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American Fleet Is Great Human Factory

Boys From Every Corner of The Land Are Getting Cured of Gun Shyness on Board Uncle Sam's Grim Dreadnaughts.

(By CARL D. GROAT) (United Press Staff Correspondent) With The American Fleet, May 24—America's great fleet for the moment is a human factory—grinding out gun crews by the score.

Boys from every corner of the land, many of whom never saw a gun bigger than a Fourth of July pistol, are getting cured of "gun shyness."

Boys by the thousand are learning these and many other lessons which shall make them better men, men with the stuff that enters into heroism and national vigor.

Most of those aboard are boys, but not all. There's a grandfather ensign. There's a Wall Street broker, scrubbing decks and polishing brass.

This is the story of three days with the fleet.

Later we shall see those great hulls by day and by night, a sight to thrill the most blasé. We shall go with the men into their daily work and play, their waking and their sleeping.

We start at 5 a. m. The gray dreadnoughts roll a bit, with their yawning gun turrets sharp against the brightening sky.

Hundreds—yes, thousands—of men are astray at the call of reveille. They pile out of hammocks from every nook and corner of the great crafts.

The great anchor chains rattle and smash, as they heave the anchor out of the deep. The engines puff, as men below ships "down in the subecler five floors below" shoot in great chunks of coal or turn on gallons of oil.

Flags bearing strange devices signal out to the patrol ships, which scurry forth to open the way for the dreadnaughts.

The ships plough into the rolling waters, while the task of cleaning ship proceeds, and other drills including a snappy setting up physical exercise are under way.

Once as far as the secret orders call for, the war vessels spread out in a giant circle, targets are put overboard and the gunnery proceeds.

In squads, the lads take their place beside the guns, practise at filling, sighting and firing the bigger cannon while the pop-pop of one-pounders at the distant target gives a touch of realism to it all.

Up on all the ships, other crews are training with dummy guns. One pounders and five pounders. The shell and the powder bag go in like clockwork, and with a smash that makes it seem as though these lads were in deadly combat with a real enemy.

Up in the turrets with the tremendous 14-inch guns, other drills proceed. Ensigns, fine clean cut chaps, di-

BREAK THROUGH AUSTRIAN LINES

(By United Press) Rome, May 24—Following ten hours of terrific bombardment the Italians today broke through the strongly organized Austrian lines in Carso, captured Jaml and took 9,000 prisoners.

EIGHT THOUSAND PRISONERS TAKEN

(By United Press) Paris, May 24—Eight thousand and six hundred German prisoners have been taken by the French since May first in the offensive between Solsons and Auberive, today's official statement asserted, detailing further heavy losses inflicted on the enemy in the repulse of violent attacks on the Vauclerc plateau.

SPURS RUSSIANS INTO FIGHTING

AMBASSADOR USING EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO RUSSIAN TROOPS OF AMERICA AND DEMOCRACY

(By United Press) Petrograd, May 24—Speedy reconstruction of Russia's fighting forces is promised by Minister of Foreign Affairs Tereshtenko in a telegram today to French Minister Ribot. America's potent influence will be utilized by the new Russian government's campaign to spur the army into fighting.

Their gun crews from magazine to turret run up close to 100 men. The crews work like the great machines they man. The shell, the powder, the ramming, all go ahead like magic.

Elsewhere, men are working out on charts just the range, elevation and so on of the target. The ensign yells his directions down a multitude of tubes, pushes buttons, flashes the lights and then up in the secret "fire control" tower, a man pushes some more buttons and the whole thing shoots—all the big guns at once.

I sat up in a 14 inch turret with a chap named Erickson, fresh from Annapolis only a short time ago. Clean cut and commanding of appearance, he had that gun crew working like the captain of a football or a baseball nine would have his men.

ADDRESS TONIGHT BY DR. CRANFORD

President Few of Trinity College is unable to fill his appointment to deliver the commencement address here tonight on account of illness. Dr. W I Cranford of the chair of Philosophy of Trinity College will deliver the address and the public is cordially invited to hear him.

JAP LABOREERS GO TO BRAZIL

(By United Press) Rio de Janeiro, May 24.—When the Japanese steamer "Kafako Maru" arrived in this port the captain announced that his was the first steamer of a regular service established between Japan and South America. His ship brought the first cargo of Japanese manufacturers ever shipped to this market.

HAS NO FEAR OF PLAGUE THIS YEAR

(By United Press) New York, May 24—Infantile paralysis may break out this summer in cities where it was quiescent last year, according to a bulletin issued by the board of health today. The department does not expect another epidemic here for some time.

