

BOYS IN THE NAVY.

Life of Apprentices at the Training Station.

They Are Educated Respectably See Duty on Our Great Warships—Some Pleasures of Their Lot.

Almost every boy by this time knows of battleships and cruisers, of torpedoed and torpedo boats, and of the gallant officers and jolly jack tars who man the ships; but it is safe to say that there are few indeed who have ever heard of the young naval apprentice, the work which he has to do, and what his chances are for the future. It is enough at present to say that he is an enlisted boy, who by means of a great deal of drill and training develops gradually into a most efficient and useful man on board of our modern ships.

Although, as already stated, the apprentice can never hope to become a commissioned officer, there are many positions of trust and honor in the service that are open to him, if he but applies himself to the tasks assigned to him day by day, and is awake to the opportunities that are sure to turn up for him.

The boys at the training station truly may be said to live in a little world of their own, for they do not need to go outside of their own circle to find any of the needs of life. At certain hours of the day they form a well-regulated school in which they are taught all the elements of science, English and mathematics—enough to enable them to understand thoroughly and to handle intelligently the various fittings and armament of a modern man-of-war.

Well-informed and thoroughly practical officers are stationed there to instruct the apprentices in all the drills and maneuvers used by seamen afloat and ashore, including infantry, light artillery, seamanship in all its forms—both theoretical and practical—the several kinds of signaling used in the service, the handling of boats under steam, oars and sails, and the use of sword and gun in the arts of fencing and of bayonet exercise.

At Newport is the only important torpedo station of our government, and it is therefore convenient for the apprentices to be taught, while there, the mode of constructing a torpedo, and the proper care and handling of the same.

A chaplain in the navy is detailed regularly for duty among the boys, and to look after them in any way he may think most conducive to their highest moral improvement. Every Sunday the boys are assembled on deck to join in a regular church worship, presided over by the chaplain, and it is a most interesting sight to see several hundred boys of tender age, all in the same blue uniform, joining heartily in the service. Those with voices worthy of any cultivation are assigned to the choir, and they enjoy this honor quite as much as any of the several privileges that fall to their lot. At certain other times, in the evenings, during recreation periods, they are permitted to assemble for any kind of innocent amusement, and one of the most popular pastimes among them seems to be dancing.

The spacious deck is cleared, and there, to the music of an orchestra formed from their own number, they trip together the "light fantastic." It is well that there are some such pleasures for young boys, for otherwise the hardships and discipline of the service would become most irksome.

Every spring and summer the apprentices are taken aboard some of the older vessels of the navy and are sent abroad for a cruise, during which, under efficient officers, they are taught the full duties of seamen afloat. All the theory of seamanship and gunnery is then reduced to practice, and the apprentices are put through the evolutions of furling, reefing, and loosing sail, of abandoning ship, and of stowing and firing the guns on board, antiquated though they may be. — St. Nicholas.

Notes from India.

The latest reports from India regarding the plague show that the area affected continues to extend, and that the measures taken to check its progress are only partially effective. Meantime the mortality from phthisis increases, more particularly in the districts where the plague was worst, the registered deaths in some districts from phthisis alone running to over 16 and 17 per 1,000 of the population. The season has been of unprecedented severity throughout northern and northwest India. In some localities in the hill country the mercury fell as low as four degrees below zero, and ten and twenty degrees of frost have been common in many places. In Delhi the winter is said to have been the severest ever known. In the Himalayas the snowfall has been abnormal, extending in some parts 3,000 feet below the usual level. The completed estimate of the area under cotton for the present season is 13,575,000 acres, against 13,813,000 last year, and 14,560,000 acres average for the previous five years. The estimated yield, however, is well over the average. — N. Y. Sun.

