

Training of a Bluejacket.

How Pacific Coast Boys Are Taught to Become Men Behind the Guns.

The United States Naval Training Service was designed and organized to provide for the Navy a continuous current of intelligent, young, zealous and patriotic Americans, and to train them to man and work its ships and guns. From the graduates of this apprenticeship system the billets of petty officers are filled from among the most meritorious, and these worthy and ambitious applicants are given the necessary instruction and training to best fit them to perform efficiently the duties of their new offices.

From the body of petty officers so formed the best fitted are chosen and appointed warrant officers of the line of the Navy, the boatswains and the gunners. Two-candidate for either of these life positions must have served not less than seven years on board of cruising vessels of the Navy, and for at least one year of that time as a chief petty officer, first class, of the seaman branch and be serving as such under continuous service at the time of his examination. He must also be under 35 years of age.

Boys, preferably of American birth, between the ages of 16 and 17 years, are received at the United States Naval Station at Bremerton, Washington (Puget Sound Naval Station), the navy-yard, Mare Island, California, and at the Naval Training Station, San Francisco, California, at Yerba Buena Island, between San Francisco and Oakland. After passing the required physical examination and the very elementary mental one, the boys, with the written consent of their parents or guardians, are apprenticed to the United States Government until they reach the age of 21 years, for training and service in the Navy. They become, at once naval apprentices, their pay being \$10 per month. Every sailor in the Navy, including apprentices, receives a ration, which feeds him, and feeds him well. The ration is somewhat commensurate and its money value is 30 cents a day.

As a bounty to encourage the enlistment of boys as apprentices in the Navy, the Secretary of the Navy is authorized to furnish free to each apprentice after enlistment and when first received on board ship an outfit of clothing not to exceed in value the sum of \$45.

The boys enlisted elsewhere than at the San Francisco Training Station, on this Coast, are, as soon as practicable, conveyed at Government expense to that station, where they receive instructions and drills and are generally fitted for further and more advanced training on the cruising training ships, to which they are transferred after six months at San Francisco.

Life at Yerba Buena.

There are large and commodious barracks on Yerba Buena Island, with an immense drill hall in it, overlooked by galleries. The boys live and work and play in this building and the immediate vicinity. Ship life is simulated as much as possible. The apprentices sleep in hammocks, swung on hoops, in the galleries, each in his own bed, marked on the outside of the canvas with its owner's number and slung at right by the occupant on his own proper hooks. At 9 o'clock at night, at taps, every apprentice must be in his hammock. At reveille in the morning the apprentices turn out, wash and stow their bedding in the large chests provided for that purpose, and the galleries lose their character as dormitories. Then the boys are required to take a bath, after which they dress and then go to breakfast. After that meal the work of the day begins.

In the same building with the drill hall are the offices for the administration of the station, the recreation room, the mess-hall, the cooking and serving-out room, the washroom, the printing office, the steam drying-room for wash clothes (each boy must wash and keep his own clothes clean), the dispensary, where sick call is held every morning by the surgeon, and the so-called canteen, where the apprentices can purchase the little things every boy wants such as candy, writing paper and envelopes, and a great variety of more or less useful and necessary articles. Partitioned off from the galleries are the rooms of the petty officers and schoolmasters having immediate personal supervision over the boys, many of them being graduate apprentices, preparing themselves, incidentally, for advancement. Adjoining the barracks are the boiler-room and the dynamo-room. The building is steam heated and electrically lighted. In rear of the barracks is the hospital for those who are seriously ill. This is a small building, but so far as it goes, more than adequate for its purpose. There is also a "bagroom" in the barracks where are stowed the canvas bags of the boys in which are kept their clothes. These bags are stowed in racks arranged in tiers and rows, so that every bag is accessible, and the bags are each stenciled on the bottom, which is out, with the owner's name, each piece of clothing is in constant charge of its keeper and the apprentices have access to their bags at certain specified times only. The most scrupulous cleanliness is enforced, and is obtained by frequent inspections of the persons, the bedding and clothing of the boys. All clothing is of strictly regulation pattern and material, marked with the owner's name, each piece in its proper place; clothing lists are kept and all clothing must be accounted for. Each apprentice is taught to keep his own clothes in order, and habits of neatness are inculcated.

