

Camp Reminds of Draft Days

Voelker Recalls the Men Who Went Before the Colors for Their Country

By CARL M. VOELKER

Having spent the fifth anniversary of my entrance into the military service for the World War under canvas in the same camp I did in 1917 my mind naturally reverts to the stirring days when America's youth was called to the colors by means of the selective service draft.

Physical appearances at Sea Girt today are not different than they were in 1917. The troops are sheltered under the same kind of canvas and the army ration feeds them. Regulars assigned to the camp are on every hand and there is an air of expectancy in view of the stand taken by the government in the strike situation.

The scenes of 1917 at the state encampment grounds are brought vividly to mind. For many years I had made Ventnor my home and as the publisher of its only newspaper I was naturally interested in what was going on back home. Ike Sweigart and Jack Westcott appeared in camp one day. They were very welcome. It was good to see somebody from home. They told me some of the Ventnor boys had enlisted and had gone off to fight. They told me about the registration of the Ventnor youth under the draft law. I remember also Charlie Rupp and his wife driving into camp one day. They remained here until after evening parade and they seemed to be thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the military game. Charlie especially evinced a strong desire to don a uniform and go with us. But of course that was out of the question because Majorie certainly had something to say about that.

But many Ventnor boys did go to war. They made enviable records. They served in various outfits and quite a number were in the navy.

When the list of honor men of Ventnor was prepared it was found that there were 113. Harold W. Faunce and Charles G. Heckler, Jr., representing respectively the First and Second Ward, were the first men called. Their numbers came out in the second hundred drawn.

Just in passing it might be well to call attention to the fact that a Jerseyman enjoys the honor of having conceived the form of receptacle to be used in the selection of draft numbers. Charles R. Morris, of Elizabeth, N. J., a former army captain, personally secured the glass fish bowl into which were placed the numbers of the men who had registered on June 5, 1917.

Ventnor City, having been a city under 5,000 population was under the supervision of the sheriff insofar as the draft law was concerned. At that time Joseph R. Bartlett was high sheriff of Atlantic County. He is now a popular Ventnor resident. The local registrars included James G. Scull, E. Burt Gifford and William Kuhl. Fifty-eight men registered in the First Ward, while 55 registered from the Second Ward. Out of the total of 113 registered 24 were called.

While no actual record exists and it would be next to impossible to determine exactly the number of men from Ventnor who served in the military or naval forces of the United States during the World War, estimates based on careful inquiry and statistics available indicate that at least 100 service men hailed from Ventnor.

As a result Ventnor now has a post of the American Legion with a membership of over 75.

In consequence of the experiences in actual tactical operations many changes have been made in the tables of organization

of the United States Army, which no doubt would interest many of the men who served the colors during the war but who have since paid little or no attention to the development in the army. A regiment of infantry is now composed of nine rifle companies, four headquarters companies, one howitzer company, one service company, which includes the band, and three machine gun companies. In action a battalion is under command of a lieutenant colonel with a major under him as executive officer. A medical regiment with the usual ambulance and sanitary companies are now a part of every division.

It is my privilege to be the plans and training officer of the 114th Infantry, New Jersey National Guards, now in camp at Sea Girt. My work places me in constant touch with the commanding officer and in time of war and at the front accompany the colonel on his tours of reconnaissance. The troops will remain here until August 5.

HONOR MEN OF VENTNOR

Ernest S. Albertson, Frank Brady, David Braunstein, Roy F. Bowker, Vincent A. Beechman, Joseph P. Bowker, Alfred Cardillo, Edward A. Crosta, John C. Donaldson, Italo DeVitis, Sydney Dela Rue, John J. Dunn, William C. Ely, Allen B. Endicott, Jr., Paul B. Fry, John Fry, Harold Wm. Faunce, Taka Fugii, James Aston Headley, Reginald B. Helfrich, Frederick M. Harmon, Alfred R. Holmes, Gilbert T. Harris, Everett Higbee, Horace G. Imlay, Russell Franklin Kelley, Hugo Krause, Edward F. Klein, Jr., Warner Lindsay, Jr., Frank P. Lindsay, Frank Lewis, Matlick, Walter Thompson Margerum, Edward W. Martin, Harry W. Pryor, Russell B. Risley, Maurice Risley, James C. Russell, Chas. R. Rosenberg, Jr., Chas. E. Rupp, John James Stringer, John Byrleigh Smith, James C. Samuel, Joseph Eugene Swickerath, John B. Scheidell, Edwin M. Spence, Frank C. Seiberling, Howard C. Somers, Morton Setelman, Vivian N. Smith, Herbert Yates Smith, Enoch Smith Turner, Paul Tappan, J. Raymond Turner, Joseph B. Townsend, 3rd, Mark B. Thornhill, Amos W. Wentzell, George F. Wingate, George C. Walker.

