History of Company 894, Camp SP-14-C, Golden, Colo.

The history of Company 894 is a record of frequent changes in personnel and project assignments. These include the normal shifts in the personnel, moves to new locations, and variations in the work performed. To record here all these changes in chronological order would be too common-place but the writer deems it necessary to relate the more significant things connected with its life story.

Back in the early days of the "Tree Army" organization a group of 167 young men were assembled in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to be given their chance to prove that the founders of the CCC were justified in promoting their conceived plans. These youths were enrolled May 19, 1933, and were immediately sent to Fort Logan, Colorado. There they were organized into a company, given their original instructions, and conditioned for service under the command of Captain F. F. Duggan, Lieut. Herrick, and Dr. Curtis.

On June 2, 1933, the Company was ordered to its first assignment at Peaceful Valley, Colorado. Here the men erected their tents, cleared the grounds, and established Camp F-1-C. Three days later thirty Colorado boys joined the company. These two hundred young Americans then set to their tasks of building foot and truck trails, thinning and clearing up forest areas, planting and cultivating young trees, building telephone lines, and constructing check and storage dams. These were new adventures—new challenges and these young men went out to meet them—to win.

The Company remained at Peaceful Valley for six months and then on December 1, 1933, it was moved to Bonham, Texas, where the men established Camp SP-18-T. At the time of the establishment of this camp, that section of Texas was included in the Oklahoma District CCC.

Immediately after the establishment of the company in North East Texas, its personnel began to change. The men from Colorado and Oklahoma returned to their home states and their places were filled by men from East Texas. By the mid summer 1936, A. J. McDonald was the only original man left. Many technical foremen came, left their imprint, and went away; ten officers had commanded the company, made their contributions of service and personality, and had passed on to other fields but the company remained to perpetuate its work.

Under the supervision of Captain Carl Edmonds and Mr. L. C. Fuller, Camp Project Superintendent, the boys constructed a park at Bonham which was sec-
ond to none in the Texas area. The excellence of their work is evidenced by the growth of the park in popularity even while under construction. Records show that this park was visited by more people during the summer months of 1936 than was true of any other state park in Texas.

But the construction of the park was only one of the many worth while accomplishments of the Company. Life saving occupies an important place in its records. Many lives were saved on the lake during the swimming season by the life guards furnished from the membership of the Company. Then, too, the morale of the Company has always ranked high. It set the pace in the Tyler District of East Texas for three consecutive months, was runner up in the Lubbock Sub-District for a number of months, and reached the top again just before leaving that District.

About November 16, 1936, Captain Edmonds and his men were again on the move. This time they turned their faces toward the “Dust Bowl” and the sand storms of West Texas. There, on the rim of Pala Dura Canyon, and thirteen miles east of the town of Canyon, these men again settled down to the familiar task of developing another state park. This camp, SP-14-T, had been previously occupied by veterans and this Company took up where the veterans had left off. The most notable work on this location was the building of trails down the sides of the canyon and the construction of rock cabins for the use of the visitors to this curiosity of the Plains country. This work was continued for more than a year.

While the Company was located at Camp SP-14-T, Captain Carl Edmonds was succeeded by Lieut. M. P. Exline and Mr. Heaton, who had accompanied the men from Bonham, exchanged places with John I. Dean of the Littlefield, Texas, Camp as Educational Adviser. September 22, 1937, Lieut. Henry Timmerman took command of the Company and on December 20 following he moved the Company to Camp SCS-13-T which is located 20 miles northwest of Amarillo, Texas. Here the men began service for the first time on a soil conservation project.

But these men were not destined to remain long in the land of the Canadian where the prairie dog digs its burrow and the coyote sings its weird chant atop the hills overlooking Amarillo creek. Before winter was gone the men were disturbed by rumors that the Company was to be disbanded by March first. Orders were issued to that purpose but these were immediately rescinded. Then finally, orders came for the Company to be ready for a move they knew not where. About March 25, 1938, the Company was advised that it would be sent to Colorado. Some ten days before this last order came thru Lieut. C. C. Cook replaced Lieut. R. N. Pointer as the Junior Officer. On April first T. A. Holt replaced John I. Dean as Educational Adviser. April 5, 1938, was set as the date for the move. Lieut. Jack I. Schneck was the Company Physician.

