Balloon Pilot Souvenir

Camp John Wise

San Antonic, Texas

1919

SOUTHWEST COLLECT TEXAS TECH UNIVERS TUBE TEXAS 794



To commemorate the work which we have done here together this book is respectfully dedicated to our Communding Otticers Atent. Colonel I. I. Zower.

LIEUT .- COL. DAVID H. BOWER

LIEUT.-COL. DAVID H. BOWER, Commanding Officer, United States Army Balloon School, Camp John Wise, San Antonio, Texas, graduated from West Point in the class of 1902 and was assigned to the 11th Infantry. Since then he has seen service in nearly all branches of the Army, and has been stationed in all parts of the country as well as in the Philippines, Cuba and Alaska.

Colonel Bower was with the Punitive Expedition on the Border and acted as Adjutant and Supply Officer for the Signal Corps troops in the expedition. A greater part of his time there was spent at Columbus where supplies were sent out to the men across the line. But part of this time was spent in Mexico where he inspected the lines of communication. He was transferred to the Balloon Division 26 months ago and was stationed at Fort

Omaha, where he was promoted from Captain to Major.

Since coming to Camp John Wise on April 18, 1918, from Fort Omaha Colonel Bower has made an enviable record. Colonel Prentice had given the Camp a fine start and Colonel Bower, then a Major, proved himselg to be the right man for the job and took up the work of developing the camp with the same snap that was charecteristic of its beginning. And he has brought it up from a small temporary camp to one of the largest and most efficient balloon camps in the country.

Under his direction the revised course in observation was instituted here, the maneuvering course was developed and one of the finest Enlisted Specialist Schools in the army was carried on. What the iuture holds in store we cannot say; but we hope and expect to see our Colonel always at the head of the procession.



LT.-COL. DAVID H. BOWER

Executive Staff

MAJ. A. B. LAMBERT

Major A. B. Lambert was commismissioned as First Lieutenant in the Aviation Section, Signal Corps in June, 1917. He was assigned as Commanding Officer of the Spherical Balloon School known as the Missouri Aeronautical Society. His rise to a majority was rapid, due to his superior knowledge of free ballooning.

Under his instructions hundreds of balloon officers received their free balloon training and were licensed as Pilots by the Aero Club of America.

When the free balloon school was closed last summer the Major was transferred to Camp Wise where he acted as Aeronautical Officer. He also too kcommand of the camp when Col. Prentice was sent to the base hospital, and acted as Commanding Officer until the arrival of Colonel Bower from Omaha.

The Major is a member of the Board of Governors of the Aero Club of America and ex-vice president of the same body. He is one of the world's most widly known balloonists.

MAJ. HENRY ROGERS

Major Henry Rogers, Camp Executive Officer, was born in London, England, May 16, 1865. He was educated at Liverpool College, Liverpool. In his early youth he came to America, and on February 7, 1883, he joined Troop "C", First U. S. Cavalry. He served with that troop until 1898, when he re-enlisted for Post N. C. Staff. In 1901 he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Philippine Scouts. He was later made a 1st Lieutenant and then a Captain. On March 30, 1917, he was retired on his own application.

He was called back into service Feb. 7, 1918 and appointed a Major in the Signal Corps on Feb. 8. Sent to Omaha, he took Balloon Observers Course and secured his rating as Aerial Observer and also as Free Balloon Pilot. The Major was then placed in command of Florence Field at Fort Omaha. Later he was sent to Camp John Wise, and is now Executive Officer.

CAPT. J. J. KINGSBURY

Captain J. J. Kingsbury entered the service during the Spanish-American war. He enlisted with the 4th Signal Corps. After the war he transferred to the New York National Guard and was in the famous 65th Regiment. In 1911 he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and in 1912 to Captain. He was then detailed as military aide on the staff of Gov. Whitman of New York. In 1916 he was called into Federal Service as the time of the Mexican trouble.

In February 1918 he was sent to the Balloon School at Omaha and commanded the 63rd company. He was later placed in charge of the Military Police there, and then sent to Camp Wise in September, 1918.

He acted as Executive Officer at Wise for some time and was then appointed Field Instructor-Inspector. In addition to those duties he was Assistant Officer in charge of Free Ballooning and later commanded the 68th Balloon Company for a time.

LT. C. W. LORAINE

Second Lt. C. W. Loraine, Post Adjutant, enlisted at San Francisco, April 1, 1917. In October of the same year he was sent to Omaha to the U. S. Army Balloon School where he took the ground course for Balloon Observers.

He was then sent to the Missouri Aeronautical Society's Balloon School at San Antonio where he qualified as a Spherical Balloon Pilot. He was transferred to Camp Wise where he was commissioned March 13, 1918.

Lt. Loraine then instructed in the Cadet Department until he was appointed Post Adjutant last July.











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PERSONNEL OFFICE

"THE BEST Personnel Office in the Southern Department," has been the slogan of the highly efficient force of officers and men who have conducted this very important branch of work at Camp John Wise; and judging from the results obtained and the words of praise from those "in the know," the Camp Wise outfit "sat in the driver's seat" all of the way and led them all with a wide margin.

Chief and foremost in the work of the Personnel Office stood Lieutenant Elmer G. Marscheutz, Personnel Adjutant. Work was the Lieutenant's middle name. All through the hot summer you would find him working far into the night in order that the efficiency of Camp John Wise might be kept at the highest point. And through his efforts, aided of course by able assistants, the Personnel Office of Camp John Wise was regarded by Washington as one of the very best in the whole country.

Lieutenant Marscheutz entered the service considerably more than a year ago. He was first sent to the Sppherical Balloon School and then took the course at Fort Omaha for a Balloon Observer. He was commissioned there and in January, 1918, was sent to San Antonio where he acted as Adjutant at the Sppherical Ballon School.

From there he came to Wise where he was placed in charge of Personnel work. He then commanded the 35th Balloon Company for a time; but was relieved to take up the duties of Personnel Adjutant. Lieutenant Marscheutz has taken over fifty Spherical Balloon flights since entering the service, probably more than any of the younger officers of the Balloon Division.

Second Lieutenant Thomas H. Ashton ably assisted Lieutenant Marscheutz in the Personnel work during the entire summer. Ashton was formerly Personnel Adjutant of the Balloon camp at Kelly Field.

Second Lieutenant Earl G. Hadley had charge of the Record section of the personnel office; he comes from Worcester, Mass., where he manages the Globe Optical Company in civil life. Lieutenant Hadley had a fondness for work which was only surpassed by Lieutenant Marscheutz himself, and when he received his discharge the Personnel Office lost one of the best officers in the camp.

Lieutenant Harry C. DeLamatre had charge of the naturalization, insurance and allotment department or the Personnel Office. "Del" was a real fellow and was one of the best liked officers in camp. He not only did his work well in the Personnel Office; but he smashed through the

opposing lines of the various army football teams that fell before the Wise team last Fall. He was a former star on the University of Nebraska eleven and was picked by Walter Camp on his mythical "All-America" team.

Lieutenant H. P. Baldwin, the "Newly-Wed", probably knew more enlisted men than did any officer in the camp; for it fell to him to interview all of the men whenever necessary. He was a great judge of men, and it is said that he could always tell when a man was lying to him. He was in charge of the Classification Department, and could tell you more about what the various men of the camp could do than any efficiency man ever thought of.

Lieutenant Farnum, sometimes known as the "Balloon Gymnast," because of his hair-raising looping in a balloon at Omaha, is slated to take over the position of Personnel Adjutant when Lieutenant Marscheutz is discharged. Farnum has worked in all departments of the Personnel Office and is an all-round expert in the work. By the time this book comes off the press he will probably be filling the shoes of Lieutenant Marscheutz, and we know he will do it well.



HISTORY OF THE BALLOON PILOT

THE BALLOON PILOT came into existence on the eighteenth day of July, 1918, in the form of a small eight-page sheet, published by Lieut. Harold R. Hall, and printed by the San Antonio Printing Company.

For the first two weeks Lieutenant Hall wrote every line of the paper, and worked in the printing office as "make-up" man for the paper as well. Lieutenant H. S. Schultz was then selected as business manager and Private John H. Maddox took charge of the advertising. Private Daniel J. Foley was made circulation manager, and Private J. F. Lowney acted as news editor.

From the start the paper was a decided success and was welcomed not only by all the men of the camp; but by the civilian population of San Antonio as well. It was a live sheet in which was reflected the doings and thoughts of the Wise men and officers and in a

short while grew to be the best balloon camp paper in the country and was classed as one of the "few good army papers" by one of the leading New York dailies.

Not only was there news of the camp, other camps and the world in general, but there were also articles by real writers of the outside literary world, and the camp newspaper circles were astounded one day to see in the Pilot a corking story written expressly for the Pilot by the great Charles E. Van Loan. Such was the enterprising fashion in which the Pilot was published.

Later in the summer Lieutenant Schultz was transferred and Lieut. Ralph L. Milnes took over the work of business manager. From time to time the personnel of the paper changed as far as the enlisted writers were concerned, for it was not the policy of the camp to hold men for that work alone. Finally, on January 19. 1919. Lieutenant Milnes

was discharged and Lieutenant Hall took over the business end as well as the editorial and wound up the paper on January 23, 1919.

n speaking of the work of the Pilot, Lieut.- Col. D. H. Bower, Commanding Officer of Camp John Wise wrote the following letter to the editor:

"The Commanding Officer desires to express to you his appreciation of your efforts and the efforts of those associated with you in the publication of the Balloon Pilot. It should be a source of pride to all who have connected with the publication and management of this camp paper that its excellence has been the result of your efforts.

He desires to commend you and your staff for these results, and to express his appreciation of your hearty support in bringing to the attention of those concerned those things which contributed a great deal to raise the standard of Camp John Wise to its proud position."





