

ST. JOHN.

HOW UNCLE SAM'S FIGHTING MEN ARE TRAINED



If anybody is disposed to imagine that a soldier is a sufferer when he joins the army or that a recruit is a sufferer when he enters the navy, let him remember and revise his notion at once. When Paul Jones was called upon to surrender, he remarked that he had only begun to fight. So it is with Uncle Sam's soldiers and seamen. When a young fellow is admitted into army or navy, he has just begun to fight the battle of educating himself, physically and mentally, to become a possible fighting man.

In a modified sense this may be said of the young man who is graduated from West Point or from Annapolis. He has just begun his fighting education. Though on graduation day, when his home folks and perhaps his sweetheart are looking on admiringly, he may feel inclined to strut like a peacock, if he is an ambitious young officer he very shortly will be glad to have his commanding officer designate him for a course of instruction at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., or at the Naval War college in Washington.

Since the close of the main struggle in the Philippines Islands a marked change has come over the spirit of American military education. Colleges and schools for teaching the art of war, the most highly practical branches of it have been established. Young officers take thorough courses. The chief military establishment of this kind is at Fort Leavenworth. There are two institutions, one called the Infantry and Cavalry school, the other the Staff college. They give the young officers what may be called a military manual training education, in addition to higher scientific training. It is the business of army officers in time of war to superintend the building of bridges, the making of roads and the like. This is what these young officers do around Leavenworth. With their own hands they swing the ax that chops the timber that builds the bridge. They build the bridge and test it with a four mile team. They dig intrenchments and throw up breast-

works. They study how best to make barb wire entanglements, in order to give the enemy the time of his life in getting through them. This is a new feature of military instruction, but an important one. The war between the Japanese and the Russians proved the worth of wire entanglements. There is quite an art in making a little quantity of wire go a long way in producing a labyrinth to confuse an enemy. The officers at Fort Leavenworth schools study this art. Then they teach it to the men. Ballooning also is taught at Fort Leavenworth.

At Fort Riley, Kan., about a hundred miles west of Leavenworth, is a cavalry and artillery school, where both officers and men learn things necessary for them to know. At Fort Monroe, in Hampton Roads, Va., is an artillery school, and in Washington is the engineers' school. This each branch of the army service has now its postgraduate institution. Both theory

and practice are taught and in a manner that is not practicable at West Point. It is pretty much like going to a college greater than your alma mater and studying for a Ph. D. The chief difference lies in the fact that the military postgraduate student has to do more or less manual work in the colleges of his instruction. These war colleges are of particular benefit to the large number of young officers who during the past decade have been appointed to the service from civilian life.

The raw recruit, who sometimes feels that he is up against a tougher proposition than was indicated by the flaming posters which attracted him to the recruiting station, has no more severe instruction than the commissioned officer—only it lasts longer. There are certain things he must learn and learn well, according to the branch of the service he may enter. If he is an infantryman, for instance, he must practice wall scaling. This is truly a strenuous occupation, the men going up a blank wall in the human ladder fashion. No mollycoddles need apply.

In the cavalry the recruit is taught how to ride a horse. He may think he knows how, but as a rule, he doesn't. He doesn't know the A B C of the requirements of cavalry riding. After some months of drilling he is off his stunts at Madison Square Garden or some other place where Uncle Sam occasionally sends a squad of his crack horsemen. The artilleryman, of course, must do long duty at the guns, big or little. The machine gun drill is one of the most interesting and by no means the least exciting of these necessary experiences. Rifle practice, of course, is obvious. All branches of the service must learn how to shoot small arms.

In that other great twin arm of our fighting service, the navy, the strenuous surprises in store for the landlubber recruit are even more startling. The first fact which confronts the cub tar—who may have been led to enlist because he has stood yearningly in front of a varicolored poster displaying his future self standing on the deck of a battleship, dressed nattily in white duck, sighting through a long spyglass like an admiral on the bridge—is that he must go to work on land for a considerable period before he reaches the sea. In the Naval Training school at Newport the land duties are a large part of the performance. The same fact obtains at the naval training school on Yerba Buena or Goat Island, in San Francisco bay, and at the other stations where young men and boys are made over into seamen.

Here is a partial list of what the young naval apprentice has to do very early in his career: Scrub and dry his kit for inspection, take part in the drills in gymnastics, artillery, signals, infantry, boats, seamanship, gunnery, bays, hammocks, sewing and mending.

All this is not highly inviting to the ambitious youth who hopes to become a hero, but it is salutary and necessary. His day's work begins at 5:30 a. m., when at the sound of reveille he

leaps from his hammock half asleep, rolls up his swinging bed and stows it away, drinks a bowl of hot cocoa and then does an hour's scrubbing and cleaning. By 8 o'clock he is quite ready for breakfast. The food served is excellent and abundant.

The scrubbing drill is not so exciting as the gymnastic drill, when the boys indulge in wrestling bouts and other matters dear to the average youthful heart. The drill on the land must, rigged up just as on shipboard, is also interesting, for every boy likes to climb. Sword and bayonet exercises, practice in the firing of small arms, drills at the machine guns and the larger pieces are as regular as clockwork, each in its time and place.