Late in the afternoon of April 5th the Company bid farewell to Amarillo Creek and its tall cottonwoods, to the city of Amarillo and its windswept streets, to the plains and their blinding sand storms and entrained for Denver, Colorado. The next morning as the train rumbled along between Pueblo and Colorado Springs, news came that a blizzard was sweeping south from the Denver area. The men were in their shirt sleeves and with the windows wide open. Unusually warm weather had prevailed for the last few days and the men had left their blankets and overcoats in the baggage car in places they could not reach. The blizzard came with a blinding snow storm and by the time the train arrived in Denver, the snow had reached a depth of over twelve inches and the wind was biting cold. These Texas lads were receiving a cold welcome by the weather if not by the people.

The Company was met at Denver by a convoy of trucks from Camp SP-13-C and Camp SP-14-C under the command of Captain Earl J. Yates. The men were quickly loaded on these trucks and dispatched to Camp SP-14-C where hot meals and warm bar
Racks were waiting, much ire due the officers in charge. Not a man suffered any ill effects except a few light colds and sore throats.

The Company has written a worthy record in Camp SP-14-C. The Educational shop has been enlarged by fifty per cent; a class room for academic and commercial subjects has been improvised out of a storeroom; a dark room for photography has been arranged and equipped; the interiors of the recreation hall, the headquarters, the infirmary, and the mess halls have all been painted; the reading room has been enlarged and re-equipped, and the kitchen has been improved by the installation of an electric refrigeration unit.

The men have also acquitted themselves well in the parks and forest areas within the project. Under the capable direction of Mr. Edward W. Teysier, Project Superintendent, Mr. Earl J. Mann Landscape Engineer, Mr. Wm. H. Aitken, Project Architect, and a staff of able foremen, the men have been turning the rugged mountain country into beauty spots of comfort for the thousands of tourists and week end visitors to this play ground of the Rockies. Some idea of the extent of the work now completed or under construction may be gained by a realization that forty-five different parks and some one hundred and fifty square miles of mountains, peaks, slopes, and valleys are included in the area of the project. Then, too, the accompanying pictures taken on the project tell the story of the nature and the various types of work done on the job.

Lieut. Henry Timmerman is still in command, assisted by Col. E. G. Condit, the Camp Surgeon, and T. A. Holt, the Camp Educational Adviser. Thus, the story of CCC Company 894 ends until some other time. Lights Out!

Roster of Company 894. Camp SP-14-C. Golden, Colo.

Leaders
Bledsoe, F. P. Lexington, Okla.  
Brawley, Leonard McLean, Tex.  
Bude, Bridgeville Bailey, Tex.  
Chapman, Harrell Gordon, Tex.  
Fawcett, John N. Denver, Colo.  
Hill, Jesse B. Boulder, Colo.  
McElwae, W. B. Sweetwater, Tex.  
Monday, James D. Atlanta, Tex.  
Rider, Ezra. Elkhorn, Okla.  
Wilson, John. Tyler, Tex.

Assistant Leaders
Aylor, Lavon. Temple, Tex.  
Bodenhorn, Lon. Marietta, Tex.  
Carlson, Preston. Douglassville, Tex.  
Colwell, Luke M. Memphis, Tex.  
Crews, Thomas A. Winton, Tex.  
Hays, Robert W. Snyder, Tex.  
Henderson, Bryan G. Naples, Tex.  
Hooper, L. G. Queen City, Tex.  
Grady, Montez. Smithville, Tex.  
Lear, Benjamin. Morrison, Colo.  
Lettierger, Lawrence W. Littlefield, Tex.  
McCary, Grady R. Clarendon, Tex.  
Manning, Maurice. Payette, Idaho  
Newton, Earl W. Bonham, Tex.  
Sielk, Olle K. Portland, Ore.

