

SOLDIERS AND WILL POWER

Proof of at Least One Benefit That Comes as the Result of Military Training.

That military training strengthens the power of the will was shown by recent experiments in Austria. To determine what effect the fatigue resulting from a long march might have upon the shooting efficiency of trained soldiers, the Austrian school of marksmen recently had a cyclist detachment of 50 men, all over two years' service, do 65 miles in eight hours, the return journey being against a strong head wind before and after the march they each fired ten rounds at a target representing a section of 26 men in skirmishing order lying down at 500 paces. Before the march the detachment made 40 hits on 19 figures, after the march, 38 hits on 16 figures.

The experiment was then repeated with a section of 42 noncommissioned officers, before and after a 23 hours' exercise in the field, during which 33 miles were covered. This section, consisting principally of marksmen, made 51 hits on 21 out of 26 figures before starting and 62 hits on 20 figures after their return.

But the raw recruit, when subjected to a similar test of endurance, fails to hit the target at all. He is incapable of the effort and firm resolve to hit which renders the trained soldier a formidable antagonist, even when his strength is exhausted by hunger and fatigue.

WAS NO NOVELTY TO HIM

From His Statement, Irish Visitor Evidently Was Thoroughly Familiar With Lobsters.

The congressman with a red necktie was entertaining a friend who had formerly arrived from the "Old Sod," but had attained fame as the man who had carried "the fourteenth precinct in the twenty-second ward." With such a visitor to entertain, the congressman thought the best thing was to take him to Harvey's Lobster Palace. The gathering there somewhat impressed Pat, but when the waiter placed before him a great, rich, red lobster, set down with an airy and nonchalant wave of his hand, Pat's eyes opened a trifle wider than usual with astonishment.

"You did not get anything like that in your native town," remarked the entertainer. "These red lobsters are considered a delicacy suited to the palace of a king, and I understand were in high favor ever since the time when Nero insisted on having them for every meal—have you ever seen one before?"

"Ah, go on wild ya," was the reply. "Seen one? Isn't the coast of Ireland red with those fish—although a few of them have escaped lately and come across and got into congress in Washington?"—Joe Mitchell Chapple, in "Affairs at Washington," May National Magazine.

Bribe Taking an Ancient Vice. Exodus 13:8—Thou shalt take no gift for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the just. Deut. 22:25—Cursed be he that taketh a bribe.

Chron. 19:6, 7—(Jehoshaphat) said to the judges, take heed what you do; for you judge not for man, but for God, who is with you in judgment. Wherefore let the fear of God be upon you; take heed and do it; for there is no iniquity with God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts.

Isaiah 1:33—Thy princes are companions of thieves, every one loveth gifts and runs after rewards. Isaiah 5:23—Woe unto them that justify the wicked for reward, and deprive the righteous of justice. Prov. 17:23—A wicked man taketh a gift out of the bosom (pocket) to pervert the ways of judgment.

Mistook Use of Brushes. Shoe brushes, made of red and black felt, have been added to the paraphernalia of a New York hotel. These were placed in the bathrooms. The other day a traveler from the west, in a hurry to join some friends for dinner, mistook the new article for a bath brush and used it vigorously, with the result that the water turned to a fiery red. Then he discovered that he was covered with red and black stripes. His efforts to remove the stripes failed and he rang for the manager. After a few hurried words, there was some explanation and the victim of circumstances managed to meet his engagement. Just how the stripes were removed was not a matter of public record. The manager says he supposes he will have to put signs on the shoe brushes or chain them to the floor.

Established His Identity. "Mr. Heyz, who has been in New York only a short time, was crossing when one of the cabs of a certain well-known company almost ran over him.

"There!" said he angrily to a passer-by who stopped to pick up his hat and incidentally to offer sympathy, "this is the third time today that that cabby has tried to run me down. He's pursued me all over the city. I know it's the same man because his cab is marked with a 'K'."

