

THE WEST.

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W. H. WEATHERSON, Editor and Proprietor.

Florence, Ore. Oct. 26, 1900.

NATIONAL REPUBLICAN TICKET.

For President: WILLIAM MCKINLEY, of Ohio. For Vice President: THEODORE ROOSEVELT, of New York.

For Presidential Electors: THILMAN FORD, Marion Co. J. O. FULLERTON, Douglas Co. W. J. FURNISH, Umatilla Co. O. F. PAXTON, Multnomah Co.

THE ARMY CANTEN

Its Benefits and Advantages are told by Lieut. G. W. Bunnell Jr., U. S. A.

Harpers Weekly.

The army canteen, or, as it is officially styled, the "post exchange," has of late been much discussed by all sorts of papers and by many different writers. However, little has been said that is strictly true, and as the subject seems to be of interest to a large class of people, most of whom have no definite idea of what the word "canteen" really means and what it actually stands for, the writer believes that an article showing the true inwardness of things will be of more than passing interest. And since a certain element is trying to make this matter a party issue at the coming Presidential election, it is proper that no one should have to go to the polls any the less able to form for himself a correct opinion on this subject than upon any other subject of importance to the nation at large.

The canteen, so called by most people who speak of it, made its appearance at military posts about 1889, and succeeded what at that time was known as the "post trader." The post trader in turn had taken the place of the "sutler" of war-times, who was the person that followed in his wagons, the movements of the armies from place to place, and found a ready market for his goods at prices far above their real values. The post trader, unlike his wandering predecessor, established his store on the regular military reservations, and laid in a stock of such articles as the desires of the enlisted men prompted them to buy, and as the needs of the officers at remote posts required. He was, of course, subject to certain rules and regulations, but no rule prevented him from charging whatever he saw fit to charge for his wares, and no regulation prevented him from selling whisky or rum to such as wished to buy. The system was so entirely unsatisfactory that something different was required, and to meet this requirement the post exchange was established. It came into being on account of, and has followed since its establishment, the universal principle of supply and demand. And throughout the whole discussion of this subject it will be well to bear this principle clearly in mind: wherever and whenever there is a demand for anything, no matter what it is, there and then there will be found a source of supply, and if the demand is not met by a legitimate supply of the article called for, sooner or later there will be found an illegitimate supply.

The post exchange has been called the "enlisted man's club," and let us see what claims it has to such a dignified designation.

Every military reservation is allowed to have a post exchange, which is established at the discretion of the commanding officer, and carried on in accordance with certain regulations of the War Department, under the direct supervision of an officer of the United States army and a board of officers known as the post-exchange council.

The officer intrusted with the active conduct of the exchange is called the "exchange officer," and upon him rests largely the responsibility of its success. He decides what articles and lines of goods are required for sale, does all the buying, pays the bills, and sees that the exchange steward obeys his rules and the regulations in the active conduct of business. He is responsible for the success of his business.

But in the exchange, just as in any other business undertaking, the wants of the patrons determine the kinds of stock carried. So that if the enlisted

"Great Haste is Not

Always Good Speed."

Many people trust to luck to pull them through, and are often disappointed. Do not dilly-dally in matters of health. With it you can accomplish miracles. With-out it you are "no good."

Keep the liver, kidneys, bowels and blood healthy by the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla, the faultless blood purifier.

Dyspepsia - I know a positive relief for dyspepsia and that is Hood's Sarsaparilla. It cured me. My neuritis also stopped. W. B. BALDWIN, 108 Oak Street, Indianapolis, New York.

Tired Feeling - My appetite was capricious, my liver disordered and I was tired. Hood's Sarsaparilla relieved it all. It cured a friend of mine of female weakness. MRS. JENNIE A. MARSH, Clayton, Del.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Never Disappoints. Hood's Pills cure liver bile, the non-bringing and any catarrh of the bowels with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

men show a demand for a certain article it is offered for sale, provided, of course, that the sale of them does not conflict with regulations. So we find a prosperous exchange comprising the following departments: an amusement-room, a lunch-room, a general store and a bar-room, or canteen.

The amusement-room is supplied with card tables, billiard and pool tables, and various games, such as checkers and chess. Here a man can come when off duty, and for a few cents, enjoy a game of billiards, or sit down and play whist or hearts. Gambling games are absolutely prohibited. At all times the amusement-room will be found to orderly and quiet.

