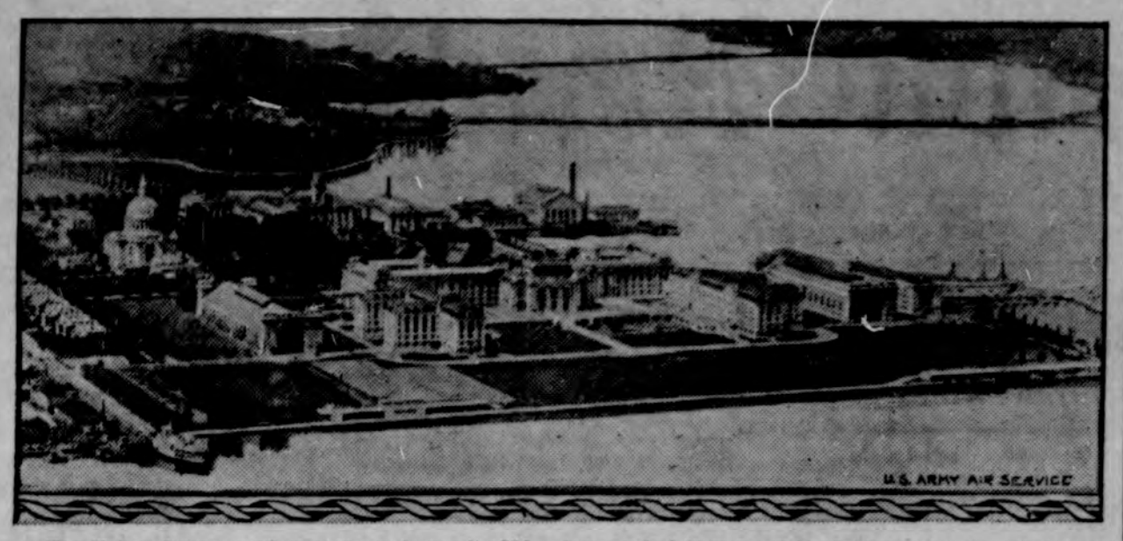
Where America's Admirals Are Made



The United States naval academy at Annapolis, Md., photographed from an army airplane. It is here that America's naval officers are trained.

5,000 A. W. O. L.'S ARE IN FRANCE

Varied Fortunes and Dilemmas Faced by Soldiers Who Ran Away.

POLICE ARE AFRAID OF THEM

American Ex-Soldiers Are Held to Be Desperate Characters—Many Who Stayed in Search of Excitement Found It.

New York.—Five thousand American A. W. O. L.'s are still wandering about France—2,000 of them being in "that dear Paree." They are the youths who were simply dying with ennui after the armistice was signed and hence started out to seek excitement. Apparently most of them have found it until they are entirely "fed up," to judge by all reports of the doings of these runaway doughboys, remarks the Literary Digest. Take the case of one army driver after the armistice who went joy-riding, "busted" the machine into smithereens, got scared and ran. Now he drives a laundry wagon into Paris from one of the suburbs. He has no discharge papers, has lost the pay he had coming, and also his fare back home, and is scared stiff every time he comes to Paris. The French abuse him, and yet he dare not quit. He can't go home to the United States without papers, and he is in constant danger of being nabbed by the French authorities. As he explained to another A. W. O. L. who had been more fortunate: "It's h—." In Paris the American ex-soldiers are held to be desperate characters. The D. C. I. (Department of Criminal Investigation) are afraid of them and let them alone. It is said that the prefect of police stated some time ago, in a friendly way, that all the automobiles stolen in Paris are stolen by these remnants of the A. E. F. At least such is the talk of the boulevards, according to Sterling Heilig, who gives an account of the ex-soldiers in an article in the Pittsburgh Dispatch. Some of his information he gained from a lad who, with more luck than most of his companions, was ready to start home with a roll of 5,000 francs in his possession. Of this youth Heilig tells us:

Fool Was a Scientist.