Apprentices who show unusual aptitude at the training school are graduated to the ordnance school at Washington or to the torpedo station at Newport, where they may become proficient in electrical engineering and torpedo work and qualify as expert divers.

After about six months in the land school the apprentice is sent on his first cruise aboard a training ship. He is shipped as a third class seaman, though he may feel first class. Further instruction in practical seamanship and gunnery is given on this cruise.

After finishing his apprenticeship the young man is a thorough seaman of the first water, capable of performing the particular duties to which he may be assigned or practically any duty aboard ship, for the instruction is that of all around character that makes Jack a bright boy. He is a finished fighting man, if it comes to fighting, and he knows how to hold up his end in time of peace.

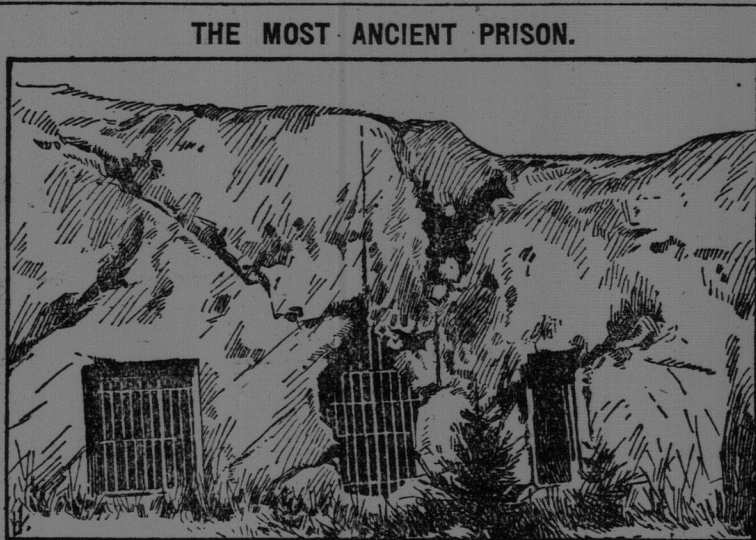
JAMES E. WARD

THE PICK OF THE UP TO DATE NOVELTY MARKET



AN INTELLIGENT POLAR BEAR.

The white bear shown in the picture has manifested an unusual degree of intelligence. One of his tricks is to push a fish given him for his dinner outside the bars of his den. When a spectator, wishing to restore the fish to its rightful owner, pushes it back with a cane or umbrella the bear snatches the article and proceeds to make short work of it. The exploit seems to afford the animal the keenest satisfaction.



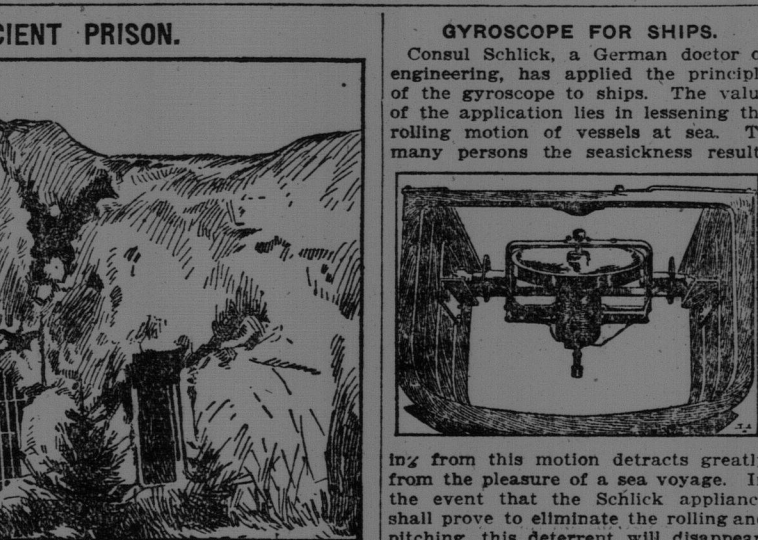
THE MOST ANCIENT PRISON.

The cut shows the prison in which Socrates is reputed to have committed suicide by drinking a cup of hemlock tea. This occurred in 399 B. C., and now a Chicago millionaire has made an offer for the relic and expects to remove it to America.