An Arrangement. Irate Tailor (who has called frequently to collect, without success)—My dear sir, I wish you'd make some definite arrangement with me.

The Man—Why, surely—let's see—well, suppose you call every Monday—Exchange.

POSTOFFICE IS ODD

Mail Travels 290 Miles to Cross 10-Foot Hall.

After Being Carried in Railroad Car for 24 Hours Letter From Beebe Plain, Vt., Returns to Same Structure.

Beebe Plain, Vt.—The queerest postoffice in North America is probably located here, where a simple wooden building shelters the offices of two countries. The structure is cut diagonally by the Canada line, being almost equally divided by the imaginary boundary. The northern half contains the postoffice of Beebe Plain, Quebec, and the southern half the office of Beebe Plain, Vt. They are separated only by a ten foot corridor, using this passageway and the same door in common. George H. House, postmaster, looks after the mail of the two offices. As a result of red tape in the postal regulations regarding the transfer of mails, a letter mailed at the Vermont office for the Canadian office across the hall travels 290 miles before delivery.

Previous to 1899 the United States postoffice was located in a dwelling house and the Canadian office in a store. In neither case was the service wholly satisfactory, but it seemed to be the best arrangement that could be made. However, in 1899 the idea was conceived of utilizing the old store, located right on the line, for both offices, and finally the present arrangement was perfected so that a most satisfactory service has been provided.

Patrons of the double postoffice can do their postoffice business by making one call. Two doors, one on each side of the line, open into the lobby. The distance between the postoffice boxes of the two countries is ten feet, the international boundary line running through the space between the two sets of boxes. If a letter is by mistake dropped into the wrong letter box it is passed to the right office and sent on its way.

A letter posted at Beebe Plain, Vt., for Beebe Plain, Canada, will go south on the Boston & Maine railroad from Beebe Junction, Vt., to White River Junction, 111 miles on the same route, and then continues its way to Sherbrooke, P. Q., 34 miles farther. There it is again transferred and returns to Beebe Plain, P. Q.

That is, after having a ride of 24 hours and going 290 miles it arrives at its destination ten feet from where it started.

Or perhaps it goes on another train south on the Boston & Maine to Wells River, Vt., 80 miles. There it is transferred and goes back via Beebe Junction to Sherbrooke, P. Q., 114 miles, to be transferred again, and returns to the building it started from 32 hours before. It has traveled 228 miles.

The village has a population of about 100 on the Vermont side and about 600 on the Canada side. All of the places of business are on the Canada side, so most of the patrons of the office are Canadians, but they are very willing to avail themselves of the unique arrangement and use either office that will give the best results.

The "line" itself is quite narrow here—in fact, it is so narrow that it cannot be seen except where the iron posts appear. Some persons have stood in one country and written their postcards or letters in the other.

NEW YORK IS UGLIEST CITY

President of Architects Says Gotham Wasn't "Brought Up Right"—Should Be Rebuilt.

New York.—New York is well-nigh the ugliest city in the country, according to Arnold W. Brunner, president of the American Institute of Architects.

"The whole city needs rebuilding," he says. "The trouble with New York is that it has not been brought up properly. A city should be built on an orderly plan, just as a house is constructed. 'We build a bridge, a railroad station or a new municipal building without giving a thought to the streets that lead to it or the ground that surrounds it.'"

Boy's First Bath. Trenton, N. J.—Twelve-year-old John Williams had the first bath he can recall when he was arrested the other day for not going to school.

The little fellow's parents quarreled and separated five years ago. Since then John has been staying with an uncle.

He frequently remained out of doors all night.

When the youngster was arraigned the jail authorities had to employ brushes and ammonia to cleanse his small body.

He said he never before had a bath, and the jail attendants said they believed him.

Reason for Many Mistakes. Lawrence, Kan.—"Three-fourths of the mistakes that a man makes are made because he does not really know the thing he thinks he knows," said James Bryce, ambassador from Great Britain, in an address delivered here recently to the students of the University of Kansas. Mr. Bryce urged on his hearers the necessity of knowing history, ancient as well as modern, and said the habit of sound, careful and independent thinking was the best intellectual quality a young man could start with in his life journey.