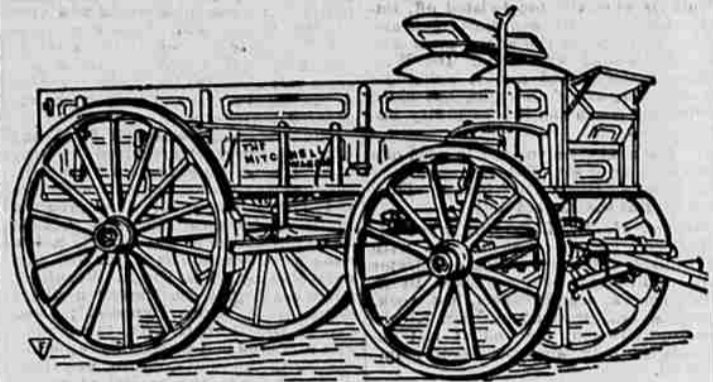
Torpedo Boats Under Fire.

The average distance of discovery of a torpedo boat by the searchlight from a battleship has been calculated to be 781 yards and the greatest distance 2,000 yards. Thus, taking the distance at which the torpedo can be fired with effect at 500 yards, it will be generally found that a torpedo boat will have to cross about 200 yards under fire from the ship she is attacking and it will take the little craft about half a minute to do this. — Chicago Tribune.

\$350 IN PREMIUMS. Given Away By The MEDFORD MAIL

Every person paying THE MAIL \$1.50 on subscription gets a ticket. This ticket entitles its holder to a chance to win one of the following premiums:

Premium No. 1 is a Mitchell Wagon



These wagons are kept for sale by Messrs. Mitchell, Lewis & Staver Company, and can be seen at their warehouses in Medford. It is a 3 1/2 inch skein wagon. It is complete with double box, spring seat, brake—in fact an exact counterpart of the wagon you would be required to pay \$92.50 for if bought from any agency of the company. The Mitchell wagon has a new feature—both axles are reinforced with heavy straps of steel on bottom, which adds materially to the wagon's strength. THE MAIL has purchased one of these wagons, and we are going to give it to some one of our readers. This wagon can be seen at the company's ware rooms in Medford.

Premium No. 2 is a Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine

Mr. J. F. White is the agent for this machine in Southern Oregon. It can be seen at the general merchandise store of White & Jacobs in Medford, Ore. This is unquestionably the best machine on the market. It has a drop head, a rotary shuttle and is ball bearing. The table is of the very best antique oak, and is complete throughout with five drawers and all modern attachments. This machine sells for \$70—you can have one for nothing. I have bought one of them and am going to give it away to the person so lucky as to hold the winning number.

Premium No. 3 is a Pambler Bicycle

Mr. J. A. Whitman, the Studebaker wagon man, is agent for these bicycles. I have bought one and am going to give it away. The wheel is a '99 model, and sells on the market for \$40. It is guaranteed by Mr. Whitman to be first-class in every particular. It can be seen at his warerooms in Medford, Ore.



Premium No. 4 is a Set of Team Harness.

This harness is hand made. The traces are heavy two-inch trace point with 2 1/2-inch boddies. The lines are full inch wide and 20 feet long; 1 1/2-inch back-straps; 1 1/4-inch hip straps; No. 1 Boston team collars. This harness is made by Mr. J. G. Taylor, the Medford harnessmaker, and is sold by him for \$32.50. It is guaranteed by Mr. Taylor to be first-class in every particular. Mr. Taylor's reputation as an honest man and a thorough harnessmaker is a good enough recommendation.

Premium No. 5 is a Spencer Double-Barreled, Twelve Gauge, Hammerless Shot Gun.

It sells for \$30. We have bought one and are going to give it away. We never shot a gun in our life, but some of our subscribers can shoot if they get this gun. It is guaranteed first-class in every respect by Boyden & Nicholson, the hardware men, who keep guns for sale and from whom it was purchased. Look at it in their gun case.

Premium No. 6 is a John Deere Plow, 12-inch Steel Beam, Double Shin, One Extra Steel Share. Sells for \$21

It is worth any man's money. It is as staple an article as a sack of sugar. Some lucky fellow will get this plow for nothing. The plow was purchased from Hubbard Bros., the agricultural implement dealers, and any one can see it by calling at their warerooms, where they are kept in stock.

