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Training College For Aerial Warfare

In Omaha, Neb., the very centre of America, the War Department is developing a class of fighting men who will play a most important part when the American army goes into action in France. Every man of this class is a college graduate. Practically every university in the country is represented in the corps. This is the great balloon school of the American army, where at present there are six hundred of these college graduates. The picture shows an observation balloon and a group of the men at the school.



— N. Y. H. Special

DESTROYERS ACT WITH PRECISION

An Eye-Witness Tells of U-Boat Attack and How It Was Warded Off.

A British Port on Southeast Coast, June 27.—(By mail).—Just how a British destroyer acts when attacked by a submarine was unexpectedly demonstrated to an Associated Press correspondent Wednesday, while travelling on one of the modern oil-driven torpedo boat destroyers from England to France.

The correspondent had been taken aboard the destroyer for the purpose of observing British methods of combating the submarine menace. The boat was suddenly attacked by a U-boat, a torpedo missing it by a scant six feet, thanks to the vigilance and quick action of the crew. The destroyer was one of a number which were conveying, in the usual manner, some large transports carrying British troops to France. The group of ships was half way across the channel when suddenly one of the lookouts spied a pair of twin periscopes rise for a moment a few inches out of the water a half mile away. They were gone the next instant, but almost before they had gone came the shout: "Submarine on port bow." It came accompanied by a shrill call of warning from the destroyer's whistle and the fluttering out of the flag which notified every other ship in the convoy of the enemy's presence.

On every ship things began to happen, more quickly than the telling. Guns were swung in the direction from which the periscopes had been seen, ready to spasm if the periscope appeared again. Torpedo tubes likewise were swung into line and the numerous anti-submarine devices along deck were in the hands of their skilled expert crews.

But even while this was being done the U-boat, plainly visible from the decks, its gleaming brass body glistening in the bright sunlight, its propellers pushing it at express train speed straight toward the destroyer. Something was wrong with the mechanism of this particular torpedo, for it should have travelled 12 or 15 feet below the surface. Instead it came bounding along in plain sight, now and then leaping out to the water, like a flat stone made to skip over the surface.

Even thus, it might have found its target but for the presence of mind of the 60-year-old coxswain. He had been first to sight the periscopes and had rushed immediately to an emergency lever whereby he instantly stopped the port engine, thus swinging the ship with a lurch to the left. The torpedo whizzed through the water six feet behind the stern of the destroyer, its gradually lessening speed as it sank into the swirl of the propellers indicating that its possibilities for mischief were nearly done. Except for the coxswain's action in twisting the ship from its course, the missile would apparently have made a square hit in the stern magazine.

Meanwhile the wireless was at work notifying the hundreds of patrol in all directions that the enemy was near. The destroyer's captain, according to his orders, must not leave his convoy to seek out and attack the U-boat. Others would attend to that. Already they were gathering for the chase—trawlers, chasers, drifters, destroyers, even a dirigible airship far off on the horizon had caught the wireless call and, with the quick turn of a seagull, was swooping down to the pursuit.

The transports and destroyers, although fairly confident that the U-boat would scarcely dare show herself again, even for a pot-shot, were nevertheless taking every precaution. Every ship was at full speed, oil burning destroyers constantly protecting their charges.

The whole attack occupied bare seconds. Convoy and charges were out of range in a few minutes at the most. Nowhere had there been the slightest panic or flurry, but movements of men and ships were made with almost automatic precision. Twenty minutes later the transports were safe in their port of destination and the destroyer convoy was of again, 80 miles an hour, down the coast, to its next appointment.

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KILLED UNDER 500 POUNDS OF STEEL

Boston, July 26.—A piece of steel weighing 500 pounds, hoisted from the hold of the steamship, Sardinian at Myrtle Wharf, Charleston, was standing on end on the deck last night when the falls broke and the steel tumbled Richard Powers to the rock. Fellow workmen lifted the steel and removed the injured man to the wharf and he was later removed to the Relief Hospital, where he was found to be dead. Medical Examiner McGrath was notified.

PLAYING FOR TIME.

(Springfield Republican)
In politics as on the battlefield, Germany at present seems to have fallen back upon the Fabian strategy. What ever else the appointment of the new Chancellor may mean, his address to the Reichstag indicates a skillful move for the postponement of controversy. The change of a multitude of issues which had centered around the personality of Dr. Von Bethman-Hollweg. Just as he seemed cornered at last he slips out and Germany is confronted with a new problem which it will have to study before knowing how to act.

"I'm a self-made man." You knocked off work too soon."

AIRMEN STOPPED BIG GERMAN GUN

Germans Utterly Unable to Retard British Reconnaissance and Artillery Work.

