

Men of Prominence in Business Life Make Superb Privates in Army

Millionaires, Sportsmen and Business Men Suffered the Hardships of Camp Life at Plattsburg, N. Y., in the Belief That Their Services Might Some Day Be Needed by Their Country—Forty Thousand Officers Would Be Needed for Defense in Case the United States Should Become Involved in War With Some Other Nation in the Future.

TWENTY-THREE days is the average life of a British officer in the field. This is a statement given out by the British War Office recently, and it is safe to say that it was not exaggerated.

Here is an unanswerable argument for the training of officers to command the units of any United States army which may be needed for war. As there are only 5016 officers authorized for the Regular Army of the United States, it does not take a skilled statistician to figure out how long they would last. Some of the biggest, clearest thinking men in the country are beginning to realize what this means and that is why the military instruction camp at Plattsburg, N. Y., is attended by so many prominent men—Mayors Mitchell, for instance; Hamilton Fish, Jr., Robert Bacon, one-time Ambassador to France; Dudley Field Malone and Alexander Smith Cochrane.

These men did not go to Plattsburg for fun and the significance of their being there does not lie in the fact that men with millions of dollars at their command are pitting their own tents and doing camp police duty and digging ditches with blistered hands, nor in the fact that physical giants like Percy Haughton, commander of Harvard's football forces, and Gresham Poe, of Baltimore, once feared by every eleven which faced Princeton, are taking orders from slender junior officers, some of whom they could break across their knees. These men are in camp because they firmly believe that the United States may go to war—may be obliged to go to war—and if the life of an officer is going to be 23 days in the field, they want to put in their 23 days.

Are Same as Cadets. The privates in the Plattsburg camp will many of them be high school seniors, some of whom have expired if the United States goes to war. They have at present the status of cadets. They will know how to take care of themselves and what is more important, they will know how to take care of their men. They won't let them starve to death with loads of rations standing on the shelves a few days from headquarters, as was very near occurring at Chickamauga during the war against Spain.

They will know better than to have the camp washed down at a point above stream from where the camp drinking water is drawn, and they won't have the camp refuse burned at a point where it will be washed down into the drinking water the first time a rain comes.

There are 1100 men in the Plattsburg encampment. In addressing them recently Major-General Leonard Wood made a direct reference to a statement made by Mr. Bryan in December, 1914. Mr. Bryan said:

"The President knows that if this country needed 1,000,000 men and needed them in a day, the call would go out at sunrise and the sun would go down on 1,000,000 men in arms."

Without touching on the question as to where the arms for 1,000,000 men would come from, so that the sun might go down glistening on the wicked steel, Major-General Wood said: "I want to say a few words to you men regarding our method of raising an army and the fallacy of it. The perfectly sane statement has been made that we can raise 1,000,000 men between sunrise and sunset. This assembly of you men at this camp is an answer to that kind of talk. There are many amiable old ladies who think you men have responded to the call of the wild. Personally I hope it means the response of as many males as we have left."

General Wood declared that the volunteer system had proved a failure. Washington, he said, warned against it, and if it was unsafe at the end of the 18th century, when the ocean almost isolated the United States against a foreign foe, how much more unsafe it must now be, when the ocean may be traversed in a few days.

In the Civil War both the United States and the Confederacy were obliged to resort to the draft system, and it looks as though Great Britain, with the very existence of the empire at stake and her shores in danger of invasion, would be obliged to resort to a similar system, which in Europe is called conscription.

General Wood estimates that 40,000 officers would be required for an adequate army for a defensive war, so that the little nucleus at Plattsburg is little more than one-tenth the number needed, and the casualties of a campaign would require constant preparation and service of new officers. It is not necessary to dwell on the cost in men and money which was caused in the Civil War and the Spanish-American War by the commissioning of officers who did not know their business.

As to enlisted men, 50,000 regulars are on duty in garrisons outside the continental limits of the United States, and military authorities admit that even with the National Guard a mobile army of about 150,000 to 175,000 men would be the best we could put in the field to repel an invasion.

