

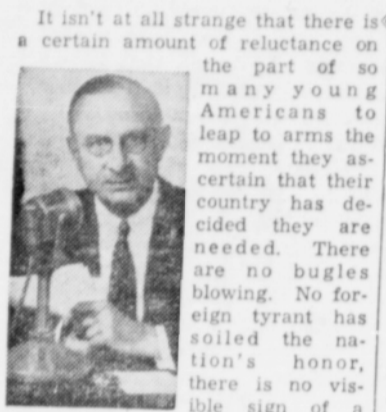
Washington Digest

Some Things Are Worse Than Being in the Army

By BAUKHAGE
News Analyst and Commentator.

WASHINGTON.—Less than a month from now the draft will hit young Americans, but it will be a nudge, not a wallop. One of its chief immediate purposes is to deflect the flood of enlistments of young men from the national guard and the reserves to the regular services.

It is expected that so many eligibles will enlist rather than wait until they are invited that only between 200,000 and 250,000 will actually be requested to report or



Baukhage

It isn't at all strange that there is a certain amount of reluctance on the part of so many young Americans to leap to arms the moment they ascertain that their country has decided they are needed. There are no bugles blowing. No foreign tyrant has soiled the nation's honor, there is no visible sign of a "military necessity" to disturb the even tenor of their activities—sandlot, movie, poolroom, work, study or play.

On the contrary, there has been an almost steady anti-military propaganda from all sorts of sources, all the way from the paid agents of the Kremlin to the innocent idealists or the doting mothers who think that if fighting must be indulged in, it certainly should be done by some other mother's boy. The polls show these propagandists are in the minority, but they are a loud minority. Personally, if I were advising a teen-ager I never would recommend close order drill or tossing together a batch of firing data which would produce almost as many shorts as overs, as the one most terrifically scrumptious method of whiling away a couple of years.

On the other hand, I have had more adulterated pleasure in doing quite a number of things in which were not included learning the multiplication table, cutting the lawn, making a trial balance, working a paper route, translating the chapter which begins "Caesar trans Rhenum pons fecit," or even carrying the Thanksgiving turkey the first time "her" relatives came for dinner.

As I say, I can imagine several things many people would rather do than these mentioned, including military service, but having done them, most people are better for it. I admit that for one of a delicate nervous disposition, unable to adjust his personality to groups, carrying a turkey for the first time before in-laws might be the worst thing imaginable. It might be the one particular thing that the particular individual couldn't stand. Extreme psychosis might result—even a psychotic condition that would lead to homicide or some other emotional outburst that a stronger psyche could have repressed or sublimated into kicking the dog or dropping molasses on his wife's girle.

I grant all this freely. There are men so unable to meet the simple challenge of the crowd, for instance, even those only mildly afflicted with agoraphobia, that they never could stand a simple formation like pay-call. I have known the type in civilian life so sensitive to the presence of others that although he had been drinking peacefully for hours and accepting the hospitality of say two or three acquaintances, when an additional member appeared (just when it was our subject's turn to buy a round) he would jump through a plate glass window, four stories to the street below.

Someway, he lacked the group instinct. I admit that type probably wouldn't get on in the army—long. However, I claim these are exceptions.

The majority of the problems which the youth of our land is going to have to face soon are not too tough. And they are good exercise—like parading in full kit.

Meanwhile 694,000 men, without giving more than a thought to the hardships ahead of them (197,000 of these, according to the experts, are re-enlistments and therefore should know what they are getting into) will already have joined up, thus reducing the number of those who bashfully await their Uncle's nod this year.

Thus out of the 924,000 new men needed, less than 250,000 will be drafted. And many of those who are called will not be chosen because of the number of exemptions granted.

Veterans with combat records, with 90 days service between Pearl Harbor and V-J day, or with 18 months' service since September, 1940, will be exempt, as will anyone who has earned a combat infantryman's badge, a Purple Heart, Air Medal, or any combat medal.

Exemptions will be granted to any veteran joining an organized reserve unit, or if the nearest one which he otherwise might join is an

unreasonable distance from where he lives.