British Co-Operative Gain. London.—Progress in the co-operative movement in Great Britain continues phenomenal. There are now 1,561 companies with 2,568,293 members, a share capital of \$170,000,000, and an annual trade of \$540,000,000, and a profit of \$60,000,000. The profits of retail societies mainly, if not wholly, in manufacturing districts account for \$50,000,000 of the total profits.

GIRL KILLS DOG WITH KICK

Mildred Wilson, 19 Years Old, Breaks Neck of Vicious Animal That Attacks Her.

Chicago.—With one kick of her right foot Mildred Wilson, 925 West Randolph street, the other day broke the neck of a large bulldog that attacked her on the way home from a nearby store.

Miss Wilson, who is a slender girl, nineteen years old, has been practicing fancy and stage dancing, and to this she gives the credit of having been able to ward off the attacks of the animal.

The young woman was returning from the store with her arms full of bundles when the dog rushed at her. She jumped to one side.

Before the dog could attack her again Miss Wilson was prepared, and as the dog jumped she swung her right foot, which was encased in a heavy walking shoe, against the animal's chin, much in the manner in which a football player kicks a goal. The dog gave an agonized yelp and dropped in its tracks, dead.

No sooner had the girl realized what she had done than she began to cry out of sympathy for the animal that had attacked her.

PILOT PICKS UP AMBERGRIS

Second Find of Kind on Gulf Beach Near Jacksonville Within Very Few Weeks.

Jacksonville, Fla.—A piece of ambergris weighing more than six pounds was the lucky find of Pilot John Maley of Pensacola when he was walking along the gulf beach and it will net him \$2,000, for the substance is valued at about \$20 an ounce and is used in the manufacture of only the highest grades of perfumery. It comes from the sperm whale and is rarely found outside the Indian ocean frequented by whales.

This is the second large piece to be found on the gulf beach by pilots in the last six weeks. Supt. L. Anderson finding a piece weighing four pounds some weeks ago, for which he received \$1,700.

It is the belief of pilots that the ambergris has been brought by tides and storms from the Indian ocean and finally cast upon the beach here, as none has ever before been known to have been found along the gulf.

BOY ACTS AS PASTOR AT 15

Connecticut Youth Licensed to Preach by Methodist Episcopal Church—Refuses Salary.

Waterbury, Conn.—Francis Rollins, fifteen years old, who trudges ten miles every day back and forth from his studies at Torrington high school, has been licensed to preach by the quarterly conference of the New Haven district of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Probably the youngest parson in the United States, he is a son of Rev. Edward Rollins, pastor of the Methodist church at Bakersville, and has frequently filled his father's pulpit.

"I don't know much about theology," said the boy preacher, "but I believe I know what God wants us to do and what he'll do to us if we don't do it." The Bakersville church has had difficulty in getting a pastor at the small salary it is able to pay—\$300 a year.

"They needn't pay me anything until I am out of school," says young Rollins.

RAILROAD SUES FOR 12 CENTS

Vital Principle of Free Riders Behind Trivial Action Brought in Virginia.

Richmond, Va.—Suits for 12 cents was instituted here by the North Side Viaduct company, a subsidiary of the Virginia Passenger and Power company, against G. H. Clarke, a prominent resident of this city.

The question involved in the suit is of much larger proportions than the sum, and is to decide as to whether or not residents of a certain section of this city will be permitted to ride in the cars free to their section.

It is claimed that the right actually exists through covenants of deeds conveying the property of the disputed section to the present owners.

Quadruplets Are Fortunes. Ottawa, Ont.—The first quadruplets that ever went into the Canadian northwest have just passed here on their way to Lacombe, Alberta. John Grant and wife of Wentworth, N. B., are the parents.

The late king gave them a present of \$500 for each of the quadruplets, two boys and two girls, who are eleven months old, and are all active and well.

