

MAKING CLAY PIGEONS FOR TRAPSHOOTERS



The manufacture of clay pigeons is an industry in itself. The small force of men shown in this photograph turn out 10,000 pigeons a day, which are used on the traps near Los Angeles, Cal., by prominent trigger men.

Peace Army To Be All-American

Illiterates Will Be Drilled Mentally as Well as Physically.

CITIZENSHIP AS A REWARD

Major Ferris' Development Battalion at Camp Upton Furnishes Basis for New Activity—Splendid Results Already Shown.

Camp Upton, La. L.—The knowledge gained during the war in connection with the training and instruction of illiterate and non-English speakers is to be turned to account in the recruiting of a peace-time army.

By direction of the war department there is being established here the first "recruit educational center," for which 50 barracks and other buildings have been set aside, and it will be conducted on the lines followed by Maj. Ralph Hall Ferris when he made such a success of development battalion No. 6, which went out of being when the armistice was signed. Major Ferris is retiring as camp morale officer to become commander of the center, which is the outgrowth of his own plan.

Brigadier General Nicholson, camp commander, received within a few days the order to establish the center, and recruiting has begun throughout the eastern and northeastern departments of the army.

Will Be Taught English. An illiterate or non-English-speaking recruit who enlists under the new plan will be taught to speak English, will receive thorough American training from officers born here, and will in addition get citizenship papers when his enlistment term of three years has expired.

Under the draft act 24.9 per cent of the men enlisted, or practically one-quarter of them, were unable to read a newspaper or write a letter home. There were 1,500 such men sent here and they were put in Major Ferris' development battalion. His method

of training and educating them attracted attention in Washington. In the notification sent to General Nicholson by Maj. Gen. Henry Jervey, assistant chief of staff, he said: "Your camp has been selected not only because it is centrally located but also because of the excellent results in connection with the teaching of English that have been obtained in development battalion No. 6, Camp Upton."

On August 21, 1918, the Sixth development unit was organized and all rookies who were illiterate or did not speak English, except a few who had physical defects, were transferred to it. The teachers selected were privates or noncommissioned officers who held university degrees or who were teachers in civil life. Race was not considered in the choosing of officers. It was soon proven that squads and platoons composed of different nationalities received their military instruction as easily as if racial groups had been organized for the purpose. Only English was permitted to be spoken

in the mess halls, military formations and general gatherings of the men. Instruction except in the elementary classes was given in English.

Made Good Progress. Within three months men who could speak little or no English when they entered the battalion became sufficiently proficient in military English to fulfill the ordinary functions of soldiers both in organization and on separate missions. In addition practically all of the recruits proved their spirit of Americanism by becoming citizens.

The recruits upon being accepted for the new center will be classified according to their knowledge of English and assigned to battalions accordingly. A school of instruction of the illiterate and non-English-speaking recruits is being established. The course of instruction will be normally four months, or six months in exceptional cases. The men will be classed in groups of 15 to 20 and will be graded according to the progress shown.

A board of examiners will examine the recruits for classification and prepare suitable tests to determine the rate of progress especially of slow-learning men and the reasons for their backwardness. When the recruits have developed sufficiently for assignment Major Ferris will report them to the adjutant general of the army for disposition.

Antwerp Livens Up

Antwerp.—Antwerp appears to be passing through a process of resurrection, although the tonnage handled since the port was reopened more than three months ago represents what would ordinarily come through this port in one week during the days prior to the war.

Ships now come straggling in, and along the seven-mile water front the which is heard creaking here and there, and the vision in some of the great sheds is obstructed by unpretentious stacks of bags of American rice and rows of barrels of Chicago pork, and there are foodstuffs, clothing and manufactured articles, most of which, however, is for immediate use.

The American commission of relief in Belgium had 17 steamships in port early in April and the American base for supplying the American army of occupation in Germany was unloading five others.

Shipping men are anxiously awaiting the opening of the American base at Contich, about two miles outside of Antwerp on the Malines road. Barracks are being erected at Contich for the accommodation of 20,000 soldiers at a time. This is expected to inject a little more life into Antwerp port.

The ground picked out for the American base is a vast plain, dry and well irrigated, and the doughboys will find living and sanitary conditions there much better than in other bases which have achieved greater prestige.