There are three kinds of deferments for those planning on going to college (1) for all full-time students, until academic year ends; (2) advanced students in certain specialties; (3) four years' deferment for college students enrolling in a full four-year ROTC course or other military courses under special conditions.

There are exemptions under certain conditions for married men, high school students, scientists, engineers and reservists. So not many young men who don't want to are going to have to serve in the armed forces of their country. At least at present there seem to be enough ready to step forward before they are actually called.

As I remarked, it is easy to understand why the average youth would rather not accept the restrictions and discipline of army life. A part of the lack of enthusiasm for soldiering is due to the long tradition in the United States that soldiering is a wartime business for all those who don't make it their fulltime business. And I use the word business because it describes a career honored in this country far above that of the professional man—the artist or the writer—and the homage rendered is even greater in comparison if a member of the military profession is involved, excepting, of course, war heroes.

This is something hard to change. But the thing we can and should combat is the propaganda referred to earlier—propaganda which is put forward in many cases for far different reasons than even the proponents realize.

Far too often objection to military service is made on the basis that it in itself is a bad thing or a wasteful thing, when the real reason behind the argument is a selfish unwillingness to take the risk or sacrifice the time and effort which the service involves.

Frequently this false reasoning stems entirely from the influence of a parent whose purely selfish possessiveness has perverted the mind of a youngster who otherwise would accept his responsibility and take his training in his stride with no more than the ordinary, harmless grousing which is as much a part of military service as the alibis at the 19th hole.

It Wasn't Like This In the Old Army

The army psychologists have been working double time ever since they discovered that it took more than guts and gunpowder to win wars, and that the winning was easier on something besides hardtack and whiskey.

In World War II, besides the best food an army ever ate, better medical attendance than the average civilian can get, and a lot more superlatives, the armed forces went in for yards and yards of colored ribbon. It did no harm, even if the British did say the Yanks got a new service stripe every time they saw a battle in a newsreel. And it helped morale.

And now something new has been added. A whole new system of chevrons in two colors have been devised for combat and non-combat non-commissioned officers. Combat leaders—squad sergeants and platoon sergeants, for example—get an inch-wide tab of green in the middle of each shoulder loop.

Despite all this, I can't help thinking of the verse that came out of a war where the prevailing color was olive drab—with the drab predominating. It goes like this: Oh the general with his shiny stars, leadin' the parade, the colonel and the adjutant a-sportin' all the braid, the major and the skipper—none of 'em look so fine as a newly minted corporal a-comin' down the line!

Ike Couldn't Say Anything

Before the Democratic political convention, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower couldn't sit down to write a letter without reading in his newspaper the next day that that letter had been translated into an acceptance on his part to run against Truman for the presidential nomination.

Had Eisenhower written a letter saying that he often leaned back to dream about the North African campaign or to think about the decisions at Casablanca, someone would have been sure to come forth to say: "See that? He talks about a campaign—obviously hinting at the presidential race—and 'decisions at Casablanca'—get that? Casablanca is Spanish for White House!



'Starter' Fertilizer Boosts Tomato Yield

Best Results Obtained With Cannery Produce

Tomato yields have been increased greatly by scientists who used starter solutions at transplanting time. Completely soluble, high analysis fertilizers now are available which will make excellent "starter" or transplanting solutions for cannery tomatoes, according to the New York state experiment station.

One of the best of the new formulas is a 15-30-14 combination of chemically pure ingredients which dissolves completely in water, thus avoiding the time and trouble



of straining out the insoluble residue which results if ordinary fertilizers are used for this purpose. Excellent results may be obtained from using the 15-30-14 formula at the rate of four pounds to 50 gallons of water, or 10 pounds of a 5-10-5 to the same amount of water.

The solution is applied at transplanting time at the rate of one-fourth pint to the plant. Increased yields of a ton and a half of tomatoes are not uncommon from the use of these solutions, which cost less than \$1 an acre for materials. The beneficial effects are especially marked at the first picking of cannery tomatoes. Market gardeners are not likely to find the practice so beneficial because of the more intensive fertilization of their land and the better nourished plants they usually employ.

