

**THAT EARLY 'TEEN APPETITE.**

I'm glad H. Hoover and the war came not within my early 'teens. At that lean age I hungered for all forms of food from beef to beans. I ate whatever I could get. Where and whenever I could get it. When any sort of food I met, I simply set to work and "eat" it.

I'd wolf a dozen apples in As many minutes, and still hanker! I mooched from cupboard, dairy, bin, While still my form grew lank and lanker At meal times, when I broke my fast With speed no human eye could follow. My mother would exclaim, aghast: "Good gracious! Are the lad's legs hollow?"

I figured out the other day, How much 'twould cost me now to eat The stuff that then I put away— The spuds, the bread, the eggs, the meat. 'Twas seven dollars for a meal On week-days; Sundays, fifteen that! Now how would Herbie Hoover feel Were he to catch me doing that? —Strickland Gillilan in Good Housekeeping.

**Captive Balloons Line West Front.**

From the shores of the North Sea to the Swiss frontier a parallel line of captive observation balloons, or "sausages," marks in the air the rough outline of the entrenched positions of the German Entente troops except when a storm is blowing in such strength as to make aerial ascents impossible or extremely hazardous.

The gas-bags which are attached to steel cables, fly at varying heights, according to the degree of visibility and the nature of the country in the vicinity in which they operate. The work their occupants are able to perform in reporting troop movements and concentrations on the opposing side is of immense value to the commanding generals and this is the reason they are subject to constant attack. Every observer and mechanic carried in the balloons is provided with a parachute attached to his waist. By this means he has a chance of escaping certain death in case an enemy shell should rip the balloon or set it on fire.

The correspondent of the Associated Press has observed many thrilling incidents during attacks of captive balloons at various parts of the front. In one case an aerial observer, when his balloon burst into flames, threw himself out, relying on his parachute, which did not spread out until he had fallen nearly 1,500 feet. Everybody on the ground believed he was doomed, when suddenly, when he was within 100 yards of earth the parachute opened and brought him gently down. He was picked up unconscious.

In general, however, the parachutes work perfectly and the dart through the air is made in safety without anything more than the momentary thrill of falling through space for a short period without any support. Sometimes the wind blows the falling man hanging on to his parachute toward the enemy lines, where he is greeted with a hail of rifle and machine-gun bullets, but incidents of this kind are rare.

Details of the organization of the German aerostation of captive balloon service have just reached the correspondent. From these it is gathered that the German Army possesses hundreds of these observation gas-bags. They are divided into groups of three, which work together under the command of an officer, while at the headquarters of each army a staff officer of high rank is charged with the supervision of the service, which is entirely separated from the aviation branch. There is no definite number of balloons attached to each division or army corps, the total used at each part of the line changing according to the decrease or increase of activity of the troops in line.

For each captive balloon a company has been formed consisting of four observation officers, 11 non-commissioned officers and about 120 men commanded by a captain or lieutenant. These men not only have to look after the ascent, descent and housing of the balloon, but also its defense against airplanes, for which five machine guns and two pompons or cannon of 1 1/2-inch caliber are employed. The former are provided with corrected sights and fire tracer and explosive bullets, while the latter can attain a range of two and a quarter miles.

Another method of defense is rapid descent, which is accomplished by means of revolving winches fixed on automobiles or horsed wagons. The steel cables are passed round these winches and the balloon can be brought close to earth out of immediate danger in very short time, in spite of its size, which is considerable, as it contains 800 cubic meters of gas.

**Washington's Birthday.**

A tea party of the olden time is an appropriate celebration of Washington's birthday. If possible the room where the guests are to be entertained should contain a number of pieces of antique furniture. Everyone should be asked to come in eighteenth century dress, the ladies in short-waisted gowns, powder and patches; the gentlemen in knee breeches, with coats of broadcloth or brocade, silk stockings and buckled shoes. Each should be asked to bring something curious and ancient—some heirloom, if possible, with a story to it.

In these days of Colonial Dames and Sons and Daughters of the Revolution, almost everyone has some adventure of an ancestor, or romance of an ancestress, to tell, and when every guest has either told a story or shown a relic, such old-fashioned games as hunt the slipper, hide the thimble, London bridge, stage coach or twenty questions may be played. After supper a few old-fashioned dances—reels, contra-dances and a minuet—will be quite in keeping.

Cards entitling customers to four glasses of whiskey a week are issued by a Glasgow firm.

**The Anti-Aircraft Barrage.**

The anti-aircraft barrage is today the most dreaded enemy weapon which the airman has to face in his flights over the lines. In the midst of a sea of bursting shells the airplane bobs up and down like a ship in a violent storm. The concussions which the shells make in bursting produce a swift succession of air pockets and air bumps, and it is absolutely impossible to keep a machine steady through them. Meanwhile, there is the strain of knowing always that the next instant one of the thousands of flying shell splinters may reach a vital spot in either machine or pilot.

Yet it is not possible to avoid flying through a barrage at times. The latest type of anti-aircraft guns can place a barrage as high as 23,000 feet, and it is not practical to turn about and try to climb over the barrage. It takes a very highly specialized scout machine to climb 23,000 feet, and the heavier machines cannot achieve that altitude under any circumstances.

The longer the airman hesitates to run the barrage the longer he is exposed to the fire. Anti-aircraft gunnery at the front has now reached a point where the range is calculated to a nicety almost instantaneously by process of triangulation and, therefore, the flyer who hesitates is lost. The only thing he can do is to take his chance, just as a ship at sea takes a storm and accepts its chances of weathering the gale.

