GOOD BYE TO CAMP CRANE; ITS ABANDONMENT ORDERED

likely be Merely a Memory by February
First—Brought Five Million Dollars to
Allentown in Year and Half

Immediate abandonment of Camp
Crane has been directed by the war
department and work on the removal
of buildings and soldiers will com-
mente at an early date. By the end
of February it is expected that Camp
Crane will have passed into history.
The soldiers now stationed at the fair
grounds will either be mustered out
of service, or transferred to other
camps. The salvaging of all build-
ings other improvements and equipment
will be directed by office of the
camp. When this work is com-
plete the various materials will be
sent to places directed by the war
department.

With the removal of the camp from
this city, its going will leave more
than memories behind it, it will mean
a deep hole in the coffers of various
mercantile places, hotels, restaurants,
places of amusement, barber shops,
drug stores and numerous other
establishments on which the U.S.
A.C.'s spent their monthly wage from
Uncle Sam's treasury.

A vague idea of what the camp's de-
parture means to this city can be
gleaned from the following approxi-
mate figures which were compiled re-
cently at the camp headquarters:
$8,000,000 was expended in this city
since the camp was established here.
Soldiers' pay amounted to nearly
$2,000,000; $220,000 was spent by
the post exchange in cabbages, cigars
and tobacco; $350,000 was spent in the
construction of new buildings and
$90,000 in labor.

The latter item was for work on the
erection of the new buildings, all of
which went to workmen from this
city. The materials for the buildings
for the most part were all purchased
and around this section. The
$220,000 expense account of the post
exchange represented an amount
spent entirely in business places in
Allentown.

In addition to the above the camp
fed an average of 4,000 men daily for
the past eighteen months at a cost of
fifty cents per day per man. All the
edibles to feed this army were pur-
bought in the city, excepting
large quantities of vegetables which
were bought up in the rural sections.
Other large sums represented showed
the amounts paid for accommodations
in the hotels and hospitals. The
amusement provided on the camp
ground for the most part was gratis,
but sums spent in the theatres, mov-
ing picture houses, pool rooms and
other places of pleasure, totaled thou-
sands of dollars. What all this will
mean to Allentown and surrounding
places will be visited by the soldiery of
the camp, can best be explained by those
who profited during its period of
operation here both as a training and
an embalming site.

Last evening 280 soldiers, forming
a motor company, arrived at the
camp, coming from Buffalo to this
city. This morning they will secure
a number of trucks at the Bethlehem
Motors Corporation and proceed to
Camp Holdabird, Baltimore, with
them.

By February 1 the property will
again be in the hands of the Fair So-
ciety. The government paid the lat-
ter $30,000 a year rental, and is re-
quired to restore the property in the
same condition in which it was re-
solved.

The camp was established in May,
1917.

Organizing as a training school for
ambulance service men, Camp Crane
named in honor of the Surgeon Gen-
eral of the Union army in the Civil
War, soon expanded into a general
medical camp, and fully 20,000 men
of that service were given their les-
s in warfare here.

The first units to arrive were mostly
college men, coming from nearly
every State in the Union, and repres-
sing nearly two score of the larg-
universities and other educational
institutions. Most of these men have
rendered heroic service in France,
Italy and Belgium, several hundred of
them using in the casualty lists.

The first commander of the camp
was Colonel E. E. Persons, now in
Italy, who was succeeded last sum-
mer by Lieutenant Colonel Richard
Slez, Colonel H. McC. Snyder taking
the latter's place a few months ago.

For the past few months the popu-
lation of the camp, made up prin-
cipally of draft men, has been stead-
ly reduced until now it numbers less
than 1,500 men.