

HOW THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT IS ENCOURAGING ITS MERCHANT MARINE BY MAKING SEAMEN ON SHORE OUT OF ITS SCHOOLBOYS

ITS efforts to increase the efficiency of its merchant marine, Germany has resorted to the strange expedient of establishing training ships on land.

While the government is making all sorts of inducements to shipbuilders and capitalists, in the hope of increasing the number of merchant vessels, it realizes that ships are of little value unless there is a sufficient number of well-trained seamen to man them. For that purpose, it was determined to commence the training of German boys at an early age, and, as it wasn't practicable to accommodate a large majority of the boys on real ships, make believe ships were constructed on land.

In Berlin three of these immovable men-of-war have already been erected in connection with the public schools, and so far have given great satisfaction.

These ships have rigged masts, turrets, guns, compasses, cutters, pinnaces, anchor, wireless outfit, and, in fact, every appurtenance and detail to be found on a real ship.

A full complement of these stationary ships consists of 120 "men" and their officers. On several days of the week exercises are held, which consist of manoeuvres with sails and cannon, drills, and instruction in the arts of navigation.

The captain and warrant officers have attractive uniforms, which are exact duplicates of those worn by real German marine officers, and the crew have sailor garments and

caps bearing the name of the ship. The boys composing the crew are from six to fifteen years of age. They learn to tie knots of every description, to climb masts, to splice ropes, to make astronomical observations, and, in short, everything that a sailor should know, and it is all acquired on land, far from even the sight of water.

The largest land-ship of this kind in Berlin is the "Itlis." It is "lying" at some little distance from Berlin proper, between the villas of the "Grunewald," but there are many spectators at the regular exercises of the boys. Excellent Knorr and many other important German marine officers watch the progress of the boys very closely, and do all they can to encourage interest in the new method of training boys for a sea life.

While the primary purpose of these schools is to train boys for the merchant-marine service, it is recognized that in time of war the regular navy would be compelled to rely to a large extent upon the merchant-marine for auxiliary vessels and men, and for that reason German boys are taught the use of firearms, small and large, and the various methods of signalling employed in time of war.

These schoolboy training ships furnish an excellent preliminary training for the boys who intend to make the navy his profession, and the information acquired in this manner is of great assistance to the boy when he becomes a regular cadet.

The German cadet is a most enthusiastic lad. He exhibits a keenness in acquiring the secrets of the seaman's art which, although it may be equalled, is not excelled by the naval aspirant of any other nation. The result is to be seen in the smartness, the workmanlike appearance and the general air of efficiency about the German men-of-war.

The German naval cadets begin their training in the great hall of the sights and sounds of the great arsenal of their navy; for the Marine Academy and the Naval College are in the same building at Kiel.

Under the same roof cadets, just learning the first rudiments of their craft, and older officers, undergoing their preparation for specializing in gunnery, navigation, etc., are taught at the same time. At the college the cadets undergo a ten-months' course before they are sent to sea. In addition to the professional staff there is a naval staff of not less than four lieutenants, while the president is also an officer of senior rank.

Among the subjects which are taught, in addition to navigation, seamanship and gunnery, are shipbuilding, mechanical engineering, tactics and strategy, and the English and French languages. Of course, all the usual exercises are provided, including gymnastics and fencing.

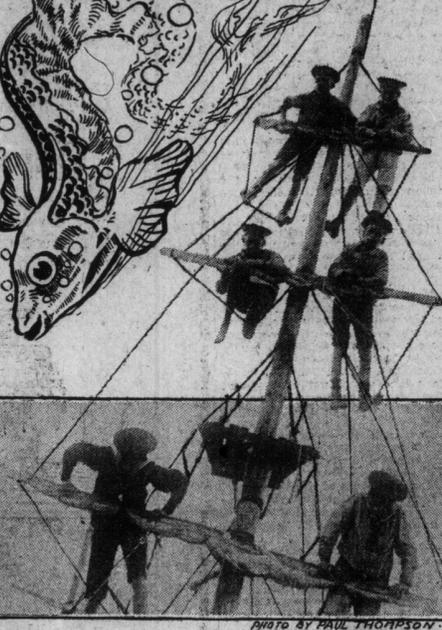
Before the German naval cadet is allowed to commence his professional training he must undergo a severe medical examination to prove his general health, and particularly that his eyesight and hearing are good. The entrance examinations are not particularly difficult, and a boy who had graduated from school would have no difficulty in passing them, especially if he had had any training on one of the land-ships.

