

SOLVING MYSTERIES OF BATTLE PLANES

American Aviators Studying the Mechanism of Old Airplanes—Learning by Lectures and Experience

With the American Expeditionary Army, France, Nov. 15.—(By mail)—A whole fleet of aeroplanes, splintered by falling and sprayed with bullet-holes from machine-gun fire is kept in the back yard of one of America's big aviation schools. They are veteran machines. They've been through the mill up at the front. Some have brought their pilots down to death. The pilots of others have stepped out of the wreckage unscathed.

When a machine takes a knock-out blow from the old Boche the French send it to schools where American future air-mechanics use them for experiments. They take them down and assemble them again. Flying experts pull the old joints apart and lay the pieces in a jumble on the ground whereupon young American aeroplane builders get busy and solve the puzzle of the tangled pieces.

Going through this school Sammy sees every model of flying craft the allies are using, learns to recognize each type on sight and to put it together so that every wire and every bolt is tightened to just the proper tension. He gets that sense of adjustment which tells him whether the machine is "right" for flying.

There are monoplanes, bi-planes and tri-planes; scouts and raiders, the latter of huge wing spread with plenty of room in the cockpit and sometimes mounting a light cannon.

The engines are dismantled from the machines and set up on low scaffolds in the school-room—scaffolds approximately showing how the engine is set in the plane. Sammy learns through lectures and study just what makes the V-shaped engine a better one for the big, awkward-looking raider than the whirling rotary engine with its cylinders standing out from the core like a bunch of steel pineapples.

On the other hand he soon savvies that the swift scouting plane, with its small wings spread and tiny cockpit never could operate with the other motor.

While he is attending a lecture some one strolls into the engine-room with a wrench and a screw-driver and monkey with the machinery. The man with the wreck may take an insignificant-looking bolt off an engine, or loosen an important-gas jet somewhere down in the vitals of the temperamental steel motor.

Every day, after finishing his study, Sammy goes to the motor assigned to him for that day and hunts for trouble. There'll be something wrong with it all right because the trouble-maker has been there, tampering with the works. Sammy repairs the damage if he has to take the whole works apart.

That is the way the mechanics are learning the aeroplanes—from the inside out and upside down an aeroplane motor and the plane itself will have no mysteries for them when the course is finished.

ORDERED COAL SENT TO SOUTH CAROLINA

Washington, Dec. 24.—Formal orders to coal operators in several nearby states were issued by the fuel administration today to provide immediate shipments to meet acute conditions in several towns in South Carolina.

Operators recently were requested to care for the South Carolina situation but shipments have not been of sufficient volume to relieve the shortage in certain sections of the state.

Alleged Spy Shot and Killed

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 22.—Charles Faige, of New York city, believed to be a German spy was shot and killed tonight ten miles east of El Paso by a seventh cavalry border patrol, while attempting to ford the Rio Grande river.

Hopes Women Will Adopt This Habit As Well As Men

Glass of hot water each morning helps us look and feel clean, sweet, fresh.

Happy, bright, alert—vivid and vivacious—a good clear skin; a natural, rosy complexion and freedom from illness are assured only by clean, healthy blood. If only every woman and likewise every man could realize the wonders of the morning inside bath, what a gratifying change would take place.

Instead of the thousands of sickly, anaemic-looking men, women and girls with pasty or muddy complexions; instead of the multitudes of "nerve wrecks," "rundowns," "brain fags" and pessimists we should see a virile, optimistic throng of rosy-cheeked people everywhere.

An inside bath is had by drinking, each morning before breakfast, a glass of real hot water with a teaspoonful of limestone phosphate in it to wash from the stomach, liver, kidneys and ten yards of bowels the previous day's indigestible waste, sour fermentations and poisons, thus cleansing, sweetening and freshening the entire alimentary canal before putting more food into the stomach.

Those subject to sick headache, biliousness, nasty breath, rheumatism, colds; and particularly those who have a pallid, sallow complexion and who are constipated very often, are urged to obtain a quarter pound of limestone phosphate at the drug store which will cost but a trifle but is sufficient to demonstrate the quick and remarkable change in both health and appearance awaiting those who practice internal sanitation. We must remember that inside cleanliness is more important than outside, because the skin does not absorb impurities to contaminate the blood, while the pores in the thirty feet of bowels do.

PERSHING PERMITS WINE AND BEER

Allows Soldiers To Drink Light Intoxicants But Puts Ban on Whisky—No Wine Allowed in Navy

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—General Pershing opened up the possibilities of a red hot controversy when, seeking to restrain soldiers from indulging in vice, he permitted them the use of wine and beer.