Instruction.

The boys are instructed and marked on their proficiency in reading, writing, arithmetic and United States history. They are instructed and well grounded in seamanship, gunnery, rifles, pulling on a ship's boat, signals and infantry drill. They are marked on their proficiency in all of these subjects and the record is kept of every boy during his entire time in the Navy.

At the end of six months at the station as the result of wholesome food, healthful exercise and hygienic care, with the instructions they have received, the boys are well prepared to take their place on the cruising practice ships connected with the station. The boys look forward to this with the most eager anticipations. It marks the second epoch in their career. But it is not all work at the station by any means. The boys have their games and gymnastic exercises. The deserving are granted furloughs to San Francisco, and usually spend it in visiting San Francisco and its delightful suburbs. A steam tug, running at regular, stated times, conveys them to and from the station. They are welcome visitors and their clean, neat uniforms and bright, happy faces are not the least attractive sights in the busy city.

The use of tobacco is strictly prohibited to the growing boys, at the station and on the cruising training ships, and though there are infractions of the rule, they are so few as to be surprising to any one at all conversant with the human boy.

A chaplain is attached to the station, who is charged with the direction of the English studies and the moral instruction of the boys; divine service is held in the drill hall every Sunday morning, and the attendance of the boys is obligatory. Infractions of the regulations are reported to the authorities, and all such reports are personally investigated by the commandant and the culprits admonished or punished. Every boy who thinks that he has a grievance has personal access to the commandant at stated times.

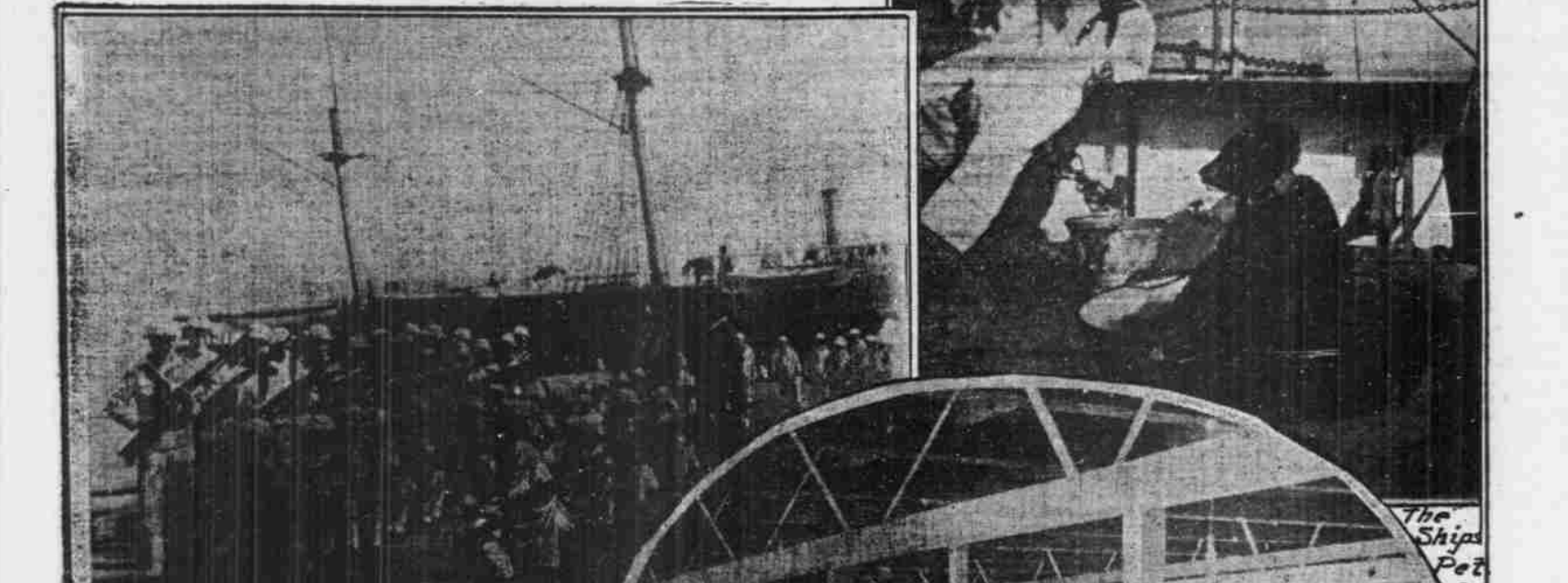
through the official channels, and his case is investigated.