The lunch-room is fitted to supply sandwiches, pie, milk, tea, and coffee, and various other things suitable for a light lunch.

The general store sells such articles as are not for sale at the post commissary, and for which there is any demand. Among them may be mentioned various articles of clothing, such as handkerchiefs, under clothes, neckties, certain toilet requisites, groceries, fruits, and candies.

The last branch of the exchange is strictly speaking, the canteen or bar. Here are sold beer, light wines by the glass, soft drinks, cigars, and tobacco.

No ardent spirits are carried in stock or sold, and nothing can be taken from the premises. The most rigid regulations govern. No person is allowed to get drunk here, and absolutely no liquor will be sold to any one who is intoxicated. A man can get a glass of beer, but he cannot get whisky. What other place in this country can say as much?

Is there a single saloonkeeper in the world that will refuse to sell a drink of any kind, and thus shut himself off from his handsome profit of anywhere from fifty to two hundred per cent?

And this brings us to one of the strongest arguments in favor of the whole canteen question, the one of profit. The exchange is run as a paying business, but all the profits go to the purchaser to provide certain articles of food—really luxuries—that are not furnished by the government, which necessarily furnishes only the staples.

Everything is sold at a fair profit, say from five to twenty per cent, but the profit on beer, wine, and tobacco is the largest of all—from fifty to one hundred per cent. This is as it should be, for these last three articles are sold at the same price for which they can be purchased elsewhere, and so no one is encouraged to buy on account of cheapness.

We all love a bargain, but no bargain can be found in liquor or tobacco. The profits, after paying the running expenses, are divided proportionally among the companies serving at the post and go into what is known as the company fund, a fund expended under the direction of the company commander for the benefit of the enlisted men's mess. No one makes any profit except the purchaser; not even the officer who expends his time, thought, and energy on the exchange is paid anything in addition to his regular army pay.

Here it should be remarked that the canteen proper, or the section of the exchange that sells tobacco and beer, is entirely different from the popular idea of a bar-room. There is no imposing array of bottles before polished mirrors to tempt to all sorts of mixed drinks, concoctions that ruin the stomach and very soon inebriate. There is no skilled bar-keeper to mix and dispense at the will of the drinker. But the room is fitted up plainly with tables and chairs, a small counter, an ice-box, and a case for tobacco. Everything is clean but homely.

The rules in regard to paying for all

urchases at the exchange are very clear. No man get credit directly, but he can purchase on credit a limited number of checks, which will be received in lieu of money. However, he can also purchase for cash the same checks at a reduced rate, an excellent rule to encourage men to pay for what they get.

Now that we have seen just what the exchange is and how it is conducted, let us consider some of the arguments in favor of the canteen proper of the canteen. It is only fair to say at the outset that practically all the criticism of the army canteen has come from those who know nothing about the question, while in the opinions of those who have known and watched the workings of the system there is nothing but unstinted praise for it. All the officers in the regular army, with a few exceptions, have stated officially that to do away with the canteen means to encourage those evils that are subversive of discipline, that to weaken and undermine the one fundamental principle of everything military—absolute and unquestioning obedience. Officers (and who is better able to judge of the subject, either on account of personal qualifications or position?) say that the canteen lessens the number of courts-martial for such offenses as absence without leave, drunkenness, and disobedience of orders, increases discipline among the men, increases their self-respect, and improves their morals, makes them better qualified to do their duties as soldiers, and to fight for their country when called upon. and in a word, lessens the amount of liquor consumed, and promotes temperance—the very object sought by the people who so bitterly and unreasonably oppose the canteen.

Does any one believe that the class of men that compose the rank and file of the army can ever be forcibly made to abstain totally from liquor? Has not prohibition been tried and proved a failure a measure which, instead of preventing the sale of liquor, causes men to break the laws and to obtain illegally that which they will have, and which they feel, as men, it is their right to have if they so desire? As long as there is any liquor in this world the man who wants it will have it, and the only rational way to promote temperance seems to be to lessen the desire for strong drink, and to gradually cause less liquor to be consumed. This is what the canteen does. And how does it do it? By selling no strong drink, and no drink in quantities large enough to produce intoxication; by selling beer, light wines, and non-alcoholic drinks in a wholesome, law-abiding, moral atmosphere, without any incentive to intoxication, or to indulgence in other excesses of the passions; in other words, by supplying the demand for a certain article in a legitimate and lawful manner without any effort to increase the demand, while at the same time giving back the profits that may accrue to better the condition of the purchasers. Has any opponent of the canteen ever stopped to consider that perhaps there is less demand for ardent spirits among men whose stomachs are supplied with many of the delicacies that serve to make us contented? And when we have caused these very men to stop strong drink, and to indulge only in drinks with a very small percentage of alcohol, have we not done an inestimable good?