Precautions Suggested To Cut Haying Mishaps

Haying mishaps annually account for a large percentage of the mounting farm accident toll, National Safety council points out in urging farmers to take extra precautions during the haying season.

To reduce hazards and thus avoid disastrous losses, here are a few suggestions:

Carefully check all equipment for defective hitches, ropes, pulleys, lifts, hay racks or ladders. Loft floors should be put in good repair and hay chutes guarded.

Make starts and stops gradually in all haying operations and watch out for falls from hay racks, hay stacks and hay mows.

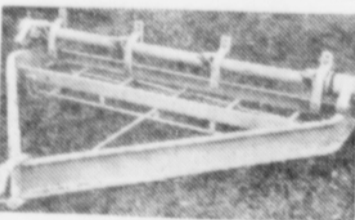
Machinery should be stopped and thrown out of gear before oiling, adjusting or unclogging, and safety guards should be kept in place at all times.

Pitchforks are dangerous; always place them where they are in plain sight of all workers. Never throw a pitchfork.

Do not wear loose or ragged clothing which may catch easily in moving machinery.

Damp hay is one of the principal causes of barn fires. Be sure the hay is well cured before storing and check regularly for several weeks for any signs of heating.

Two Row Stalk-Cutter



The two row stalk-cutter is turned on its skids for transport between fields. When reversed (with cutting blades on reel removed) and riding on cutter blades, the tool levels corn stalks so the ground can be prepared more easily for the next crop. Are welding makes a rigid frame that is required when the cutter is hauled through a field behind a tractor.

2, 4-D Spray Proves Fatal To Some Woody Plants

Many woody plants, including willows, are partially killed by 2, 4-D sprays. Killing of large shrubs or trees cannot be expected. The spray may be used, however, to prevent resprouting of susceptible species by applying as a concentrated spray to resprouts after the trees and shrubs have been cut. Repeated applications will be necessary to prevent further growth.



THE BATTLE of the two leagues for all-star talent goes on snappily from year to year. This season the National has the jump on its American league rival when it comes to the rookie contingent, but the American still has the lead in veteran headliners.

The average playing quality in both leagues this season hasn't been any too hot. It hasn't been boiling at any point. The effects of the long war, the draft and war service, haven't worn away yet. They are still in evidence by the number of ballplayers in the big leagues who are not big league

ballplayers. This applies especially to pitching, with any number of right and left arms trying in vain to locate the plate. There have been too many badly played games, too many misplays. But there are still more than a few stars.

How would you size them up? Here, at least, is a starter: American league—Ted Williams, Joe DiMaggio, Lou Boudreau, Joe Gordon, George Kell, Ken Keltner and Allen Zarilla. National league—Stan Musial, Ralph Kiner, Hank Sauer, Country Slaughter, Johnny Mize, Andy Pafko, Pee Wee Reese, Del Ennis, Tommy Holmes and Carl Furillo.

The National league has come up with the stronger hitters in Kiner and Sauer, two able powerhouses in human mold who can hit the ball a long way. As things look at this somewhat early date, the older league has picked the better crop of kids.

Lack Great Ballplayers

But outside of Musial, the older circuit has nothing to match Williams, Boudreau and DiMaggio as great ballplayers.

Williams is the only ballplayer left with even an outside chance to crowd Ty Cobb's brilliant lifetime record of .367. Williams is up above .350 for his entire career, which means he will need two or three .400 seasons to start a threatening challenge.

In any event, Williams is the only ballplayer left hanging around with the Hornsby, Jacksons, Siskers and one or two others who belong on the higher uplands of swat.

Williams is the last of the big hitters, the only one who might know another .400 year in his league. The National has its challenger in Musial, a great ballplayer, and another potential .400 entry. Williams and Musial are the two best we have left when it comes to moving the old ash furniture around the house.

The pitchers? You can forget about them. There isn't a pitcher today in the same class with Cy Young, Pete Alexander, Christy Mathewson, Walter Johnson—especially Johnson. And no one around who is as good as Eddie Plank or Lefty Grove.