On the cruising training ships the same system of instruction and training is continued. These ships make two cruises each year—a winter trip to the South and a summer cruise to the North. The boys soon find their own level. The ones who show decided aptitude for the service are weeded out and dismissed. It is no place for the feeble in mind or in body. It is in no sense a charitable institution. Many men are wanted for the

crease of pay of \$1.35 per month at each enlistment, the privilege of enlisting in the grade which he held when discharged, and the option of being put on the retired list after 30 years' service in the United States Navy, with the pay of three-fourths of that of the grade held at the time of such retirement. This last is a reward that he could hardly expect to obtain in any walk of life that was open to him in his youth. Examining it and bearing in mind that he is necessarily an intelligent, trained man, it is very unlikely that after 30 years' service he will hold a lower rating at the time of his discharge than that of a petty officer of the first class, the pay of which is \$40 per month, or \$480 per year; for this assumed minimum the pay varies up to \$65 per month, that of a chief master-at-arms, or \$780 per year. Three quarters of these rates of pay are, respectively, \$300 and \$585 a year. This privilege is established by an act of Congress, and is the splendid reward for long and faithful

would be greeted and enticed by the vicious and ennobled by the good and respectable; that their presence was unwelcome at most decent places, at the theaters, the hotels, I regret to say, at many churches; there was no place for them, and if one, more independent and self-reliant than his fellows, attempted to do what he could have done without question, had he been in plain clothes, he found that his presence was offensive, and was resented, more or less openly, usually more. There was necessarily a reaction on the character of the man. Only at the grog shop, the dive and the

is capable of almost unlimited expansion and development. In this, it is the ideal to take older men than the apprentices and pursue with them a somewhat similar course of training, with corresponding methods and rewards. The aspirations for the future are ideal, the forming the men of the United States Navy into the best possible instrument for carrying out the Naval policy of the best possible country in the world, with all the sub-aspirations that can be included. The facts stated in this article are from

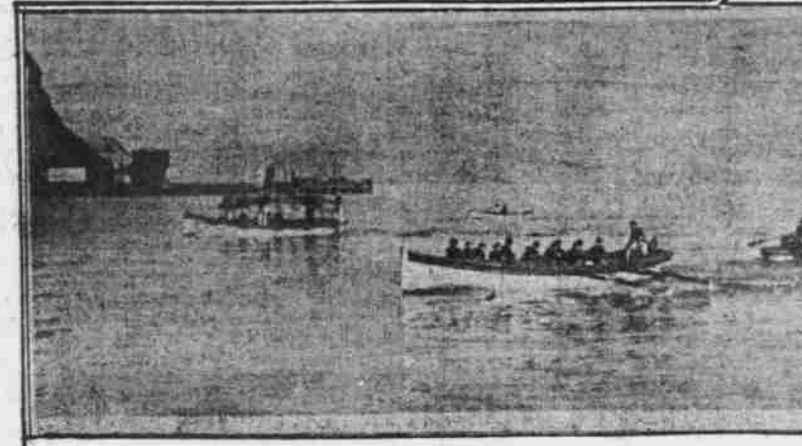


Rifle drill on the wharf.



The galleries in the barracks, showing hammocks in their chests and hooks upon which they are slung.

Physical drill, Pensacola's wharf.



