

actually digging trenches and four days fighting in them. We simulate war conditions as near the real thing as possible. We go "over the top" into "No Man's Land"—make rushes and charges, etc. just as they do under war conditions. This is the beginning of the tenth week. The twelfth we go into the trenches for a whole week. Just so it doesn't rain, for that makes it doubly disagreeable. Last time we got soaked and the mud (or clay) stuck to us like tar. I now realize what it means to hold the front line trenches of a sector for weeks until relieved. I note by today's paper U. S. troops are there now.

No doubt many of the Bethany men are in the various cantonments and should I be so successful as to be commissioned, I hope I may have some of them in my command. I know they will make good soldiers.

Very sincerely your

W. C. Nystrom.