Premium No. 7 is a Marlin Rifle, Any Calibre.

It sells for \$15, but this one won't cost you anything if you hold the winning number. It is up-to-date in every particular, and is guaranteed by J. Beek & Co., the hardware men, who sell guns of all kinds. The rifle can be seen in their show window, in Medford.

Premium No. 8 is a Set of Silver Knives and Forks, triple-plated and Manufactured by Hamilton Bros.

These are sold at \$5.00. THE MAIL will give you one set for nothing. This line of goods is kept in stock and for sale by D. T. Pritchard, the jeweler. Look for premium card in his show case.

Premium No. 9 is a Due Bill for \$5.00 on G. L. Davis, the Grocer. We have bought this to give away. You can get five

dollar's worth of any of the first-class groceries Mr. Davis keeps in stock if you win the due bill.

Premium No. 10 is a Due Bill for \$5.00 on Wolters & Howard, Medford Grocersmen.

Here is another purchase we have made to give away. If you get the winning number it is yours, and the above named gentlemen will honor it from their grocery or excellent crockery and glassware counter.

Premium No. 11 is a Due Bill on J. G. Van Dyke & Co. for \$5.00

These gentlemen carry a fine line of dry goods and boots and shoes, and they will tell you that the due bill is all right.

Premium No. 12 is a pair of Oregon City Woolen Mill Pants, Valued at \$5.00

Kept in stock by G. L. Webb, the Racket man, where you will find all kinds of notions. Ask Mr. Webb to show you the pants.

Premium No. 13 is a Due Bill on W. H. Meeker & Co. for \$5.00

These gentlemen carry a complete line of dry goods, clothing and gents' furnishings. Ask them regarding the due bill.

Premium No. 14 is a Due Bill for \$5.00 in Goods on Mr. I. A. Webb's Furniture Store

Mr. Webb carries the best line of furniture, carpets and wall paper in Southern Oregon. This due bill is good for its face value in goods at Mr. Webb's store. You can have it for nothing if you are lucky.

The next twelve premiums will be twelve yearly subscriptions to the Portland Weekly Oregonian—the best general newspaper published on the coast.

How to Get a Premium.

Every person who pays us \$1.50 on subscription account between this date and the first of January, 1900, will be given a card upon which is printed a number. A duplicate of this number will be retained in this office and put in a box. On January 1st these numbers will be well shaken, and some disinterested person, in the presence of an half dozen reputable citizens, will draw out a number from this box. The person holding the corresponding number will be given the Mitchell wagon; the next number will take the sewing machine; the next the bicycle, and so on down the list. If you are owing two years subscription already, by paying the back subscription and one year in advance you would get three chances at these premiums. In other words you get one chance for every year's subscription you pay. No one person will be entitled to more than one premium. A statement of your account will be mailed to your address.

This is no lottery. We give you value for your money in subscription and a chance to get a premium besides.

A. S. BLITON, Publisher MEDFORD MAIL.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS.

ITEMS OF INTEREST PICKED FROM THE WEEK'S DISPATCHES.

China Sugar Factory is to Start Up—Small Catch of Columbia River Fishermen—Hondemen Must Pay Up—Santa Ana Bonds Void.

Horses are cheap at Visalia—one being sold recently for 25 cents.

Geo. B. McLay, a San Francisco physician, committed suicide recently. He had made mistakes in treating two patients who were suffering with smallpox, and then died. The matter so worried him that he ended his life.

The transport Para has reached Manila. She carried 30 officers and 911 enlisted men of the regular army.

Miss Mamie Scribner aged 23, was instantly killed, and her sister Mrs. Arthur Brentner, aged 31, probably fatally injured, in a railroad accident at San Pedro. They were crossing the track in a buggy when a train struck them.