With the \$2,000 they decided to go west, and, with the quadruplets and their three other children, are now on their way there.

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BRUIN LANDS TROUT

Big Black Bear Arrives at Stream Ahead of Angler.

Old Whipper of Pools in Wilds of Pennsylvania Gets the Surprise of His Life During His Last Angling Expedition.

Cammel, Pa.—The men folk who fished the trout streams of the Pine creek region during the past few days may boast of their great luck and their fine catches, but a fisher-fellow whom Harvey Splan saw on Spring run, about three miles from this place, the other day made a record all his own. Splan had gone to the head of Spring run before daylight so as to be in at the early cast. He fished for about an hour with indifferent success, as the water was so very clear and so low that it was only in the biggest pools that any results were to be obtained. He finally decided to give up fishing, save for a trial at a big spring that is formed by the head of one of the tributaries of Spring run, a spring that is known to few of the fishermen, as it is nearly 100 yards up a ravine from the main stream, while the creek that tumbles down over the big rocks from it doesn't appear big enough to be worth investigating; hence its infrequent visitations. Splan has always caught trout there, some of the largest ever taken in this region, for the spring is 10 feet across and fully four feet in the pool, so that trout have an excellent opportunity to thrive there.

The other morning he took a cross-cut route to reach the coveted water, going through the woods for a half mile or more, and approaching it from the woods side. He was considerably disconcerted when he crept within sight of the pool to find that somebody had preceded him, and was standing knee deep in the water. He looked again, and to his dismay he discerned that the angler was not a man, as he had thought, but a big black bear, that stood almost as high as a man. The animal was standing as quietly as if he were made of stone, and intent in studying the depths of the pool to one side of him. As Splan watched him he saw the bear's paw shoot out and into the water, and the next instant a fine trout was whisked out of the pool and went flying on to the bank. Without so much as looking where the captured fish had alighted, the bear refined his status-quo pose, and remained in that fixed position for several minutes, when he repeated the diving process and another trout as large as the first was landed on the bank.

Splan, determined that the bear should not deplete the favorite pool, yelled at the animal and flung a stock toward him, which sent Bruin scurrying into the bushes without even so much as stopping to find his caught fish. But once the bear was out of sight Splan hurried to where the fish were flapping themselves to death in the leaves and confiscated the prizes.

Then, fearing that the bear might return and put up a fight, Splan concluded to scoot. But he played fair with Bruin. Taking the lunch of sandwiches and cookies that his wife had placed in a bundle for him that morning, he placed that where the bear had thrown his trout far out upon the ground, thus assuring to the bear, if he returned, a more delicious and appetizing meal than the trout would have been.

MAIL IN LOCKER FOUR YEARS

Letters and Postcards, Long Overdue, Finally Delivered to Whom They Were Addressed.

Paterson, N. J.—Sixty-eight letters and 69 postcards mailed four years ago were delivered the other day to the persons here to whom they were addressed. The mail was found in one of the lockers at the postoffice, and when Postmaster Politt communicated with the authorities at Washington he was instructed to have the mail delivered at once. The discovery of the overdue mail came about through the request of a substitute carrier for a locker of his own. In cleaning out this locker the undelivered mail was found, and, it is said, a reference to the records showed that John J. Murray, a carrier, who had been dismissed, was using the locker at the time the mail should have been delivered.

Eggs for Summer Test

New York.—Wholesale egg dealers and owners of storage warehouses in New York and vicinity were visited recently by an agent of the department of agriculture, which has directed the collection of specimens of eggs from various sections of the country.

The eggs are to be sent to Washington, where they will be kept through the summer in order to determine under the eye of government experts just what change takes place under their various conditions.

Blue Rose Found

Morristown, N. J.—A blue rose, something for which the horticulturists have long striven in vain, has been achieved at last by a Morristown amateur. The plant is a seedling of an ordinary crimson Rambler. The flowers, on opening, have a purplish pink shade, which later develops into a brilliant steel blue.