The Americans have taken over some of the piers where North German Lloyd steamships formerly docked. The early work was arduous, as the piers were incumbered with gravel

imported from Holland by the Germans, ostensibly to repair roads, but actually to build re-enforced concrete shelters, dugouts and trenches. One hundred cubic yards of the gravel had to be removed before the piers could be used. It is estimated the Germans had enough gravel there to repair Belgian roads for 50 years.

Fifteen thousand longshoremen and stevedores are idle here and the only solution shipping men find when questioned as to how the situation can be remedied may be summed up in one word: "America."

Daniel Is Fireproof.

Bristol, Pa.—Daniel Sweeney, a shipyard employee, is fireproof. Sweeney went to sleep in a bunkhouse with a lighted cigarette in his mouth. A few minutes later some of his companions noticed smoke issuing from his room. Sweeney was found sleeping peacefully with the bedding ablaze and his vest burned off. He did not suffer a burn. He was arrested and held until he could pay for the cost of the bed.

Has Grand Little Scheme.

Kenosha, Wis.—To make sure that his wife was not away from home with some one else, Fasmus Gedved, street car conductor, is said to have compelled her to ride miles and miles on his car. That was not so bad, but when he locked her up in the house and marked the bottoms of her shoes so that he would be able to tell if she left the place, she objected. Mrs. Gedved was given a decree when she told her troubles in the divorce court.

Drilled for Water; Read What He Found

De Pere, Wis.—The discovery came too early for the day of the big thirst, but Jules Dufrene says he expects to enjoy for many a day to come four jugs of 300-year-old cognac.

The jugs bear the seals of Louis XIII, with the fleur de lis, and had been buried by early traders.

Dufrene found the jugs when drilling for a well on the site of an old French trading post.

WILL CITE EMPLOYERS

Those Who Hire Service Men To Be Recognized.

Special Certificate Will Be Signed by Baker, Daniels and Colonel Wood.

Washington.—Patriotic employers who perform their duty in employing returning soldiers and sailors will receive a citation from the government. Col. Arthur Woods, assistant to Secretary of War Baker, announced.

Colonel Woods said his office has completed arrangements with both the war and navy departments for this recognition of employers who pledge themselves to take back employees who entered the service and to show preference to soldiers and sailors in taking on new employees.

For those who join this new legion of honor a special certificate will be

given, signed by Secretary Baker of the war department, Secretary Daniels of the navy department, and by Colonel Woods, representing the war and navy departments. The certificate, which is headed "War and Navy Departments, United States of America," reads:

"This certifies that — has assured the war and navy departments that he will gladly re-employ everybody who formerly worked with him and left to serve in the army or navy during the great war. (Signed) Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War; Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy; Arthur Woods, Assistant to the Secretary of War."

In addition to the certificate, the council of national defense, consisting of the secretary of war, the secretary of the navy, the secretary of labor, the secretary of the interior, the secretary of commerce and the secretary of agriculture, will authorize the holder to display on his service flag

the shield of the United States as a symbol that he has pledged himself to fulfill his obligations.

Certificates can be obtained by applying to Col. Arthur Woods, assistant to the secretary of war, war department, Washington, D. C.

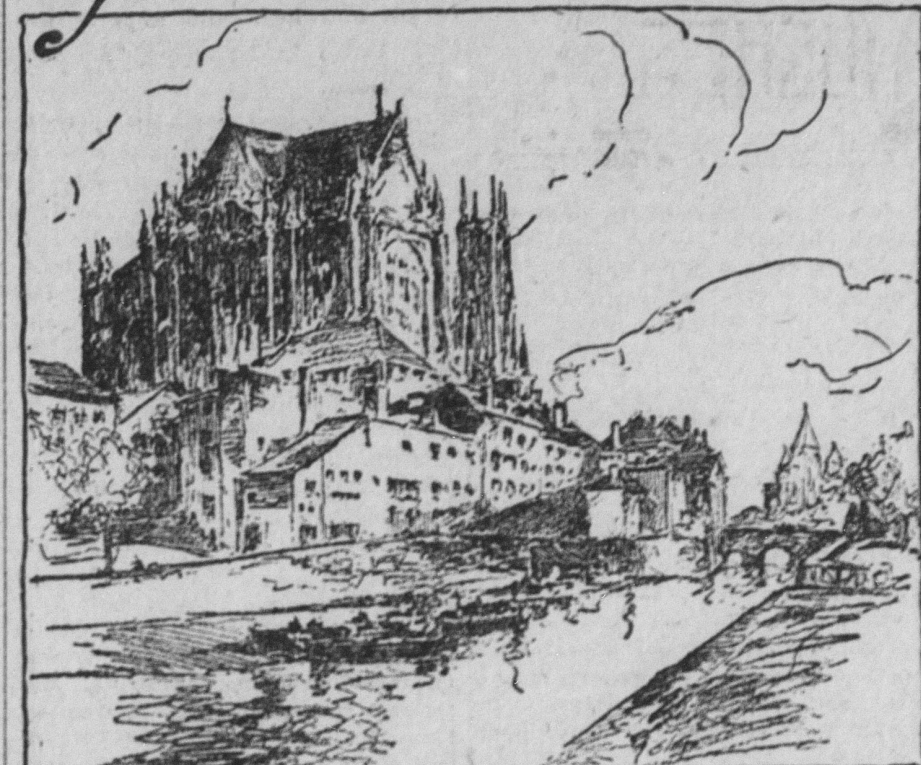
Had Old Bank Account.

