

137TH REGIMENT IS ON THE WAY

Kansas Soldiers Left New York Sunday Afternoon—Should be Here by Sometime Thursday.

137 IS ON THE WAY HOME.

The 137th Regiment, the Kansas Infantry portion of the Thirty-Fifth Division, of which Hutchinson and this portion of the state is so proud, left New York City yesterday afternoon on the way home.

The four companies to come to Southern Kansas, including Hutchinson, should reach here by Thursday.



The News received the following letter from Sergeant Fred Henney today, telling of plans for the trip home:

Camp Union, N. Y., May 1, 1919.

Dear Folks:

Just a year ago today we were on the ocean, six days out, wondering whether or not we'd be hit by a submarine and what we'd do if we were. Two years ago today I enlisted in the army, and wondered whether I'd ever get to see a battle, and what I'd do if I did. What a two years!

But now, within a few days we'll be back in good old Kansas again. They say we will leave here next Sunday, in four trains, one of which will run around by way of Hutchinson. (And you can just bet I'll be on that train.) We've been here in this camp over a week now. Nobody seems to know why the delay, but we are accustomed to it. Ever since last winter we've been "coming home." Weeks and months of waiting at Sunnyside, weeks more at Ft. Mifflin, a week or two more at the Holston camp near La Mar, another week or two at Great, eleven days on the ocean on a liner that's supposed to make it in seven, a week or two more delay here in Camp Union, and I suppose another week or two at Camp Funston.

Why the delays? It's costing Uncle Sam thousands of dollars every day this division is held in the service. It's taking thousands and thousands of dollars worth of these Victory bonds just to pay the extra cost of holding the 25th division in the service, although we've known ever since the 11th of last November, nearly six months ago, that we were to be mustered out and not retained in the service.

Nobody seems to know why there is such a delay. Of course the average soldier complains that "somebody higher up" is responsible, and that somebody or other wants the party to last as long as possible, and all that. I can't believe that. But anyway we've been eight days now getting started from here, and it probably will be the 10th of May before we actually get our freedom from the army and can return home, as civilians, or 12 days from Holston as Hutchinson, which is about as fast as the progress we made in France.

The only time this division has ever really taken on speed, it seems to me was from the 26th of September to the 1st of October last fall, when we were chasing the Jerries from Vauquois hill north through the Argonne. Believe me, we were going "full speed ahead" then. But since then, even a frog train crew could keep up with us—and that's the slowest thing I can think of just now.

But if we get away from here next Sunday, we'd ought to be in Hutchinson about Wednesday evening, en route to Camp Funston—I mean the train with Co. K aboard. And I expect to see you then.

Until then, best wishes. Thanks for the telegram. I'll be back at work the morning after I get in. I've had a year and eight months vacation now. That's enough for any man. FRANK.

Geo. Deputy Sheriff Barnet of Hillsboro went to Nankoma this afternoon to arrest Ralph Rubinski, a German Russian and J. Wyka, a Russian, who are charged with trying to induce a riot at Nankoma of their alleged mistreatment at the hands of a number of citizens at Nankoma.

FARMERS FOR LEAGUE.
New York, May 5.—An overwhelming majority of the 12,000,000 farmers of America "favor the entrance of the United States into the League of Nations," according to an announcement here today by officials of the League to Enforce Peace.

The boys are to travel via the Pennsylvania railroad, New York to St. Louis, the Rock Island to Kansas City, the Santa Fe to Independence, Kas., the Missouri Pacific to Hutchinson, the Rock Island, Katy and Union Pacific, Hutchinson to Camp Funston.

The Pennsylvania should deliver the boys in St. Louis, if no delays occur, by Tuesday morning and the Rock Island to Kansas City by Tuesday night or Wednesday morning. There is a puzzle in Kansas City, probably Wednesday then the train runs through Southern Kansas, before coming to Hutchinson, which can hardly be reached before Thursday afternoon, unless the trains are "whipped up" a little bit.

The companies to come here, including only Company H of the local men, will spend two hours or so in the city, then go on to Camp Funston, probably reaching there by Friday morning. If the average of 48 hours in mustering the men out after their arrival is maintained, the soldiers should be home by Sunday, if everything moves smoothly.

The Hutchinson celebration for the members of the four companies of the 137th Infantry will probably take place at four o'clock Thursday afternoon of this week, according to the indication of the Hutchinson Chamber of Commerce. Representatives of committee. The committee is meeting this morning here at the time of departure from every city along the route and figured that the train or trains would be in Hutchinson Thursday at four o'clock.

Whichever will show an hour before the trains arrive, the committee planned. A representative from Hutchinson will be at Wichita to send the word to Hutchinson of the time of arrival. A. E. Noonan will be sent to Wichita.

This means that the lunch baskets must be in the hands of the committee by Thursday noon. The baskets should be taken to the Nelson building before the noon hour.

The committee will search from the Missouri Pacific station to Fifth street and back to First street where the street from Main to Poplar will be searched by Home Guards and other relatives and local friends may meet the boys. Tickets for transportation this company may be had upon application in the chamber of Commerce rooms up to two o'clock Thursday afternoon.

Soldier Lost Life.
Joplin, Mo., May 2.—Edward J. Bailey of Springfield, Mo., member of the 137th machine company, was killed yesterday evening near Parsons, Kan. in a fall under a train leaving here on the 25th division to Camp Funston for discharge. The body was found beside the M. & T. tracks, where he had crawled after both legs had been severed from the knee. The body was taken to Parsons and the subsequent removal of the army medical identification was made by the initials E. J. B. tattooed upon his arm.

Details of the accident are not known. The soldier's absence was not discovered by his comrades until the detachment arrived at Funston.

Big Parade in Topeka.
Topeka, May 5.—The greatest and one of the most enthusiastic military parades ever held in this city was witnessed this morning when 3,000 returning soldiers of the 137th infantry and supporting units, the 11th field signal battalion, the 19th Sanitary train, the 11th supply train and evacuation hospital number one, marched the full length of Kansas avenue in the exercise of flag-waving crowds, at times as dense as today the marchers while the standard cheered a right of way ahead. Practically all of the regiments are Kansas and Missouri men, the nucleus of the regiment being former National Guard infantry regiments of the two states.

Topeka boys in the detachments were permitted to crowd the sidewalks in their homes. Hot those fathers served lunch and tea, breakfast to the entire number. The troop train bearing the men arrived in ten sections which resumed its journey to Camp Funston shortly after noon. Local

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