Jamieson, I will call him, student of Massachusetts Tech, came over with the army and was used in the front line for electrical work. Demobilized in France, he went with a French foundry near Nantes. In the states he learned a lot about making steel alloys and could produce steel harder than by any process known to these Nantes people. Working with them for French wages, but with sense enough not to show them how he did it, he at last got homesick and told his boss that he was going to quit. The Frenchmen were in consternation. They had built up a reputation for this steel—and did not know how to make it!

"The kid is only twenty-three years old," explains his buddy, "and being a fool, he sold his process to the French for these 5,000 francs. He might as well have had 100,000 francs!"

This young man told the writer of several fellows he knew and what had befallen them. He said he knew one A. W. O. L. who struck it rich.

"On a country road he met a French kid boy on a shiny bike. 'Hello, American soldier!' he sings out. 'I'm going to be a cowboy and I've got 300 francs. You carry it!' Runaway kid, sure; and this A. W. O. L. lad was tempted. That's right. He took care of the money and they slept in a hayrack. Next morning, when he was thinking how to shake the kid, a big blue touring car comes rushing down upon 'em. A. W. O. L. does quick thinkin'! 'Please don't tell them that I blubbed (wept or shed tears) last night!' the kid begged. 'Leave it all to me!' the A. W. O. L. answered, and when the kid's folks jumped out he laughs a good laugh. 'Here we are, O. K., all homeward bound!' and winks to the mother, confidential. 'Here's our money,' he says to her later; 'you madame, had better keep it till we start off for America again, some day!' By gosh, they took him home with them. He's with them yet. Teaches the kid to box and talk United States —one of the family! In a chateau!"

The young man also told the writer that it was possible to obtain good jobs with the graves-registration organization. Any fellow could go to work for these people, he maintained, at $180 a month. This was later denied by the Paris post of the American legion, which gets in touch with a good many A. W. O. L. boys and whose officers understand their situation. Cabot Ward, vice commander of the legion in Paris, discussed the whole matter of the straying Yankees in detail with Mr. Heilig. We read:

Why Doughboys Stay in France.

"The question is brought up," Mr. Ward said, "by certain requests from the states asking what remedy we have if it be true that there are 2,000 American ex-soldiers destitute in Paris.

"It is all lumped together," he continued. "The talk of which you know is one side of the case. The facts are like these: The Legion is in a better position to realize them than any other organization in France. Its Paris post is the bridge-head for all affairs of American soldiers in the land where the war was fought—equally to safeguard their high renown, to foster good relations with France, and to stand by our comrades always!

"Many of our soldiers, for some reason or other, stayed on in France, and an increasingly large number are coming back to France from America, where they were demobilized. This, in spite of every effort to dissuade them.

"Many are here legitimately. They married French wives, or their experience and qualifications bring them good French salaries. There are also a large number who, though anxious to make good, and often capable of making good, are stranded in France. For such the Legion's Paris post has an extended bureau. In the last two months its record is 180 men who have been secured positions. It amounts to 20 per cent of the post's total membership.

Many Idle Americans in Paris.

"But also there are a great number of other men whom we assist by using every endeavor to give them the means of returning to the United States at once. This is because it is with the greatest difficulty that any positions are secured, and despite all we can do, there are a large number of American ex-soldiers seeking employment in Paris—in vain.

"And, finally, there is a large number of men, variously estimated from 2,000 to 5,000, who had deserted at one time or another. Some of them had previous prison records; such did not exempt them in the draft. Now, unfortunately, French police reports show, all too frequently, that they are at it again. In any case, the Paris post has a legal bureau, which is constantly giving advice to and representing comrades in French legal complications, but it can not help these latter cases of deserters."

On another occasion I saw the post adjutant, Arthur W. Kipling, and the post secretary, C. M. Perkins, both continually on the spot, continually on the job, surrounded by old members and new members, and non-members.