Next to the barrage the most feared of the ground defenses is the "cluster." This is a group of six anti-aircraft shells, sent up together, and placed just ahead of the machine, with one shell aimed to burst the tip of the fuselage, two on each side of it, two on each side just ahead, and one farther and directly ahead.

The side-slip is the favorite protection against these "clusters." The anti-aircraft gunners get their range nowdays so accurately that the slightest move out of range is fairly certain to get the machine out of danger's way—unless the gunners have anticipated this move, as they sometimes do, by placing another cluster at the most likely spot for an expected side-slip.

The side-slip is produced by tipping the plane down slightly, and while flying ahead, slithering over sideways and down, thus changing the range without seeming to do so, for the gunner looking up sees as much of the machine as before and is justified in estimating its height to be the same. In reality the machine is a little to one side and several hundred feet lower as the result of his skillful side-slip.

Below a height of 5,000 feet anti-aircraft guns cannot be used to advantage, but machine guns and rifles provide equally dangerous enemies. A machine gun playing a stream of 500 bullets a minute is no mean foe, even though the bullets are not explosive.

**Japan Counting War Loss and Gain.**

If Japan practically sacrificed her entire army on the field of France (for the sending of 1,000,000 Japanese soldiers to Europe means just that) her Allies might let her keep the Shantung lease at Tsingtao with a friendly wink, as well as the islands in the South Seas, writes Adachi Kinunosuke in February Asia. Even her keen and shrewd British and American Allies would be inclined to treat her rather generously in matters of commercial treaties and reciprocal financial understandings.

The United States will very likely answer the dispatch of a Japanese army to Europe with the lifting of the ban on steel and gold export. Then, America may not put a ban on the import of silk from Japan—which is pretty sure to follow soon if the war is to continue. And that one single item is quite a serious matter with industrial Japan, as witness the nervousness of the Yokohama silk exchange even at this very date. And Japan is sure to get her share of the benefit coming from the complete overthrow of the German trade supremacy in the Far East—at least for some years.

But—but then, what would it profit Japan to have all these precious gifts, if thereby she were to find herself a bankrupt nation with more than half of her army fertilizing the shell holes in Northern France or along the Balkan fronts and her navy utterly crippled and unfit to maintain the peace of the Far East—when, in short, she finds herself helpless to safeguard her own national existence?

**The Restive Button.**

Indignant Wife—What on earth do you do to your clothes to keep me sewing on buttons this way?

Apologetic Husband—Don't know, my dear. I merely touch the button—I can't imagine what does the rest.—Baltimore American.

**Knew She Was There.**

"I see my wife is in that picture theatre."

"You can't see her through the window, can you?"

"No, but I recognize the baby carriage in the lobby."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

**In the Cafe.**

Thirsty Tommy (somewhere in France, who so far has only been able to get the glad eye)—"Ere, Bill, you know the lingotell'er my hobby's beer, not love!"—London Opinion.

**Stamps Separated.**

To separate stamps that have become stuck together, lay a sheet of thin paper over them and iron with a hot iron. This will take them apart and the glue will still remain.

Cold, clean storage is important for many cooked as well as raw foods. Moist vegetables, cooked fruits, moist made dishes like meat pie and similar dishes are particularly liable to spoil or sour unless given special care.

As many as eight, nine, and even nine and a half million eggs have been found in the roe of a single cod.

**'Pen' Convicts Make 1,800,000 Army Socks.**

Convicts at the Eastern State penitentiary have contributed more than 1,800,000 dozen socks to the Red Cross for the use of American sailors and soldiers, at no cost to the Red Cross, except for the wool.

Warden Robert J. McKenty made this known yesterday in discussing

the war work of the convicts. In addition to the socks, the prisoners also have made about 5000 rolls of bandages and more than 5000 splints.

"Socks are our long suit," said the warden. "We have plenty of knitting machines up here, and what we have done so far is only a drop in the bucket to what we could do if all the Chapters of the Red Cross would send us their wool to be knitted into socks."

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Goldine or Goldine Alterac will be expressed to any address in the United States at \$1.00 per bottle, six for \$5.00. Laxatives mailed at 25c per box.

GOLDINE COMPANY, N. C., (Eastern Ohio Division) Youngstown, Ohio.

For several years I have had rheumatism in the muscles and joint of my left hip. It became so bad I could hardly turn myself in bed and when I would sit down for a few minutes I became so stiff and lame I could hardly get up.

After reading the many testimonials of what Goldine Alterac had done for my friends and neighbors who were suffering from rheumatism I decided to try a bottle.

It proved no disappointment, but rather a pleasant surprise to me, as every claim made for it was fully realized in my case.

I feel much better in every way. There is hardly a trace of the old lameness left, I do not suffer the pain I did before taking it, am able to do my work, can sleep well and walk better than I have in years. I know Goldine Alterac did it and am glad to give it my full endorsement.

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**We Have Received**

New Evaporated Apricots at 25c and 30c a lb. Fancy Peaches 20c and 22c lb. Very Fancy Evaporated Corn at 35c a lb. or 3 cans for \$1.00. Fancy Selected Sweet Potatoes 5c a lb.—some grades at 3c to 4c a lb. Very Fancy Cranberries at 18c per quart or pound. Almerin White Grapes, Celery, New Paper-shell Almonds, California Walnuts, Finest Quality Cheese.

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