The importance of ammunition in the present war brings home the fact that practically all the ammunition factories in the United States are in a narrow belt in the East and that they are not protected. Considering that an enemy had disposed of our fleet so that we could land 125,000 men, a small contingent as European armies are reckoned nowadays, our ammunition centers would be in grave danger, if not actually at the mercy of the invader, with his long-range guns.

The campaigns of recent years, both naval and military, in the vicinity of Long Island Sound and in the strip of land between the Hudson River and the Sound, have shown the difficulty of defending this very belt, or at least a large and important part of it, against an aggressive foe in strong force.

And after you have the brute force,



Major General Leonard Wood at the Camp in Plattsburg.

Copyright by Underwood & Underwood.



Mayor Mitchell May Become a Corporal.

Copyright by Underwood & Underwood.



Dudley Field Malone Collector of the Port of New York.

Copyright by Underwood & Underwood.



Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., Is a Private.

Copyright by Underwood & Underwood.



F. H. Prince and Hamilton Fish, Jr.

Copyright by Underwood & Underwood.

represented by the large and well-trained army, you need the brains, represented by the officers of that army. The men may be the most intelligent in the land, but they may know little of military fighting, and they must depend upon their officers for direction. That is why the country's best and wealthiest and most intelligent men are giving up business and play and sport to go to the camp at Plattsburg at their own expense to learn to be soldiers and officers.

That Secretary of War Garrison is personally in favor of a larger Army—large enough to be adequate—was made plain when a representative of this newspaper questioned him recently.

"The very fact that the subject of our preparedness brings up many matters that are extremely unpleasant to consider—those from which the mind shrinks—accounts to a great extent for the neglect of its proper consideration, but makes it all the more necessary that it should be properly considered and satisfactorily settled," said Mr. Garrison.

"If a body of useful, thoughtful citizens should assemble to consider the necessary precautions to protect the community against the ravages of disease and some one should suggest that

those who are thinking about this thing must be in favor of it the only consideration that he would receive would be the contemptuous laughter of those who heard him. Yet when sober, sensible citizens are requested to similarly consider what precautions should be taken against the outbreak of war suggestion is made that those who thus bring this subject up for consideration are in favor of war.

History Likely to Repeat.

"In our short history we have been engaged in many wars, aggregating many years. The history of the world abounds with instances of warfare. Those who have not yet been touched by the gift of prophecy can only safely guide their future conduct in the light of the past. Civilization, if it means anything, means the triumph of organized righteousness. Until that day comes when all are righteous, those who oppose what is right must be overcome if the right is to prevail. While the old adage that it takes two to make a quarrel may be so, it is not true that it takes two to make a fight. One may so behave that the fight is inevitable unless the other yields that which, in view of his duties and his obligations, he has no right whatever to yield.

"The dealings of nations in the modern world are so interwoven, and rights which must imperatively be maintained and defended are so many that no nation can dwell apart and evade its just responsibilities if it is to do its duty to its citizens and, in a wider sense, to the world at large. There is a noblesse oblige with respect to nations as there is with respect to individuals. Those who have power likewise have great responsibilities.

"While it is probably true that human nature is so constituted—and it is absurd to believe that fundamentally human nature will ever change—that no contrivance will ever make war an impossibility, on the other hand there is no doubt that a sane, sensible working agreement can some day be reached which will reduce the probability of war to the minimum. This country, of course, is eager to take its part and do its share toward such an end. Until, however, there is put into practical operation some agreement or arrangement of this kind it is the height of folly to act otherwise than in view of its non-existence today.

Untrained Men Are Useless.

"To those who admit the inevitable conclusion that war may come, but point to our possibilities to deal with it when it does come, an all sufficient answer is that precaution is a much better thing to trust than chance; that material cannot be improvised, and that untrained men in modern warfare are practically useless, and the effect of sending them is disastrous. I do not see how a reasonable mind, which recognizes the possibility of war, can justify itself in trusting to preparation, therefore, after it has come, or can justify itself in neglecting precaution against an admitted possibility.