LT. F. T. FULLER CANTEEN OFFICER



CHAPLAIN E. E. SWANSON



LT. M. M. DAVIS, Q. M. C. POST QUARTERMASTER





"THE TWO BEARS"



PRINCE AXEL OF DENMARK AND COL. D. H. BOWER





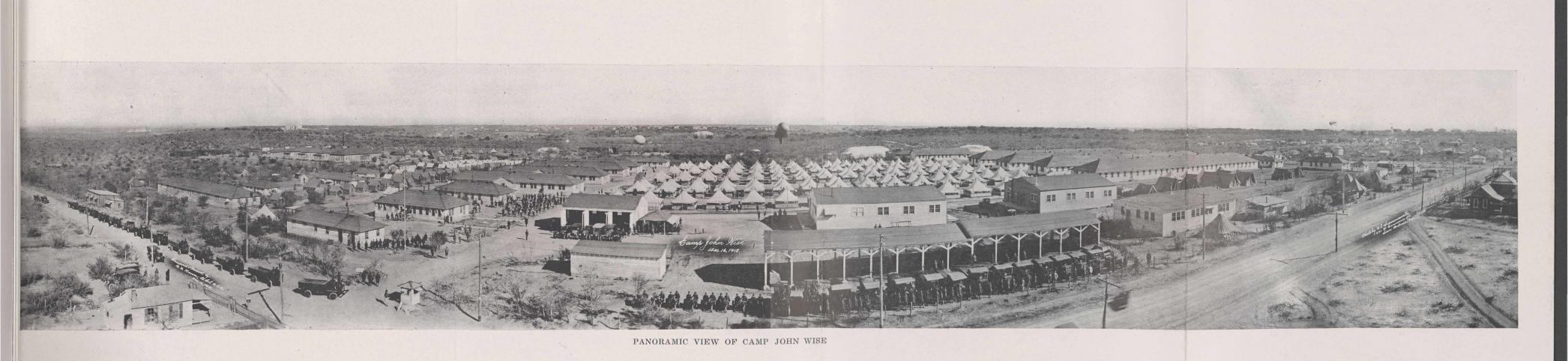
CAPT. FRANK KEHOE, SR.
IN CHARGE ENLISTED SPECIALISTS SCHOOL

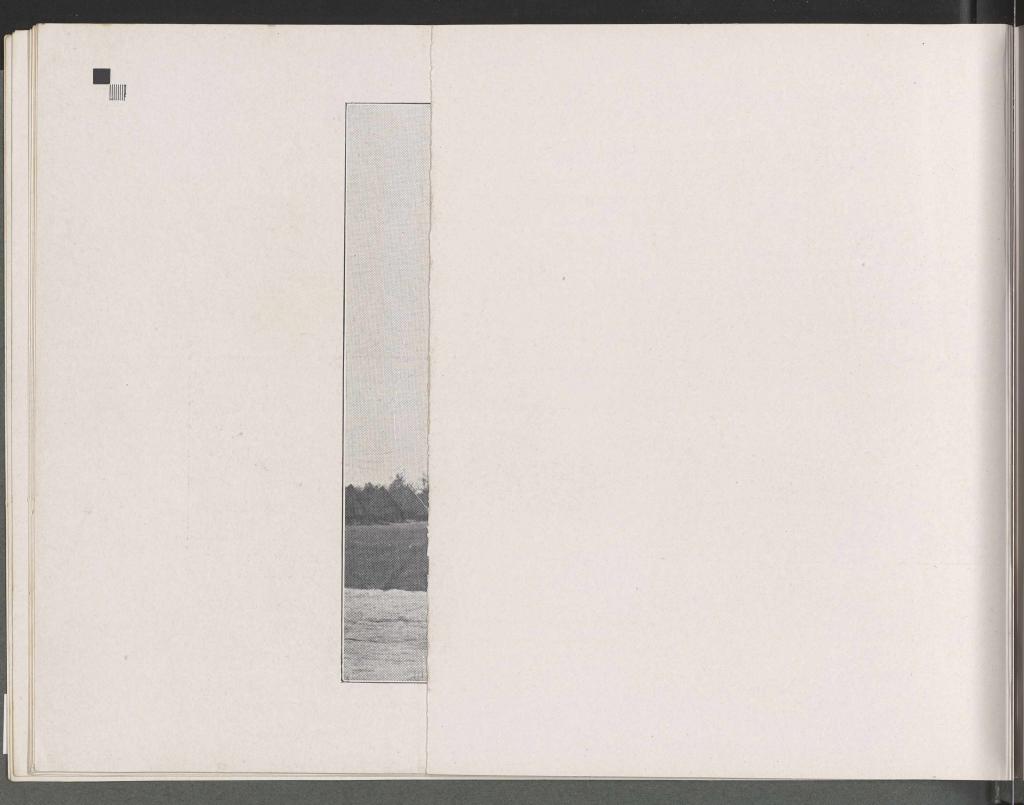


CAPT. J. R. TAYLOR CAMP SUPPLY OFFICER

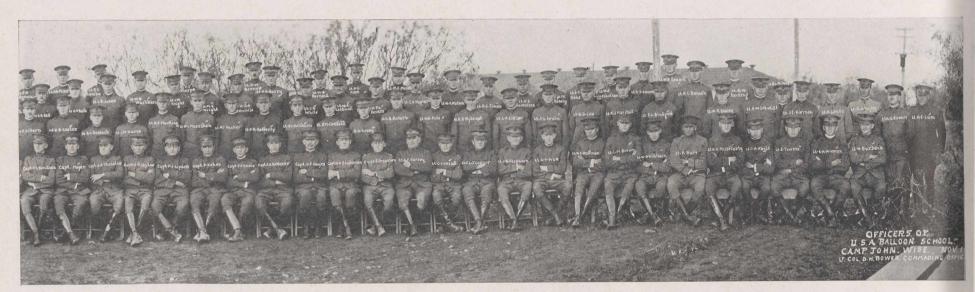


"GOING UP"





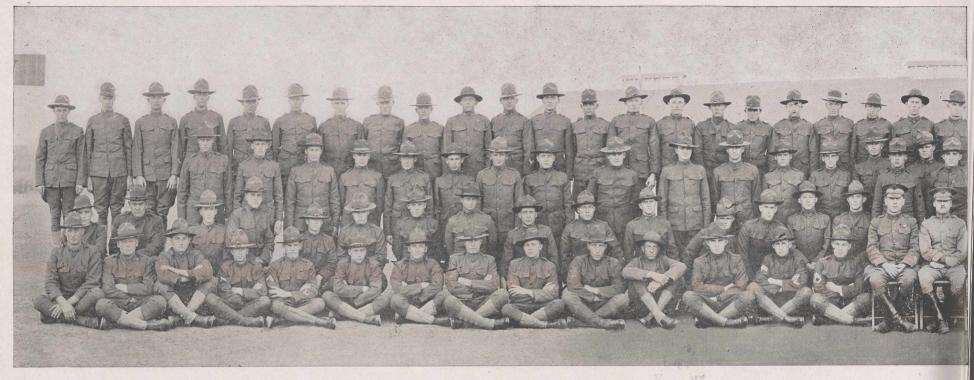




LARGEST NUMBER OF BALLOON OFFICERS EVER ASSEM BLED ON THIS SIDE OF THE WATER



READY FOR BUSINESS WHEN ARMISTICE STOPPED ACTIVITIES AT CAMP JOHN WISE



History of the 40th Company

THE history of the 40th Balloon L Company, known as "Old 40th," might well be called "The History of Eternal Hope," and conclusively disproves the old saying that "all comes to him who waits." For twelve long months we waited: through the cold and stormy months of February and March of 1918, through the changeable weather of April and May, when we alternately froze and roasted: through the long hot months of June, July, August and September, when the thermometer seemed to be competing with Cacquots for an altitude record; through the trying months of October and November, until the armistice was signed, putting our suspence to an end, we waited and

hoped day by day that the War Department would take notice of the "Old 40th" and would send us "over there" that we might take part in the greatest war, but we were disappointed. t seemed that our company had been forgotten, and it was not until after the armistice that we learned definitely that we were not—the "Old 40th" was made a permanent company.

The 40th Company was organized February 5, 1918. 2nd Lieut. William E. Woodman was appointed Commanding Officer. 2nd Lieutenants M. A. Andrews, Wm. S. Barker and E. J. Felt were attached to company for temporary duty February 18, 1918. Jack E. Learner acted as First Sergeant, Fred C.

Berling, now 1st Sergeant, was company clerk, Jas. P. Morgan, Mess Sergeant, and C. R. Edmondson, Supply Sergeant. The company began its existence with 22 enlisted men. Corporal Peterson is the only member of the original 22 men still in this company, or in fact, the camp, he having been transferred into and out of the company several times. He has finally decided to make the 'Old 40th' his permonent home (?). The company was quartered in a row of tents between the present 40th Company Barracks and Mess Hall, and were attached to the 37th Company for rations. In Marchthe present mess hall was taken over.

On March 15, 1918, Lieutenant

Woodman was relieved from command and given the 42nd Company. Most of the 40th Company men were also transferred into that company, and left for port of embarkation shortly afterward. 2nd Lieut. Frederick T. Fuller was then assigned to command the company. Lieuts. Andrews, Barker and Felt were relieved during March, 1918, 2nd Lieutenants L. L. Biche and Benjamin B. Cassidy, and Fred H. Lang were attached. Lieut. Lang was made Officer in Charge of Post Carpenter Shop. On March 22, 1918, Fred S. White, who later became First Sergeant of this company was assigned, and given charge of the First Casual Detachment of 60 men. All recruits com-



ing into camp were attached to the 40th Company. The strength of the company on March 31, 1918, was 225 enlisted men, 126 men being transferred to other organizations and 66 men into the company during the month.

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March 20, Lieut. Harold R. Hall was attached, and Lieutenants Cassidy and Biche relieved from duty.

During May, June and July the average strength of the company was 195 men. During these months the company wa sin intensive training for overseas duty.

Only three officers weer attached to the company during these months. Lieut. Lang devoted most of his time to the Post Carpenter Shop, so the burden of organizing an intensive training fell on the shoulders of the company commander, Lieut. Fuller and Lieut. Harold R. Hall. In spite of being handicapped by the lack of officers,

they brought the company up to a higher standard of efficiency and morale than it had ever attained. These weer banner months, and officers and men worked together with tireless energy and determination, hoping against hope that the good work would be recognized by headquarters and the "Old 40th" be taken off the "stay at home" list and sent "over there" as a company intact. This did not come about, however, as during the month of July most of the members of the company were transferred into the 7th and 38th Companies which were sent to California, and the work of building up a new company with recruits who were transferred into the company began again. On July 29, 1918, Lieut. Glen E. Wallace and Frederick C. Gribble were attached.

On October 7, Lieut. Frederick T. Fuller was relieved as Commanding

Officer and succeeded by 2nd Lieut. S. T. Christian.

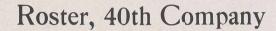
On October 10 Lieut. Hall was relieved to assume the position of camp mess officer and editor of the camp paper casting another cloud of gloom on the men, which was quickly dispelled when he was again attached to the company for duty in addition to his other assignments. During the month 2nd Lieutenants C. P. Eiffler and George Grady were attached.

On December 19 Lieut. Harold R. Hall assumed command of the company in addition to his other dutics as Camp Mess Officer, editor of the camp paper and Aeronautical Information Officer. In choosing the "pioneers" of the company, Lieut. Hall should have first place, having been in the company since shortly fter it was organized. He has also acted in every capacity in the company possible for a balloon officer.