Race between cutter and catamaran.

service, an honor to the recipient as it is to the country that gives it. It is as sure as a Government bond, to which it may be likened, the bond being kept in the custody of, and guaranteed by the Government; fire cannot destroy nor thieves steal the capital of such a man. In the first class, that of chief petty officer, the retired pay is represented by the income from a 3 per cent Government bond of \$12,000. In the last case, that of a retired chief master-at-arms, it is represented by the similar income from \$22,000. Contrast this sure thing, with the probable income of the boy and man, from his possible accumulated capital, had he followed for an equal period any one of the other callings open to him in his youth. How many of the industrious, sober, hard-working mechanics, small farmers and laborers manage to realize from their past efforts any such assured competency? Further, the man so retired is not a broken-down wreck; he is a man in the seasoned prime of life, a trained man, accustomed to implicit obedience to the orders of those placed over him, and to exacting the same implicit obedience from those under his orders. How long will such a man, faithful and work-loving, be in obtaining employment?

American Boys in the Navy.

The present results of the wisely conceived and efficiently administered training service are that the morale of the enlisted men of the Navy has been tremendously improved, and their efficiency equally so. Only 25 years ago our Navy was largely recruited from foreigners; it is now largely composed of Americans, most of whom are of American birth. The petty officers and the warrant officers are almost wholly native-born Americans. The substitution of patriotic, intelligent, young, specially trained Americans in the places of the foreign-born and bred type of seaman, ignorant and often brutalized, whose training was that which he has picked up in the hard life before the mast, under the flag of perhaps a half-dozen different nations, who had no country, no patriotism, no home and no kinfolk, whose sole ideas of the countries that he had visited were gathered from the saloons; the land-lings, and who had but little conception of his obligations, has wrought wonders for the good of the service.

Not so very long ago a man in the uniform of a United States seaman was, when ashore, a mark and in many cases an easy one for the "powers that prey"; the dive-keeper and the "beat" caught him at every turn, and the respectable men of a ship's company were not to be blamed for being ashamed and afraid to appear in the seaport cities wearing the uniform which should have been their pride and honor. They knew that they

brother was a welcome guest, and there only so long as his money lasted. Thank God this is not true now! Today, all the world over, the blue shirt of the American sailor is a badge of honor and a mark of respectability. It is worn by self-reliant, intelligent men who are a credit to their country, who fear comparison with and ask favors of none. The American man-of-warman is now welcome in every hotel, theater and respectable place of entertainment in the land. The happy phrase of Rear-Admiral Henry Erben, U. S. Navy, given as a toast at a banquet in honor of Captain Mahan, in England, has received the currency of one of Kipling's inspirations, and is now adopted into the speech of the great Anglo-American countries. "The man behind the gun." As for the churches, lack of space forbids more than a passing recognition of what they have done and wish to do for our men, but a tribute is due, and should be paid, to the Young Men's Christian Association, which, inspired and directed by such noble souls as the late Rear-Admiral John Philip, has done such fine service for the enlisted men, in providing them with clean and attractive self-supporting places of resort, where the sailor has all the conveniences of a club, and at which he pays for what he gets, and has the proud satisfaction that he is no more the recipient of charity than the member of the Arlington or Bohemian Club considers himself.

Our ships are now manned by a class of young Americans, full of zeal and of trained intelligence, who make the exercise of clearing ship for action and the general quarters that follows it, the battle drill, a revelation and a delight to the uninitiated observer.

The relations that exist between the men and their officers have also undergone a great beneficial change. The respect of both has mutually reacted, and will continue to do so.

The warrant officers of the Navy of the United States are appointed from graduates of the apprenticeship system who have shown marked ability and merit. These officers hold a great beneficial change. The respect of both has mutually reacted, and will continue to do so.

the official Naval regulations, mostly quoted verbatim, and which are capable of verification by a reference to the aforementioned "Blue Book."

A. N. WOOD,
Lieutenant-Commander, U. S. Navy.

WORDS IN GENERAL VOGUE.

"Strenuous" the Latest to Achieve Widespread Popularity.

"Public writers and speakers, who are followed by the general public, catch on to a certain word or phrase at certain periods as a boy catches the measles," said a well-known Washingtonian to a reporter of the Star of that city.