"Contradict that talk about the graves job," they said. "The service takes on nobody without satisfactory identity papers and has two applicants for every job. They are chauffeurs, automobile mechanicians, conveyors, checkers, reboxers, stenographers, etc., from $75 to $150 per month. The work you refer to is done by European labor, and no Americans are on it except high paid specialists, engaged from the states. As for the reparations service, it has six applicants for every job—accountants, stenographers, and special qualifications, at the same salaries, $80 to $150, but men coming from the states to take jobs have better wages. This is true invariably—Americans engaged on this side, in banks, in no matter what, have always and inevitably the poor end of the stick."

I asked about the deserters—this new category of Americans abroad, between the devil and the deep sea, hanging on by the eyelids. What can they do?

Problem of the Deserter.

"They can surrender," said the post adjutant. "Sooner or later they will have to do so. No matter how fortunately situated, some day their identity will come up seriously, and then—good night! A man came here last week, asking for 'soldiers' headquarters! We told him there is no such thing in Paris any more. He said: 'I have been A. W. O. L. since last November, and have tried to marry and cannot get married, cannot get papers, cannot quit France, cannot live in France. I have gone this way as long as I can; and now I have made up my mind that I will take my medicine.' We sent him to Rue de Tilsitt; and they inform us that they forwarded him to the army of occupation."

"Are they severe at Coblenz, with them."

Neither adjutant nor secretary felt qualified to answer. I should consult the military attache for such a question; but as from man to man I gathered that "if the A. W. O. L. be since armistice, we think not. Some, we think, go to Leavenworth for a short time, and others are made to serve a while in Germany. But deserters before armistice—they're different!"

The great question is "papers."

"A man without papers cannot be helped much, even by the post," they said. "All honorably discharged in France and staying over, no matter how broke, need no passport—their discharge is their passport, none better; all it needs, to return home, is the passport bureau's vise. Men demobilized in the states and coming again to France on their own business had to take out a regular passport to sail, and they have it yet. Men coming on seamen's papers have them, even if they jumped their ship. But an ex-soldier without honorable discharge—you can guess his status."

His Oil Company in the Courts

S. E. J. Cox of Houston, Tex., whose big oil company has been put in the hands of a receiver, is here seen in the cockpit of his airplane, "Texas Wild Cat," which he had built for competition in the Gordon Bennett race in France.

TAKES SKILL TO CUT DIAMONDS

Methods of Turning the Rough Stones Into Brilliants Explained by Expert.

WORLD WAR PUT PRICES UP

But They Are Being Bought and Displayed in This Country More Than Ever Before—Very Few Are Perfect.

New York.—Diamonds as coveted gems and ornaments have lost none of their popularity. Since the late war many persons who never possessed these brilliants are wearing them today, even though they cost more than formerly. Few persons realize the skill it takes to cut and polish diamonds for the market.

"Diamonds as they are found in the rough state," Herbert P. Whitlock, curator of the department of mineralogy at the Museum of Natural History, said, "are not impressive. They have none of the magical flashes of light which in the polished stone makes them unique among the noble family of gems. And it is here that a goodly part of the price of diamonds is accumulated. For the art of turning a rough diamond into a polished brilliant is a long process requiring a superlative degree of skill. There is no better way to appreciate this than to follow the diamond from the mine to the jeweler and see for ourselves just what happens to it.

"When the diamonds are recovered from the mine they are not by any means all of them clear and colorless, as a self-respecting diamond should be; indeed, only about 25 per cent of the stones found are without some faint color.

"So we find that at the beginning of its travels the diamond is introduced to the sorter. The sorter is a kind of super-expert on diamonds, whose eye has been trained through years of practice to detect the slightest variations in color of diamonds and to find flaws in the stones with an ease which is little less than uncanny.

Sorting the Diamonds.