During the month Lieutenants C. A. Gearish, Carl D. McCarthy and N. E. Galentine were attached for duty and relieved again, Lieut. McCarthy being assigned as Summary Court Officer. Lieut. Glenn E. Wallace was discharged. On January 2nd Lieut. G. E. Sachers joined the company, and was discharged during the latter part of the month. Lieut. Gearish was discharged. Lieutenants Stewart N. Svedeman, now Mess Officer, and Carl D. McCarthy was attached for duty in addition to his duties as Summary Court Officer.

On February 5, 1919, Capt. Wm. Mayer took command of the company and Lieutenant Hall assumed the position of executive officer of the company.

But another change on March &, 1919, Captain Mayer was transferred to Brooks Field and Lieut, Hall again took command,



SERGEANT, FIRST CLASS

Good, Homer Monroe Berling, Fred Carl Bodey, George Warren

SERGEANT

Feyen, John Dietrich Rock, Carl Emil Malmquist, Alfred Klason Anderson, Adolph Frederick Murphy, Daniel Joseph Schaltenbrand, Otto Hart, Crozier Satterthwaite Workman, Cornelius Stevanovich, Nikola

CORPORAL

Peterson, Peter
Williams, George Dewey
Johnston, Melvin Isaac
Peterson, Elmer Morris
Henderson, John Leroy
Todd, Donald Edwin
Funk, Arthur
Mutz, Frank Charles
Wilder, James Louis
Shields, Robert Dodson

CHAUFFEUR, FIRST CLASS

Cox, Wiley
Duffy, William Eugene
George, Glenn Johnston
Wagner, Clarence Robert

CHAUFFEUR

Mapes, Jefferson D. Marshall, Charles Perry Pannebaker, Foster Leona Robinson, Seth Sherman Mitchum, Alva Samuel

COOKS

Henry, Lee Don Yearns, James O. Morgan, David Myron

PRIVATES, FIRST CLASS

Abney, George L. Case, Russell Walter Childers, Tames R. Emery, Clarence Parker Gass, William Bernard Greth, Ellis Charlie Harporld, Arthur J. Heaton, William Herman Kuhl, Peter H. Lane, Martin G. Lang, Carl Bruce McClure, William G. McPherson, Charles Albert Ploegstra, Harry Scott, Clyde Louis Sidoti, Peter Smith, Elbert Lovell Smith, William Raymond Snedeker, Walter Henry Snyder, William Marvin Stump, John Walter Swanke, Louis Ferdinand Trapolino, Jerome Louis White, Carroll Woodward, William Warren

PRIVATES

Abney, Earl Albert Adlong, Louis Gustav Ard, Nathan Baker, Henry LaFayette Barnett, Zed Smith Barth, Alfred William Batten, Rufus Pinkney Bayes, Noah Chester Bergsten, Ellwyn McKenzie Boyd, Ed Eugene Bradbury, Elon Cephas Brown, Eugene Grayson Brown, Linwood James Bussell, Walter T. Button, Victor Isaac Caldwell, Loomous B. Carlson, Arthur David Chavez, Maximilian Clayton, Guy Q

OFFICERS



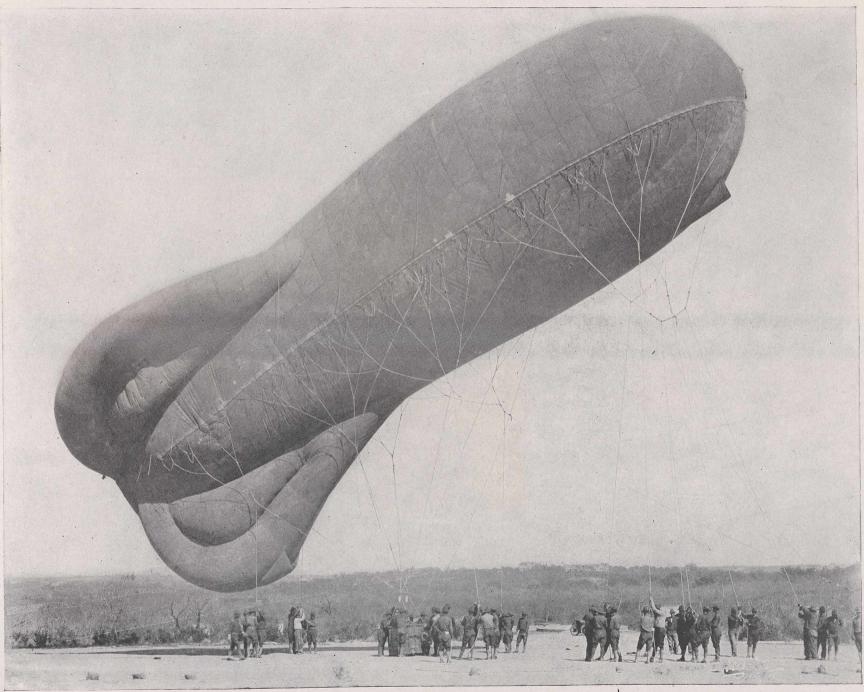
LT. HAROLD R. HALL, A. S., M. A., COMMANDING

LT. M. M. TURNER, A. S., M. A. LT. CARL D. McCARTHY, A. S. M. LT. STUART N. SVEDEMAN, A. S. A. LT. ETHAN A. BRIDGMAN, A. S. A. LT. C. M. BROWN, A. S., A.

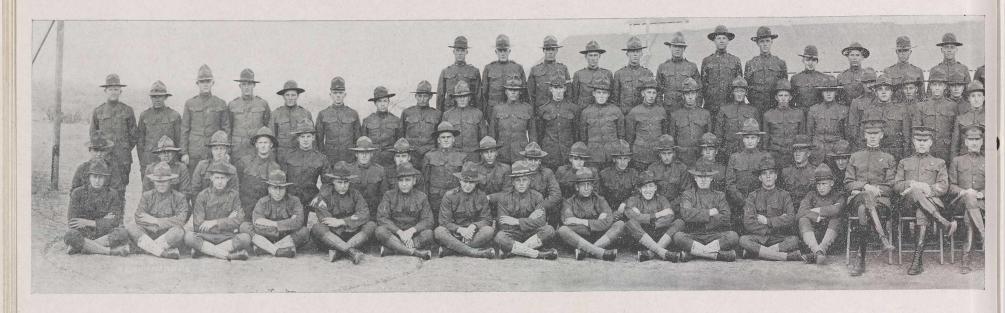
1ST SERGEANT FRED C. BERLING

Cline, Earl Franklin Coleman, Taylor Collier, Frank Dougherty Dawson, Leslie Erastus Dearing, Harry Denson, John Bunyan Dugger, Frank R. Duran, Ben Lopez Durkin, James Henry Engeling, Walter William Farris, Champ Newton Faulkner, Walter Alston Fjarli, Oscar Foster, William Clifton Galloway, Edgar Garcia, Felipe Martinez Got,, Arthur Stafford Hale, Raymond Guy Heertz, Bert Henze, Carl Herman Hill, Feister E. Holt, Clarence Gordon Hoppe, Helmar Bernhard Hulett, Raymon Clifford Hunt, Bud Grady Isenberger, Alfred James Johnson, Harry W. Jolley, James Thomas Jones, Virgil Karger, Gilbert August Kempthorne, Milton B. Keown, William P. Kirk, James Harry Land, Lester William Lindsley, Charles Darroll Mather, John Thomas Martin, Harold Basil Mathews, Phil S. May, Milton V. McCaughey, Frank M. McConn, James Merritt, Oscar Q.

Metzger, Paul Edward Mitchell, Henry Alex Monahan, William Joseph Newcomb, Frank Everett Newman, George W. Niedens, Fred Orton, Hugh Francis Plemmons, Lon Jefferson Presby, Harry Corvall Rae, Edwin James Rael, Joe P. Rea. John Freed Richards, Lawrence C. Riehle, Herbert Marvin Riffe, Joseph James Roach, Lee David Rogers, John Ferdon Rothenberger, Don V. Schuler, Wilbur A. Scott, Roy Scott, W. W. Selby, Corwin Anderson Simmons, Ezell A. Smith, Elisha Gilbert Smith, Emmett H. Stewart, Arnold Jesuwan Steward, Ross Laverne Stoker, Roy Tipton, Carnel Louis Turner, Marvin Lee Vandiver, James Herbert Van Meter, E. G. Waller, Ben. Harrison Wendeborn, Ollie E. Wiemers, Otto Jacob Wilder, William Fred Withrow, Harold Clifford Wolcott, Ralph L. Word, Charles Kirby Wright, Eliah William



OBSERVATION BALLOON READY TO ASCEND



History of the 68th Company

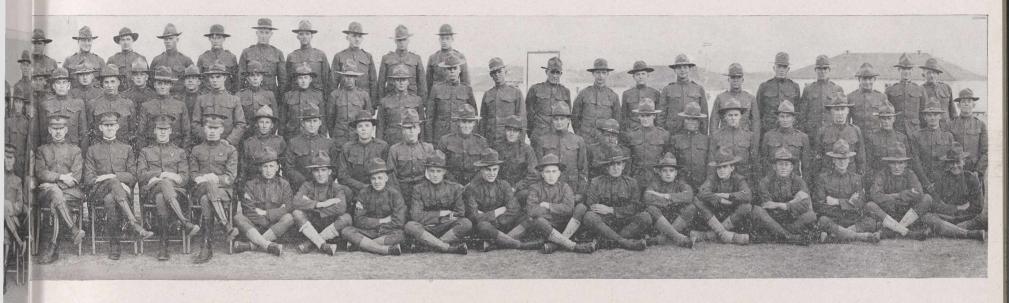
Headquarters on August 23rd, 1918, assigned Lieutenant Jerald J. Bruce to command the 68th Company and ordered him "to proceed at once with the organization and training of the company." The 68th Balloon Company was designed to carry only men who were either on duty in balloon departments or else under instruction in those departments.

Private 1st Class Richardson and Private Crosier transferred from the 54th Balloon Company were the first two enlisted men to join the new organization. They were followed by Corporal Breuning, Privates David, Lynch from the 55th Company, Privates McCormick, Coates, Kieke, Nackerman, and Lanciault from the 56th Balloon Company, Sergeants 1st Class Frank, Nance, Neville, Eergeants Batten, Daugherty, Newell, Phelps, Corporals Chatten, Palmer, Ramos, Privates 1st Class Brumbach, Christenson, Collison, Sterzing, Watson,

Wright, Privates, Colson, Martin, Plake, Skrdla, Soupal, Zelley from 57th Balloon Company, Private Emiser from the Recruit Detachment, Private Cassas from 57th Company, giving a total strength of 35 men at the close of the first day.