Canadian Army Headquarters, July 26.—The artillery duel still continues on this sector of the western front by day and by night. The amount of munitions used must be prodigious. The enemy, who for some time past, began on Sunday to bombard points full 20 miles back from our front with a 14 inch gun which throws a shell which weighs three quarters of a ton. Our airmen quickly located the monster. The gun position was raided by aeroplanes on Sunday afternoon, when a number of 200 pound bombs were dropped upon it. Several were seen to fall close to the gun, which has not been fired since. The gallant lads of the aerial service will thus save towns and villages far behind the front from bombardment from shells each of which is capable of grinding a house to powder. They have had more than their usual share of fighting in the air. The German airmen have been making a special endeavor to destroy our artillery observation balloons and in protecting them the aviators of our fighting squadrons are sometimes kept very busy.

A British airman engaged five German fighting planes on Sunday and destroyed one. He shot away himself without injury. Five battles during the past few days are summed up in the official statement last night that "German aeroplane activity completely failed to stop our reconnaissance, photograph and artillery work in spite of all the enemy's efforts."

Under these conditions every effort made by the enemy to repair damage done by our sustained bombardment is immediately disclosed. The raid of yesterday on German dugouts along the Avon Medicourt railway is now known to have been even more successful than first reports indicated. The number of prisoners taken was fifty-one, instead of sixty, but the enemy's casualties in killed and wounded were extremely heavy. Our losses were light. Two German attempts at raiding the north end of our line last night failed. The raiders suffered heavily from our machine gun fire which was promptly turned on.

ASK GODMOTHERS FOR U. S. SOLDIERS

Washington, July 26.—Who will be the first American godmother for a Yankee boy in France? The War Department is up against this question.

Most of the United States troops now close to the firing line have "folks at home" to whom they can write, and from whom, better still, they can get letters from "back in God's country." But when the mail sacks go into the desolated region where the guns are never quiet and the men eagerly crowd around reaching for the messages from home that are often the biggest thing in a soldier's life, there will be some lonely lads in khaki who stand aside. They have no "next of kin" and letter days will be black days for them.

It is for these boys 3,000 miles away that volunteer "godmothers" are called for. The American woman who gets in touch with one of them, writes him mother letters from home, sends him little gifts and lets him know there is somebody in America who really cares—will be doing a lot to lend spirit to the men fighting under the Stars and Stripes, army officers believe.

There are already many British and French "godmothers" who make sure there is never a bitterly disappointing "letter day" for a man in the trenches.

Some of these patriotic women have already "done their bit." They have received, as official next of kin, the little war office notification that their boy has made the supreme sacrifice on the field of honor.

And many of the "godsons" as they went into action, have been heartened by the knowledge that, if they fell, that little card would go home to someone who cared.

AN HOUR WASTED IMPERILS CAUSE

New York, July 26.—Letters to the editors of 1,400 American newspapers known to favor aggressive prosecution of the war were sent today by the National Security League, asking them to appeal to their readers to write to Senators and Congressmen urging the speeding up of the war programme.

"Red tape personal jealousy are delaying the efficient conduct of the war," the letter says in part. "Two weeks' delay lost the Gallipoli fight. Every hour wasted imperils our cause."

Gaiety

Today and Saturday
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JACK PICKFORD
And
VIVIAN MARTIN
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VIVIAN MARTIN AND JACK PICKFORD IN "THE GIRL AT HOME" LASKY-PARAMOUNT

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TIE OF THE MONARCHY.

(London Daily Telegraph)
It is the British Monarchy which holds us together, and our loyalty to that Monarchical principle which makes us a nation. It is odd that there should exist any scepticism concerning this doctrine, because it is taught us by our cadetes and still more, by our experience in past history. By much trial and no little suffering we have slowly evolved the kind of constitution which suits us best and which preserves our liberties and our interests. Like many other things which make up the fabric of our national life, our Constitutional Monarchy did not come to us as a speculative theory, but as a practical convenience. It combined the Republic's idea with a fine formula of dignified leadership. It solved the discord between freedom and progress by giving us the inspiring air of Democracy to breathe and a personal loyalty to reverence in our hearts.

Ensign Henry Hesse of the Salvation Army has arrived in Altoona, Pa. to take charge of the industrial home, having left a \$6,000 position as expert auditor to re-enter the Salvation Army at \$18 a week.

Literature Of the War

THE GRAPES OF WRATH, by Boyd Cable—Being actual conditions of Modern Battle and Trench Life.

OVER THE TOP—By an American Soldier who WENT.

SONIA—England before the War and the England of the Future.

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