Members
Akins, Clifford T. Bennington, Okla.  
Angrin, Bill. Paris, Tex.  
Armijo, Sam. Avondale, Colo.  
Austen, Ralph. Macon, Okla.  
Barnes, Robert W. Marysville, Calif.  
Benson, James G. Kelly, Wyo.  
Bergles, Joseph S. Pueblo, Colo.  
Boydston, Clinton E. Pueblo, Colo.  
Brown, Joe N. Roaring Springs, Tex.  
Butula, Frank J. Pueblo, Colo.  
Callahan, Robert L. Evansville, Wyo.  
Capp, Andrew H. Pueblo, Colo.  
Carl, Louie A. Pueblo, Colo.  
Carpenter, Harold L. Pueblo, Colo.  
Carr, John M. Pampa, Tex.  
Caves, Ernest D. Clinton, Okla.  
Cearley, Wras B. Geary, Okla.  
Cevantes, John. Pueblo, Colo.  
Chapman, Johnnie M. Sweetwater, Tex.  
Clark, William H. Gridley, Calif.  
Cordill, Ray J. Ringgold, Okla.  
Collins, Ottie S. Woodville, Okla.  
Corteen, Mike. Pueblo, Colo.  
Cortner, Ival C. Pueblo, Colo.  
Crook, Lewis E. Woodville, Okla.  
Davis, Edward A. Sweetwater, Tex.  
Dobrowhery, Charlie E. Shay, Okla.  
Downing, Jack. San Angelo, Tex.  
Driscoll, Joseph W. Pueblo, Colo.  
Duffie, Jesse W. Cripple, Ark.  
Eich, Mark A. Pueblo, Colo.  
Ellis, Marion E. Casper, Wyo.  
Erby, Lloyd J. Pueblo, Colo.  
Evans, Robert I. Pueblo, Colo.  
Evans, William C. Handley, Tex.  
Falkner, Houston L. Courtes, Okla.  
Fellon, Edwin J. Pueblo, Colo.  
Floyd, Clayton E. Pueblo, Colo.  
Foster, Dale. Midland, Tex.  
Gann, Elbert L. Ladonia, Tex.  
Gibson, Harold. Maypearl, Tex.  
Gilpex, Jack L. Pueblo, Colo.  
Goldin, Willie G. Pueblo, Tex.  
Goodman, Mailard R. Mountain View, Okla.  
Green, Busted W. Casper, Wyo.  
Greeneeling, Leo C. Crest, Tex.  
Hale, Cleo A. Hico, Tex.  
Hand, Thurman J. Brownfield, Tex.  
Hayes, James F. Casper, Wyo.  
Hearn, Claudie. Wichita Falls, Tex.  
Herman, Adolph W. Pueblo, Colo.  
Hester, Rayon C. Lamesa, Tex.  
Hightower, James W. Vernon, Tex.  
Hilburn, Odell. Brownfield, Tex.  
Holman, Thad J. Idaho, Okla.  
Hopkins, Thomas B. Spur, Tex.  
Howell, Edwin P. Holdenville, Okla.  
Hubbell, Herbert M. Paris, Tex.  
Hubbard, Kenneth. Chardon, Nebr.  
Irion, William D. Los Angeles, Calif.  
Irvin, Homer Jr. Hughes, Tex.  
Jacketta, Ed W. Pueblo, Colo.  
Jameson, Royal W. Pueblo, Colo.  
Jaramillo, Eduardo. Pueblo, Colo.  
Jenkins, Doris E. Naples, Tex.  
Jerman, William J. Pueblo, Colo.  
Johnson, Joe. Pueblo, Colo.  
Johnson, Lemuel S. Springfield, Okla.  
Jones, Johnnie H. Hereford, Tex.  
Kiefer, Carl C. San Angelo, Tex.  
Kitchens, Edman W. Chocotah, Okla.  
Kline, Eddie W. Pueblo, Colo.  
Kutch, Eliza F. Perryton, Okla.  
Lacey, Benio. Russfield, Tex.  
Lawson, Louis C. Big Springs, Tex.  
Layden, Joe A. Pueblo, Colo.  
Lee, Bert. Sweetwater, Tex.  
Littrell, James L. Lindey, Okla.  
Lord, Albert L. Wichita Falls, Tex.  
McElroy, Wade T. Sweetwater, Tex.  
McWhorter, Jack B. Plasak, Tex.  
Mangum, William K. Pueblo, Colo.  
Merino, Lloyd J. Casper, Wyo.  
Miller, Quentin D. Casper, Wyo.  
Mills, Bill A. Mills, Wyo.  
Montoya, Felipe J. Pueblo, Colo.  
Moore, Lawrence A. Pueblo, Colo.  
Mueller, Gustav A. Arvada, Wyo.  
Muirhead, John D. Tuilla, Calif.  
Mutz, William F. Pueblo, Colo.  
Northness, George E. Lander, Wyo.  
Odel, Vergil A. Lener, Tex.  
O'Farrel, Raymond J. Amarillo, Tex.  
O'Neal, Bill F. Hereford, Tex.  
Oreskovich, Pete. Pueblo, Colo.