Sergeant Nance was the first acting First Sergeant of the 68th Company. He continued in this capacity until October 18, 1918, when his duties weer taken up by Private F. D. Bertram, transferred into the Company as Acting First Sergeant, from the Recruit Detachment.

From the date of organization, the Company steadily grew in size, reaching a strength of 100 men and 1 officer September 26th, 1918. It continued to gradually increase and reached its maximum strength of 200 men and 2 officers October 5, 1918. However this strength was short lived and the total gradually decreased, after fluctuations caused by a series of transfers, to a minimum of 94 men and 4 officers, January 14th, 1919. From this



point the total began to again ascend and after a few minor fluctuations has settled to a total of 166 men and 7 officers, the present strength.

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During the influenza epidemic, it was necessary for the Company to give up its barracks, in order to provide quarters for the flu victims. The company was moved over to recruit lines, and quartered in tents as it was when it was first formed. After the comforts of living in barracks the change was not a pleasant one, but both men and officers accepted the order cheerfully and once fairly established, made the best of dirst floors, leaky tents and the

baths, which but rarely boasted of having water in them even passably warm. This cheerful acceptance of rather unpleasant living conditions spoke well of the morale of the men.

Lieutenant J. J. Bruce, A. S. A., was relieved from command of the Company October 17, 1918, and assigned to command and organized the 80th Company. He was replaced by Lieutenant J. S. Batt, A. S., S. C., who continued as Commanding Officer until February 21st, 1919, when he was relieved by Captain J. J. Kingsbury, A. S. M. A., the present Commanding Officer.

Lieutenant H. R. Rafferty, A. S.,

A., who acted as Supply Officer under Lieutenant Bruce, continued in this capacity after Lieutenant Batt assumed command and up to the time he was discharged in January. Assigned to the Company with Lieutenant Batt on the same Special Order were Lieutenant M. L. Wright, A. S. M. A., and Lieutenant B. A. Braasch, A. S., A. Until discharged in January, Lieutenant Braasch was the executive officer of the Company, and Lieutenant Wright was the Officer in Charge of Entertainment and Instruction.

Lieutenant H. B. Lillie, A. S., A., assumed Lieutenant Rafferty's duties as Company Supply Officer and has continued in that capacity to date. Lieutenant McLafferty, A. S., A., took up Lieutenant Wright's duties as Balloon Officer.

After demobilization was practically completed in camp, the 77th, tached to the 68th Company for duty, rations and quarters and their Company Commanders were attached to the 68th Company for duty, making a total of seven officers, four assigned and three attached.

Captain Kingsbury received orders to go to Garden City on March 6, 1919, and Lieutenant Batt again assumed command of the Company.



Roster, 68th Company

SERGEANTS, FIRST CLASS

Bishop, J. H. Staten,

SERGEANTS

Bertram, F. D. LaDow, J. J. Monrotus, L. M. Gellette, Spade, Leslie Rose, Burgert, R. H. Steinbach, Max Taylor, Earl B

CORPORALS

Ayers, C.
Foster, W. H.
Harvey, R. P.
Haefner, C. W.
Egan, C. T.
Powell, J.
Rodenbaugh, S.
Schlenker, F.
Walker, C. L.
Whitcomb, O. F.
Womack, G.
Joyce, J. G.
Smith, C. W.
Dickinson, W. E.

CHAUFFERS, FIRST CLASS

Broderson, W. Astill, S. P.

CHAUFFEURS

Butler, H. K. Geils, L. N. Kirch, H. H. McKeen, G. Odenthaugh, A. Pavlack, J. M. Shourt, J. B.

COOKS

Goodwin, I. B. Warehime, A. Bradford, A. B.

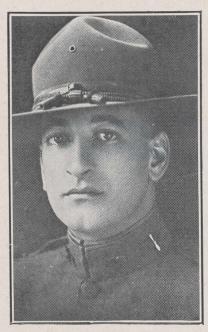
PRIVATES, FIRST CLASS

Anderson, G. E. Ares, A. E. Baylor, J. L. Campbell, E. R. Casa, J. T. Clair, W. N. Courteau, E. J. David, C. A. Davis, W. A. Defenbaugh, A. G. Dickman, D. Evans, John A. Gillian, C. J. Haley, H. B. James, H. R. McDowell, D. B. Northup, C. T. Phillips, D. J. Pickrel, R. P. Redd, C. C. Tober, C. E. Turentine, J. D. Upchurch, E. L. Woulfe, E. F. Yunt, C. W.

PRIVATES

Annis, W. D. Ball, R. L. Boles, C. M. Behrens, A. Belcher, T. H. Biddy, J. D. Bigby, W. Bond, C. G. Boubelik, C. E. Bennick, H. R. B. Buck, Lee6 Burgen, A. Brooks, G. Brooks, W. T. Campbell, C. E. Chandler, C. L. Clark, E. J. Clawson, C. E.

OFFICERS



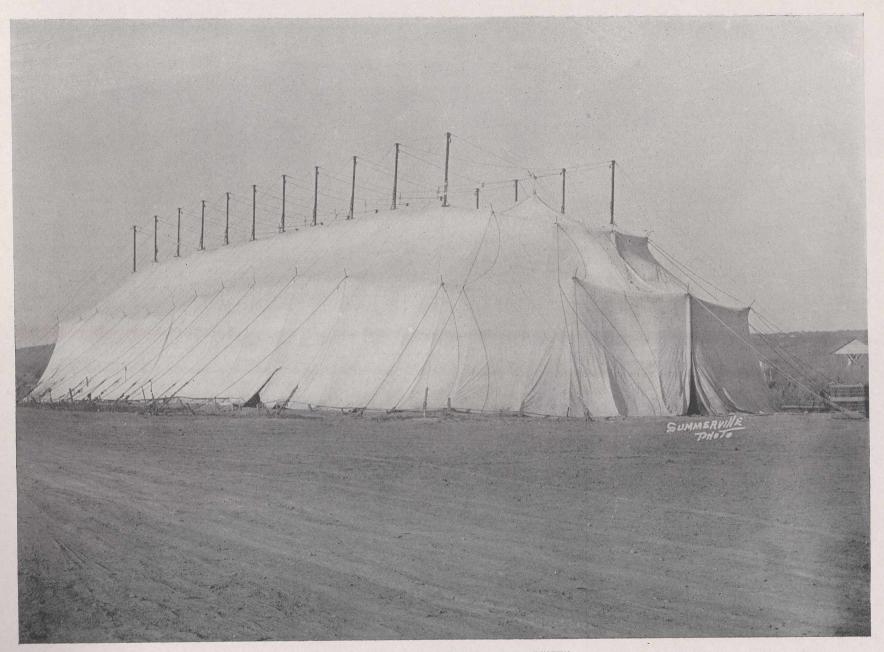
LT. J. S. BATT, A. S., S. C. COMMANDING

LT. I. H. COULTER, A. S. A., LT. L. N. BERRY, A. S., A. LT. H. B. LILLIE, A. S. A. LT. G. H. McLAFFERTY, A. S., A. LT. H. K. HINE, A. S., A.

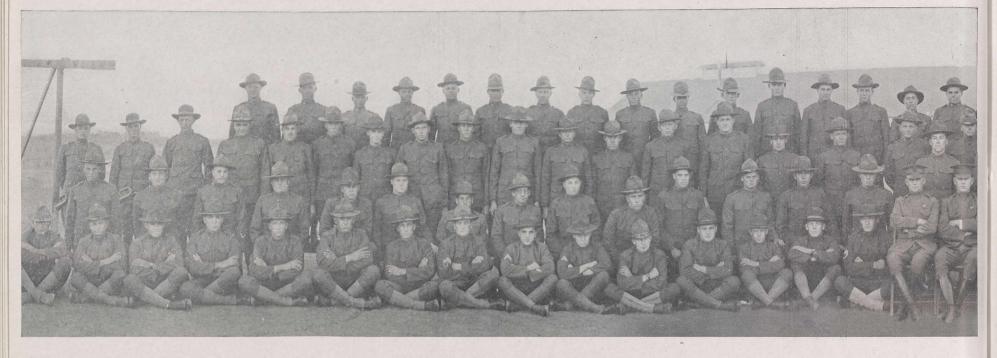
1ST SERGEANT F. D. BERTRAM

Clark, J. H. Commer, M. Conner, J. A. Connell, E. M. Cooley, N. Counce, H. E. Craig, C. R. Cotterman, R. H. Deisinger, J. H. Drake, D. Duncan, A. B. Edwards, A. B. Elliott H. W. Elmore, B. C. Evans, James Farris, E. R. Fiffe, A. E. Gerngross, A. A. Herrne, G. G. Hamm, R. R. Hancock, L. B. Hensley, B. L. Hill, H. B. Hinkle, A. Huffman, C. L. Hunter, C. C. Irwin, F. C. Justi, W. E. Jojes, C. J. Kelnhofer, J. Kessler, W. H. Lambert, J. W. Lance, J. F. Leepr, E. A. Linderburg, H. O. Linmeyer, C. Meadows, J. Millican, A. G. Murava, F. Maxie, O. McIlrath, O. L. Moore, C. F. Morris, B.

O'Connell, P. J. Pineskewcz, L. Price, W. F. Roy, C. H. Skinner, F. F. Sanson, E. K. Smith, J. B. Steele, I. L. Stingley, W. A. Swensen, S. J. Stufflebeam, O. Trant, L. E. Utley, A. D. Waggonner, C. G. Willits, W. J. Wood, J. W. Woods, F. E. Yarbrough, B. H. Young, W. J. B. Schissler, Shepard, R. M. Polk, Herman B. Springer, Henry Boyd, J. M. Jordan, W. D. Lang, A. S. Schultz, R. M. Roberts, R. Weaver, L. Franklin, O. O. Burger, F. E. Kirkpatrick, M. H. Nicholas, T. McCormick, L. A. Clubb, C. D. Emmert, G. K. Hardy, R. E. Hartjen, W. F. Neil, C. B. Foster, Lehnertz,



"CLOSED FOR THE NIGHT"



History of the 78th Company

THE 78th Balloon Company was organized September 17th, 1918, per pp. 1, S. O. 172, Hq. Camp John Wise, Texas, 2nd Lieut. C. N. Conzett, A. S., A., being assigned to command. The Company was established in tents in the second street from Headquarters Building. The membership of the command was added to gradually until its quota of 196 men was reached. Second Lieut. Larkin A. O'Neill, A. S., A., was attached on October 5th, 1918, and assigned to the duty of Man-

euvering Officer, and 2nd Lieut. John W. Spencer Jr., A. S. A., was attached October 17th, 1918, and assigned to the duties of Supply Officer. The Company was organized as an Overseas Company, as it was desired to send it Overseas with a strength of 200 enlisted men.