Burlington, Ia.—James Bryant, seventy-five years old, arrested here on a charge of horse theft, suddenly recalled while in jail that 20 years ago he deposited \$1,000 in a Burlington bank. An officer accompanied Bryant to the bank, and, sure enough, he found his account intact with interest accumulated. Bryant says he is afflicted with lapses of memory and says he does not recall stealing the horse, which was taken from a Muscatine stable.

Just a Little Late.

New York.—"Just heard about the war and I want to enlist," said Stephen Kresney, dashing up to a marine recruiting office. He was quite shocked when told he was too late, the war being over.

METZ, Capital of Lorraine



Cathedral of Metz

BY REASON of its situation, its monuments, its antiquity and its history, Metz is one of the most interesting cities of western Europe.

Built on a high hill at the junction of the Moselle and of the Sellaie, Metz, when Caesar undertook his invasion of Gaul, was already an almost impregnable position, on which the Mediomatrics, one of the most formidable tribes that Caesar undertook to conquer, proceeded to establish their capital, which they called Duosorum Mediomatricorum, says the Christian Science Monitor.

The humble huts of these warriors were later replaced by gorgeous Roman temples and by the palaces of the kings of Austrasia. For in spite of their strength and courage, the Mediomatrics were unable to resist the Romans, who transformed Duosorum into one of the most important strategical points of their empire.

Great roads crossed the city in diverse directions, leading to Reims, Toul, Treves, and Strasbourg. In the year 451 Attila and his hordes did not spare Metz, as the city was then called, and their example was followed by the Vandals. During the Merovingian dynasty it became the capital of the kings of Austrasia; Charlemagne granted to the bishops of Metz—for the first time since the third century had been the seat of a bishopric—such extensive privileges that they soon became the real lords of the town, although they humbly professed to be the vassals of the emperors. At that period Metz was self-governing, being ruled by an alderman and a council of thirteen, as well as by a great council of elders.

Regained Its Independence.

In the tenth century the German emperors appropriated Metz, which was ruled by Henry the Fowler in 945, but the independent old city soon took advantage of the internal dissensions raging in the Holy empire to recover the prerogatives it enjoyed as a free city. Henry II of France and his troops occupied Metz in 1552 and defended it victoriously against Charles V, who could not resign himself to the loss of so important a stronghold. Metz was consequently invested by an army of 75,000 men, and 114 cannon fired 14,000 shots on the city, which was a record in bombardments at that period. After two months of extraordinary and untiring efforts, having lost a third of his troops, the emperor—rather, the duke of Alba who directed the siege—was obliged to retire, much to the satisfaction of the French, who, numbering only 6,000 men, were commanded by the Duke Francois de Guise. Charles V then ceded Toul and Verdun to France.

The Messins had never sought to dissimulate the love they felt for France; later, the inhabitants of the valiant city declared that they would never take up arms against the French king, Charles VIII. In 1557 the ambitious cardinal of Lorraine was obliged to take inferior rank, owing to the forced cession which granted the king of France pretended rights to the sovereignty of Metz. And although the latter modestly assumed the title of protector, he was, in fact, master of the city. It was only in 1858 that Henry VII officially took the title of sovereign lord of Metz. In 1643 Louis XIII endowed Metz with a parliament, and in 1648 the treaty of Westphalia definitely incorporated Metz, Toul, and Verdun with France—the new province thus constituted being known as the Three Bishoprics. After that period the capital of Lorraine remained impregnable; vainly did Brunsvick in 1792 and Blucher in 1814 strive to render themselves master of the citadel. Had it not been for Marshal Bazaine's infamous capitulation which, signed on October 23, 1870, delivered to the Germans 173,000 men, 6,000 officers and three marshals, not to speak of 1,663 cannon and 53 flags—Metz never would have fallen nor have been subjected for 48 years to the tyranny and bondage from which the allies have at last

RAN TRUE TO FORM

Nothing Really Remarkable About This Tree.

