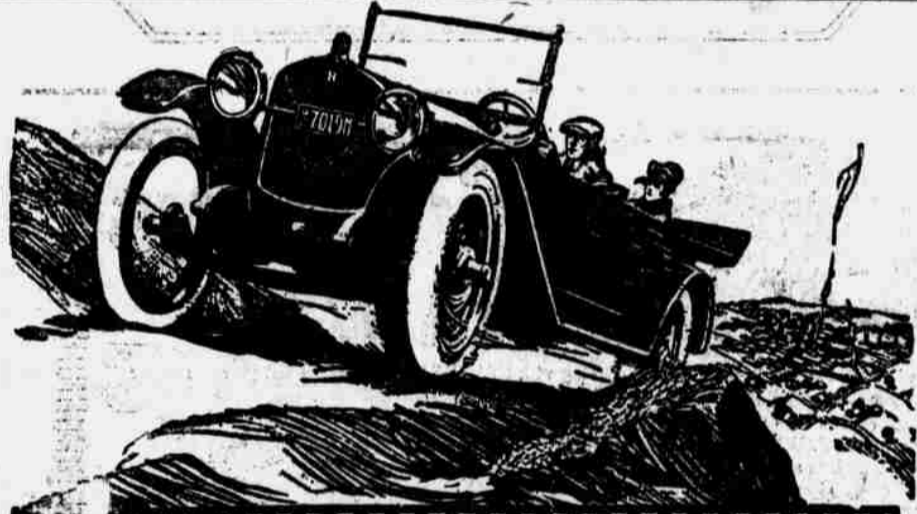
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Yet this test was only confirmation of what the car has done elsewhere. On Corey Hill, in Boston, where many cars will not compete with it; Tam-O-Shanter, in Philadelphia; Hospital Hill, in Kansas City; Coon Hollow Hill, in Seattle; Altadena-Pasadena climb in California, and Dewey Avenue Hill, Omaha. This remarkable hill-climbing ability evidences phenomenal pulling power. With four cylinders, Hupmobile engineers have achieved wonders. This motor has the power capacity of a racing motor. But, instead of using this power for excessive speed, it is translated into pulling power. That is why the Hupmobile performs in the way usually associated with 80 horsepower.

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