

pages of the most varied material. In 1952, the paper received 191 articles contributed by P.O.W.'s.

Here is an account of work on this newspaper by a member of its editorial staff.

### *Working on Toward Truth & Peace*

Preston Richie, San Antonio, Texas, U.S.A.

I work on the P.O.W.'s' own newspaper, *Toward Truth & Peace*. It is published twice monthly and goes to every camp in North Korea.

Of course the fellows read many books, newspapers and magazines furnished to the company libraries. But in order to improve our stay here, we needed a newspaper of our own to let each other know what we were doing about entertainment, recreation, food and so on. The C.P.V. agreed and furnished the equipment and material.

This went on for a long time. Then the fellows poured in a flood of suggestions of which the majority were, "We want to know what is going on in our own countries in relation to the peace movement, what's being done to end the Korean war, living conditions at home, what's happening in sports, entertainment and culture." The camp authorities, giving consideration, as usual, to what the P.O.W.'s ask for, came up with the decision: "If that's what you want, it is all right with us."

So our newspaper expanded and improved. It was widely appreciated. I really appreciated it because I am a great sports fan and wanted to know the results of different sports in America.

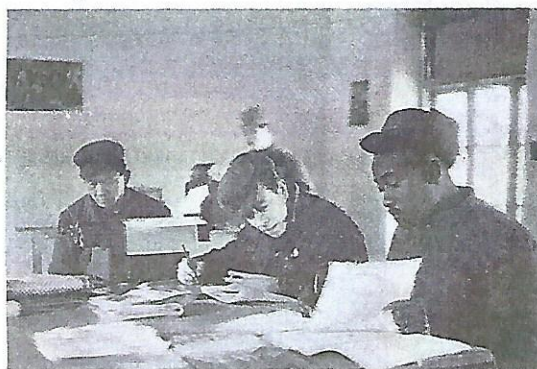
So now I am working on the paper and the job of compiling news for the benefit of the many fellows who want to know it has become part of my daily life.

Looking at the newspaper, you would think it takes a tremendous staff to produce it. But no, the staff consists of four P.O.W.'s. They are a Briton, a Filipino, a South Korean and an American. The entire staff gets along in splendid international friendship, assisting and helping each other in every way.

The British chap illustrates the articles and news by cutting headlines and reproducing cartoons from various sources. The Filipino P.O.W. types all the stencils for printing, which is done by the South Korean. And as previously mentioned, I compile all news material. The C.P.V.'s give able assistance in securing supplies and attending to the maintenance of the printing equipment, obtaining sources of material and transporting and delivering the paper to other camps.

At first, I didn't think I could work on a newspaper—having had no previous experience. But after working for a while on the job, and with the wonderful cooperation of the C.P.V. members, the work became easy and enjoyable. They taught me to compile the news and explained the "golden rule" of newspaper work, that when any information is quoted or reproduced, due acknowledgment must be made of its source. And that is the way we run our paper—proper credit is given for all cartoons, news flashes, sport news, news of the peace movement and cultural affairs. As for the sources of reproduced news, the C.P.V. furnish us with newspapers from the U.S., Britain, France, China, India and other countries and a host of magazines from all over the world, all in English. Additional up-to-date news is gathered from the major radio stations in the Far Eastern area.

Preston Richie of the United States, Ronald A. Cocks of Great Britain and M/Sgt. Emiliano Bajo of the Philippines work in close international harmony with a South Korea colleague in "Toward Truth & Peace" editorial office.



