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WARSHIPS AT NIGHT.
 From the First Call at Sundown to the Mournful Taps.
 The routine of life on a battleship at night will interest boys who have a nautical bent.
 The "first call" is sounded five minutes before sundown, when the ensign and the jack halyards are manned and a stay light made ready for hoisting to indicate the ship's whereabouts during the night. Then the color call follows at sundown as the flag is lowered and saluted by all as it reaches the deck. The assembly is then sounded for evening quarters and muster, but there is no drill.
 As a rule, it is just after sunset when the bugle call is sounded to "Stand by hammocks." That brings all the crew on deck, and they stand in silence close out to the ship's side beside the hammock nettings. In two ranks facing the stern, until the boatswain's mate reports to the officer of the deck, "All up and aft." The latter then orders, "Uncover; pipe down" and in obedience to this order and the boatswain's whistle the nettings are served out and taken below to their proper places. Each hammock has printed on it a number, and that same number is on the books below decks where the hammock has to be swung, so that each man sleeps in the same place every night, and that place is called his "billet."
 Unless a boat is called away there will be no more bugle calls until five minutes of 9 o'clock. The period is one of complete relaxation and is spent by the sailors in smoking, spinning yarns, singing, playing on musical instruments and dancing. At five minutes of 9 the first call is again sounded as a warning to the crew to prepare to turn into their hammocks and go to sleep. Then at 8 o'clock comes the call known as "Tattoo."
 This tattoo is the survival of an old custom. In the "old navy" it used to last fifteen minutes and was performed with drum and fife, playing all manner of airs and quicksteps according to the fancy or ingenuity of the drummer and the fifer. It is even said to have been handed down from a period of superstition, when they used to make a hullabaloo after dark to drive the devils out of the ship. At the last note of tattoo the ship's bell is struck twice for 9 o'clock, and the boatswain's whistle sounds "Pipe down." Every man must then turn into his hammock, whether he is sleepy or not, for an inspection is made by the master at arms to see that all have done so. Then sounds that last long, mournful call, "Taps."—Chicago News.

A Universal Word.
 One of the first words that a baby says is mamma or mother, and it is not strange, therefore, to find it one of the first and simplest words in every language. There is no word easier for a child to say than "ma" unless it be "pa." In Hebrew and Arabic mother is "em" and "am." It is "mum" in Welsh and "moder" in Anglo-Saxon. In other languages it is slightly different, but near enough like our own word "mother" to make it an almost universal word, so that a child crying in any language could be understood in almost any other language. Here are a few of the names:
 Madr in Persian. Moder in Swedish.
 Matr in Sanskrit. Moder in Danish.
 Meter in Greek. Moeder in Dutch.
 Mater in Latin. Mutter in German.
 Madre in Italian. Mater in Russian.
 Mere in French. Mathair in Celtic.

Odd Use For the Tongue.
 The brakeman moaned and sighed, a cinder in his eye.
 "I'll tongue it out for you," said the conductor, and he bent over his associate, ran his tongue over the pupil of the man's eye and in a jiffy had out the cinder.
 "On railroads, in foundries, in stoke-holes," the conductor said afterward, "wherever cinders get continually in the eye, there everybody extracts them in one way—with the tongue. The tongue removes things better than any instrument would do. It sweeps the eye clean as a flood sweeps a river bed. Further, it is painless. Its passage over the eyeball is, indeed, a rather pleasant sensation. As regards the sensations of the owner of the tongue—well!" — New Orleans Times-Democrat.

A Queer Epitaph.
 I may perhaps be allowed an inquiry with regard to a stone said to have been removed from Epworth churchyard within the memory of persons now living, but when or by whom nobody can say. It was to the memory of one Richard Towris, and it bore this inscription:
 Who lies here? Who do you think?
 Richard Towris, and he liked drink.
 Drink? Drink, for why?
 Because Richard Towris was always dry.
 —London Notes and Queries.