"It is 'strenuous' now. For the past few years the prime favorite has been 'passing.' If a man died, a headline to his death notice was like this:

"The Passing of Hoodie Foodie."

"The passing of the old century was an opportunity seized upon as a girl seized a peach ice cream on a warm day. Epochs, periods, ideas, modes of dress, customs, cowboys, frontier bad men, come over and pretty much everything else were 'passed.'"

"It's all right, proper and grammatical, and I call attention to the habit not for the purpose of criticism. But a new child is born. Everything and everybody is 'strenuous' now, from a man's vigorous temperament to a dog fight."

"We'll have a strenuous admiration, a strenuous President, a strenuous Vice-President, a strenuous foreign policy, a strenuous campaign, a strenuous Congress, and we will lead strenuous lives. But it does not alter the tried fact that some of us have a strenuous chase for the strenuous copper cent, all right."

Vulgarity.

It is vulgar to make remarks about the food at dinner.

To talk about things which only interest yourself.

To contradict your friends when they are speaking.

To grumble about your home and relations to outsiders.

To say clever things which may hurt some one's feelings.

To behave in an omnibus or train as if no one else had a right to be there.

Exchange.

A YOUTHFUL MUNCHAUSEN.

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD EDITOR WHO HAS INTERESTED NEW YORK.

Interviewed James R. Keene and Russell Sage on Finance—His Remarkable Stories.

At the Waldorf-Astoria, is a 12-year-old boy from Missouri, who has excited considerable interest in the New York Times. His name is Richard E. Murphy, and, according to his statements he is, among other things, the son of the virtual owner of the great elevated railway system of Jefferson City, Mo., and himself the sole proprietor and editor of the Jefferson City Spectator, a weekly Democratic paper with a circulation of over 120,000 a year and employing a staff of 45 persons, most of these being brainy youths under 16 years of age, yielding an annual revenue of some \$25,000, and one of the most outspoken and fearless Bryan organs in the great Middle West.

Besides being the possessor of this handsome property, young Murphy admits that he is the sole legatee of his grandfather, by whose will he recently became possessed of \$250,000, and he is now on his way around the world on a sight-seeing tour that will cost him in the neighborhood of \$10,000. Later he expects to snatch sufficient time from his business labors to take a course at Yale, after which he will return to Jefferson City, Mo., and again take up the active personal direction of his newspaper property.

He arrived at the hotel late Sunday evening and, strolling up to the desk, climbed up on it and registered his name in a bold hand. "A room and bath," he said in a matter-of-fact way, while the clerk looked about to see where the rest of the family was. The order was repeated in a tone that brooked no delay, and Mr. Murphy was shown up to room 5114 on the third floor. The price of this room is \$4 a day.

"Any luggage, sir?" inquired the clerk. "Only my light luggage," replied the new guest, pointing to the suitcase. "My trunks have been forwarded to the Adelphi Hotel, in Liverpool. I sail in a few days."

On Monday, after partaking of a handsome breakfast in the hotel dining-room, he strolled down town to see the sights and, as became a man of large affairs, he

I then told him that I would like to give him a five-inch "ad." He asked the rates, and I told him that it would cost \$25. This, with the subscription, amounted to \$50, and he gave me a check for the amount. I deposited the check with my banker, Mr. Samuel E. Keach, on Astor Court. I intend having Mr. Keach issue a letter of credit against a check for \$500 tomorrow.

Yes, I interviewed James R. Keene last night in the Palm Garden of the hotel. We got to talking of imperialism, and I told him I was opposed to Kings—copper, silver, and all other kinds. I then gave my opinion against trusts and financiers who corner capital and labor. Mr. Keene went on to say that there were men of honor in Wall street as well as anywhere else, and then I said to him:

"Mr. Keene, you don't understand the condition of the farmers in Missouri and Kansas. They are hard-working, honest men. Don't you think it better to be an honest farmer, wearing homespun and earning what he gets, than to be an assumed gentleman here in the city, wearing evening clothes and making money 'doubtful means'?" Mr. Keene's only reply was to say that I was one of the brightest boys he had ever met.