His recent orders put a very decided curb on indulgence. He held out the restraining influence of punishment for any Sammy in France partaking of "hard liquor"; but he excepted the use of the lighter intoxicants.

As a result, the whole subject of liquor for fighters, both in the army and navy, is destined to result in a vigorous discussion. Anti-Saloon leaguers will doubtless try to force an issue, while the moderates will advocate Pershing's ruling and try to extend it to this country as a whole.

Secretary of the Navy Daniels said tonight that his "no booze" regulations for the navy "stand, although marines in the Pershing's force, under army control are subject to Pershing's orders." But no wine mess aboard ships or in shore stations will be permitted, and only the president and the secretary have the power to alter this.

General Pershing, on the other hand, had full power to take the course he did. And apparently he acted without consulting Secretary of War Baker in any wise, for Baker said today that he had "no official" knowledge of his leader's act. In the absence of such "official" advice, the secretary refused to talk of the situation in any way, although it was suggested to him that his approval or disapproval would eventually be asked by the country.

Army men differ as to the wisdom of the Pershing action. They agree on one point that his desire to limit vice is entirely commendable, but there are many officers who openly declare that a wine or "grog" ration is almost essential to men in the trenches. Others say it is unwise to give men such stimulus, even though Great Britain and France do issue a "shot" on the mornings before their men go "over the top" into battle.

WOMEN SHOULD DO WORK THEY ARE FITTED FOR

Mrs. Axtell Suggests Ways for Aiding Nation at War

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—"Women should do the war work for which they are best fitted. It is useless for women to be knitting stockings if they make better clerks or nurses. War work directors should avoid putting square pegs in round holes. Elimination of waste in human force is vital to efficiency and the ultimate winning of the war, and it is my opinion that women will have to be registered and classified in accordance with their ability if they are to render their full worth in war work."

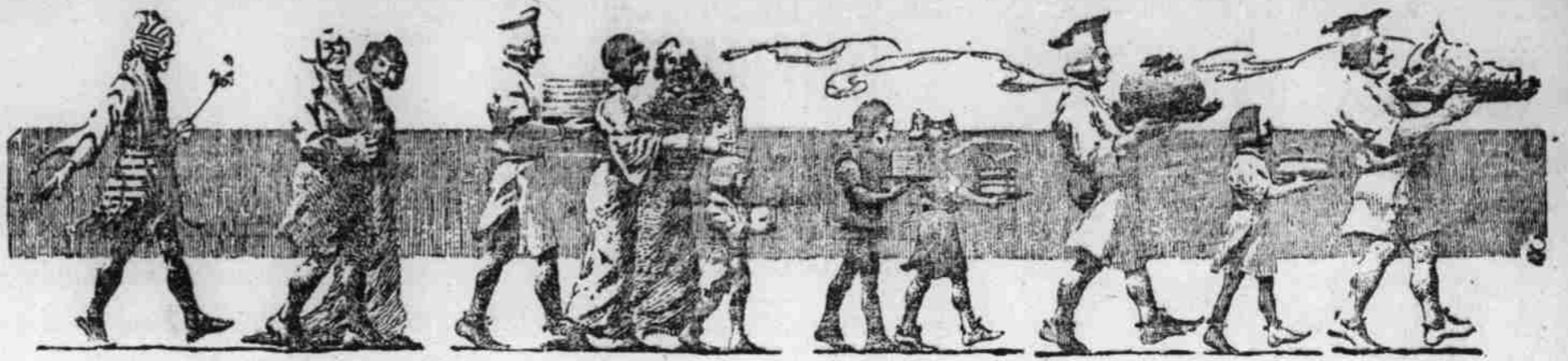
This statement was made by Mrs. Frances C. Axtell, member of the United States Employees' Compensation commission, the only woman ever named by any president for such a federal commission. This commission was recently created in the interest of economy and efficiency to both the government and to those who serve it. It is the outcome of the congressional enactment of last year which provides "compensation for employees of the United States suffering injuries while in the performance of their duties, and for other purposes."

Mrs. Axtell is also a member of the executive committee of the Committee on Women in Industry of the Advisory Commission of the Council of National Defense. In a report to the Women in Industry committee, by Mrs. Axtell, she suggested that women might do much of the new work performed by men at the arsenals. She suggested that they might make and inspect the government uniforms and thus release men engaged in manufacturing them. She believes that they might also make the rope and twine used, which she relied upon for most of the small arms which are made at the arsenals. Mrs. Axtell sees no limit to woman's ability in any of the suggested spheres, and her opinion is given after keen, careful study of the situation from many angles.