The last great pitcher the game had was Dizzy Dean. Bob Feller could have been, if it hadn't been for his outside interests, plus the war. Hal Newhouser isn't too far off. Ewell Blackwell was on his way when a sore arm bowled him over.

Golf Psychology

Golfers can't understand why their games should change so quickly and so sharply.

Golf is largely a game of mental attitude for the day. This varies sharply. There are certain days when you can concentrate on what you want to do. As Jim Barnes put it—"Concentration is thinking of the right thing—at the right time."

This means that you can remember to swing smoothly—to keep your head in place, two of the essential things to do. A day later you'll keep hurrying your backswing and then hurry your downswing. Your mental attitude is one of hurry.

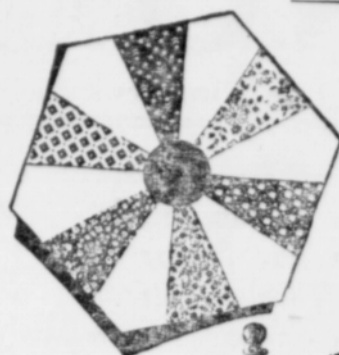
"On the days I play well, or better than usual," a certain leading amateur said recently, "I feel lazy. That's a good way to feel if you want to score. Feel lazy. That doesn't mean you have to loaf walking. It means you are in no hurry to get the club head in motion. You loaf on the backswing and then loaf on the downswing."

Finish Your Backswing

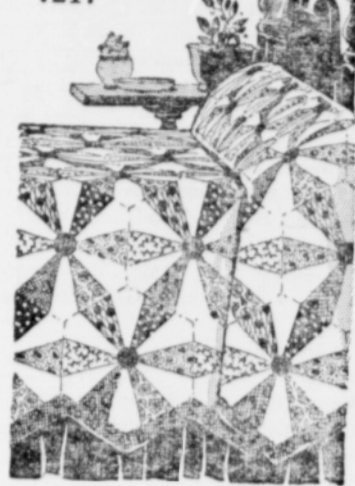
This is true enough. On certain days, the golfer starts his downswing before he finishes his backswing. This is one of the game's most common faults. Unless the backswing is fully completed, the downswing is wrecked in advance.

"You looked up on that one," someone will say. Looking up wasn't the fault. Hurrying the backswing was the fault—the reason, the head was lifted. You can feel lazy on certain days. On other days you can't. You try to—but it won't work any too effectively. On certain days, you can think only of swinging the club head

Penny-Saver Quilt



7217



Make this hit-or-miss Endless Chain quilt by the "Penny-Saver" method! Buy a little fabric at a time, make a few blocks a month! Such a thrill to work this quilt into your budget! Easy piecing. Pattern 7217; pattern pieces, directions.

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Jay Walking Dangerous
That short distance to the corner goes a long way toward keeping people alive. American pedestrians are warned by safety experts striving to reduce the huge annual traffic death toll by curbing unsafe pedestrian acts. Approximately 11,000 persons are run down and killed by motor vehicles every year—and half of them are crossing streets and rural roads between intersections. Coming from behind parked cars and crossing the street at places other than designated crosswalks are the most dangerous things the man on foot can do in traffic, according to the accident prevention department, Association of Casualty and Surety companies. Jaywalking killed over 3,200 and injured 51,000 pedestrians in this country in 1947, the department pointed out. Walking in the roadway and crossing against the traffic signal are the next most important reasons why so many persons lose their lives or are crippled for life.

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FOR YOUR RECIPE FILE
RICE KRISPIES
MARSHMALLOW SQUARES!
1/2 cup butter or margarine
1/2 lb. marshmallows (about 2 1/2 doz.)
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1 pkg. Kellogg's Rice Krispies (5 1/2 oz.)

Heat butter or margarine and marshmallows over water until syrupy. Beat in vanilla. Put Rice Krispies in greased bowl and pour mixture on top. Mix well. Press into 9 x 13 greased shallow tin. Cut into 2 1/2" squares when cool. Yield: 24 delicious Rice Krispies Marshmallow Squares. Everyone will love them!

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