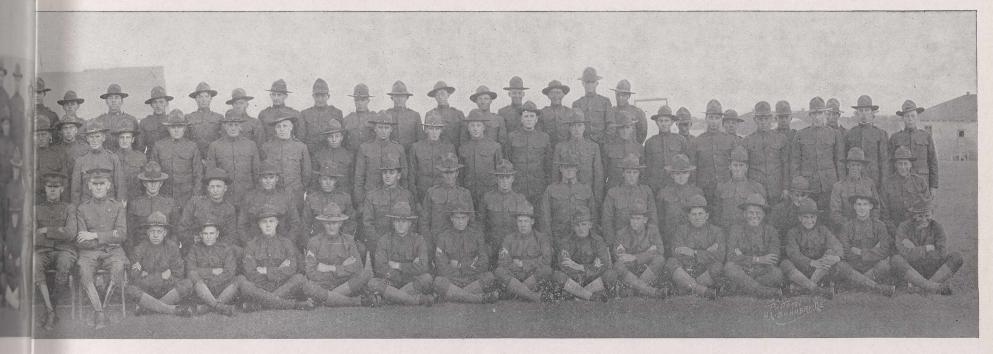
On or about October 28th 1918, this Company took over the operation of a balloon at Field No. 3, Camp John Wise, being its first duties along these lines.

On November 1st, 1918, the or-

ganization was moved to Field No. 4, about three quarters of a mile from Camp John Wise, where it pitched camp, maneuvering a balloon from Camp John Wise to its bed at Field No. 4. At this camp the company underwent an exhaustive course of intensive training, fitting it for Overseas duty. The camp was ideally situated and arranged and the men entered upon their hard course of training with the utmost enthusiasm. Their efforts were rewarded by the placing of

the company in fit condition for the assumption of the duties to be performed overseas.

After the men had successfully completed their course of instruction, had sent their excess baggage home and completed all necessary preparations for their move to a point of embarkation, and a day or two before the receipt of orders to entrain, the armistice was signed and the men weer doomed to wear doomed to wear silver instead of gold chevrons. Notwithstanding the



great disappointment, the men continued to work with a will, determined to keep the organization one of the best in camp. Too much cannot be said for the wonderful spirit shown by the men at all times, and for the high class of men in this command, as was reflected in the splendid record of every department, and a clean sheet showing no court martials, no desertions and no A. W. O. L.

On NNovember 27th, 1918, the company moved back to the Recruit Lines, Camp John Wise, where it remained until December 16, 1918, on which date it was moved to Camp Travis, Texas, becoming a

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part of the Provisional Wing, which was under the command of Major H. Rogers, A. S., M. A. At Camp Travis the company operated a balloon and took an important part in the field maneuvers of the 18th Division, the excellent showing made being clearly and unmistakably evidenced in a letter of commendation and gratification from eneral Estes, Commanding General, Southern Department, to Lieutenant Colonel D. H. Bowers, Commanding Officer of Camp John Wise.

On January 23, 1919, the company returned to Camp John Wise, its duties being performed at Camp Trivas, and moved into barracks.

While at Camp Travis, the following named officers were attached to the command: Second Lieutenant Blodgett, A. S., A.; 2nd Lieutenant Harding, A. S., A.; 2nd Lieutenant Guerin, A. S. A.

This company was chosen as one of the four companies to retain its organization and its full quota of men.

On February 5th, 1919, Captain Elmo L. Davison, A. S. M. A., was assigned to the command of this company, vice 2nd Lieut. C. N. Conzett, relieved.

The company continues to be full of enthusiasm notwithstanding the fact that the war is over and during the trying times of demobilization, and is determined to keep up its splendid record and be first in all things.

At the present time its basketball team is in first place in the Camp Tournament, not having lost a game.

The following is the present personnel of the officers of the organization: Captain Elmo L. Davison, A. S. M. S., Company Commander, 2nd Lieut. Larkin A. O'Neill, A. S. A., Executive Officer; 2nd Lieut. W. D. Washburn, A. S. A., Company Adjutant; 2nd Lieut. S. V. Guerin, A. S. A., Company Supply Officer; 2nd Lieut. John W. Houghervent, A. S. A., Officer in Charge of Instruction.



SERGEANTS, FIRST CLASS

McIntyre, Guy. Olds, Eldon L.

MESS SERGEANT Klinzing, George F.

SERGEANTS

Dahl, Gilbert Morgan, Robert W. Fickes, James F. Shannon, MorrisW. Siepker, Robert G. Work, George Tr., Goodart, Julius J. Lanciault, Raymond

CORPORALS

Van Syckel Orrin Lawrence, Floyd A. Crawford, Richard H. Minnier, Richard C. Strong, Lester J. Olson, Oscar A. Chalk, Dixie Hichock, Shall C. Paine, Cernon E. Mast, Lewis J. Bradshaw, Albert G.

CHAUFFEURS, FIRST CLASS

Dillon, Joseph F. Drewes, Louis F. Mead. Walker M. Molt, Ira A. Morgan, Carl L. Morriss, Rodvill, C. Hebert, John S.

CHAUFFEURS

Kaplan, Jerry J. Olson, Paul E. Townsend, Harry L.

COOKS

Batterton, Henry G. Bedell, Ernest A. Forsythe, John N.

PRIVATES, FIRST CLASS

Allison, Joseph G. Austin, William L. Bennett, Lloyd O. Bradley, Ernest, Brown, Thomas W. Castle, Ray M. Christman, Oliver Collins, Roe G. Cox, Fred A. Davis, Albert R. Doherty, Bernard F. Dunton, Burton L. Evans, Clifford J. Gibbs, William K. Griswald, Leon W. Grubauggh, Jacob J. Halmark, James H. Horn, LeRoy Johnson, Albert A. Kraftschack, Alexis Lenertz, Anthony Lester, Jack Lewis, Henry T. Madonni, Samuel Markewecz, Alexander Martin, Lewis C. Metzger, William T. Moore, Dewy E. Moss, Harvy O. Porter, Paxton C. Roberts, Ralph W. Snyder, Paul P. Stoker, Edward H. Torrez, Manuel Weilbacher, Maria W. Wrist, Frank B.

PRIVATES

Abreo, Guiseppe Albright, Rudalph Ault, Harry B.

Roster, 78th Company

OFFICERS



CAPT. ELMO L. DAVISON, A. S., M. A., COMMANDING

2ND LT. SAMUEL V. GUERIN, A. S., A.

2ND LT. JOHN S. HAUGHAWOUT, A. S., A.

2ND LT. WURLE F. STACH, A.S., A. GEORGE H. McLAFFERTY, A.S., A.

2ND LT. LARKIN A. O'NEILL. A. S., A.

2ND LT. AUGUST L. LOSETH. A. S., A.

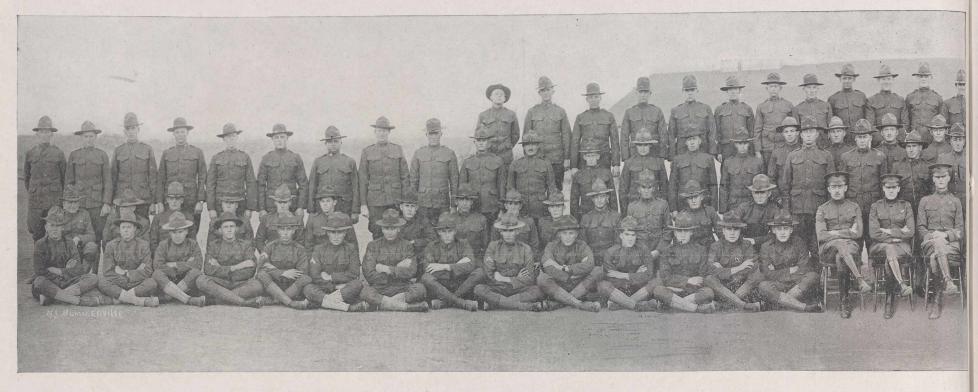
1ST. SGT. GUY MVINTYRE

Baily, Henry L. Burch, Louis M. Black, Dodge Chamberlain, Gail E. Chambers, Paul H. Cobble, Bula B. Cooper, William H. Covington, Ollie B. Edwards, Floyd M. Embree, John L. Fevrer, Carl H. Evans, Robert H. Ford, George B. Foster, Joe N. Frankson, Fluke A. Garmer, Toseph L. Gordon, Lee B Gresham, Sam Hasseth, Cornell Herr. George Hermann, Rupert R. Hershey, Maurice R. Hitt, Lester M. Hixon, Roy E. Hudson, Hubert Hutchins, George E. Kaechele, Arthur W. Knapp, Harris S. Lawrence, Albert R. Letizia, Cono Luna, Maximo McFarlin, William F. MvVaigh, Ralph Martinez, Luis T. Martens, Erwin L. Meadows, Homer G. Meredith, Elmore L. Miller, Charlie H. Miller, Ernest E. Miller, Stanley C. Moerbe, Carl A.

Monkhouse, Joseph R. Morris, Kitt M. Mueller, Oscar Northcut, Bead M. Oldaker, Elry E. Palmer, Clum Perrott, Talmadge D. Peterson, Carl J. Peterson, Wesly W. Phillips, Elmer L. Phillips, Will R. Piland, Vollie M. Riggins, Ruby N. Roark, Frank L. Roark, Hansford E. Sena, Solomon Shaw, Joe E Sheperd, John V. Shiller, Tim Sieber, Rudalph Simmons, Lenard P. Sitterle, Edwin H. Skillman, Glen R. Slone, Orbry L. Smith, Henry B. Smith, James W. Smith, Verda T. Sondgeroth, Anton P. Stauffer, Howard M. Tannahill, Lloyd W. Tate, Othal A. Toner, Mathew J. Viets, Charles R. Walton, Joseph L. Webb, Gray O. White, Clifford I. White, Edwin R. Widmer, Fred M. Williams, Clarence B. Williams, Tom L. Wilton, Jessie R.



THEY NURSED US THROUGH THE "FLU"



History of the 79th Company

ON OCTOBER 17th, 1918, the 79th Balloon Company was organized in the Recruit Division of Camp John Wise, San Antonio, Texas. At that time the Company consisted of two officers, and four enlisted men, namely: Lieutenant Arthur G. McKenzie, Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Robert Manning, Supply Officer, Sgt. T. J. Kelley, Corp. F. G. Baker, Private First Class P. P. Cobb and Private A. O. Bakken.

