



Women in Uniform Study Defense Skills

By MAXINE BUREN
Tramp, tramp, tramp the girls are marching.

Those women in natty sultan slacks, regulation officers shirts and overseas caps are members of the National Service League Motor corps, learning to drill, drive ambulances and send short-wave radio messages. They will be in Uncle Sam's first line of defense, "if and when" a first line is needed.

There are 23 members of the Motor corps in Salem, with Captain Bertha Ray and First Lieutenant Nellie Cox in command.

The National Service League Motor corps was originated by Harriet Virginia of Santa Monica, Calif., an ambulance driver of

the World war. It is voluntary and open to any woman over 18.

Women of the Salem corps meet every Friday night in the chamber of commerce rooms, to learn the intricacies of short-wave radio under the direction of Dwight Mulkey, first aid from Dr. V. A. Douglas, signaling from Jess McNeil and drill from Sergeant Frank Jirak.

Later they will study auto mechanics.

Not only do these women expect to become an important factor in home defense in case of war, but also they will be ready in any emergency or disaster. They will know how to man trucks and ambulances, give aid to injured, repair motors, will have a working knowledge of short-wave radio and know how to fight fires.

One of the greatest features of the organization is that its members will be ready when needed.

The official uniform includes sultan gabardine slacks, a far cry from the long skirts of women's service organizations of the last World War. Regulation officers' shirts, overseas caps, trench coats and official Girl Scouts shoes complete the uniforms.

"Considering that the idea of women actually training for home defense is so new, our membership of 23 is quite good for this sized city," said Captain Ray. "Beside these 23 who are already

in uniform, there are 35 more women who have made application for membership and will be fitted with uniforms soon after the first of the year," she stated.

The Salem unit of the National Service League Motor corps has hung its certificate of charter in the chamber of commerce rooms.

When in Doubt Salute, Advice

Don't Carry Umbrella if You're in Uniform, Is Word to Draftees

By MAX BOYD
WASHINGTON, Dec. 21—(AP)—When in doubt, salute.

That's the advice of veteran army officers to the rookie wondering when he should make this gesture of respect and courtesy, and to whom it should be directed.

The salute, given under many circumstances by raising the hand to the hat brim, is one of countless customs with which selective service trainees will have to become familiar during their year of military training.

Old Roman Custom?

Many different stories are told as to how this particular custom originated. One is that it developed among Romans who required subordinates coming into their presence to raise the hand and show that it did not conceal a dagger.

Generally speaking, officers and men are required to salute each other whenever they meet or pass out-of-doors or in roofed structures used for troop drills. The subordinate salutes first, but the officers has an equal obligation to salute in return.

This general rule does not apply when either the officer or the man is participating actively in a game, is at meals, in a public vehicle at an assembly for amusement, leading an animal, or driving a vehicle in motion.

In a military formation, the enlisted man or trainee does not salute unless he is in command of the formation. In ranks, he comes to attention when addressed directly by an officer, but does not salute.

A soldier sitting down out-of-doors is required ordinarily to rise upon the approach of an officer, stand at attention and salute.

No Salute at Work

Soldiers at work do not have to salute an officer unless he addresses them.

Indoors, salutes are not generally exchanged between officers and men.

Among the many other customs which selective service trainees will encounter in the army are these:

One knock before entering a room is the signal for everyone within to come to attention.

It is considered un military for an officer or a soldier in uniform to use an umbrella.

In some regiments it is customary, when a child is born to a member of the regiment, to send flowers to the mother, a letter of congratulations from the regimental commander, and a silver mug from the regiment to the child.

To avoid being conspicuous, officers are supposed not to wear military uniforms when on leave, visiting nearby cities, or off duty among civilians in public.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Last week I promised to give you some suggestions on the care of your gift plants. I hope you all received a lot—and those of you who have space some of the little things that you set out in spring or shortly after the holidays.