"Far too many people refuse to think thoroughly upon this subject, because their minds are caught and held by prejudices which they refuse to dismiss. They very properly object to a huge, overshadowing military establishment. They very improperly determine that those who wish to take sensible precautions favor this undesirable military result. In other words, they leap to the conclusion that consideration of this subject 'must lead to militarism' and that militarism is, as we all admit, undesirable. Such a state of mind, it is respectfully submitted, with respect to almost any subject, lead to a paralysis of progress. In everything that is good there is a germ of evil.

"A very proper subject for consideration is the matter of the expense en-

tailed by any plan or policy adopted. The effect of this consideration should have been to refrain from all proper expenditures for all necessary purposes of safety."

but to be as sure as we can be that we have limited what is necessary and not be to refrain from all proper expenditures for all necessary purposes of safety."

KEEPING TRACK OF FACTORY WOMEN

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—The activities of the women's division of labor statistics of the Department of Labor have been kept somewhat in the background of public attention and few people know that such a division exists, much less of the splendid work which it has done in bringing about the amelioration of conditions which a woman must face who goes out into the world of industry to fight for a living.

Of necessity the pioneers of the division had to work silently and unobtrusively, for they met considerable opposition. But now the work has justified itself. Employers use its reports as authentic reference. The judgments of its investigators are taken without question as the basis for remedial legislation, and Miss M. K. Conyngham, who has just succeeded Miss Marie Obenauer as the head of the division, discusses each phase of this unique activity.

Back in 1885, which was the birth year of the Department of Labor, the organic act which created it stipulated that of the 20 special agents provided to do field work two of them should be women. In fact, Carroll D. Wright, the first Commissioner of Labor, was called to that post from an investigation of women and children in Massachusetts, and he merely translated this interest to the broader Federal field.

Miss M. C. Graffenberg was one of the pioneer women investigators, and one of the first bulletins written on the woman worker was her "Working Women in Large Cities." This was followed by another pioneer report in 1895, "Work and Wages of Men, Women and Children." There was a period when interest in the women of industry seemed to slump completely out of sight, due in all probability to the extensive investigations which were undertaken by the bureau upon the cost of living, which drew upon the entire force of the bureau, robbing the women's field of the investigators sent out by the first Commissioner. When Florence Kelly and women of her kind stirred up facts about conditions in women's industries in 1903 and 1904 there was a revival of interest in the bureau personnel, followed by the getting out of a 19-volume report a number of years later on the condition of woman and child wage-earners in the United States.

From this extended report grew the division which now relates specifically to the woman in industry and which carries on investigations with an eye to the relations which any industry or aspect of an industry may bear to an individual woman. Miss Conyngham explains this as follows:

"Between 7,000,000 and 8,000,000 women have followed the work once done in the home into shop and factory. Instead of knitting her socks at home, the woman today does it behind machines in large mills, instead of spinning and weaving in front of her own fire-side, she keeps the shuttle whirling on big, noisy machines, along with dozens of other women who are doing the same. She bakes, cans and preserves not in her own kitchen, but in huge factories where these household, old-fashioned things are done in a wholesale way.

"It isn't because women do more work nowadays than they did formerly that there has arisen this need for a Government bureau dealing with their labor, but because they work under radically different conditions from those of the past. The industrial revolution has brought with it the need for the trained and impartial investigator, who will keep, in a way, a check upon the employer, and counterbalance as far as possible the ruthlessness and indifference of big business.

"I am not saying that it would not be within the province of the labor bureau to keep a check upon women in the home as well as the so-called wage-earner. Though she may not draw regular pay, the mother of the family works as valiantly as the woman in the cannery, and in many cases under as adverse conditions. An investigation along this line would bring out surprising facts. I warrant you. However, as much as we would like to help the individual householder, it is quite impossible with only \$200,000 a year for the whole bureau to cover more than the women who work in groups, the employees of stores, smelters, mills and the like. The Department of Agriculture, through its studies of farm women, and the census bureau partly cover the work of the woman in the home."