The board of supervisors of Tulare county recently allowed claims for 8000 squirrel tails, at 8 cents per tail. The bounty law has been in force in that county two years. During that time 535,000 tails have been paid for at a cost to the county of \$11,900.

James Parly, a miner, enacted a shocking tragedy at Forbestown. After shooting and badly wounding his wife he set fire to his home and then ended his own life with his rifle. Jealousy is believed to have been the cause of the crime. The immediate cause leading to the attempted murder and suicide is not known.

The Mexican troops are hot after the Yaqui Indians, now in rebellion. The affair is said to be much smaller than was at first reported.

The Southern Pacific company has been severely censured by a coroner's jury at San Pedro for gross neglect in regard to the killing of Miss Mamie Scribner a few days ago.

Judge Ballard of Orange county has just rendered a decision at Santa Ana in the long-contested bond case of that city to test the validity of \$1,500,000 of bonds issued to buy water and own a share in water works. Judge Ballard holds that the bonds are void.

The water power at Winchester, near Roseburg, Or., has been sold to J. S. Johnson of Atlanta, Ga., who intends to utilize the power for manufacturing purposes.

It is stated in New York that all of the stock of the American Smelting & Refining company not heretofore sold, has passed into the hands of the Standard Oil magnates, and the latter have a controlling interest.

Thirty thousand young trout were recently planted in the Carmel river and Gabilan creek.

A disaster due probably to a broken car wheel, caused a Southern Pacific train to leave its tracks near Dos Palos, in the San Joaquin valley. The engine and several cars were badly wrecked. Engineer C. J. Ford and Fireman Porter Wood, were caught in the wreck of the locomotive and received injuries which caused their deaths.

While engaged in threshing barley near Castroville, James Berry, who was engaged as engineer, was fatally injured by the bursting of a fly wheel of the engine. Portions of the wheel fell over 200 feet, destroying a pile of sacked grain. Berry had his right thigh and knee badly crushed.

The issue of sewer bonds by Red Bluff in the amount of \$35,000, bearing 4 per cent annual interest, was awarded to the Pacific Construction company, they paying a premium of \$572.50. All other bids were at par. Work will commence within a few weeks, and before the winter rains Red Bluff will be completely seweraged.

After a trial lasting two weeks at Martinez, the jury in the case of James Clancy, charged with murder, returned a verdict of acquittal. About two months ago Clancy and Henry Welch got into a drunken row at Orinda and the latter was killed.

Alexander McDonald, known as "king of the Klondike" owing to his rich holdings in that region, has filed a petition of insolvency at Dawson City. His liabilities are placed at \$6,000,000.

Peace again reigns at the Cape Nome placer mines in Alaska. Colonel Hay of the army notified the troublesome miners that if they incited another riot it would be very serious for them.

Yuba county has commenced suit against a number of ex-county officials to recover various sums of money which it is claimed was illegally spent. Stockton capitalists are forming a company to operate a line of freight and passenger steamers on the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers.

The Second Oregon regiment reached Portland Friday, where it was tendered a big reception, and after turning over its colors to the state disbanded.

C. M. Holmes, a prominent business man of Santa Ana, was found dead in the bath tub at his home recently, with the gas turned on full force. Business troubles were the cause of his death.

The fishing season on the Columbia river was brought to a legal close a few days ago. The total pack is estimated at 276,000 cases, not more than two-thirds the usual pack. Old fishermen and others familiar with the industry claim that the runs of salmon are getting later and later with each recurring season, and the demand is general for a change in the law which will materially extend the season.

SOCIETIES OF MEDFORD.