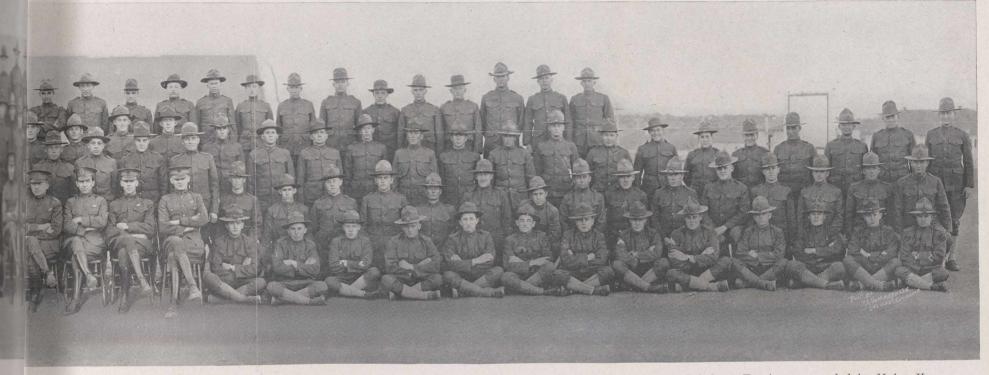
Lieutenant Manning, Corporal Baker and nine men left for the camp

vacated by the 56th Company on the Blanco Road, commonly known as the "Sticks" on October 24th, 1918. These men were to get the camp in readiness for the remainder of the company, On October 28th Lieutenant Carl P. Eiffler was attached to the company for duty. By this time the company was fully organized, and on November 1st, 1918, moved to the camp in the Sticks and began training for "Overseas" service. We had a ten day program to follow, which meant work for every member of the

company. At that time the minimum strength of the organization was three officers and one hundred twenty-one enlisted men. Everyone was overly anxious to get into active service and kept up with the schedule, which consisted of maneuvering the balloon, taking frequent hikes, gas mask drill, infantry drill, carrying on shoots and everything else that would pertain to overseas service.

We were due to leave for port of embarkation, November 17th, 1918.

Every member of the company looked forward to that date with great pleasure. We had been issued our Overseas clothing, sent our unnecessary articles home, and the Super 79th was ready to cross the "Pond" and do its share toward winning the war. But, on November 16th, our traveling orders were rescinded which was undoubtedly a great disappointment to all concerned. Nevertheless, the 79th kept up the same fighting spirit which they have always retained. At the present time



the old 79th has more real spirit in it than any other company in the Post.

November 25th, orders were received sending us to Camp Travis, for demonstrating purposes. We started to break camp about 10:00 o'clock, and by one o'clock the company was on its way to Camp Travis. It was necessary to maneuver the Balloon the entire distance. The Balloon party in charge of Lieutenant Carl P. Eiffler, and Sgt. P. De-Haan left our camp in the sticks at 1 P. M., arriving at Camp Travis at midnight that day. The trip was very difficult and disagreeable on account of snow and rain. The equip-

SER RES

ment and a portion of the men were moved via trucks, arriving at Camp Travis about 6 P. M., we begun pitching camp and by 10 o'clock our camp was completely pitched and we then had supper. The Balloon party, after many trials and troubles arrived about 12 midnight. It was necessary to cross numerous telephone wires, and on account of the weather the trip was very hard and disagreeable.

The site selected for Camp was very well protected from wind but on account of the ground being wet and boggy it was necessary for us to select a new camp, which was situated about 200 yards east, on a hill near the Artesian Wells on Salado Creek, this proved to be a very favorable location and a permanent camp was established.

Our work at Camp Travis consisted of demonstrating the baloon and working in conjunction with the Cactus Division. The 79th Company is justly proud to have in its possession a letter from Brig. Gen. Estes, Commanding General of Camp Travis, praising the services of the officers and men of the 79th Balloon Company.

On the 20th of December the 78th and 80th Companies moved over there and the first Provisional Balloon Wing was established at Camp Travis, commanded by Major Henry Rodgers.

On January 20th, 1919, we were ordered back to Camp John Wise, and at the present time are located in the barracks formerly occupied by the 68th Company.

Since returning to Camp many of the original members of the 79th have been discharged and their places filled by men transferred from other companies.

Shortly after our return to Camp Wise, Lieutenant McKenzie was relieved and Lieutenant Ryland G. Taylor was assigned as Commanding Officer, and on February 5, 1919, Captain Edward L. Fernsten took command.

Roster, 79th Company

SERGEANTS, FIRST CLASS

DeHaan, Peter T. McCoy, Alva R. Moran, Mark E. Staten, Wilbur L.

SERGEANTS

Best, Oscar V.
Baker, Frank G.
Bakken, Alfred O.
Munson, August W.
Woodward, Harold R.
McLaughlin, William P.
Roy, Robert S.
Spade Leslie

CORPORALS

Brown, James H.
Churchman, Arthur A.
Crosier, William F.
Davis, William
Gorrie, Jack S.
Gregg, Bernard L.
Hardin, Ernest G.
McFarland, Reuel
McKinstry, Loren E.
Naylor, Fred
Phelps, Jesse B.
Thurmon, William K.

CHAUFFEURS, FIRST CLASS

Caffrey, Paul E. Newman, Charles S.

CHAUFFEURS

Anderson, John R. Miller, Frank M.

COOKS

Becker, Jesse D. Kiggins, Orman L. Pierce, Thomas L.

PRIVATES, FIRST CLASS

Alexander, Anthony E. Aston, William C. Atencio, Cruz Bowers, Lee D. Bowes, Wilburt M. Burgener, William F. Carr, Samuel H. Carter, William C. Christie, John D. Cossel, George L. Davis, Jack N. Farris, Lloyd J. Fritsch, John R. Gardner, Kilmar C. Grant, Edwin R. Hard, Emmett Hill, Hugh Hemphill, George D. Jones, Judson Keller, Seborn C. Kepner, Ralph O. Klostermann, Richard W. Kucsynski, William J. Marston, Glen C. Miller, Peter E. Ransom, Stanley A. Robertson, Lloyd B. Royle, Clarence A. Russell, William J. Shelton, Whitsitt Smith, Nelson J. Smith, Charles W. Sparks, Felton O. Walkup, Joe T. Will, David E. Milner, William H.

PRIVATES

Alvey, Joseph W. Anderson, Herbert L. Anderson, Gilbert F.

OFFICERS



CAPT. EDW. L. FERNSTEN,
A. S. A. COMMANDING

1ST LT. RYLAND G. TAYLOR,
A. S., A.

2ND LT. ROBERT MANNING,
A. S., A.

2ND LT. DAVID PUTNAM,
A. S., A.

2ND LT. WM. H. MacILWAIN,
A. S., A.

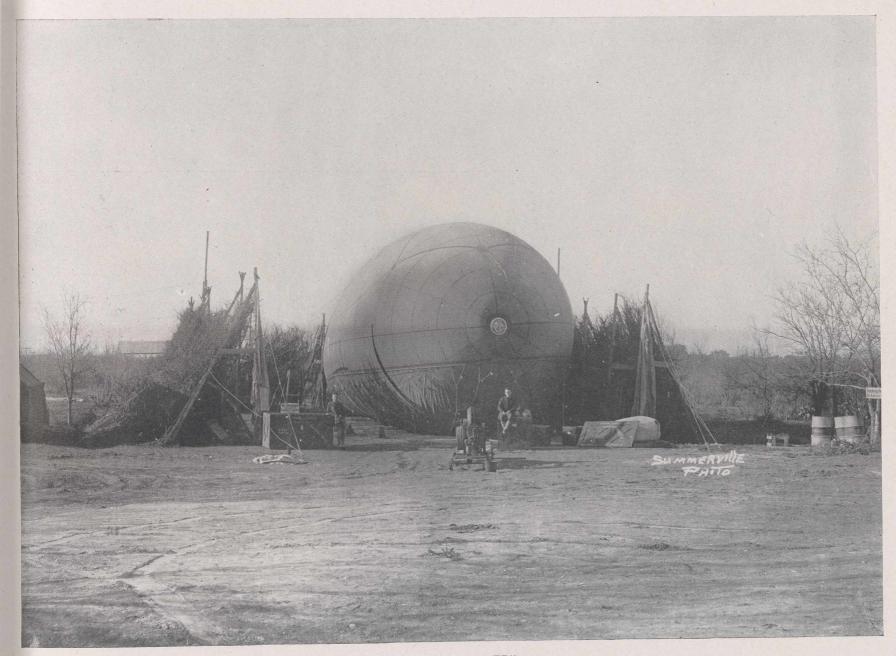
2ND LT. OTTO LEUTZ,

2ND LT. HERBERT L. MILLS.
A. S., A.

1ST SGT. FRANK G. BAKER

Anderson, Marion N. Applestrong, Bob R. Barton, Robert E. Beardsley, Frederick W. Bixler, William P. Brooks, Clifford Carter, Samuel L. Chamberlin, Leland B. Christianson, Carl V. Clubb, Clay Clark, Raymond Cortez, Eloise O. Diskin, Charles P. Emmert, Glenn K. Ennen, Henry L. Fielder, Willie J. Finkenbinder, James N. Fleming, John J. Frederickson, Willie Gallegos, Romulo Goforth, Charles W. Graves. Ernest I Hardy, Robert E. Hartjen, William F. Hack, Charles W. Heisel, Edward F. Hermsen, Louis F. Herschap, George Holcomb, Joseph A. Hovey, Samuel A. Ingmire, William P. Jahries, Walter C. Jones, Cliff Kaminski, Eugene J. Kelley, Albert A. Kelton, Herschal R. Keyes, Joseph C. Kremer, Alphonse E. Land, Felix R. Leford, William R. Lorenzen, Lorenz T. Lloyd, Daniel Loftus, Eral J Martin, James L. J.