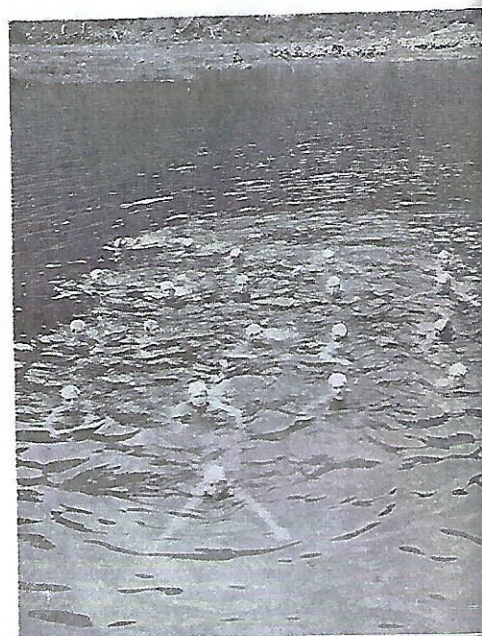
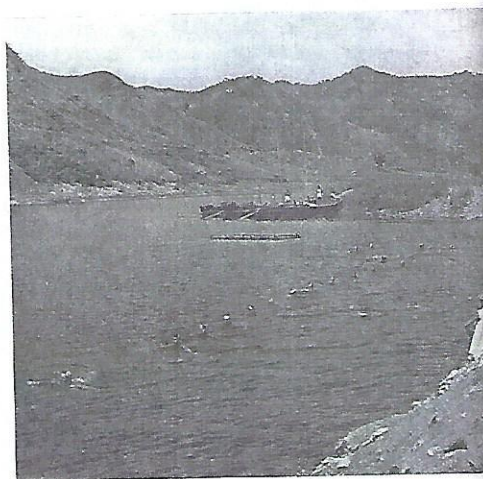
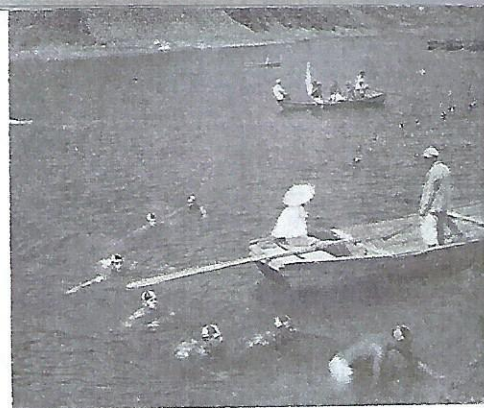
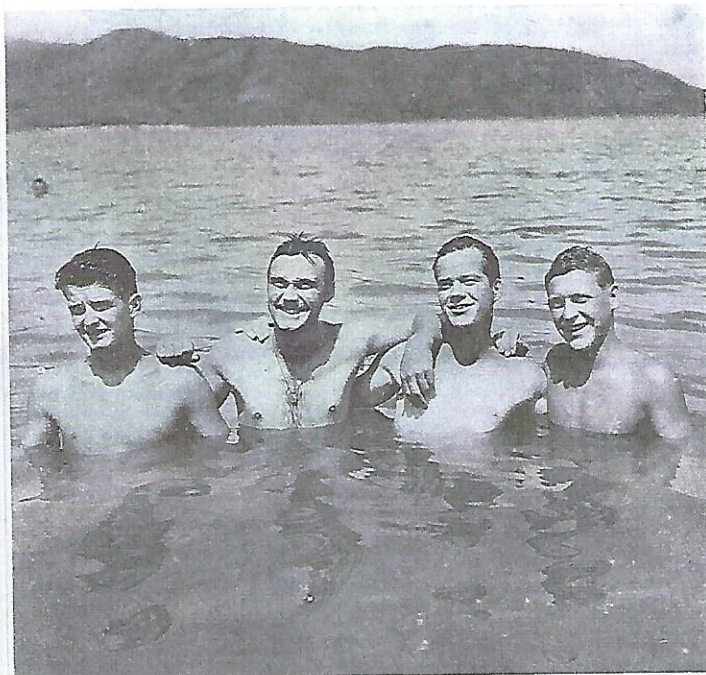


# SWIMMING IN THE SUMMER



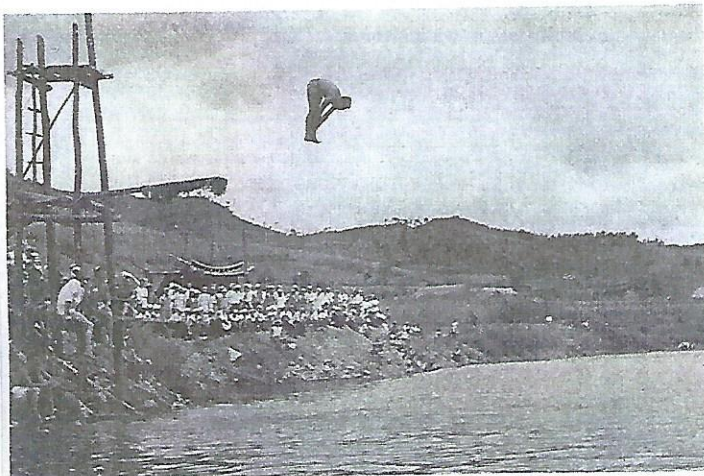
High-jinks off a high board over the Yalu river. "Jack-Knife" specialist is Cpl. Kenneth E. Spingda of Seattle, Washington.