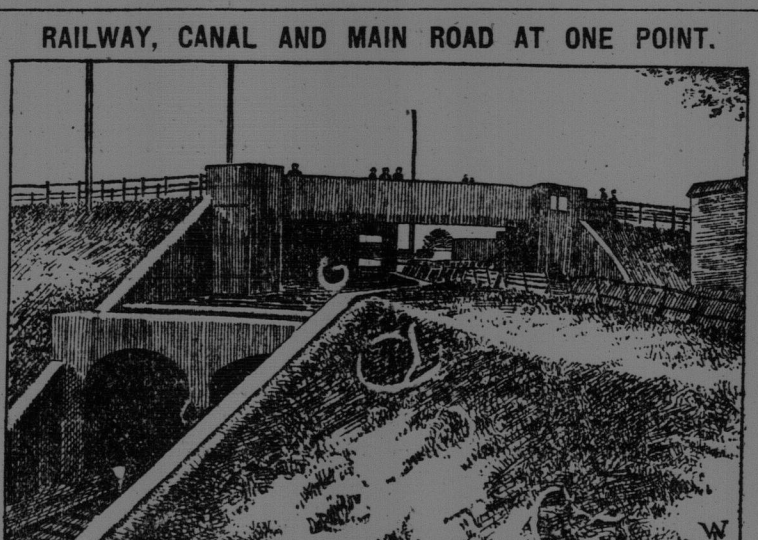
A BABY PRINCESS.

Baby princesses are not at all rare in England, but her royal highness Princess May of Teck is a comparative newcomer, having made her appearance in January, 1906. She is the daughter of Prince Alexander of Teck and Princess Alice of Albany.



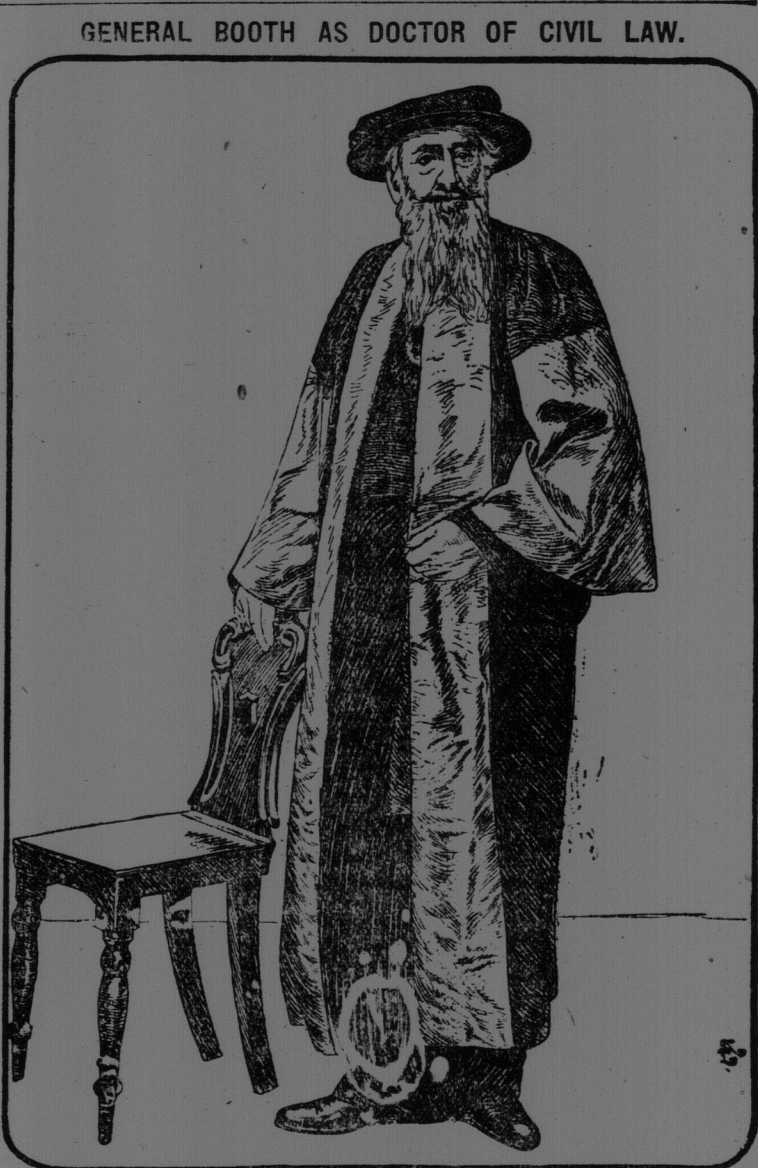
GYROSCOPE FOR SHIPS.

Consul Schlick, a German doctor of engineering, has applied the principle of the gyroscope to ships. The value of the application lies in lessening the rolling motion of vessels at sea. To many persons the seasickness resulting from this motion detracts greatly from the pleasure of a sea voyage. In the event that the Schlick appliance shall prove to eliminate the rolling and pitching, this deterrent will disappear. The importance of the new idea is worldwide, and if it really accomplishes all that is expected ocean travel will lose its chief terror.



RAILWAY, CANAL AND MAIN ROAD AT ONE POINT.

The remarkable meeting and crossing of railway, canal and main highway shown in the cut are at Hanwell, England. The railroad is crossed by the canal, which passes through an iron conduit. Above both runs the high-road from Hanwell to Osterley.



GENERAL BOOTH AS DOCTOR OF CIVIL LAW.

The cut shows the founder and head of the Salvation Army in the robes of a doctor of civil law, the degree recently conferred on him by Oxford. General Booth is very popular in England among all classes of society, and the honor bestowed by the Oxford authorities meets general approval.