SECOND WARD

Eugene N. Apel, Richard H. Allen, Ralph G. Brooks, Chas. E. Boylan, Harry M. Chambers, Walter Conklin, Howard Lee Campbell, Millard Erwin Cuskaden, Edwin Chambers, Henry H. Clayton, Oscar R. Davis, Harry L. Deyl, Theodore S. Elder, Norman N. Gale, Albert E. Greenwood, Paul Gaskill, Conrad Gaskill, Wm. E. Hoopes, Chas. G. Heckler, Jr., James Hargraves, Fetazo Iwasunie, Iwataro Iwango, George Herbert Jame-

son, Byron Jenkins, Joe Kaplan, Geo. A. Korvacs, Francis Wm. Keen, Leigh R. Myers, Walton B. Mussen, Paul R. Martin, Edwin F. McHale, James W. Maro, J. W. Muntz, Hugh M. Newlands, John W. Putnell, Fred Plum, Maurice Y. Royal, Horace F. Smith, Jr., Joseph Paul Scott, Elton Eugene Sullivan, Anthony Siracusa, Jr., Peter Siracusa, Rodman E. Sheen, Carroll E. Stiles, Wm. H. Smathers, Victor C. Stebbins, Earl Budd Sitley, Raymond S. Stevenson, Joseph H. Shinn, Chas. P. Tilton, James R. Valliant, Harry C. Whitaker, Alfred C. Walker, George Warraner, Reginald V. Williams.

EX-SERVICE MEN, ATTENTON

Under the Act of Congress providing compensation for men disabled in the World War an important provision of the Act relating to the time limit for filing claims thereunder is called to the attention of all who may have been injured or parents who may be deponents of those who died as a result of military or naval service.

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five years from the date of discharge from the service.

Parents who are not receiving compensation must show dependency within five years after the death of the person on account of whose service claim is made.

Those who have not obtained a certificate of injury must do so before August 9, 1922, and are urged to write at once to the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, 23 Broadway, Camden, N. J., where arrangements will be completed for a personal interview with each applicant immediately.

This office desires the cooperation of all agencies (The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled Veterans' League, the Red Cross Orders and others) in urging those who may be entitled to compensation under the Veterans' Bureau to file their Claims at once.

If you have a disability incurred, increased or aggravated through service, file a claim.

If you have a disability which has developed within one year (prior to August 9, 1922) of discharge or resignation from service, get a certificate of injury.

LOUIS M. SCOTT,
Sub-District Manager, U. S. Veterans' Bureau, Camden.

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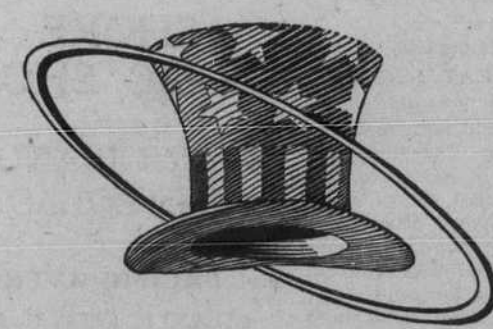
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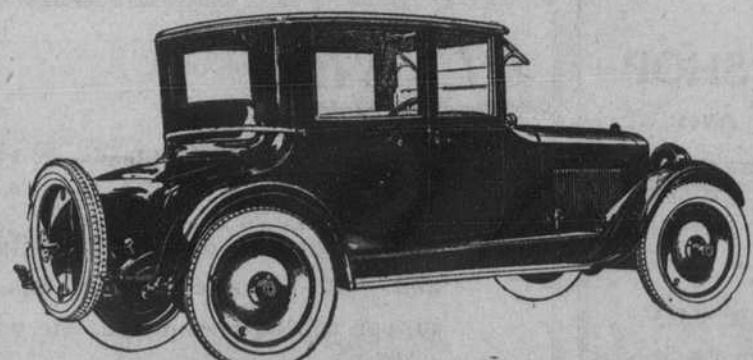
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