I'll mention first the care for those about which I have received special requests for information:

Poinsettias — Leta L. Madson

This usually comes first in all Christmas collections. I'm wondering if any of you received the white or the pale pink ones this year. They are rather pretty, and a little unusual. The poinsettias will do best at an even temperature of around 65 with a 5 degree drop at night. They will stand it up around 70 during the day, but any higher and they will be finished. If you keep your house at around 70 at night, remove the poinsettia to a cooler place for the night. But do be careful not to chill it. Keep the soil moist, and it may be necessary to give the plant a little water twice a day to do this.

In about eight weeks the plant is over its best period. Then start reducing the water until the plant is quite dry. If you wish to carry it over, place it in a cooler place until April, then prune it and repot it. When you are sure frost is past set it out of doors, sinking the pot in some shady spot in the garden.

Christmas begonias are popular and easily cared for. They will continue to bloom indefinitely and may be kept over until another season, but they will never be as pretty as the time you received it from the florist.

Its temperature range is much like that of the poinsettia, but it will take it a little cooler. Humidity is even more important, and I notice some places that a fiber mat is kept beneath it to keep the humidity constant. Keep the soil wet, but if it has come from a good florist you need not worry about soggy soil as the soil will be that type which drains quickly. Also it will need some fresh air each day but do not place it in a draft.

Many of you will receive azaleas, I am sure. There is no gift plant much lovelier at this season of the year. I hope they are all of the hardy variety which may be given a permanent place in the garden when the heavy winter frosts (which I hope we have no more of this season) is over. When the plants are in full bloom, give them a light window. Try to keep the temperature under 70 degrees with some what cooler at night and give the plants plenty of water. If the roots become dry, even for a little while, your foliage will begin to drop.

The Jerusalem cherry will simply not stand heat; so keep it in a place that scarcely ever

ranges above 50 degrees. It is quite temperamental in spite of the fact that our grandmothers had such good success with it. But they didn't have gas, and they didn't over heat their rooms and they did let the house cool off at night, although they didn't usually let it freeze up. All this suited the Jerusalem cherry. In the spring, along about May, repot it and sink the pot outside until late in summer.

To the inquiry about controlling the mites which attack her cyclamen: Sprinkle camphor flakes in the saucer under the pot. This will help. Do not for one minute let the cyclamen dry out. If it does it is lost. Give it a couple of liquid plant food once a week. Keep it as cool as possible in a water-hashed room.

M. O. Keep your cactus decidedly on the dry side. The one you are expecting my mail should be soaked in warm water for an hour after you receive it. Trim the roots back and place it in the sand. You may have to put a couple of little stones around it to hold it in place until its roots take hold. Water still a couple or three days and then do not overwater thereafter.



Liars Club Secretary Runs True

Telling Tall Tale About 'Reading' Hole in Specs Previewing 1940 Contest Entries

By D. L. Brannon
BURLINGTON, Wis., Dec. 21—(AP)—If the secretary's glasses hold up, the Burlington Liars' club will crown a new world champion pervertator on New Year's eve.

Those spectacles are important because Secretary L. J. Stang does much of the preliminary judging of the year's crop of tall tales.

Stang's working overtime after a brief layoff occasioned by the necessity of shopping for new glasses. He said that he had read so many lies he wore holes in his old ones.

As 1940 passes, Stang, President O. C. Hallett and other club officers will make a choice from the 6000 stories entered in the contest.