After the cadet has been grounded in such subjects as he may learn on land, he is sent afloat in the training squadron, for which purpose there are several ships in commission. The cruises are generally confined to the home waters during the summer and warmer climates in the winter.

The German squadron frequently visits English ports, and in the winter the Mediterranean and the West Indies are usually visited. The cadets are still carrying on their studies, the cruises are also being taught seamanship and navigation in a practical manner, while opportunities are also afforded them for putting into practice the foreign languages they have been taught. At varying periods test examinations are held, and on the return of the cruises to Germany, provided they satisfy their examiners, cadets re-



The Ship Deck, Made of Earth. Teaching the Young Germans to Shoot.



Rigging a Mast That Is Not at Sea but Fastened to the Garden of the Land Schoolship.

ceive their first commissions. Following upon their sea experience they return to the college for another ten-months' course in the higher branches of those subjects which have formed their professional study. The concluding examination takes place in August, and the graduates are then given permission to wear swords, and are enrolled in the Seebattillon, where they undergo a further military training before reaching the grade of unter-lieutenant, corresponding to our rank of ensign. They have now, of course, become full-blown naval officers, and are ready to undertake their duties at sea, on watch, in the signals, or commanding a company, until such time as they may be chosen for higher courses in gunnery or torpedo practice.

The German Emperor takes the greatest interest in the naval cadets and all that pertains to their training, and it was because of this fact that the school-ships on land were established, so that greater interest might be created among the boys in the naval branch of the imperial service.

FAIR EXCHANGE.
Joseph Gillott, the manufacturer of pens, once visited the artist Turner. "I have come to swap some of my pictures for yours," said he. "What do you mean?" exclaimed Turner. "You do not paint?" "No, I do not, but I draw," said Gillott, unfolding a roll of banknotes, "and here are some of my pictures." The "swap" was effected.

UNDERDONE.
Little Pierre, a French boy, went out to walk with his father on the road, and was badly frightened by a drove of cattle. "What are you afraid of, Pierre?" his father asked. "Why, you eat such creatures as that at dinner, you know?" "Yes, papa," said Pierre, "but these are well enough done."

"You charge twice as much for these tomatoes as they do down the street. Why is that?" And the young housewife looked searchingly at the greengrocer with her keen eyes. "The meat is treated and then boldly repelled."

"These are hand-picked tomatoes, madame."

"What is your pardon," said the mischievous, "give me three pounds, please."

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Why \$1,000,000 Worth of Honey Goes to Waste Yearly

THE honey bee annually produces a crop of honey valued at least \$200,000,000, and there are vast opportunities for increasing its output. The most serious handicap, to be keeping in the United States is the fact that there are contagious diseases which attack the brood of the honey bee.

There are now recognized 'vo such diseases, known as American foul brood and European foul brood. From data recently obtained by the United States Department of Agriculture, it is known that American foul brood exists in 282 counties in 37 States, an European foul brood in 161 counties in 24 States, and it is estimated conservatively that these diseases are causing a loss to the bee keepers of the United States of at least \$1,000,000 annually.

This estimate is based on the probable number of colonies which die, and the approximate loss of crop due to the weakened condition

of diseased colonies. The States in which the diseases are most prevalent are California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin, and it is unfortunate that these are the States in which honey production is most profitable, making the future outlook of the bee keeping industry so much worse, unless active measures are taken to control the diseases. Furthermore, the distribution of these diseases is by no means fully known, and they are constantly spreading.

The cause of American foul brood has been found by the department to be a specific bacterium, and enough is known of the cause and nature of European foul brood, which is also a bacterial disease, to make it possible to issue reliable recommendations concerning treatment for both diseases. Both attack the developing brood, and as the young bees die from old age or other causes, the colonies become depleted, since there are not enough

young bees emerging to keep up the numbers. When the colony becomes weak, bees from other colonies enter to rob the honey and the infection is spread.