Moon, John E. Mernah, Charles A. Neal, Charles B. Nelson, Earl E. Neuhalfen, William F. Patterson, Edwin C. Parks, Charlie Payne, Martin S. Perry, James W. Poth, Edwin R. Ray, Cleone E. Reddin, Florence M. Reed, William G. Ringer, Benjamin F. Robins, Charles S. Ross, Freddie C. Saunders, Delmor Russell, Cassie E. See, Arrenzo H. Settle, Thomas R. Sizemore, Tom R. Steed, Lewis L. Stewart, Norman Stone, Noah W. Stought, Clifford H. Swindell, Claud Talbot, John O. Teer, Clyde A. Thyssen, Carl Tittle, Wilburn J. Tucker, John Vilmin, Lawrence E. Wardlaw, Roy E. Wesbecher, Fred R. West, Charles P. West, Ernest S. Willingham, Joe Wilson, Dump C. Winkler, Erving M. Winters, Johnie F. Woodall, Hobart W. Woolvine, Ray J. York, Julian H. Zoeller, Hugo



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fit. Porce f. Villar C. pr. Brijes inc. Chris i sa Frelle (milra, bire and, Gari I ; Arrens i fit. Thus I mare, In U nd, Levi I wart, Natur

ne, Nati X ngle, Cife I lairt, Chi

her, John I.
er, Chyle J.
essen, Cat
file, Willers
ider, Joh
sellers, Jos
estherber, Fri
est, Carlo
int, Erent
illimplan, o
hoen, Rent
andre, Rent
and

"SAFE IN HER BED"



WHILE THEY GOT A LATE START, THEY CAME THROUGH A STRONG FINISH AND GAVE THE BOYS A GOOD LINE OF BASEBALL ALL THROUGH THE SUMMER

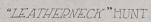


THE TEAM THAT DEFEATED EVERYTHING THAT THEY MET IN THE SOUTHERN ARMY CAMPS. NOTHING COULD STOP THEM AND CRACK ARMY TEAMS FADED LIKE WATER BEFORE THE WISE LADS











"CAVEMAN" PATRICE



"BUMBLE BEE" DAVIS



"YOUNG"ANDERSON



"HID" CRUZ

NICKOLA STEVANOVICH

C.J.HASSEL



E.F. CLINE OFFICERS MESS



GEKLINSING.

OSCARV. BEST

- ----

PHOTO BY RABA

CAMP JOHN WISE -

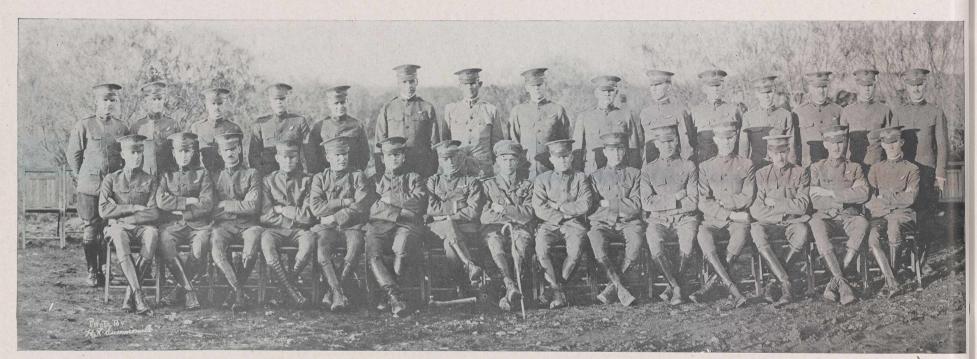
MESS SERGEANTS



Y. M. C. A. BUILDING



"THEY'RE ALL GOOD FELLOWS"



THESE ARE THE OFFICERS WHO BUILT CAMP JOHN WISE. THEY CAME FIRST, AND MOST OF THEM ARE STILL HERE



TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT LT. M. M. TURNER, OFFICER IN CHARGE



K. C. BUILDING



"REMEMBER THE ALAMO" IT WAS HERE THAT DAVID CROCKETT AND HIS BRAVE BAND FELL



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SECRETARY, PAUL NOE



POST HOSPITAL

"A GOOD PLACE WHEN YOU'RE SICK"



POST HEADQUARTERS

"ALL HOPE ABANDON YE WHO ENTER HERE"



"DA DI DA—DA—DA—A—A!"



"THE SPEED BOYS"



"UP IN THE AIR"

English Flight Sergeants



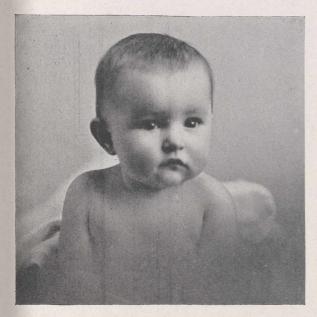
SGT. BLEESE



SGT. CARTHLEDGE



"WHY WALK"



FLORA MARIA TAYLOR "THE CAMP BABY"



MARY C. GRAY, SUPPLY OFFICER "STENOG."



"CAPT." FRANK KEHOE, JR.,
"THE YOUNGEST SOLDIER IN THE CAMP"





"READY TO GO"



The History of the Camp

CAMP JOHN WISE was established as a United States Army Balloon School about January 19, 1918, on a two hundred and sixty-one-acre tract of leased land about four miles north of the center of San Antonio, Texas. Lieut. Colonel Jas. Prentice was the first commanding officer, and at the time of the camp's organization his command consisted of one first lieutenant, M. R. C., five second lieutenants, A. S., S. R. C., six flying cadets awainting their commissions, fifty A. S., S. C. enlisted men, and two M. R. C. enlisted men. When these officers and men arrived at San Antonio from Omaha they occupied tents at Fort Sam Houston until quarters could be built for them at the new camp. Construction work was rushed and by the middle of March most of the present buildings had been finished.

Many difficulties were encountered during the early days of the camp particularly in securing sufficient recruits and equipment. Recruits from other camps in Texas commenced to arrive immediately, but the number received was considerably smaller than anticipated. However, by February 5th a sufficient number had arrived to enable the formation of the 37th, 38th, 39th and 40th Balloon Companies. These were designated as depot or home companies, and the purpose of their organization was to train recruits to fit them for overseas service.

About the middle of February the first balloon was placed in the air, and a course of instruction for cadets was immediately outlined by Captain V. J. Hammond, Royal Air Force, our English advisor, and Lieutenant McCrackin, with a view

to stimulating actual conditions in France. A chart room was installed, a complete log of the flights, including the "shoots," was kept. the length of the flights was greatly increased, and an accurate system was devised to determine the correctness of observations made by students.

The arrival of more recruits resulted in the formation of several new companies during the month of March—the 41st Balloon Company was organized March 1st, the 42nd Balloon Company was organized March 15th, the 43rd, 44th and 45th Balloon Companies were organized on March 23rd and the 34th, 35th and 58th Balloon Companies were organized warch 30th. All of these companies were trained for overseas service except the 58th Company, which was organized as a home or training company.

On April 6th Colonel Prentice was taken to the Base Hospital at Fort Sam Houston to undergo an operation, and Major A. B. Lambert, who had reported to camp on April 1st, became the commanding officer. As soon as Colonel Prentice had recovered sufficiently to travel, he was ordered to Washington. Colonel Prentice was extremely popular with the officers and men of the camp, and his departure from Camp John Wise was deeply regretted. Lieut. Colonel D. H. Bower, reported from Fort Omaha April 26th, and immediately assumed command of the post, relieving Major Lambert.

On April 10th the 39th Balloon Company, commanded by Second Lieut. Winthrop Bancroft, left this post for Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and on May 2nd the 41st Balloon Company, commanded by 1st Lieut. Francis H. Murphy, the 42nd Balloon Company, commanded by 2nd Lieut. William E. Woodman, the 43rd Balloon Company, commanded by 2nd Lieut. John R. Hall, left this camp for Morrison, Virginia, presumably for overseas service.

Prior to May 4th the instruction of the enlisted men as specialists had been carried on in the various shops, but on this date the enlisted specialists school was opened under the supervision of Captain Frank Kehoe, Jr. In this school an intensive course of training was given enlisted men, fitting them for special duties in the overseas companies. In the cordage and fabric classes the men were given four weeks course consisting of general lectures on the different types of balloons in use on the battlefront, instruction in the making of various knots and grommets used in balloon rigging, rope and cable splicing, whipping, and machine sewing, cement patching, parachute packing, operation of the balloon valve, and the rigging of the balloon and basket. The fabric specialists weer taught to make all accessories, and, in order to reduce the cost of instruction to a minimum, wrapping paper was used in place of the more expensive balloon fabric. In addition to the instruction given in classrooms, all men were given practical repair work in the field by maintaining the balloons at this post. In the class for company clerks and supply sergeants instruction was given eight hours a day for four weeks in paper work, particularly the preparation of forms and a careful study of army regulations, infantry drill regulations, field service regulations, manual of arms, interior

guard duty, nomenclature of small arms, and aiming exercises. The course in machine gunnery, requiring one month, consisted of instruction in the nomenclature, functions, actions, uses, and care of the Browning, Hotchkiss, Lewis and Colt machine guns. A number of lectures were also given the machine gun class, covering military forms, correspondence, courtesy, infantry drill, and manual of arms. In the hydrogen gas course practical and theoretical instruction was given for eight hours a day for twelve days, covering the characteristics of hydrogen and its uses in balloons, the construction and operation of the ferrosilicon gas plant. construction and use of gas cylinders, inflation of balloons with nurse bags and cylinders, and testing purity and pressure of the gas. The course in telephony covered a period of four weeks intensive training, during which instruction was given in the theory of electricity. the construction, operation, and repair of telephone instruments and switchboards, construction of pole lines and the system of telephone communication used on the front by balloon companies. The course in panoramic drawing consisted of four weeks instruction in making plan maps, road cketches, and panoramic drawings, and their use in connection with the balloon observations. The most proficient men of the class were given an additional course in cylindrical perspective. The balloon non-commissioned officers course required four weeks for completion, one week being devoted to theoretical work and three weeks to practical work. Its purpose was to train non-commissioned officers to act as balloon

HISTORY OF THE CAMP—Continued

commanders and balloon corporals, and with this in view the men were given instruction in the construction, operation and care of the balloon, operation of the winch, maneuvering the balloon across country. and the selection of a site and construction of a balloon bed. The course of instruction in the automechanics class covered a period of four weeks, during which they were given a one-hour lecture daily, the remainder of the day being used for practical work in dismantling and re-assembling motor cars and trucks under the supervision of instructors who carefully explained the different parts and their functions. Chauffeurs were given a four-weeks course, consisting of a daily lecture of two hours on the construction, operation, and care of motor cars and trucks. The remainder of the day the men were given practical instruction in driving trucks and cars under all road conditions. They were also taught to make all minor adjustments and repairs on the road. The motorcycle class consisted of a two-weeks course, during which the men were given such practical instruction in the construction, operation, and repair of motorcycles as would fit them to be motorcycle mechanics as well as drivers. The winch drivers course required three weeks for completion. Realizing the responsibility resting on the winch driver, great care was exercised in their selection. Instruction given them consisted of practical work in tearing down and assembling the winches, and the actual operation of the winch with the balloon. The best auto-mechanics were selected for winch mechanics, and were given more thorough and intensive instruction in dismantling and reassembling the winches. winches contained a number of se-

rious defects in their construction, which gave considerable trouble and necessitated frequent overhaulings. However, most of them were rebuilt at this post and most of the defects eliminated. Blacksmiths, carpenters, tailors, barbers and cobblers were secured from the enlisted men who had previous experience in civil life. The Enlisted Specialists School trained and graduated between May 4th, the date of its organization, and December 15th, the following men:

