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- of man from Lincay, Ohio - very vivid & detailed

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My Memoir of The World War 1914 - 1918

by "AL" Meyer (see p. 14)

As I could not keep notes on all the daily incidents, I have at least made notes of some.

On July 9th, 1917 I enlisted in the armed forces of the United States on Government Square. And about July 12th, I recieved a noticetto report on Fountain Square July 14th, for mobilization.

We entrained at the Central Union Depot for Columbus Ohio, it was MOBILIZATION which I saw there,. Over two thousand civilians, most of them not knowing " Squads Right " from " Right Dress " (I were one of them) on the hands of a few officers, only a few of them knew much more, even on military subjects.

We were located in the larg exhibition halls - emty of all else but an inch accumulation of dust. The Supply Train, Small Arms and Artilery Amunition Train, the new Military Police Battalion, a regiment of State Artilery, formaly Cavalry, and the 4th Nat, Guard Infantry were all represented.

Every fifteen minutes some busy shave tail or sergeant aspirant would bustle up, bring a unit to attention, call the roll, discover many missing and many others surplus, then prance off again. To while away the time the boys, began to shoot craps (Rolling Dominoes)

But ample provisions have been made for the comfort of us volunteers. We had been ordered to report 24 hours before the prope proper time. The wise ones waited two to five days, and were not punished, About 4 P.M. we were bountifully fed, each a wienerwurst and a bun. Plenty water gratis on tap. The officers of course dined at the down town hotels etc,. Then about dusk one of the more thoughtfull authorities was struck with the idea that the men must have sleeping accommodations, so a truck was sent out to the Ohio State Penitentiary, for some gray blankets . Each of us recieved a whole one to himself and his full share of the nice soft wood floor.

July 25th, 1917 Cots and blankets have arrived now, and Colonel Stansberry says we will have everything this week.

July 30th, 1917 I am now in Uniform. Recieved two pair wool breeches, two shirts, khaki coat, hat two pair shoes, pair leather & canvas leggins, three sets underwear, slicker, and four pair wool socks.