"Come in! The water's fine!", say Pfc. Vernon E. Harr, Morehead, Ky., Cpl. Donald Corbine, Canton, New York; Cpl. Harrison J. Schlusser, Carlisle, Penna. and Pvt. Alva E. Greenwood of Uhrichsville, Ohio.



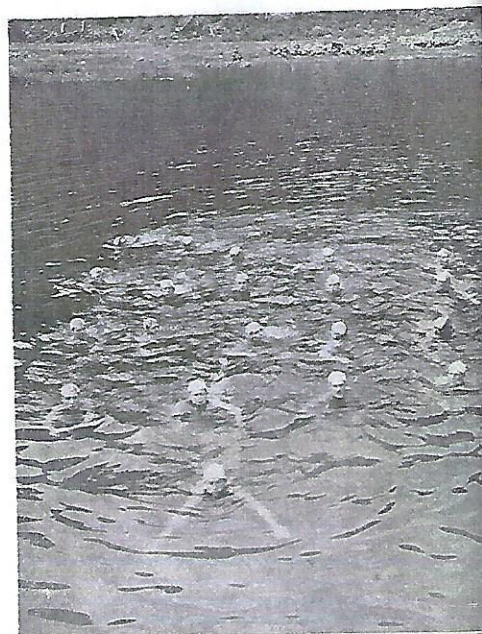
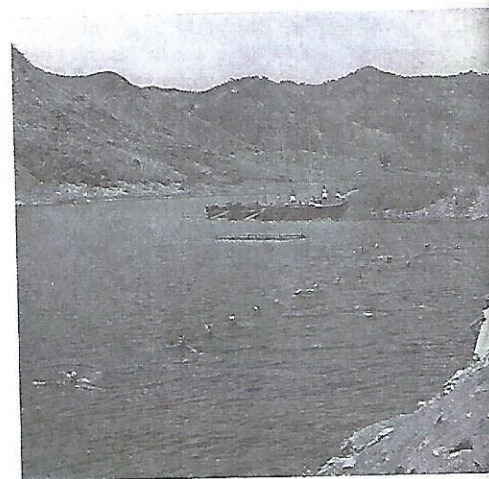
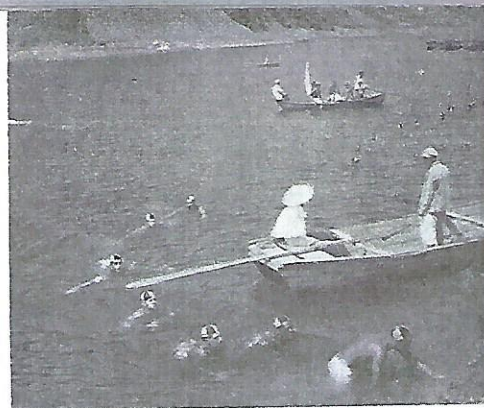
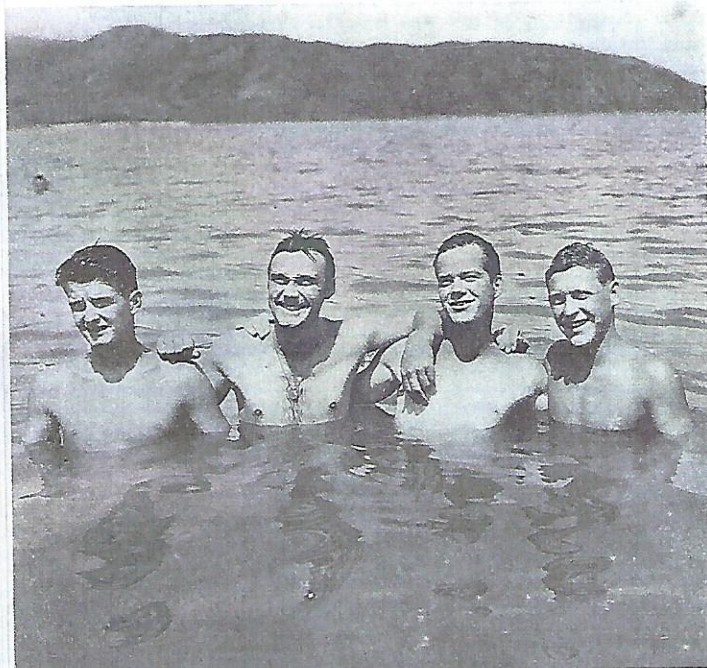