ROW OVER GIRL'S BARE LEGS

Women Shoppers Threaten Chicago's Mother, Down Town With Girls Wearing Half-Stockings.

Chicago.—Baby Alice Schreiber will not be taken downtown on shopping tours by her mother any more in cold weather, attired in sandals and half-hose. Mrs. Ira Schreiber, 5218 Prairie avenue, mother of the 3-year-old daughter, the other day was nearly mobbed by a crowd of women at State and Randolph streets.

The women shoppers demanded that the mother purchase stockings for the little one, who appeared to be shivering in the cold.

"Alice has always been accustomed to outdoors and does not feel the cold," insisted Mrs. Schreiber.

Then the child chimed in: "Mamma, I am not cold." But the women thought differently and threatened to call the police.

Thereupon Mrs. Schreiber went into a store and bought stockings for the child.

When she came out of the store the women, who had been watching the mother and child, cheered her when they saw stockings on the little girl.

"I do not understand the women of Chicago," said Mrs. Schreiber, who came from Norfolk, Va., a month ago. "Alice has worn half-hose since she was born, and has never complained of being cold. But whenever there is a cold spell in Chicago I suppose we must do as the Chicagoans do."

LIMPET HAS HOMING INSTINCT

Removed From Its Place on Rock "Dull and Pertinacious" Animal Returns If Possible.

London.—The homing instincts of the limpet, that "dull and pertinacious" animal which "spends half its days sticking and gluing itself to the rock," are described in science notes in the British Medical Journal.

It was found that limpets removed distances up to 20 feet "almost invariably returned to their old haunts within 24 or 48 hours," but when removed further only a small proportion returned, taking three days to perform the long journey. The journal concludes from this that limpets have "a certain faculty of memory."

Moreover, the limpet knows its own particular sucking place. A limpet was removed, says the journal, and another placed on the site. When the first arrived home it seemed disconcerted to see the intruder, and wandered round and round it.

Having ascertained that there had been "some high-handed act of usurpation" Limpet I. proceeded to push Limpet II. away, and Limpet II., recognizing the justice of the other's claim, yielded. Limpet I. thereupon stuck itself in its original spot.

TO STOP SCHOOL DUCKINGS

Discipline Given Charlie Taft, Son of President, Brings Order From Head Master.

Watertown, Conn.—The ducking of pupils in the Taft school here, brought sharply to the attention of the authorities by the ducking of Charlie Taft, son of the president, this week, has been put under the ban by a strict order from the head master.

"Mud baths and duckings are good fun once in a while, I suppose," said Horace D. Taft, when the recent hazings were called to his attention, "but shower baths will do the boys more good and are readily available in the gymnasium. 'There will be no more open-air duckings.'"

"TOMBSTONE" SET ON FIRE

Graveyard Blaze Reveals Fact That Monuments Are Pure Wood Chemically Treated.

New York.—"Please, mister," said an excited boy to a Brooklyn policeman, "please come quick. The graveyard is on fire."

"Lead me to it," said the policeman; "I never saw a fire like that." Sure enough, flames were leaping from broken columns and gates ajar to plain tombstones. Investigation showed that the stones were in reality pine made treated with a preparation which made them look like marble. The cemetery is largely owned by families too poor to afford even true granite. Some vandal, it is supposed, set the fire.

Elk at One Hundred and Six Years. Corunna, Mich.—Daniel O'Connell, at the age of one hundred and six, has just joined the Elks, and is so hearty he expects to march in the parade in Detroit next July.

He was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1804, and came to America in 1835. He has lived in Michigan ever since.

Once a week he walks from his farm to Byron and returns, a distance of 12 miles, to make purchases. He has used whisky and tobacco all his life.

College Like West Point

London.—A memorandum in regard to the defense of Australia drawn up by Lord Kitchener as a result of his recent tour of inspection of that commonwealth is published. Lord Kitchener recommends the establishment of an Australian military college on the lines of the American academy at West Point, which he visited the other day. He estimates that 20,000 troops will be required for the defense of the commonwealth.