Mr. Keene corroborated every word of this Keene interview, and said that young Murphy had elucidated his views on financial, social and economic affairs to several of the most prominent men, and a number of other distinguished men.

An investigation disclosed numerous apertures, so to speak, in the Western editor's story.

Russell Sage, when seen in his office yesterday afternoon, admitted having been interviewed by the diminutive financier.

"He appeared to be a remarkably bright boy," said Mr. Sage. "A most remarkably bright boy. He told me that he was on a tour of inspection around the world, and mentioned the fact that he was not acceptable to him to help him defray his expenses. I told him that it was against my rule to give money to strangers, but that he deserved to succeed. No, I did not subscribe to his paper, and I did not contract for an advertisement. Neither did I tell him that I had been hard hit by the panic."

Mr. Keach, the broker in Astor Court, with whom Master Murphy said he deposited the Sage check, said that he had not yet received the money, but that he might receive it at any moment.

Last afternoon Father Ducey sent a telegram to the father telling him that he would send the boy home if the parents desired it. He also sent a letter telling the father that his son was a favorite making of a great rascal or a great good man, and if the parents did not want him returned, he (Father Ducey) would put the lad in an institution home.

Meantime, there is a rather good-sized board bill due at the Waldorf-Astoria which the management will not insist on having settled.

The Miss Movers.

Pick-Me-Up.
Miss Brown is exceedingly fair.
Miss White is as red as a berry.
Miss Black has a gray head of hair.
Miss Green is a first ever merry.
Miss Lightfoot weighs sixteen stone.
Miss Rich scarce has a money a penny.
Miss Lane wears a wig and has none.
Miss Solomon is a real nutty!

Miss Midway's a terrible scold.
Miss Ducey's ever cross and contrary.
Miss Young is now-a-days a very queer.
And Miss Heavily's light as a fairy.
Miss Short is at least five feet ten.
Miss Noble's of humble extraction.
Miss Love has a hatred toward men.
While Miss Still is forever in action.

Miss Green is a regular blue.
Miss Scarlet looks pale as a lily.
Miss Violet never shrinks from our view.
And Miss Widdowson thinks all men silly.
Miss Goodchild's a naughty young elf.
Miss Lyon's from terror a fool.
Miss Moe's not at all like myself.
Miss Margaret has no cash rule!

Miss Wright she is constantly wrong.
Miss Tickle, she is not funny.
Miss Singer never warbled a song.

And, alas, poor Miss Cash has no money.
Miss Listeman would give all she's worth
To purchase a new dress and a new hat.
Miss Merry is shocked at all mirth.
Miss Dancer the men don't find striking.

Miss Bliss does with sorrow o'er flow.
Miss Hope in despair seeks her tomb.
Miss Joy still anticipates we
And Miss Charley's never wet home!
Miss Hamlet resides in a city.

The nerves of Miss Standfast are shaken.
Miss Prudence's heart is out pretty.
Miss Faithful her love has forsaken!

Wanted Her Turn.

A bright little girl, who attends a dancing school, had a trying experience some little time ago. She really is a favorite with the children of the school, but when the little boys and girls marched in couples, or danced a quadrille, it happened again and again that she was left out.

She waited patiently and hopefully, and each time she was disappointed. She felt that the situation justified a protest, and she accordingly made one. "I am tired," she said, "and I am going home." "Please Miss Jones, if there's any little boy left over, next time, may I have him?"—McCall's Magazine.

Woman's Life....

is hard enough as it is. It is to her that we owe our world, and everything should be made as easy as possible for her at the time of childbirth. This is just what

MOTHER'S FRIEND

will do. It will make baby's coming easy and painless, and that without taking dangerous drugs into the system. It is simply to be applied to the muscles of the abdomen. It penetrates through the skin carrying strength and elasticity with it. It strengthens the whole system and prevents all of the discomforts of pregnancy.

The mother of a plumb babe in Panama, Mo., says: "I have used Mother's Friend and can praise it highly."

Get Mother's Friend at the Drug Store, \$1 per bottle.

The Bradford Regulator Co., ATLANTA, GA.

Write for our free illustrated book, "Before Baby is Born."