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AMERICANS NATURALLY ARE ADEPT IN FLYING.

Fact That 57 Men Were Killed at Texas Aviation Stations Causes Little Alarm.

Dallas, Texas, Feb. 26.—The American youth has a natural aptitude for flying. It was revealed and is being developed in seven aviation training stations in Texas and, during the winter fliers have been turned out from them with a proficiency and in numbers that have fully satisfied the American officers and have proved almost startling to instructors from the allied armies who are here to give the Americans the advantage of their experience and knowledge.

There are six American and one British aviation camps at Fort Worth, San Antonio, Houston, Waco, Dallas and Wichita Falls. At Fort Worth, the royal flying corps, a camp of young Canadians trained by British officers, are in daily competition with the Americans in an adjoining camp. A goodly number of young Americans also are enlisted with the Canadians and are receiving their training under the direction of British officers.

A regard for military secrecy prohibits relating the total number of students who have taken to the air here this winter. It reaches a figure that gives great comfort to the military men who know, and compared with the total advancement made by the men, the number of accidents reported has been surprisingly small, it is stated.

The death of Vernon Castle while flying at the British camp at Fort Worth February 15 brought the total number of men killed in airplane accidents in all seven camps up to 57. The British flyers at Fort Worth have lost far more than any of the American camps. The high fatality record among the British, it is said, is the direct result of the more strenuous system of practice and drill which they use. Forty-three deaths have occurred at the two camps at Fort Worth, while Houston, next in the list, has been seven.

"They kill more at Fort Worth because they fly more" is the way a young aviator officer explained the great difference in the mortality lists. The British theory is that the men should receive early instructions in all the difficult work they will have to do in actual service, while the American trainers spend a larger part of their time in drilling the fundamentals of flying. The young Canadians go into the air early for flights that are forbidden in the camps under United States control. They are taught the spirals, the dives and the loops that are a part of actual war flying and so it is that if their mortality list seems out of proportion to those in the other camps, the British officers are not displeased with the accomplishments of the men under them.

The San Antonio station has had three fatalities, Dallas, Waco, one each and Wichita Falls two. Waco and Wichita Falls had perfect records until the week ending February second when at Waco a pilot was killed in a collision with another machine in midair, and a cadet at Wichita Falls lost his life when his machine fell.

Several of the killed have been civilians or mechanics. In the early days of the American camp at Fort Worth, a mechanic was struck by a propeller when the engine back fired. There was a similar accident only recently when a college student examining an airplane which had landed on the campus of the Texas Christian university, got too near the propeller. He was struck on the head and killed almost instantly. At Denton, Tex., recently an aviator from Fort Worth stopped in a flight and was persuaded into taking a civilian as a passenger. The airplane had hardly cleared the ground when trouble came. The plane crashed, killing the civilian and injuring the aviator.

An aviator from Ellington field

Houston, recently ran out of gasoline a short distance from Bay City and telephoned for fuel. An automobile mechanic who brought the gasoline persuaded the pilot to take him for a ride, and an accident resulted, the plane falling when only a few hundred feet in the air. The mechanic was killed and the aviator injured.

San Antonio field is said to be the largest in Texas. Balloon observation is taught there in addition to flying. The students are mostly men from the signal corps.

This city will soon have two fields, Love field, the camp now established, and a larger one already under construction at the State fair grounds which have been leased the government for training purposes. This will be named Camp Dick in honor of the first and only aviator killed at Love field. It will be used chiefly as a preparatory school for ground training.

There is a rigid ban against visitors at all camps. At Love field, visitor caught with a camera was held until all the negatives were developed and showed nothing of a prohibited nature had been pictured.

An unexpected effect of the frequent presence in the air of the flying machines has been the almost total disappearance of birds from the neighborhoods of the camps. Wild doves which have heretofore been common flying in flocks in northern Texas, are never seen within miles of a camp, and in their northward spring flights, the game birds, the ducks and geese are conspicuous by their absence from the skies about Fort Worth in particular.