"The first consideration in sorting diamonds is the adaptability of the stone for cutting. Let us assume that the stone whose travels we are following is sorted into the grade known as 'close goods,' comprising flawless crystals from which fair-sized brilliants can be cut, or, to use the trade term, 'made.' These usually have eight sides or facets triangular in shape. Next comes a re-sorting of the 'close goods' into eight grades, ranging from blue white, which comprises the finest quality stones, to yellow and brown, which are so badly off color as to be unfit for gems.

"If our stone has passed the critical test of the sorter and is placed in one of the higher grades, it is weighed, wrapped up in a parcel with others of its kind, a price per carat is assigned to it and it is sold to a diamond dealer and ultimately finds its way to the workshop of the diamond polisher. Here at the hands of a highly skilled workman it is destined to be turned into a gem fit to grace beauty or opulence.

"Most of this is done in Holland, and especially in Amsterdam, which, since the Fifteenth century, has been famous for this industry.

"The surface irregularities, together with any superficial flaws, are first split away from the stone. . . . Sometimes when the stone is large it is of advantage to saw it into two or more pieces so as to save as much as possible of the weight in cut diamonds.

"The rough shaping of the diamond is done through an operation called 'bruiting,' which consists of wearing away the corners by rubbing one stone against another. This was formerly a manual process, the two diamonds being mounted on sticks held in either hand by the lapidary. But even in the ancient and conservative art of diamond cutting some mechanical improvements have crept in, and now in most of the shops a rapidly turning spindle takes the place of one of the hand sticks.

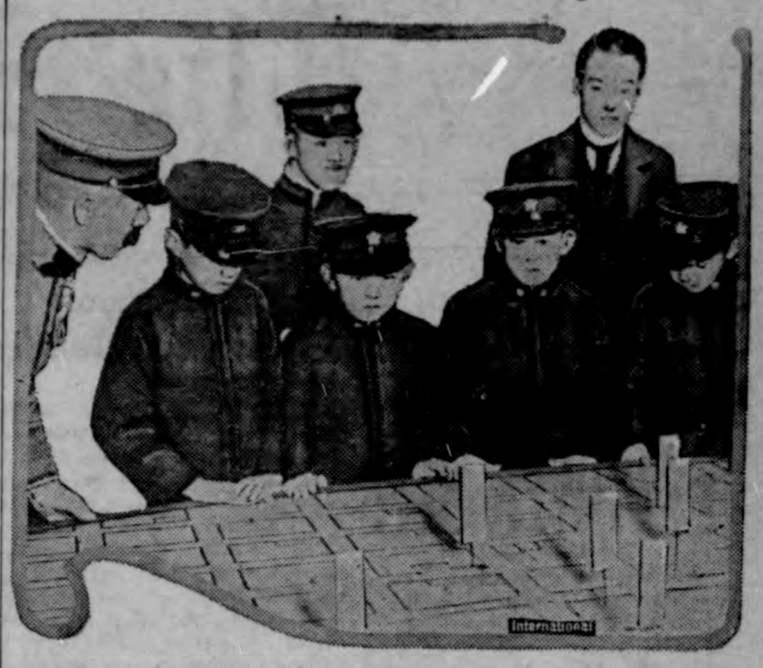
"Having rough-shaped our diamond, we now come to the finishing operation, the producing of the facets which give brilliancy and sparkle to it and which is technically known as polishing. The holder of the stone during the polishing consists of a small metal cup on a long stem which is called a dop, and much resembles a tulip. A solder composed of one part tin and three parts lead is placed in the dop and heated until soft. The diamond is then imbedded in the solder with a portion of the stone on which the desired facet is to be cut placed uppermost and almost completely surrounded by the solder.

"The dop is now fastened by means of its stem in a heavy iron arm called the tongs, in such a position as to bring the position of the facet to be cut exactly undermost when it is placed in contact with the polishing wheel or lap. The latter is made of soft iron and turns at the rate of about 1,000 revolutions a minute. Several hours are required to cut one facet, then the stone is readjusted for another one, until all of the 58 little facets in which lies the secret of its brilliancy are produced."