WARNS AGAINST BUTTER WASTE

(By United Press) Washington, May 24. If every one of the 20,000,000 American households should waste 1-4 ounce of butter daily, the loss would be 114,062,500 pounds a year, the product of ever half a million cows, according to department of agriculture figures today.

ALL THE FAULT OF HOLLWEG

GERMAN SOCIALISTIC ORGAN EXPRESSES BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT AT RUSSIA'S REJECTION OF SEPARATE PEACE

(By United Press) Amsterdam, May 24—Russia's rejection of separate peace is a most bitter disappointment declared the German socialistic organ, Vorwaerts today.

This is the first admission of the failure of German peace efforts the German censor has permitted to pass. "The rejection was all the fault of Hollweg," the editorial continued. "If he had, like Austria, announced that Germany had no intention of annexing an inch of territory the result would have been different."

NO EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION

Washington, May 24—Exemption from army service will be granted after the registration draft on June 5th and of before. Every one military age must register the War Department has warned.

ENJOYED BY PACKED HOUSE

GRAMMAR SCHOOL PROGRAM PLEASURES WITH ITS DELIGHTFULLY RENDERED CANTATA AND OTHER FEATURES

The high school auditorium was packed Wednesday night. Many who stayed to enjoy the evening's entertainment were obliged to stand and a number went away for lack of room.

The cantata was a delight to the audience from the beginning to the end and won continued applause for the participants as well as praise for those who had superintended the rehearsals.

The salutatory was delivered by John Ward and the valedictory by Elizabeth Hathaway. After diplomas and honor cards had been conferred the program closed with the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner" by the school.

To-night At New Theatre

Marc MacDermott, co-starred with Miriam Nesbitt in the Klien-Edison feature "The Last Sentence," which will be the feature photoplay attraction at the New Theatre today, probably has played "leads" in more successful motion pictures than any other male star now before the public.

In "The Last Sentence," Mr. MacDermott has a role which is particularly suited to his powers, and film editors are unanimous in saying that never has he been seen to better advantage. Miss Nesbitt, too, is given splendid opportunities.

FIRE ON SOUTH ROAD

A house on South Road street was burned down Thursday morning at about nine o'clock. The house was vacant and was filled with fodder.

The roof of another house, belonging to Andrew Shopp, a negro and occupied by himself and family was damaged slightly.

Tonight's Show At Alkrama

Tonight at The Alkrama Paramount pictures presents House Peters and Myrtle Steadman in "As Men Love," a very powerful society drama. Miss Steadman, the beautiful co-star of Mr. Peters, will be seen as a modern society woman, and has an opportunity of displaying a number of morning and evening gowns, which are most becoming to her blond beauty.

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Drew will get a divorce tonight at the Alkrama. "Come be a witness in the case," says Mr. Kramer. These Drew comedies are of a very high grade and please all who see them.

Friday matinee and night at The Alkrama the long heralded appearance of the popular Clara Kimball Young in the first of her own companies productions "The Common Law," is scheduled.

This is a picturized version of the celebrated novel of the same name by Robert W Chambers, and will no doubt be seen by a large and appreciative crowd.

"Pearl of the Army" featuring the daring Pearl White, will furnish the thrills of the evening. This wonderful serial is steadily increasing in popularity and "you surely want to see tomorrow's episode," says Mr Kramer.

NO MORE TWINKLE TOES IN ENGLAND

(By United Press) London, May 10 (By Mail)—Banished from the British Isles by the frown of popular disapproval, the Goddess Terpsichore was observed sadly winging her way westward, early today.

The British Lion has put his paw down on dancing and the light fantastic will be tripped no more in these parts until the last Hun hesitation has turned into a head-long flight.

Ciro's is out of bounds. The Savoy ball-room chandeliers are gathering cobwebs. The Waldorf tea-rooms are now sometimes used for tea. Private dances are, if possible, more taboo than public affairs.

The recent wrath aroused by Lord and Lady Curzon, who entertained a dozen guests at an informal dance in their home, has put the fear of the malcontents who write letters to the editors in the hearts of any who would dance in the future. London was alive with posters the day after Lord Curzon affair, screaming to the public in foot-high letters that "Curzon Dances While England Burns," "Twentieth Century Nero," etc.

There is just one institution in London that dares to brave the storm of wrath which those who aren't able to dance shower on those who can and do. The American Women's Club held a series of three Tea Dances for the American girls and young men in London, in April.