Mouse Solves Puzzle

Norfolk, Va.—A tiny mouse solved the problem of getting an electric wire through a pipe 197 feet long the other day at the Vinery building. There were several bends in the pipe, and modern methods, such as blow pipes, failed to produce results. A mouse was caught and a thread tied to its leg. A tape was tied to the thread and the wire to the tape. The mouse was given a start and went through the pipe in a hurry. Liberty was its reward.

BOY WEATHER SHARP

Pupils of Public School Are Making Their Own Forecasts.

Under Direction of Instructor of Physics Young Lads Organize Full Fledged Weather Bureau—Quite Successful.

New York.—When weather signals were first displayed over public school 77, in East Eighty-sixth street, a few weeks ago they were viewed with curiosity in the neighborhood and provoked all sorts of questions. It soon became known that some of the pupils under the direction of A. E. Horn, instructor of the physics department, had organized a full fledged weather bureau.

The boys have been so successful in their forecasts that their signals are now regarded with seriousness, and often neighbors in doubt as to whether to carry an umbrella or go without take a look at the hoisted flag before setting out on shopping trips. Harry Wirman and Albert Bental are the chief forecasters and send out their indications independently of the regular weather report. With few exceptions their forecasts have agreed with those of Forecaster Scarr, and now they are getting out a complete weather map.

The work is voluntary on the part of the boys and teacher. In order to become a member of the weather bureau corps a boy must have some knowledge of atmospheric conditions and be informed as to the physical character of New York state. The boys have shown interest in the study and more than a hundred applied when 10 topographers were to be selected after a civil service examination. The fact that a boy has to work after the regular school hours does not blunt his interest in the subject.

The civil service examination is divided into two classes, for topographers, who draw the maps, and for forecasters, who are in charge of forecasts, recorders and caretakers of the instruments and gages. The boys received their first knowledge of atmospheric conditions from kite flying and model aeroplane building.

The weather bureau idea has proved so popular that other schools are likely to adopt the system, and a wireless system may be established for communications between school weather stations. In school 77 200 boys are members of the corps and remain in school studying meteorology every Friday afternoon when they might be out playing baseball.

It is the ambition of every boy to become a chief forecaster, and in order to do this he must have the highest mark in the civil service examination.

Mr. Horn says that the work combines the study of meteorological science and geography as nothing else could. The board of education does not provide much in the way of scientific apparatus and neither the teacher nor the boys can afford to buy expensive instruments. In consequence the boys themselves construct much of the apparatus required. Thirty pieces of apparatus have been constructed so far.

MUSIC WINS A BLIND BRIDE

Sightless Pianist Attracts Girl at Concert—Friendship Ripens Into Love and Marriage.

New York.—Among the applicants for marriage licenses who appeared at the license bureau in Brooklyn was a blind musician who had won a blind bride by his piano playing. He was Clement Coffin, forty-four years old, of 83 Putnam avenue, Brooklyn, and his bride-to-be, Miss Antoinette Barton, twenty years old, of 48 Ralph avenue, that borough.

Miss Barton heard Mr. Coffin play at a concert some years ago and the two became acquainted. After that the blind pianist visited the young woman frequently and entertained her with his piano playing. Although neither could see the other they spent many hours happily together at the piano, and their newly found friendship soon ripened to love.

The pair left the license bureau to get married, and said they would make their home at 243 Albany avenue.

\$12,500,000 Goes Begging

London.—If there is anybody in America bearing the name of Greasy, Henry, Liddell, or Wilson, who can trace descent from Portadown in the north of Ireland, he or she would do well to communicate with the British court of chancery, where \$12,500,000 are waiting for them if they can prove collateral descent from Patrick Harrison, who left Portadown in 1810 and died in London 20 years later, after having amassed an enormous fortune which has since awaited distribution among the next of kin.

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