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## ...AND SKATING IN WINTER



The P.O.W. Skating Contest. Men in picture include Cpl. Ronald J. Sweeney, Allentown, Penna., Pfc. Lacey Jennings, Jr., Bothwyn, Penna., Pfc. Wyman A. Kaiser, Rio, Wis.; Cpl. Harold E. Sidler, Mt. Morris, Ill.; Pvt. Lewis J. Patterson, Brookings, S. D.; Cpl. Joseph A. Walintukonis, New Britain, Conn. and Pvt. Thaddeus F. Novobilski, Simpson, Penna.



Ice-hockey players are (L. to R.) Cpl. Raymond F. Read, Winona, Minn.; Pfc. John A. Gilbert, Littleton, N. H.; Pfc. Donald L. Swartz, Lacrosse, Kan.; Cpl. James P. Scahill, Rochester, N. Y.; Pfc. Floyd E. Espinoza, and Pfc. Cecil E. Phipps, Fort Dodge, Iowa, U.S.A.

Pfc. Lacey Jennings, Jr. takes the stick from Cpl. Harold E. Sidler in the relay race on skates.



Pfc. Harold F. McIntyre of Colorado Springs, Colo., a contest winner, gets his prize from the Chinese People's Volunteers.







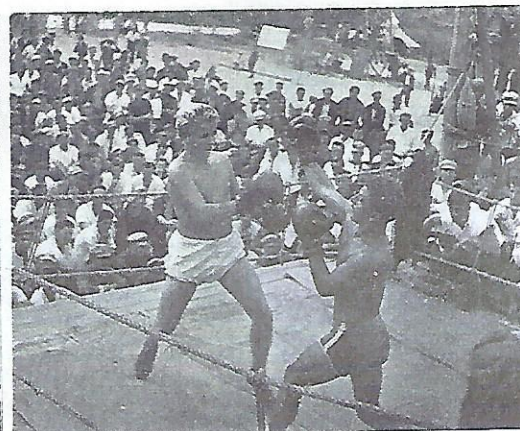
Cheering squads hail their "home team."

## OTHER GAMES AND PASTIMES

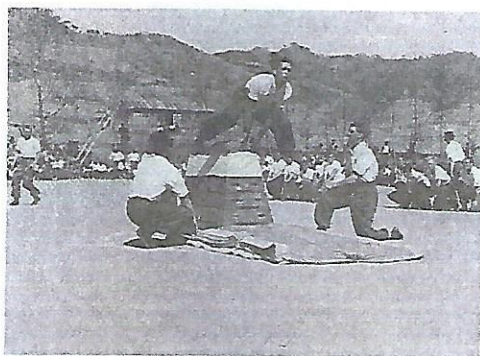
Soccer



Boxing







Vaulting block



Softball



American Football



Volleyball









# AND PLENTY OF MUSIC AND DANCING

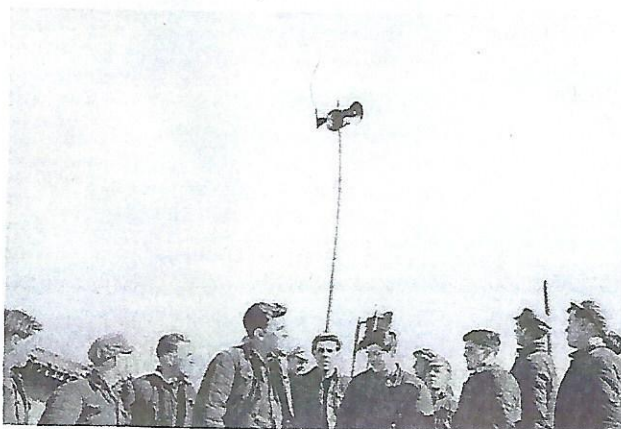


Violin solo in the mountains.