PUT GOVERNOR ON GOAT-BACK

(By United Press) Detroit, Mich., May 24—Pythians to the number of nearly 10,000 representing all sections of the middle-west were in Detroit today for a big demonstration of the order. A feature of the occasion will be the riding of the K of P goat by Gov Albert E. Sleeper, of Michigan. The oath will be administered by supreme officers of the order.

Following the initiation of the governor a class of 1,000 candidates will be initiated. All-star degree teams of Ohio and Michigan will compete for a valuable trophy.

GERMAN PLAN IS FOREDOOMED

WIDE DIVERGENCE OF PEACE VIEWS OF STOCKHOLM DELEGATES INDICATES THAT THE MEETING WILL END IN FIASCO

Stockholm, May 24—The German plan for a "General Peace Conference" of Socialists next month is foredoomed. That is the opinion of well informed and sympathetic non-Socialist observers.

Instead of any such general meeting it is predicted that it will be merely a continuance of smaller meetings of Socialists of different countries such as is now in progress. This prediction is based on the divergence of views of peace terms between the various delegations. Those in close touch with neutrals and naturally supposed to incline toward Germany are exhibiting a surprising bent in the other direction.

Swedish and Norwegian delegates and some Dutch indicate their inability to agree to the German terms. Their foremost objection is the insistence by Germany that she should retain Alsace-Lorraine. Most of the neutrals believe that France is entitled to her lost province.

FARM AND GARDEN DAY IN PENNSYLVANIA

Harrisburg, Pa., May 24—Originally intended as Pennsylvania's third annual "Good Roads Day" today became a statewide "Farm and Garden Day" by proclamation of Governor Brumbaugh.

War had not been declared when this was designated as "Good Roads Day." With the declaration, state and local highway authorities began to rush road improvement. In changing the character, Governor Brumbaugh remarked that food had now become the greatest consideration.

The governor himself will do "his bit" in farm and garden.

DR. WAITE WILL DIE TONIGHT

THE LITTLE GREEN DOOR WILL OPEN AND MURDERER WILL LEAVE SING SING BY WAY OF THE ELECTRIC CHAIR

(By United Press) Ossining, N Y May 24—The "little green door" opens for Dr. Arthur Warren Waite at Sing Sing tonight, and the electric chair's deadly current will poll out his life in payment for the murder of his wife's father and mother.

Dr. Waite has been prepared for his end for months, declaring his readiness to expiate his sin by death, in the belief that he could enter "a new world" at peace.

The murder of Waite's father-in-law, John E Peck of Grand Rapids, Mich., and his mother-in-law, by poison and by the use of germs, came to light in the spring of last year. Mrs Peck died January 20, 1916. Her husband's life ended March 12, 1916. Waite admitted he planned to kill his wife also.

Driven by a desperate need of money to maintain himself in luxurious surroundings, Waite went about his poisonings methodically and with as deadly coolness as a Borgias might have manifested.

MR. ANDREW PARKER DEAD

The body of Mr. Andrew M. Parker will reach Elizabeth City from Fort Wayne, Indiana, Friday morning and arrangements for the funeral will be made as soon as the body arrives. Mr. Parker is the son of Mr N R Parker of this city.

FOUR HUNDRED REPORTED LOST

London, May 24—More than four hundred were lost in the sinking of the British transport, Transylvania, the admiralty announced today. The Transylvania was sunk May 4. The losses included 29 officers, 375 crew, the captain and ten of the crew. The transport was the property of the Anchor Line.

STATEMENT WILL ENCOURAGE RUSSIA

Washington, May 24—America's forth coming statement regarding the Russian situation will probably blast for all time Germany's insidious peace at her own price propaganda, and will probably expose a new chapter of German intrigue. It is expected to greatly encourage Russia.

ZEPPELINS RAID ENGLAND

London, May 24—Four or five German airships raided the eastern counties of England last night dropping a number of bombs and killing a man in a Norfolk village. The bombs fell chiefly in country districts and the damage is declared negligible. The Zeppelins escaped in the thick clouds.

ALABAMA TO HAVE TRAINING CAMP

Washington, May 24—Anniston, Alabama, has been selected as Field Artillery Training Camp for the Southern States.

WEATHER

Fair tonight slightly warmer west and central portions. Friday fair, warmer gentle to moderate shifting winds.

NOTICE

To our country friends we wish to say that we have purchased a large automobile truck and we are now in a position to deliver goods anywhere in the country. Silverthorn & Morissette.—Adv. May 21, June 7, 14

Mrs A O Colona and little daughter, Glenn Perry, of Norfolk, Va, are visiting Mrs Claud Perry on Pennsylvania Avenue.