When Miss Conyngham was asked to

draw some generalization as to the woman worker as a whole, she replied: "Women work under such different circumstances and for such a variety of motives that it is impossible to draw any close generalization. If you care to take this as a generalization, the majority of women who work have some one dependent upon them."

"This may sound startling to the unsophisticated investigator, who shares the prevalent notion that girls who go out to work do so for pin money. In every branch of industry which we have studied we find, quite the contrary to be true. Not more than 2 per cent of wage-earning girls are 'ribbon-earners.'"

Turning to one of the 10 volumes which form a complete reference library for this woman statistician, she ran her finger through a maze of figures and culled out these statements:

"Of girls and boys over 16 years of age contributing to the family income, the girls contribute only 1 per cent less than the boys, although their average income is \$100 a year less. Again, while the father generally bears the brunt of the family budget, 38.5 per cent comes from the wage-earning daughter. This table relates specifically to the cotton textile industry, but it holds true of the glass industry as well, and the silk and garment factories of New York, Philadelphia and Boston."

In answer to the query as to whether she had been able to discern whether the girl looked upon her work in as serious a light as the boy who would eventually have the responsibility of a family on his hands, she said:

"I cannot say that the girl who earns her own living—not professional workers, as I know nothing of them—has any less defined aim than the boy who labors. Both are actuated by such a variety of considerations that one simply is at a loss to classify them. In some cases the girl has a clearly defined goal at the end of her long industrial road, toward which she works with all of the concentration and purpose displayed by a serious man. Again openings occur as she goes along and she unconsciously drops into them. Others think only of the need of the moment, are forced into the first employment that shows up, and when the necessity is met they stop thinking, until hunger or the desire for a new dress drives them to work again. It is true, however, that the work which a girl does is more often dictated by home ties than the work done by the boy."

Turning to another one of the statistical tables, Miss Conyngham pointed to a list of a score of industries running the whole gamut of the unskilled trades.

"This shows you the sort of work which women do who have no training for any kind of a vocation. You see all of them are wholly routine, tread work, tiresome and soul-killing. I might make an exception of the chocolate-dippers, the makers of boxes when the latter are somewhat fancy and the core-makers. These do require a certain degree of skill, which makes them correspondingly enlightening."