Both of these diseases can be controlled with comparative ease by the progressive bee keeper, but the chief difficulty encountered in combating these diseases is the fact that the majority of bee keepers are unaware that any such diseases exist; they therefore often attribute their losses to other sources, and nothing is done to prevent the spread of the infection.

The Department of Agriculture is helping in this work by sending out publications to the bee keepers in infected regions, by examining samples of broods suspected of disease, and by sending out information concerning the presence of disease, so that bee keepers will be informed that their apiaries are in danger. The co-operation of agricultural colleges, State bee keepers' associations and other similar agencies is being urged.

A Gentleman of the Road - By Katharine Tynan

I WAS a born turbulent; I suppose, the child of my hard-riding, hard-drinking father rather than of my gentle mother. It seems to me now that even in my little childhood I often grieved for him and the thought is a pang to me; albeit my turbulence might easily have been changed to tears and repentance on her breast. But that she never knew, having, I must needs think, no understanding of a nature like mine, although she loved me.

If my father had lived things had been better with me, for I remember his great, jolly laughter when I had behaved ill, or so my mother thought, yet out of mere childish roguery and daring rather than with evil intent.

I can see the two looking at me on some such occasion, she with her blue eyes tearful; he, swarthy, with great curling mustaches, and a genial giant of a man, having flung an arm about her.

"Why, sweet-Eyes, will you will bear with him as you bear with me. See how he straddles the floor so sturdily and avows his mischief. 'Tis a brave son you have given me."

And then he tossed me to the ceiling while I kicked - and laughed; but yet my mother's eyes were watching, and her lips moved as though she prayed. Perhaps one turbulence in her life was enough for her, and she could not endure that Roger, the second, her love for my father was so loyal. Indeed, I doubt not that he kept the gentle soul in a tremor while he lived.

He died in a brawl while I was yet little, as I knew afterwards, in a fair cause, for hearing the honor of a lady aspersed, he drew on the trader with the violence natural to him, and was slain himself while slaying his foe. Had he lived the country, for he had killed a man of station, though a dealer, and a trader of women.

For shame, Cousin Roger, she said. "You are stronger than me, but strength is not everything. There were things that you were like Cousin Aymer in many things."

Now the blow was lighter than a feather, yet I stood and stared at her, and the anger surged in me, so that I felt as if I looked at fire.

"Why," I muttered at last, "you have joined all the rest. 'Tis time that place were rid of Roger Mainwaring, that his brother, Aymer, might step in his shoes."

At that she ran to me, and caught me by the hand.

"For shame, Cousin Roger," she cried vehemently. "See, he loves you! Why, if he were your enemy, should I have taken his part?"

Why, if he were your enemy, should I have taken his part? He hung his golden beard and kicked ably me, standing dark and moody in my corner, with a chubby fist thrust at me, that disdained to cry. She would look then from the gold head on her heart, and stretch a tender hand toward me, but I was wounded because I did not please her, and would not seem to see her gesture.

I was ever litery, and as the years passed I grew strong as a young colt, and unmanageable as one yet unbitted. He, on the other hand, kept his fair

let me on to the time of the great war, and the troubles began to be a man of me, not by slow progress of the years and days, but in a leap. My mother was dead before those evil days fell. And even in those dear days, she left a barbed wound in my heart, for she said to me, in those precious hours while we yet kept her.

"Roger, my son, do you love your Cousin Joan?"

"Listen, Roger, if Aymer loves her, too, dened, even at that moment, for I was calow, rough lad, and would have been ashamed to think upon love."

She had her thin hand on mine, and I thought she would have kissed me, for we had drawn closer during her illness, but what she said was:

"Aymer loves her, too, you know, and I fear he does not love her. You will forget. You will go out in the world among other men, and will see other ladies, even at that moment, for I was calow, rough lad, and would have been ashamed to think upon love."

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of her face. I could see her little ears and the full, milky throat below the golden head.

For an instant I feasted on her beauty. Then my eyes wandered to my brother. He looked less slight than of old, but his Apollo grace and fairness, which I used to think unbecoming a man, had not deserted him.

My eyes went on to my Aunt Winchester, nodding over her knitting, in a deep chair, and graver than of old.

The whole scene was so peaceful, so full of home, that it made his heart ache. He looked less slight than of old, but his Apollo grace and fairness, which I used to think unbecoming a man, had not deserted him.

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