Censors Pass Lie Entries

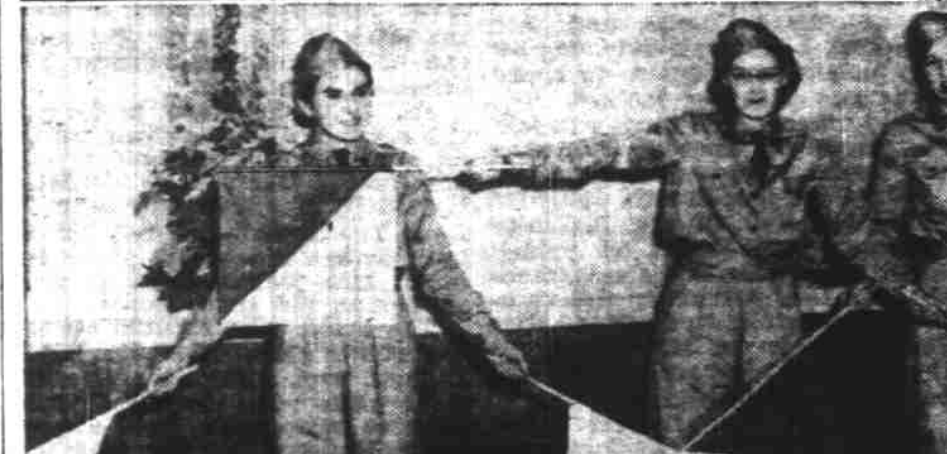
Few of the entries are based in the war in Europe, but yarn spinners in territory dominated by belligerents are represented, successfully passing through German or British censorship.

The lie market is bullish, Hallett says, offering these samples:

Frank Adamsky of Detroit, telling of the accident which befell his uncle in North Dakota, said the small town doctor made a couple of surgical mistakes.

"He sewed Uncle's big toe on where his nose should have gone and then, having the nose left over, he sewed it on where the big toe came off," Adamsky related.

"Well, he sure did a good job



At left, Sergeant Frank Jirak, drill master for the corps talks with commanding officer, Captain Bertha Ray.—Statesman photo.

Spelling out the initials of their organization, below, are left to right, Ruth Hunter, Gladys Howe, Evelyn Hebel and First Lieutenant Nellie Cox.—Statesman photo.

The Safety Valve

Letters from Statesman Readers

"BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS"

This is the time when our spirits are softened to give:

"Buy Christmas seals that others may live.

The appeal is now sounding, and calling to you,

Each one has a part, this fight to renew.

They ask not for checks of the four-figure type.

Yet each seal helps bring someone a smile.

A penny may seem useless in winning a fight;

Remember the widow who gave her mite.

The great white plague is stealthily as a thief at night;

The victim is not aware of his menacing plight.

One must take a test to be absolutely sure.

Take a long time rest to affect a cure.

Let your pennies help in this humanitarian need,

It costs so little to do this good deed.

There will be many more victims near and far;

Join in this crusade in a relentless war.

EDGAR H. HARPER, Aumsville, Ore.

Objectors' History Given

This is the third in the series of articles on the position of the conscientious objector to war. It will deal with the Mennonites and the Brethren, who with the Friends compose the organization called the three pacifist churches.

The Mennonites take their name from Menno Simons who was born in Friesland in 1492 and died in 1559. As a church the Mennonites date from 1550. They have a long record of persecution by the state churches of Holland, Germany, Switzerland, and Russia.

When William Penn received Pennsylvania from the English king, as payment for a debt owed by the king to his father, Admiral Penn, he travelled up and down the Rhine valley inviting various dissenting religious groups to settle in his colony in the new world.

Penn offered both religious freedom and good land. Among the groups who accepted his offer were the Mennonites. Under their leader Pastorius, 13 families settled at Germantown, six miles northwest of Philadelphia, but now a part of that city, in 1681. In more recent years other Mennonites have come to the United States from Russia. These are the descendants of the German Mennonites whom Catherine the Great

Service Society Meets, Jefferson

JEFFERSON—The Women's society of Christian service of the Methodist church met at 7:30 p. m. at the home of Mrs. Earl Phelps Wednesday.

Members answered to roll call with Christmas quotations. Mrs. Grace Thurston led the devotions and Mrs. J. G. Fontaine was in charge of the Christmas lesson. Mrs. Elmer Redmond gave a reading. Other wives, Mrs. J. J. Thacker and Rev. E. C. Alford were guests of the society.