The boys in the British camp have made much progress during the warm winter, so different from the snows of the Canadian winter, and are in the air almost constantly. Scarcely a passenger train enters Fort Worth but it is welcomed by an airplane or so, and flights to the city from the camp, 40 miles away, for social purposes are made every day.

W. S. S.

Each Battle Plane Needs Extra Equipment.

After three years of warfare the total number of airplanes able to take the air any one time on either side of the western front has not been over 2,500. Each plane in the air requires a force of 46 men, two replacement planes on the ground, and one training for every pilot who eventually reaches the front, with an extra engine for each plane.

The life of a plane is not more than two months, and the engine must be overhauled after each 75 hours. Now that American battle planes are going overseas, the great problem is to secure the thousands of skilled mechanics, engine men, motor repair men, wood and metal workers needed to keep the planes in perfect condition. This engineering and mechanical force at the airdromes, the flying fields, and repair depots, both here and behind the lines in France, is a vital industrial link in the chain to air supremacy.

W. S. S.

Removes Many Officers

From the declaration of war to February 23, the Surgeon General of the Army has removed 1,050 officers of the Medical Reserve Corps. In the following table the reason assigned for discharge does not isolate under "inaptitude for the service" all those whose dismissal was in considerable degree due to inefficiency or incompetency, since these reasons had weight in many cases otherwise classified.

Discharges for physical disability.	411;
inaptitude for the service, 154;	to join other branches, 306;
domestic difficulties, 59;	resignation, 88;
needed by communities, hospitals, schools, 32.	

During the same time there have been 2,265 promotions including some officers promoted more than once.

HALF MILLION CHECKS SENT TO DEPENDENTS.

Hundreds of Typists Labor on These Documents for troop's Relatives.

Washington, March 9.—The last of the February pay checks, carrying money allotments by soldiers and sailors and government allowances to their dependents at home, went into the mails today. More than 500,000 checks have been written and an extraordinary effort has been made to have the dependents get their allowances early in the month.

The average amount of each check is about \$25 and the total monthly disbursement runs above \$12,000,000. Usually the allotment from the soldier's pay is about \$15, and the government family allowance about \$10, the exact amount being fixed by the number of dependents.

Three shifts of clerks have been at work. Acres of typists—2,300 of them 24 hours of every day have clattered away on batteries of typewriters in several of the largest floor spaces in Washington—a commandeered dance hall above the municipal market, an abandoned hospital, and a factory building recently remodeled.

Regardless of the wholesale quantity of documents, each letter and each check is regarded as a distinct human document, or instruction of the director of the bureau, William C. Delancy. Every woman typist and man sorting clerk has been impressed with the idea that the welfare of a soldier's family may depend on the speed, accuracy and personal interest shown by the bureau's workers.

So this is the task and the spirit of one of the government's greatest bureaus, the treasury department's bureau of war risk insurance. Congressional criticism of delays in the distribution of allotment and allowance have been met with assurance that superlative promptness, impossible in the past because of the disorder following the sudden creation of a new system to supplant the old pension plan, will be displayed in the future.

The bureau expects to have checks for March remittances ready for mailing on the morning of April 1 and by that time much of the vast human machine which has been built for preparing the pay checks will be scrapped. Machines will do the work better, it is expected, than men and women.

In the meanwhile, this is the way the human machine works:

Experts in office management have devised special schemes of office routine. More than two thousand young men and girls cannot be managed efficiently by haphazard methods. Regular recreation periods in the middle of the morning and afternoon are provided. There is a piano and a graphophone, and the girls may dance during the short recess. The managers say that they do 30 per cent. better work as a result. There is a lunch room, operated at cost. Then bureau has a supervising matron, who advises the girl employes, most of whom have come to Washington recently for war time employment on patriotic grounds. She helps them obtain lodging, rooms and in other ways.

Speedy typists are carefully chosen from the throng, and arranged at the long work desks in the center of a group of slower workers. This arrangement promotes group speed, and better office morale, the efficiency men in charge declare. Evonde girls are assigned to places between brunettes, for the bureau management believes blonds are of more nervous temperament, and the brunettes provide a steadying influence.

