

Alumni Command CCC Camps

IN the heart of the colorful southwest, on the old lookout mountain of the Mescalero Apaches, sits the camp of CCC Co. 816, F 24 N, High Rolls, New Mexico, judged the best camp in the Arizona-New Mexico district, and winner of the second prize in the Eighth Corps area, commanded by Lt. George Ovie Hopkins, '32as, '35M.A.

A nearby camp, F 28 N, is commanded by Lt. Homer E. Fanning, '30eng, also a graduate of the University of Oklahoma.

The Apache reservation borders the camps. From the F 24 N site located on the west slope of the Sacramento mountains can be seen the White Sands of New Mexico, one of the wonders of the world. Nearby are also the Malpis beds, covering acres of ground, formed from volcanic lava.

Nearby is Tularosa, one of the old southwest towns, and Lincoln, the stomping ground of the southwestern outlaw, Billy the Kid. During the time that Geronimo, fiercest of the Apache chiefs, used this section of the country as a refuge after his escapades, the citizens of Tularosa, fifteen in number, were corralled in a blind canyon and attacked by two hundred and fifty Apaches. Because of the nature of the canyon, the Indians could not attack without exposing themselves to the fire of the whites, and many Indians were killed. The Mescaleros finally withdrew, because they said, "a large white horse with a rider guarded the entrance to the canyon." The rider, the whites concluded, was an answer sent in response to their prayers for deliverance. Indian relics of all types are found on the former sites of Indian villages discovered in many spots in the Sacramento mountains.

The education building at the camp, the only education building in the district, is located on solid rock, in which still may be plainly seen the corn grinding holes used by the Apache women in grinding corn for their bread.

The work program of the camp, supervised by Ed Pierson (University of Minnesota), so far includes approximately nineteen miles of mountain road construction; seventy miles of mountain road maintenance; fifty miles of telephone construction; twelve miles of telephone maintenance; thirty miles of fence construction; twenty-five miles of fire lanes and trail construction; fifteen thousand acres affected by erosion control; nine thousand, six hundred dams constructed; four range water developments; a public campground; building construction including a barn

and equipment building, a concrete powder house, a concrete cap house, a chicken house, ten cattle guards and twelve corrals.

Surveying of the forest land is now being done under the supervision of John B. Smith, '33eng, graduate of the engineering school of the University of Oklahoma.

Approximately 185 enrollees of the 203 enrolled in Co. 816, are taking educational courses. L. M. Cook, B.A., Southwestern State Teachers' College, Missouri, and M.A., University of Missouri, is educational supervisor. At present courses taught include first aid, mathematics, Spanish, German, cooking, semaphore, surveying; motor mechanics, blacksmithing, reading course, current events, Bible, taxidermy, forestry, accounting, reporting, shorthand, music, typing, dramatics, and other subjects.

The four largest classes in attendance are forestry, thirty-five, instructed by Clarence Olson, B.A. and M.A., University of Minnesota; motor mechanics, thirty, taught by Dr. James, Blevins, contract, physician, Lt.-Col., Med. Res., Beaumont, Texas; and current events with an attendance of one hundred five. Lt. Hopkins teaches the class in main camp with an enrollment of fifty-five, and Prof. Cook teaches the West Side camp, forty enrolled. The side camp is located twenty miles from the main camp in the heart of the mountains away from the traveled highway.

There are good reference books and the library is well used. The education building has room for thirty enrollees with good lights and blackboards and living quarters for the assistant educational adviser. Prices have been reduced by a correspondence school to enable enrollees to take correspondence courses.

Co. 816 lays claim to having the highest altitude for the flag, and the most curves on a given road. At Sacramento, one of the summer fly camps, the flag flies at an altitude of approximately nine thousand feet. There are five hundred fifty curves to West Side, the present winter side camp.

The recreation hall, in which is found the Camp Exchange, and modernistic furniture, with all types of games for recreation, has always received an excellent rating with every inspection.

The camp is equipped for baseball, basketball, handball, boxing, croquet, dancing, horseshoe playing, dominoes, checkers and kindred games. Religious services are held weekly by army chaplain, civilian chaplains, both catholic and protestant and the company commander, who, incident-

ally, is perhaps the only ordained minister in the United States to command a CCC camp. Lt. Hopkins received his commission in the field artillery reserves in the summer of 1931 after completing his work in the R.O.T.C. at the University of Oklahoma. Athletics are in charge of Lt. Winston K. Young, 1st Lt., Inf. Reserves, B.S., 1929, Texas A. and M., second in command.

The country abounds with deer, turkey, and there is a scattering of mountain lions, bears and panthers.

The only zoo in the Arizona-New Mexico district is found at Co. 816. At present squirrels, chipmunks, rabbits and a ring-tailed cat are kept in cages, in a large cleared space centered by the flagpole. Goldfish are found in a "lilyed" pond. A porcupine and badger captured "went over the hill." A wounded deer captured during the deer season departed this life.

One of the oldest CCC enrollees to be found in the United States is Mike Mellon, seventy-five years old, who performs his day's work with the rest of the youngsters.



John Alley

THE tennis coach this year at Southwestern State Teachers college, at Weatherford, and one of the most popular of its young faculty members is John N. Alley, '33as, '34M.A.

Young Alley is acting professor of modern languages at Southwestern during the absence of J. C. Krumtum, '09as, '23M.A., who is engaged in graduate study at the University. Alley's preparation as a professor of languages includes study at the University and at the University of Grenoble, France, for two semesters.

During the winter months, he conducted an intramural basketball tournament at Southwestern. An excellent tennis player who won his letter at the University, he is in charge of the net sport at Weatherford.

Young Alley was an outstanding student at the University. He is a member of Delta Tau Delta, Bombardiers and Phi Beta Kappa. As a colonel in the R.O.T.C. unit, his battery won the drill championship. During his senior year, he won first place in French competition. He is the son of Colonel John Alley, director of the school of citizenship and public affairs at the University.

Alley was named faculty adviser to the recently organized Writers' Guild at Southwestern. The group under his direction decided to publish annually the best literary work of the club members.