Milk for the Children of Berlin

Scene in one of the distributing plants of the Salvation Army in Berlin, where 10,000 poor and hungry children have received a can of condensed milk each for ten weeks in succession.

Four Little Princes of Japan



The four sons of the crown prince of Japan, on a visit to Nikko, studying a map of the city in the municipal offices. Their tutor, an army officer, is pointing out the various locations. The lads are studying municipal government in the various cities of Japan.

Tells How to Kill Trichinae

Department of Agriculture Carries on Experiments With Aid of Packers.

MAKE PORK SAFE TO EAT

Salt and Suitable Temperature Fatal to Parasite—Time Element Is Also Figured Out for Each Variety of Product.

Washington.—A long series of experiments to ascertain what treatment, other than cooking, will thoroughly destroy trichinae and render pork products safe for consumption has recently been conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture. It is hoped that the findings from these experiments will save many from the dreaded disease trichinosis. Hygienically, the custom of eating uncooked pork and pork products is regarded by the medical profession as very much to be discouraged; but the toothsome summer sausage, smoked sausage, pepproni, pickled sausage and a number of other dainties continue to tempt the American public to defy the physician.

The experiments proved of double service. In addition to fixing the safety in the various methods of curing pork without cooking, they cut down the time consumed in the processes in some cases as much as five days, permitting considerable saving in the cost of manufacture. Prior to these investigations comparatively little was known concerning the effects of processes used in curing pork upon the vitality of trichinae, which is the cause of trichinosis.

It has been assumed as a governing principle by the department's specialists that the consumer is himself responsible for the proper preparation of fresh pork and pork products that are usually cooked before eating, but that the manufacturer is under obligations to make sure that pork products sold as cooked products are properly cooked, or, if of a kind customarily eaten without cooking, to make sure that the products are free from live trichinae.

In the federal meat inspection regulations it is therefore provided that products cooked in establishments under inspection must be cooked in accordance with methods approved by the bureau of animal industry.

Most of the department's experimental work was carried out in cooperation with certain meat packing establishments in Chicago. The investigators selected the methods of preparing pork without cooking that seemed likely to be efficacious in destroying trichinae and at the same time suited to practical requirements of manufacture. Several new methods were devised.

The investigation shows that pork products of the kinds customarily eaten without cooking may be rendered safe for consumption, so far as trichinosis is concerned, but that it is necessary to follow a special curing process adapted to each. Salt is an essential in most of the processes.

Sausages of moderate size have been rendered harmless by mixing not less than three and one-third pounds of salt with every hundredweight of meat, followed by preliminary curing and then by drying. After the salt has been introduced the sausages must be dried at least 20 days in a temperature not lower than 45 degrees Fahrenheit. A period of five days is allowed for preliminary curing, which may be curtailed, provided the time in the drying room is correspondingly increased.

Treating Other Varieties.

In the case of pepproni, which are sausages stuffed in long, narrow, thin casings, it was found feasible to reduce the curing period to 20 days, of which at least 15 days must be given to drying.

Smoked sausages may be rendered harmless by being subjected to a preliminary cure and then smoked at temperatures ranging around 80 degrees Fahrenheit for 40 hours, followed by drying for ten days. Sausage smoked at a temperature of 125 degrees to 130 degrees Fahrenheit, for a relatively brief period, following a preliminary curing period of six days, is rendered harmless without subsequent drying.

Hams are rendered free from trichinae by two methods. One is to cure them with dry salt—four pounds or more to the hundredweight—for a period of 40 days, and then smoke or pale-dry them for ten days at a temperature not less than 95 degrees. The second method is to cure them on the basis of three days for every pound of meat, followed by 48 hours of smoking at a temperature of not less than 80 degrees, and finally by 20 days' drying at a temperature not lower than 45 degrees.

Salt and suitable temperatures are the principal means of destroying trichinae.