Each check is typed individually, and a government law provides that checks also must be signed individually, rather than stamped mechanically. The signing is a big task. Signature duplicating machines are used, 10 checks being signed by each original

signature of a pay clerk.

Even the choice of pay clerks is a lesson in efficiency. Not personality, not training but length of patronymic names is the determining factor. Men with short names work at the signing machines, for more short names can be signed daily than long names. This is the reason the jobs are held by E. Hibbs, D. Mills, J. L. Betz, G. A. Ball, and M. Cox.

Yet with all the efficiency methods of this big office, it must shortly go into discard before the automatic check writing machines, now being perfected by M. E. Bailey, the chief disbursing clerk. These machines, by a single operation will stamp the check with the name of the payee, the amount, the address, the name of the soldier, his organization sign and the serial number of the check.

In addition to this disbursement work, the bureau's life insurance business includes the receipt and classification of 40,000 applications daily from men in camps, for an aggregate of \$300,000,000 of insurance. The total number of applications received up to the present is about 1,200,000 and the total value of policies bought is more than \$10,000,000,000.

W. S. S.

American Troops Hold Front of Eight Miles.

Washington, March 6.—American troops are now holding something over eight miles of trenches on the battle front in France, it was learned today, although in an airplane their frontage is only about four and a half miles. This frontage is liable to extension at any time to the regular trench allotment for an army corps.

Irregularity of the trench lines is responsible for their eight miles of length. They are laid out so that flanking fire may be obtained along every part of the front. Strong points containing machine guns put out for this purpose. The trenches also follow closely any protective slope of the country and wander up and down hill.

The American sector is understood to be a divisional frontage, which means that at least three divisions of American troops are there to give the necessary support in depth for the front lines. This fact has aroused speculation here as to who will be selected by General Pershing to command the first corps of his army. Maj.-Gen. Hunter Liggett is known to have acted in that capacity, but as yet the expeditionary commander has not made any recommendation.

It is possible that the French system will be followed in the American army so far as the appointment of corps commanders goes. It is the custom in France to select any one of the division commanders in a corps and to place him at the head of the corps. He retains his rank as division commander, however, and in the case of the American army that would be a major general.

W. S. S.

Loose Dogs Taboo Now On Streets of Town.

Greensboro News.

With the early spring, comes an early order from the commissioners of public safety against running at large of dogs. J. Henry Phipps yesterday issued a "warning" to dog owners of the city to keep them off the sidewalks and streets of the town, unless they are attached to leading string and accompanied by someone responsible for them.

In discussing the dog yesterday in the board meeting, J. G. Foushee, the commissioner of public works, said he thought the dog tax of the city should be raised to \$5 a year. It was agreed that this would result in the elimination of all but very greatly admired pets, and would lead perhaps to thinning out the dog population which is a menace to the people and in a measure to property. But the other commissioners did not agree with the \$5 fee plan and no step was taken to increase the levy on the dog.

GERMANS ASSERT THEY DO NOT FEAR AMERICA

Former Dentist of Kaiser says Americans in Germany are Greatly Restricted.

New York, March 10.—"The German press is carefully and adroitly continuing to foster the idea among the German people that America is not really in earnest about the war," declared Dr. A. N. Davis, today in discussing the situation in Berlin as he left it just over a month ago. Dr. Davis formerly of Piqua, O., is the American dentist who lived in the German capital for 15 years and numbered Emperor William among his patients.

"Every effort is being made to belittle America—even the highest officials are attempting to convey the impression that Germany has little to fear from the United States. Practically nothing is printed concerning America except the President's addresses on war aims and the possible basis of a permanent peace. Even these are treated by the papers as if the President were speaking as a sort of detached person whose interest was the welfare of the world; not with the idea that they represented the earnest determination of the American people to see the war through to a successful conclusion.

"Not until Germany begins to feel the military pressure of the United States will the people realize the new conditions that confront them. Then I predict, the fostered enmity toward England will be as nothing to the hatred that will be poured out by the inspired press against America.

"The American business men who took advantage of the nine months' treaty between the United States and Germany to wind up business affairs as far as possible, were kept under the closest surveillance by the police at all times and were not permitted to leave the city without special permits. To go to a race meeting 10 miles out of Berlin, it is necessary to apply for a permit at least a month in advance.