Considering Its Variety and the Place Whence It Comes, It Could Hardly Avoid Having a Criminal Nature.

The Boston Globe, in its "Odd Items" column, prints an item about a tree which absorbed some of a rail fence. We have lost the item, so we don't know where this tree was, or is, but it couldn't have been anywhere near Harmony, Me., says the Lewiston Journal. If it had, the owner never would have had the nerve to mention it in the face of the remarkable performances of a tree that stood on the land of a relative of ours.

Our relative had been a soldier in his youth, and when he bought this farm he brought to it a number of shrubs, trees and flowers collected in his wanderings about the earth. This particular tree of which I speak was of the Thievohunnish variety, and came from Prussia.

It grew rapidly after it was set out and crowded out all other growing stuff for 20 feet around. In ten years it was three feet through, and in 15, four feet through at the base. The peculiar thing about this tree was not its rapid growth, however. Let us explain. Our relative built a barbed-wire fence by this tree and to save driving a post nailed it to the tree. Well, the ends of the fence began to disappear. Our relative thought someone was snipping off the ends of the wire for some reason. His wife was of the opinion that the wire had too much wool in it and was shrinking in the dews and rains. In any case from 10 to 20 feet of the wire would disappear every night.

My relative finally gave it up, and in about two weeks the wire had disappeared entirely and the mystery was greater than ever. We simply couldn't trace it.

Then we began to miss articles left near the tree. A hired man left a scythe in its branches one night. The next morning it was gone.

Some one left a pail near by and that disappeared.

Finally the matter was brought to a climax when the blooded bull calf which had been tied to a stake near this tree vanished during the night.

About this time my relative noticed that there seemed to be an extraneous growth of some sort of about six feet above the butt of the tree. He began to have his suspicions about this tree. He determined to sacrifice the tree to satisfy his curiosity. He got an ax and chopped it down. Inside the tree was the scythe, hundreds of yards of barbed wire, the partially dismembered carcass of the calf, pails, stones, a pair of overalls, one overshoe and many other articles.

The tree had a criminal nature and developed a kleptomaniac streak. Everyone was glad to see that tree cut down.

Flower Language.

In remote Alpine hamlets and villages, especially in the Bernese Oberland, there still exist ancient and pretty customs of proposing marriage by a language of flowers. If a maid accepts a bouquet of edelweiss from a man she at the same time accepts him as her fiancé, the idea being that the man has risked his life to obtain the flowers for the woman he loves.

Another method which exists in the canton of Glarus is for the young man to place a flower pot containing a single rose and a note on the window sill of the girl's room when she is absent from home, and wait—perhaps days—for a reply. If the maid takes the rose the young man boldly enters the house to arrange matters with her parents, but if the rose is allowed to fade away the proposal is rejected without a single word having been exchanged between the couple.

They and We.

A wounded corporal in a hospital told how, while on patrol duty, he had seen the body of a noncommissioned French officer hanging by the feet, his face bashed in with muskets.

"My men and I were furious," he said, "and made up our minds that we'd do the same thing to the first German we caught. That night we found two Germans hidden in a barn. We fell on them and then as they were hungry we gave them bread. We could not do what they did, for we are not of the same race."—Everybody's Magazine.

Fowls Plucked With Vacuum.

A machine of the vacuum type for plucking fowls is described and illustrated in Popular Mechanics magazine. With it, it is said, a person can remove all the feathers, dry, from an average-sized bird in about five minutes. A motor-driven fan creates suction in a large flexible tube, at the free end of which is a special plucking apparatus. Once loosed, the feathers pass through the tube into a large receptacle overhead.

No Honeymoon Trip.

I attended a wedding of a dear girl friend whose father was a well-to-do farmer. After the ceremony we girls crowded around the blushing bride and she was asked where they expected to go on their honeymoon trip. She replied: "We aren't going to take a trip, for the money we would spend will buy a nice cow."—Chicago Tribune.