- I. O. O. F.—Lodge No. 88, meets 1st I. O. O. F. hall every Saturday at 8 p. m. Visiting brothers always welcome. FRANK AMANN, N. G. G. C. NOBLE, Rec. Sec.
- I. O. O. F.—Hoque River Shammens, No. 30, meets in I. O. O. F. hall the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 8 p. m. W. T. YORK, Sec.
- Olive Rebekah Lodge No. 28, meets in I. O. O. F. hall 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. Visiting sisters invited to attend. MYRTLE NICHOLSON, N. G. LILLIE WEAVER, Rec. Sec.
- A. F. & A. M.—Meets 1st Friday on or before full moon at 8 p. m. in Masonic hall. N. A. OGDEN, W. M. W. V. LIPPINCOTT, Rec. Sec.
- K. of P.—Tallman lodge No. 31, meets Monday evening at 8 p. m. Visiting brothers always welcome. F. M. WILSON, U. C. K. E. COLE, K. of H. and S.
- Knights of the Maccabees—Triumph Tent No. 14, meets in regular review on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month in A. O. U. W. hall at 7:30 p. m. Visiting knights cordially invited to attend. G. L. WEBB, Commander. W. T. YORK, R. K.
- A. O. U. W.—Degree of Honor—Hether lodge, No. 56, meets every second and fourth Tuesday evening of each month in A. O. U. W. hall. MRS. CARRIE M. CHURCH, U. of H. MRS. DELIA DODGE, Rec.
- A. O. U. W.—Lodge No. 98, meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday in the month at 8 p. m. in their hall in the opera block. Visiting brothers invited to attend. J. W. LAWTON, M. W. N. L. NARRAGAN, Recorder.
- Woodmen of the World—Camp No. 90, meets every Friday evening in Adams-Deuel block, Medford, Oregon. W. H. MEERER, C. C. JOE SHONE, Clerk.
- Chrysanthemum Circle, No. 84, Women of Woodcraft—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p. m. in Woodmen hall, Visiting sisters invited. HARRIS WEBB, G. M. ADA M. MILLS, Clerk.
- W. R. C.—Chester A. Arthur Corps No. 54, meets in Woodmen's hall every second and fourth Monday night in each month at 7:30. Visiting comrades cordially invited to attend. MRS. J. H. WHITMAN, Pres. MRS. N. B. HATHURBY, Sec.
- G. A. R.—Chester A. Arthur Post No. 47, meets in Woodmen's hall every second and fourth Monday night in each month at 7:30. Visiting comrades cordially invited to attend. M. S. DAMON, Adjutant. C. A. BOARDMAN, Com.
- W. C. T. U.—Meets every other Wednesday in the Halley block. ADDIE HALLAY, Pres. MRS. MAY COX, Sec.

CHURCHES OF MEDFORD.

- Maine Marks Episcopal, Sunday school meets at Episcopal Church every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. Rev. Wm. Hart, Rector; S. S. Pentz, Superintendent.
- Methodist Episcopal Church—H. N. Hounds, pastor. Preaching every Sabbath at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m. H. L. Gilkey, supt. Class meeting every Sabbath at close of sermon. Levi Paucell, leader. Epworth League every Sabbath evening at 8:30. G. Paucell, pres. Regular weekly prayer meeting every Wednesday evening at 7:30. Ladies' sewing circle every week. Missionary society meets the first Friday in each month.
- Presbyterian Church—Rev. A. Hatherly, pastor. Preaching every Sabbath at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Y. P. S. C. E. at 6:30 p. m. Junior Endeavor Society at 9:30 p. m. Sunday. Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock.
- Baptist church—G. N. Ames, pastor. Worship and preaching every Sunday morning and evening at usual hours for church services. Covenant meeting on Saturday at 2 o'clock preceding each first Sunday. Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening. Baptist Young Peoples Union meets at 6:30 on Sunday evening. Sunday school at 10 a. m.
- Christian church—Corner of Sixth and I streets. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Junior Endeavor at 3 p. m. Y. P. S. C. E. at 6:30 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 8:30. G. J. Gist pastor. Besides at the church.
- Methodist Episcopal Church South—Rev. E. F. Wilson, pastor. Preaching every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Epworth League, prayer and praise meeting each Sunday at 8 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock. Women's Home Mission Society meets first Thursday in each month at 2:30 p. m. Mrs. E. B. Pickett, president.

NORTHERN PACIFIC RY.

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