"The hazards among the women who are replacing the men in war work will be greater than ever before," said Mrs. Axtell, "and it is most important that women be prepared to do their part. The great problem today is the co-operation of business and government."

ALLENBY TAKES FOUR TOWNS IN PALESTINE

London, Dec. 24.—General Allenby's troops in Palestine continue their advance on the plain of Sharon, north of Jaffa, and have occupied four more towns. The official statement on the operations issued tonight reads: "On Saturday morning with naval cooperation, our left continued the advance north of the Nahr-El-Auja, reaching the line Sheikh-El-Balluta-hel-Jaili, about four miles north of the river. Pushing eastward and south of the river we occupied Feija and Mulebbia. This was followed by the capture of Rantleh on the Turkish railway to the north and Khelbeida-Khelbireh four miles southeast of Rantleh. Effective aerial work was carried out on enemy transports and infantry."



A Merry Christmas to You

A lot of men and women in Asheville will have their Christmas made more joyful by the receipt of gifts bought at this store.

In that way we are contributors to the Christmas cheer of these people; and that's naturally a cause for pleasure to us, even if they don't count us in on it.

But even beyond that we want to extend our thanks, greetings and good wishes to all our friends and customers whenever and whatever they have bought; and to all the people of Asheville, whether they buy anything here or not.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas; we hope the day will be wholly happy; that you'll get what you want, or want what you get.

Anthony Bros
OUTFITTERS TO MEN AND WOMEN
35 Patton Ave.

VIRGINIA STORES

White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia—Hot Springs, Virginia

FLORIDA STORES

Palm Beach, Daytona, West Palm Beach and Fort Pierce, Florida

TOMMY JUST HAD TO CAPTURE THIS PRISONER

German's Persistence Wore Him Down After Long Argument Over Matter

London, Nov. 20 (By mail).—The sergeant wiped the foam from his moustache and set the glass on the bar.

"I see Haig took 2,000 more prisoners today. Beasty bore, they are. I took one once myself—in fact, he inflicted himself upon me."

"He was not a prisoner to be proud of," the sergeant continued. "When he adopted me I was busy repairing a telephone wire. The boys had just gone over the top and I was struggling with a halfyard of adhesive tape and a pair of pliers when something tripped over the wire and said: 'Mercy; I am your prisoner. I submit. I desire to be removed from here.'"

"I whirled around and looked it full in the spectacles—it was a very unhappy, small-sized Fritz entirely surrounded by clay."

"Go away; can't you see I'm busy," I said.

"I am your prisoner," he repeated plaintively.

"You're a liar," I said severely. "You run away and be someone else's prisoner. You're not the sort of prisoner that appeals to me. Anyway I'm not going to have prisoners thrust upon me. This is my busy day. Get your legs out of that wire."

"For a moment he looked nonplussed. Then he dived into a pocket and produced a cheap Swiss watch."

"For you," he beamed. "I'm your prisoner."

"The man's persistence worried me. It was then I threw the pork and beans can at him. But he only burst into tears."

"I told him I couldn't help his troubles. If he chose to be born on the wrong side of a war like this he must take the consequences. And if he kept on weeping on the wire it might cause a short circuit."

"The man's persistence finally wore me down. So I marched him off to the nearest dressing station."

"That was my first and last prisoner."

Yule-Tide GREETINGS

With deep appreciation of the many favors you've heaped upon us during the old year, we're happy to send you our best wishes for 1918. May it hold many joys and much prosperity for you.

ACME FISH CO.

City Market.

Phone 311

Christmas Greetings

We wish to thank our many friends and patrons for the success we have had during the past year and desire to acquaint them with the fact that on or about the first of the New Year we will be located in our new quarters on

PATTON AVENUE

between Raysor's Drug Store and the Bon Marche

Palace Barber Shop

M. E. MEADOWS.

W. W. WARREN

No Our Customers and Customers to be A Merry Christmas

OLD HI COST SAYS—

He don't know much about transmigration, but he knows a shoe ought to have more than one sole for economy's sake

Quick Method Shoe Repairing Shop

5 E. Pack Square.

Phone 1481

Here's wishing those we have served and those we hope to serve

Yuletide Greetings

and All Good Wishes

from

Chas. L. Sluder Co.

"The Best in Stoves"

20 S. Pack Square.

Phone 1509