"The thing that has impressed me most since my return to America is the freedom we accord to German subjects over here. It seems to me as if no restrictions were placed upon them whatever. In Germany, every time some new regulation was adopted regarding the Americans, the excuse was given that the United States was treating Germans harshly and there must be some retaliation. The German people themselves are restricted in their movements, and no person is allowed to travel without a special identification pass which may be demanded as many as five times during a short journey.

"The slightest little things will result in a curtailment of an American's privileges. The most privileged Americans must report to the Berlin police twice weekly and have their papers stamped. These papers show just what the bearer of them is permitted to do, what hours he must keep, and where he is permitted to go.

"There are not half a dozen Americans in Berlin who are not anxious to get home. Many of them are having trouble to get permission. I first applied to leave last August, but was refused. Some time later I managed to obtain a permit for my wife and child and they came to America long before I was permitted to leave. The story that I traveled on a special pass signed by the kaiser is wrong. I had the same police authority granted to every other American who has left within the past few months. And like those other Americans, I did not feel happy until I landed here in New York, where I intend to remain."

Mr. Davis said a German offensive in the west had been freely talked about in Berlin since last November. "Many people have suggested to me that if Germany really intended an offensive, she would not be talking about it much," he explained. "That is a wrong theory. We heard about

fore it began. The stories got around the Italian offensive for months before in the same way, and I am convinced Germany intends to strike several hard blows even if she does not have an idea of definitely breaking the alpine line.

"The food supply is critical in Berlin and Hamburg, but in the less congested district all reports say there is comparatively plenty. The difficulties are in many cases those of transportation and restriction against transporting food from one province, or state, into another.

"The real Americans who were compelled to remain in Germany for a time after the war was declared did not lose one ounce of their Americanism. They submitted without a murmur or complaint to every restriction that was placed upon them, and only bided the time that they could safely and legitimately get away. Many of them had to make big personal sacrifices, of course, but they did it cheerfully and loyally, and have come back to America with an even keener appreciation of patriotism than most of those who have never been abroad."

W. S. S.

Will Reclassify all Men in The Second Draft.

Washington March 7.—Reclassification according to physical condition of the men called in the next army draft is provided in revised instructions for medical advisory boards which are being sent to the local boards throughout the country. The new regulations made public tonight, require that every man summoned before the board shall be placed in one of the following four classes:

(A) Acceptable for general military service; (B) acceptable for general military service after being cured of remedial defects; (C) acceptable for special or limited military service in a specified capacity or occupation; (D) rejected and exempted from any military service.

It is the intention of the provost marshal general to provide later for the further investigation and classification of the men acceptable for limited or special service so that record may be made of the sort of work each of these men may be assigned to do without endangering his health.

Under the new regulations, many ailments and defects which gained exemption of drafted men in the past now will result only in their being listed in group B. Such men if they choose will be given the privilege of securing the services of their family physicians in the effort to remove the defect, but if they have not availed themselves of this privilege within a specified time, they will be called into military service and ordered to a cantonment base hospital, a reconstruction hospital or to a civic hospital, as may be designated by the surgeon general.

W. S. S.

To Prepare for The Third Loan.

Washington, March 1.—To prepare in advance for the third Liberty loan, ten parties of three or more speakers each will start tours early this month, visiting several towns a day and assisting local committees to organize publicity and other campaign work for the big drive which probably will be in April. One speaker in each party, the Liberty Loan publicity bureau announced today, will be a United States soldier who has seen service in France and one will be a woman.

Definite plans have been made for three parties, which will start March 11 on tours respectively of the Richmond, Va., Atlanta and Dallas federal reserve districts.

A Billious Attack.
When you have a billious attack your liver fails to perform its functions. You become constipated. The food you eat ferments in your stomach instead of digesting. This inflames the stomach and causes nausea, vomiting and a terrible headache. Take Chamberlain's Tablets. They will tone up your liver, clear out your stomach and you will soon be as well as ever. They only cost a quarter.