Cordage and labric	4114
Company clerks and supply	
sergeants	171
Machine gunners	451
Hydrogen gas	63
Telephone	406
Panoramic drowing	52
Balloon non-commissioned of-	
ficers	204
ficers	204 157
ficers	
ficers	157
ficers Auto mechanics Chauffeurs Motorcyclists Winch operators	157 489
ficers	157 489 126

A specialist total of.....2650 The Enlisted Specialists School has been a marked success, and proper credit is justly due Captain Kehoe and his staff for their efficient work in the training of spe-

On May 11th the first balloon accident occurred at this camp, when Balloon No. R-156, while being hauled down with Cadets Joseph W. Benson and George L. Thompson in the basket, was caught in a heavy ground wind, which caused it to make several nose dives. The swivel hook connection the junction piece with the balloon then broke, freeing the balloon, which ascended to an altitude of about 6,000 feet, where its flight was checked by valving. and it descended to the ground. Although an effort was made to check its descent by throwing out ballast. it struck the ground with considerable force, throwing out Cadet Benson, the remaining ballast, and all the instruments. The balloon then rose to an altitude of approximately 8.000 feet before it could be checked and brought down. Cadet Thompson's paarchute pack broke open, releasing the parachute, which became so entangled in the rigging it could not be used. The balloon struck the ground a second time with such force that Cadet Thompson was thrown out and rendered unconscious, but did not suffer any serious injury. The balloon ascended again, and on its third landing was so badly torn by dragging over rough ground that its repair was rendered impossible.

On June 2nd a thunder storm was reported rapidly approaching, and the balloons were ordered down immediately. When nearing the ground Balloon No. R-157, with 2nd Lieut. L. K. Keay and 2nd Lieut. F. A. Wachob in the basket, was struck by a ground wind, which caused it to make several nose dives, throwing Lieutenant Keay out of the basket uninjured. The metallic yoke on the end of the cable nearest the junction piece then broke, freeing the balloon, which ascended with Lieutenant Wachob to an altitude of about 6,000 feet. where its flight was checked by valving, and it started downward. As it descended, the balloon was either struck by lightning or the gas became ignoted by static electricity, and explosion followed. The balloon descended rapidly, but the basket landed on the top of a fence post, which penetrated the bottom of the basket, thereby breaking the fall, and Lieutenant Wachob sustained no serious injury. A hole was burned in the balloon from the nose to gore nine, and a number of other holes were torn in it when

landing, so that its repair was rendered impossible. At practically this time a fin was blown off of Balloon No. R-158, which was being maneuvered to its bed, causing it to dive to the ground from a height of about 500 feet. However, the basket contained only ballast at the time, and no damage was sustained other than to the fin, which necessitated the return of the balloon to the factory for repair.

On June 7th the Post Exchange Officer was assigned the duty of purchasing all mess supplies for the camp except such as were furnished by the Quartermaster Corps. The purchases weer charged to the Post Exchange mess account, and itemized statements were sent each organization covering merchandise purchased during the month. This system proved to be a decided success, as the amount of transportation required to deliver the supplies was considerably reduced and the prices paid were not only lower than had been previously paid by the individual organizations, but were approximately two per cent lower than those obtained by any other camp in this vicinity.

On June 25th the 44th Balloon Company, commanded by 2nd Lieut. George Daniels, left camp for Morrison, Virginia, and on July 3rd the 37th Balloon Company, commanded by 2nd Lieut. John H. Bishop, and the 38th Balloon Company, commanded by 2nd Lieut. Benjamin B. Cassiday, left for the new balloon school at Arcadia, California. The next organization to leave was the 45th Balloon Company, in charge of 2nd Lieut. H. J. Von Leer, which departed on July 30th for Morrison, Virginia.

Early in August new recruits began to arrive, which enabled the formation of four new overseas companies, the 54th and 55th Bal-



loon Companies being organized August 2nd and the 56th and 57th Balloon Companies August 10th. Orders were also received about this time for the 58th Balloon Company to proceed to Morrison, Virginia, but owing to the fact that this organization had been formed as a home training company, it was necessary to organize it almost completely for overseas service. However, this was accomplished as soon as possible, and on August 15th it left for Morrison, Virginia, commanded by 2nd Lieut. H. R. Whitty. On August 23rd the 67th, 68th and 72nd Balloon Companies were organized as home training companies.

Training in observation, which had been carried on since February, was discontinued the latter part of August. During this time 144 cadets took the observation course and 77 officers qualified in the revised air course, only one officer failing to pass. 131 cadets have been commissioned, and 16 were disqualified for various reasons, but two of these were later returned to take the maneuvering course. The high standards set by those in charge of the training produced a large number of very good observers. Some of these were sent to Fort Omaha, Fort Sill, and the balloon school at Arcadia, California, to assist in inaugurating the revised air course.

On August 17th Captain Bonvillian, French Air Service, arrived at Camp John Wise, and while here outlined a course of instruction for maneuvering officers. Later three French officers were sent here to act as instructors in the new maneuvering school, but were ordered away after they had organized the maneuvering course. However, the work was successfully conducted by the rest of the instructors, and up to December 15th 37 officers and 12 cadets had completed the course,

and 15 officers and four cadets were still taking the course.

A new fifty-bed hospital was formally dedicated by the Medical Corps on September 4th. This was a valuable addition to the camp, as the old hospital was entirely inadequate for the number of men stationed at Camp John Wise, and due credit should be given to Captain Lipsett, the Post Surgeon, for his success in securing this building. Fortunately, the hospital was completed before the influenza epidemic made its appearance at Camp John Wise, early in October. The disease spread rapidly despite strict quarantine regulations, the hospital was quickly filled, and it was necessary to convert all the barracks at the Missouri Aeronautical Society grounds and at this camp into hospital wards. As the pneumonia cases developed they were transferred to the main hospital, where there were better facilities for their care. In addition to the regular medical personnel, eight civilian nurses and many enlisted men rendered valuable services. The crest was reached about the middle of October, and by the end of the month the epidemic had practically died out. A total of 1023 influenza cases were reported, of which 147 developed pneumonia. However. only twenty-three deaths occurred, which was below the average of other camps in this vicinity. The quarantine which was placed on the camp October 2nd and restricted all officers and enlisted men to the post, except on official business, was lifted November 11th, the day of the signing of the armistice, and both events were celebrated at once.

On October 17th the 79th and 80th Balloon Companies were organized for overseas service, and the 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, and 99th Balloon Companies

were organized as home training companies. Ten days later the 55th Balloon Company, commanded by 2nd Lieut. O. B. Roberts, the 56th Balloon Company, commanded by 2nd Lieut. F. Barrington, and the 57th Balloon Company, commanded by 2nd Lieut. H. M. Tanner, which had been held until the influenza epidemic subsided, were sent to Morrison, Virginia, and on Nevember 2nd the 54th Balloon Company, commanded by 2nd Lieut. J. E. Burke, followed, being the sixteenth and last company to leave the camp before the armistice was signed.

On October 1st this camp had the honor of entertaining Prince Axel, of Denmark. The Prince, in company with Colonel Bower, made a balloon flight of sixteen minutes, which he appeared to thoroughly enjoy.

Early in November a post band was organized through the efforts of Major Lambert. The members practiced very hard, and soon Camp John Wise had a band of which it could be justly proud, and its frequent concerts were greatly enjoyed by all.

Captain V. J. Hammond, of the Royal Air Force, our Foreign Adviser, left the post on November 16th for his home in England. Captain Hammond had made a great number of friends among the officers of Camp Wise, and all were sorry to see him leave.

On December 3rd Balloon No. R-301, with 2nd Lieut. Herbert W. Reid, Lieut. R. W. Mackie, of Brooks Field, and Lieut. J. B. Eldridge, og Brooks Field, in the basket, was struck by a gust of wind while being hauled down, which caused it to make several nose dives, snapping the cable, and escaping before the balloon party could entangle the grab ropes. The

balloon rose immediately until its flight was checked by valving at about 8,000 feet. t then descended rapidly, and when it struck the ground Lieutenants Reid and Eldridge were thrown from the basket. Lieutenant Mackie's parachute was so entangled in the rigging that he was carried up again. However, by the time the balloon had ascended about 200 feet he managed to disentangle the parachute and drop to the ground, making a perfect landing. The balloon landed about 25 miles away and was practically undamaged.

During the month of October and the early part of November about 125 officers were sent to this post from the Balloon School at Arcadia and Fort Omaha to assist in the organization of several thousand new recruits into balloon companies for overseas service. However, these recruits were never received on account of the signing of the armistice.

The men received at Camp John Wise were far above the average, and were the hardest workers of any camp in the vicinity. During the intensive training period they kept the balloons up from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. with never a murmur.

After the armistice was signed everyone was anxious to go home; but when the quota of discharges was completed the morale of those left behind was excellent and they have been "on the job" just as much as though the war were still being waged.

What the future of Camp Wise will be has not been disclosed, but its past speaks for itself. "Efficiency," has been the watchword, and some of the finest balloon companies overseas have come from here.

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Brooks, John Henry,

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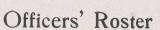
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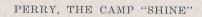
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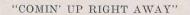
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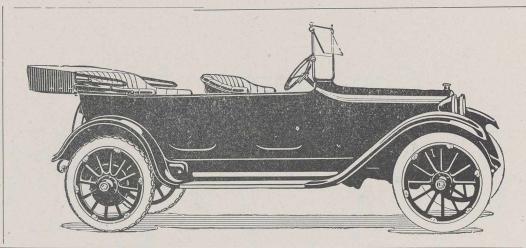
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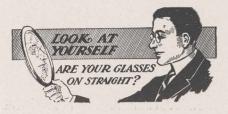
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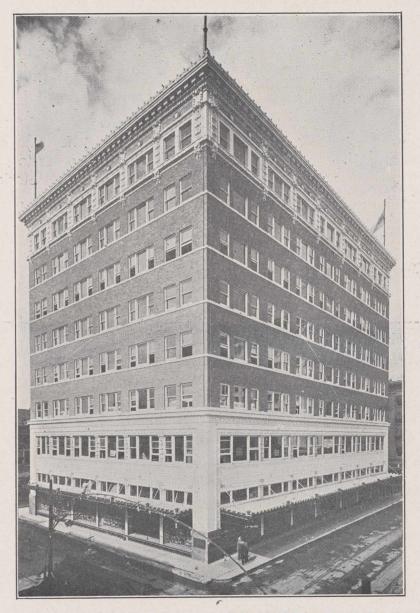
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