Fin Reported At Cloverdale

CLOVERDALE—The flu epidemic is claiming many victims in this community.

Some of those suffering flu are Mrs. Arthur Kunke, Mrs. Walter Miller, Waldo Timm, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Wipper, Mrs. Everett Vickers, Mr. and Mrs. Cy Barker, Shirley Hennessy and Mrs. Albert Hennessy. Mrs. Barker is a Turner teacher, but is unable to teach.

THE HOOVER PLAN

To the Editor:

Ex-President Hoover and four or more relief organizations have a plan for preventing wholesale starvation this winter in Norway, Holland, Belgium and Poland. Of these people 10 million are children.

These people are not asking for contributions but for a chance to use their "frozen assets" (of cash) in this country to buy food to be carried over, probably in their own ships.

About the only valid objection we have read is the danger of the Germans taking the food for themselves. But after seeing the restrictions that Hoover insists on and knowing his character and his proven ability in the line of child feeding, it really looks worthwhile to give the plan a fair trial at least. If food was taken by the Germans—shipments would stop and Hitler be held responsible.

Here in Oregon if one child is lost in the snow or one boy lost or people will rush to the rescue. Are we to become so calloused to war suffering that we will "pass by on the other side" when millions of youth and children are involved instead of only one?

If this sentiment does not appeal to our national conscience, there are other more selfish reasons that might register in our thinking. If no help is furnished, an epidemic of contagious disease is likely to develop, which shows no regard for national boundary lines and might sweep over our

FDRs Plan "Homey" Christmas

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21—(AP)—Just as in homes from Maine to California, the president and Mrs. Roosevelt are in that last minute dither getting ready for Christmas.

The White House, redecorated this summer, was being decked out in holly, mistletoe and poinsettias. A tall all-white Christmas tree—with white lights, white streamers and artificial snow—was set up in the east room.

Gifts wrapped packages were being stacked up under the less formal family Christmas tree (it has multicolored lights) on the second floor. Mrs. Roosevelt is an early shopper. This year she had most of it done right after the election.

Christmas morning in the Roosevelt family belongs to the children. Growups have to wait until after the mid-day turkey dinner—carved by the presidential hand—to see what Santa brought them.

This Christmas eve there will be but two small stockings hung on the White House mantle. One will be that of Franklin, the 3rd, two-year-old son of Franklin D.

Roosevelt, jr., and his wife, the former Ethel DuPont.

The other stocking will belong to Diana Hopkins, 8, daughter of Harry L. Hopkins, former secretary of commerce and close friends of the president. Hopkins and the Junior Roosevelts will be guests over Christmas.

Grandmother Christmas

Yes, indeed, the president's mother, Mrs. Sara Delano Roosevelt, will be down from Hyde Park. A matter of being 77-years-old wouldn't stop that world traveler who went to China in a clipper ship as a child and has lived to see clipper planes fly the sea.

Other guests will be Mrs. J. R. Roosevelt, of New York, widow of the president's half-brother, and Harry Hooker of New York, a long time friend of the president's.

None of the other Roosevelt children or grandchildren are expected. James, the Roosevelt's oldest son, is in training with the naval reserves on the west coast. Elliott is on duty in the aviation corps. John can't come down because he has only one day off from his Boston department store job. Anna is in Seattle.

Royal Neighbors Elect, Woodburn

WOODBURN—The Royal Neighbors of America elected officers for 1941 Carrie Taylor, orator; Emily Dow, vice orator; Mary Gibson, recorder; Edna Byrnes, recorder; Josephine Dunton, chancellor; Hazel Harrison, marshal; Irene Harrison, inner sentinel; May Harrison, outer sentinel; Jean Brachman, manager; Betty Brachman, musician; Jean Brachman, assistant marshal.

New members given the obligation were Hazel Harrison, Irene Harrison and Betty Brachman.

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