NATIONAL GRANGE NOTES.
 Matters of General Interest to Members of the Order From Maine to California.
 New York stands at the front among grange states. State Master P. N. Godfrey reports the membership at about 75,000. There are 659 subordinate granges, thirty-eight having been added the past year. The Patrons' fire insurance associations are strong factors in a financial sense. They represent nearly \$100,000,000 of risks. There are 172 grange halls owned in the state, the total value being reported at \$543,076. Much has been done by the state grange in legislation benefiting rural conditions.

State Lecturer Thompson is one of Maine's enthusiastic grangers. He says there are over 400 granges in the state, and over 800 of them own their own grange halls, which range in value from \$2,000 to \$6,000 or more. A grange of 200 members is almost certain to have its own hall, and this gives a permanence to the grange movement that is unquestionable. The grange membership has increased from 20,000 to 54,000 in twelve years. The largest grange in the state and perhaps in the United States is Houston grange, with 900 members. It has a grange store, which did a business of \$100,000 last year, and there are half a dozen more younger stores in the state.

National Treasurer Mrs. Eva S. McDowell of Rome, N. Y., reports the financial condition of the national grange as follows:

RECEIPTS.	
Balance Oct. 1, 1905.....	\$20,856.20
From various sources.....	42,212.69
	\$63,108.89
PAYMENTS.	
On orders.....	\$52,711.86
Balance Oct. 1, 1907.....	10,357.93
	\$63,108.89

The total resources of the national grange, including the above balance and money invested in bonds, savings bank deposits, etc., is \$102,921.44.

State Master George W. F. Gaunt of New Jersey says: "The past year has been the banner year in grange work in the Garden State. Sixteen new subordinate granges have been organized and two Pomona's, making 118 subordinate and fourteen Pomona granges. Nearly 3,000 new members have been added to our membership, making a grand total of 15,000. Our Grange Fire Insurance company has been steadily growing, giving safe protection to our patrons. We have nearly \$18,000,000 worth of property insured. For a number of years subordinate and Pomona granges have been co-operating in the purchase of farm supplies at a great saving. This has been, however, of a local character. The Grange Commercial Exchange has been recently incorporated with a capital stock of \$125,000, which it is expected will be very helpful to the members of the grange."

G. W. Peirce, state master of the Vermont grange, reports thirty new subordinates and one Pomona organized the past year, adding 2,000 members. Questions were freely discussed, and education was the watchword. Agriculture and nature studies were being introduced into the common schools. The grange stood for better roads, better methods and better everything. He will not be satisfied until there are as many granges in Vermont as there are towns.

C. D. Richardson, state master in Massachusetts, says a great growth is going on with enduring results. The problem of child education was engaging the attention of Patrons in Massachusetts. Growth of membership was of little consequence unless every one had some definite object. The grange is winning its way to the front.

The exemplification of the ritualistic work was never better than this year. The first degree was exemplified by New Britain (Conn.) grange officers, the second by a Cheshire (Conn.) team, the third by a ladies' degree team from Keene, N. H.; the fourth by a ladies' degree team from North Brookfield, Mass. The fifth degree was beautifully presented by a Central Pomona degree team of Connecticut and the sixth by the officers of the Connecticut state grange. This work, particularly in the lower degrees, cannot fail to be an inspiration to all who witnessed it, and through them the various subordinate granges here represented will be facilitated to improvement in this very important phase of grange work.

Governor Woodruff of Connecticut gave an informal reception to the national grange and visiting delegates just at the close of one morning's session. In the receiving line were Governor and Mrs. Woodruff, ex-Governor and Mrs. C. J. Bell of Vermont and ex-Governor and Mrs. N. J. Bacheelder of New Hampshire. Several hundred visiting Patrons took occasion to pay their respects to the chief executive on this occasion. Governor Woodruff is a recent member of the grange.

Potato Growing Contest.
 A novel grange contest took place at North Augusta, Me., this fall in potato raising between the brothers and the sisters. Each one had been previously required to plant five hills of potatoes, care for them and dig them. The losing side was to furnish the supper. On Oct. 5 each one carried the potatoes raised to the grange, where they were weighed. The brothers won by the small margin of five and one-half pounds. The largest crop raised was twenty-two pounds by Everett Withers. J. W. DARROW.

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