



Russia is about the only country where you won't find natives studying the Scranton schoolbooks. But some years ago, the daughter of an American engineer working in Russia kept up her high school studies through I. C. S. When she returned to the U. S. A. to take college entrance exams, she got high marks in everything but history. When I. C. S. asked to see her textbook, it discovered that the Russian censors had scissored out all the pages they thought were too favorable to a capitalist democracy!

The "Bootstrap Brigade" also includes a few hundred thousand members who have slogged across the world's battlefields in a very different kind of brigade—American GI's, who studied I. C. S. courses through the Armed Forces Insti-

tutes, and who wrote a shining chapter in the I. C. S. record of "study under difficulties." During World War II one young Marine sent his lessons back with this apology: "Excuse the dirt on the pages. Jap snipers are busy today and the falling palm leaves are splashing mud all over my books."

In the Dean's office at I. C. S. is a memorable collection of containers that GI's used to wrap their lessons in—Nazi shell cases, Japanese map cases and aluminum wrappers made from knocked-down Luftwaffe planes.

In fact, it was the sight of a Marine private studying his I. C. S. course back in the 1920's that inspired Colonel Harlee of the Marines to make a visit to Scranton. Out of that visit came the famous Marine Corps Institute, which is still using I. C. S. texts to help the Leathernecks become technical specialists.

Sir Hubert Wilkins, the renowned explorer, is another former I. C. S. student. But when he visited the "World's Schoolhouse" headquarters building one day, he learned that his name was not in the records. "However," said the dean, "we have another famous explorer on our rolls. Vilhjalmur Stefansson took our navigation course."

"Why, the old weasel!" said Sir Hubert. Didn't Stefansson ever tell you that he studied from the books you sent ME?"

Chances are that Sir Hubert's old textbooks were written by a famous name in navigation. That's how all I. C. S. texts are written, by outside experts in the field. Then I. C. S. editors go to work on the manuscripts, seeing that they get put into simple language. "We've got to write so that everybody can understand it," says Admiral Bryan.

(Turn to next page)

*On facing page: Shining light in the "Bootstrap Brigade" is Arthur Godfrey, who studied by mail during his Navy days for a higher rating—and who rates about as high as anybody these days.*

*At left: Real success story is "Captain Eddie" Rickenbacker, whose first step up came after an I. C. S. automotive engineering course. Walter Chrysler and Jesse Vincent, who designed the famous Liberty airplane motor, were taking the same course at the same time.*