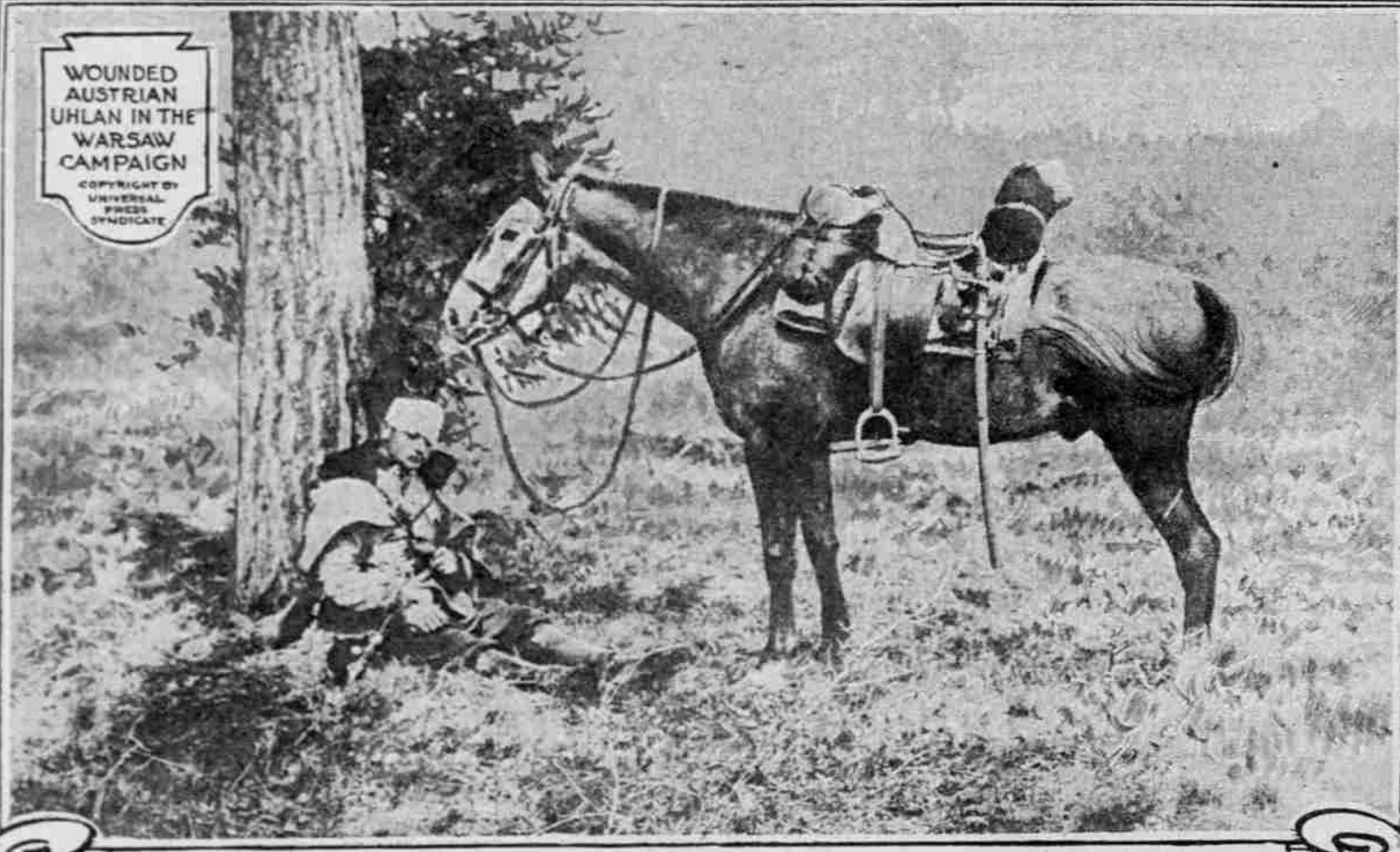
Miss Conyngham followed with her finger a list including pottery-making, the manufacture of needles and pins, cigars, corsets, the fashioning of bolts, nuts and screws, which she declares is particularly inappropriate for the woman worker; the making of clocks, watches, tin cans, boxes, shirts, underwear, overalls and the canning of fruits and vegetables.

"The disheartening feature of this table, in addition to the tiresomeness of the work," she said, "is the fact that one-eighth of the women over 18 earn only \$4 a week, two-fifths get under \$6 and only one-tenth reach the \$10 mark."

"Sixty thousand women were studied in this group, and of these 50,000 we found that one-eighth were married. By married we technically mean in our investigations the women who actually live with their husbands, not widows or divorcees, and who make a pretense of keeping up a home. When you consider that the accepted view of matrimony makes the husband the breadwinner and places the woman in the home it is somewhat subversive of accepted principles to find such a large proportion of wage-earning women under the married category."

"I do not give opinions, but lay bare the facts. I know that when the husband is only earning \$400 a year there is nothing else for the wife to do but to supplement that meager income with earnings of her own. It may be that the children fare better with the increased money in the family."

THE WAR HORSE



Over the trenches with never a qualm,
Bespattered by froth and mud;
You carried me right to the thick of the fight.
Your nostrils streaming with blood,
With never a whinny and never a neigh
You bore me swift and true;
For I was in need of a fearless steed
And that fearless steed was you

With steaming flank and with gleaming eye
You acted as barricade;
To shield me from harm with your body warm,
As I faced the fusillade.
'Twas only the tether of love that held
When my wounds had set you free;
Yet you stayed, and your breath, in that shambles of death,
Kept life in the body 'o me.

Still another battle was yet to come—
The battle that laid you low.
When a splinter of shell, in that orgy of hell,
Caused your noble blood to flow.
The love that you bore me I hold in my heart
As a treasure surpassing rare;
And when God above garners all pure love,
I know that yours will be there.

By George Willard Bonte