But what will the shutting up of the canteen mean? It will mean that these very men will go back again to drinking whisky and rum, to breaking regulations that are necessary to military discipline, to spending their small pay to line the pockets of some grasping saloon-keeper whose one object is gain at any price—the price of manhood, honor, and even life.

To condemn the canteen without hav-

ing seen its practical workings is an injustice, of which no thinking man will be guilty. In this as in most other matters in life, the majority of us must accept the opinion of those qualified to judge. If we are sick we do not go to a merchant to be told what is the matter and to obtain treatment. So in this canteen question why should we accept the perhaps sincere but misguided opinions of those who really know nothing about it, when we can get the judgment of those who have every means of knowing the truth about the matter, and who are perfectly capable of forming and expressing professional or expert opinion? No army officer derives the least benefit from the canteen, except indirectly as it aids discipline. And the majority of our nation are today ready to admit that the discipline which means efficiency, the welfare and the well-being of the men, is the first thought of all regular army officers. It is these very officers who say that to abolish the canteen means to encourage drinking and the breaking of regulations, and is a direct blow at the efficiency of the whole army—an efficiency which has been tried and proved not wanting.

A WORD TO MOTHERS.

Mothers of children affected with croup or a severe cold need not hesitate to administer Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It contains no opiate nor narcotic in any form and may be given as confidently to the babe as to an adult. The great success that has attended its use in the treatment of colds and croup has won for it the approval and praise it has received throughout the United States and in many foreign lands. For sale by all druggists.

THE BATTLESHIP WISCONSIN.

San Francisco Oct. 19, 1900. Editor West: Almost two years ago I wrote you of the launching of the battle ship Wisconsin. Now the great ship is nearly finished, has had her trial trip, and at present is lying at her berth at the Union Iron Works, grim and dirty, but with a splendid record.

With a crew of about two hundred selected from the works, the ship went first to the dry dock at Port Orchard on the sound.

Immediately after her return, the bunkers were refilled and the ship went to the Santa Barbara channel, where, on trial, she proved herself the best of her class and came home with broums at every peak.

One of the engineers gave me an account of the trip and the part he considered of most interest was the journey to the sound. The ship ran into very heavy weather; great seas broke over her and not a man dared go on deck; every man aboard was sea sick, and as the ship labored and plunged, the engines raced often. But on the trial, nothing occurred to mar the event in any way, save that a man at one of the throttles allowed his overalls to be caught in such a way that he had to partly close the throttle to free himself, and the engine lost about twenty-five revolutions thereby. But those two great engines will run together as uniformly as two watches, and the government trial board made special mention of the fact, calling it phenomenal.

With engines running 123 revolutions per minute the ship made over 17 knots per hour, and running 114 revolutions makes 16 knots—the contract speed—and this with natural draught.

Of course some one gets a great deal of credit for the performance of this great fighting machine, but men who did the work on hull, boilers and engines are now working on another battle ship, larger and more powerful, that must surpass the Wisconsin as the Wisconsin does Oregon; and when this—the Ohio—is finished they will build another, yet larger and more powerful.

GEORGE BRAINARD.

During the winter of 1897 Mr. James Reed, one of the leading citizens and merchants of Clay Co., W. Va., struck his leg against a cake of ice in such a manner as to bruise it severely. It became very much swollen and pained him so badly that he could not walk without the aid of crutches. He was treated by physicians, also used several kinds of liniment and two and a half gallons of whiskey in bathing it, but nothing gave any relief until he began using Chamberlain's Pain Balm. This brought almost a complete cure in a week's time and he believes that had he not used this remedy his leg would have had to be amputated. Pain Balm is unequalled for sprains, bruises and rheumatism. For sale by O. W. Hard.

THE DIRECTORS of Woodstock public school adjoining Portland, announce that they will charge tuition to outside pupils who attend their school. The rate will be \$15 per year for pupils between the first and sixth grades, and \$18 for higher grades. The directors say this is hardly what it costs the district and is as low as they can afford to make the tuition.