The impromptu performance pleases all.

Public address system broadcasts favorite records and performances by P.O.W. musicians.



One of the British prisoners of war entertains his fellow P.O.W.'s with an old music-hall song.





# I BECAME LITERATE AS A P.O.W.



THERE is no better way to end this section than to give the testimony of 21-year-old Pfc. Billy J. Holland of 2510 South 28th St., Fort Smith, Arkansas, U.S.A. who was practically

illiterate when he was captured but can now read and write—and has thus opened for himself the way to a new life. Here is what he wrote:

"Before my captured, I had little or no education. I could barely write my own name. Due to financial difficulties I was unable to finish school. I attended only a few short years. My mother died when I was young. Shortly afterwards I left home to try to make my own way. This was a very hard job. Since I was so young it was hard to find work in the first place, and when I did the hours were long and hard. The pay I got was not enough to live on. The different people I worked for would often tell me, 'You are not a man so we can't give you a man's pay.'

"I tried this as long as I could, and then I decided to try the army. I was in the army very short time before I was captured. After becoming a P.O.W., we were given a chance to write letters to our families and loved ones. This was a very tiring job for me because writing and correct spelling were the next things to impossible for me to do.

"Of course I had friends who were willing to do this for me but I would have felt much better if I could do it myself. So I started trying to learn to read and write. The men of the company were

all willing to help me. I accepted their help right away. But the places we had to study were always crowded with guys laughing and having a good time. Being surrounded by them all the time made me ashamed of my lack of education.

"Our Comrade Chen of the Chinese People's Volunteers learned of my problem. Shortly afterwards I was called to his office. He told me that he knew of my trouble and he would like to help me. Well, I was ashamed of not knowing any more than I did. It was some time before I decided to take him up on his offer. Finally, overcoming this handicap, I accepted.

"He was glad that I had come back. We talked a long time about myself and the trouble I had at home. Then we discussed what I wanted to study.

"Then he gave me a pencil and some paper and started teaching me to write. Before I left he gave me a list of books written in simple English that should be easy to learn to read. Since that day he has spent a lot of time with me, helping me with my studies.

"We used the office of the library to study where it was quiet. When he is not too busy, he calls me to his office to check on my progress. I have never been refused anything I needed to help me.

"I have learned so far to read simple English and write now. I am going to keep on until I can read and write as well as anyone in the company. I am sure that I will receive all the help I need from the men in the company as well."







They're enjoying a joke as well as the food.

## FESTIVITIES

"IN my two years of captivity, I have had many celebrations, not only our national celebrations but also those of American and the Chinese people. At each one of these the Chinese People's Volunteers have gone out of their way to obtain for us whatever we have requested."

So writes a British P.O.W., Cpl. John T. Green of Westwoodside, N. Doncaster, Yorkshire, England, in an article in the camp paper.

As far as the Korean and Chinese authorities are concerned, a man's religious or social customs are his personal affair.



On all the big festivals—Christmas, Easter, Whitsun, Thanksgiving, special services are held, and the P.O.W.'s are given the facilities to arrange celebrations as close in character as possible to the customs of their homelands.

The same is true for Moslems—the Turkish P.O.W.'s—who hold their daily and weekly prayer gatherings and mark their own festivals with special services. Goats are bred near the camp in which they live to keep them supplied with meat which they are permitted to eat by their religion.

Of course, holidays are not exclusively religious. They have in all countries become social occasions. In the camps, too, the prisoners arrange the programs for their festivals to include not only religious services, but banquets, games, dramatics and other forms of recreation.

Naturally, the highlight of all the celebrations, for the vast majority of the men, are the Christmas and New Year festivities. For the 1952 Xmas holiday season, as in the previous year, careful preparations were made weeks in advance in all the camps. Camp No. 2 for example organized a committee of nineteen as early as December 1st, with Capt. Clifford Allen of U.S.A. as chairman and coordinator.

Writing about this program on January 2, after it was all over, Capt. Allen listed seventeen items of religious services, games, carol singing and other activities, quite apart, of course, from the feast. "All plans of the preparatory committee were executed and enjoyed and participated in by all members of the camp," he concluded.

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All tastes are catered to in the Special Christmas Number of the wall-newspaper—including the taste for beer, as the barrel in the cartoon shows.

