

OPEN CLUB FOR SOLDIERS.

Col. Roosevelt Speaks at Exercises at Coney Island.

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt was the guest of honor yesterday at the official opening of a club for men in the service known as War Camp Community Service Unit No. 7 in Moose Hall on Surf Avenue, near West Fifth Street, Coney Island. The club was given to the service men by the business men of Coney Island.

After the exercises Colonel Roosevelt, together with William Hamlin Childs, Borough President Edward Riegelmann of Brooklyn, Colonel J. C. F. Tillson, representing General Mann of the Department of the East; Captain H. Hamlet, representing Admiral Usher, and Lieut. Col. R. C. Berkeley, commandant of the marine forces in Brooklyn, spoke at Seaside Park. A military parade was held in connection with the opening of the club unit.

Colonel Roosevelt criticised the pacifist and the conscientious objector, and said: "We want three times as many men in the service as there are at the present time. And I want to say that if there is one person I honor above the soldier it is the mother. The mother who does not bring up her son to be a soldier is as despicable as the boy who runs in battle."

The New York Times

Published: May 19, 1918

Copyright © The New York Times