IF YOU WANT A BIG LOAD HAULED, give me a call. All kinds of Stock cared for. Keep Hay and Grain. Corral adjoining Barn. Shelter for Wagens. Will carry passengers to Light-house. All charges reasonable. W. R. FINDLEY, Florence, Ore. At the old Weddle stand.

On the 10th of December, 1897, Rev. S. A. Donahoe, pastor M. E. Church, South, Ft. Pleasant, W. Va., contracted a severe cold which was attended from the beginning by violent coughing. He says: "After resorting to a number of so-called 'specifics,' usually kept in the house, to no purpose, I purchased a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, which acted like a charm. I most cheerfully recommend it to the public." For sale by O. W. Hard.

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The Great White Sewing Machine. Has just received a new stock of LADIES BELTS, Silk Braid and dress trimmings of all descriptions, LACES AND EMBROIDERY, White Goods, in Nainsook, Pique, Ind. Lin.

White Goods, in Nainsook, Pique, Ind. Lin. Organdies, in Fancy Shades. CHEFFRON, LADIES STOCK COLLARS, and Fancy Shape Ties, the very SHIRT WAISTS, don't forget them, warm wear is coming.

is coming. RIBBONS, All Shades and of best quality, including Velvet trim.

CORSETS and HOSIERY. Collar Canvass and Dress Lin.

Yours Truly, O. W. HURD.

CHEAP CASH STORE. Drv Goods, Groceries and more.

FLORENCE MEAT MARKET. Just Opened.

Goods as Represented. J. W. CARMAN, PROPRIETOR.

THE WHITE IS KING. Beauty of finish, quality of material, elegance of the finest workmanship, the simplest, most complete and best of attachments, easy payments, old machines in exchange, one million five hundred thousand users, thirty years of success, courteous treatment, more can you ask?

"White" Bicycles run lighter and most durable and best on the market. Call or write and let us prove it.

WHITE SEWING MACHINE COMPANY. 300-306 Post street, San Francisco, Cal.

B. D. PAINE, Dealer in White Sewing Machines, Eugene, Ore.

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Women as Well as Men Are Made Miserable by Kidney Trouble.

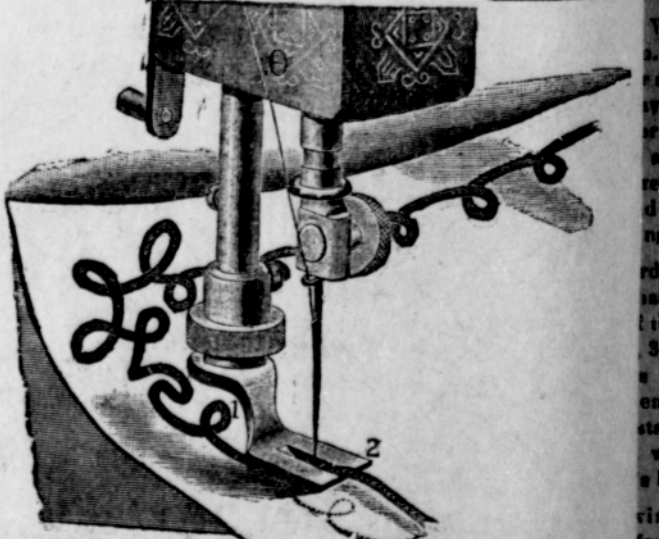
Kidney trouble preys upon the mind, discourages and lessens ambition, beauty, vigor and cheerfulness soon disappear when the kidneys are out of order or diseased.

Kidney trouble has become so prevalent that it is not uncommon for a child to be born afflicted with weak kidneys. If the child urinates too often, if the urine scalds the flesh or if, when the child reaches an age when it should be able to control the passage, it is yet afflicted with bed-wetting, depend upon it, the cause of the difficulty is kidney trouble, and the first step should be towards the treatment of these important organs. This unpleasant trouble is due to a diseased condition of the kidneys and bladder and not to a habit as most people suppose.

Women as well as men are made miserable with kidney and bladder trouble, and both need the same great remedy. The mild and the immediate effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It is sold by druggists, in fifty-cent and one dollar sizes. You may have a sample bottle by mail free, also pamphlet telling how Swamp-Root does all about it, including many of the thousands of testimonials letters received from sufferers cured. In writing Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure and mention this paper.

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CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of J. C. Watson.



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