Richmond Times-Dispatch

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1916.

Praise for Senator Martin.

TOBACCO growers of Trigg, Christian, Todd and Lyon Counties, Kentucky, in resolutions which praise the labors of Senators and Congressmen to have the tobacco embargo Great Britain has established removed, give special credit to Senator Martin and Congressman Flood, of Virginia. It was Senator Martin, the resolutions recite, who conceived the idea of fighting the embargo with another embargo, and who lent all of his great influence to the growers' cause. Of course, the Senator from Virginia, in this contest, represented immediately his own constituents, but it is gratifying to find his efforts and services recognized and appreciated elsewhere.

Colonel Roosevelt has gone into the movies to aid Hughes. Well, it was time something was done to get that campaign in motion.

College Men for Practical Preparedness

INTERESTING statistics recently published by the Princeton University Press Club show that the college men of the country are giving valuable support to the preparedness cause by enrolling themselves in considerable numbers in military training camps. Counting both alumni and undergraduates, nearly 10,000 college-trained men, representing some twenty and odd institutions, have enlisted for training in this year's camps. These numbers do not include the naval rookies and, of course, take no account of the hundreds now on the border.

These men are only doing their bit, and deserve no special credit, certainly none beyond that given to all training-camp recruits. The significance of the figures lies in this: they prove again that practical, physical preparedness is not a goal only of professional soldiers, and not a safeguard desired only by capital, but is a necessity realized by thousands of scientifically schooled men, whose training has all been in the arts of peace.

Experts now are blaming infantile paralysis on the mosquitoes. That is one animal of which we are willing always to believe the worst.

Another Victory for the President

THAT honesty is the best policy in politics, as well as in every other sphere of effort, again has been demonstrated by the victory virtually won by the President against the element in the National American Woman Suffrage Association that clamored for indorsement of national candidates who favored a suffrage amendment of the Federal Constitution.

Mr. Hughes forsook the platform of his party and, in an apparent bid for the influence of American women, declared for a constitutional amendment, in the face of his record while Governor of New York in vetoing a bill providing salaries for women teachers equal to those paid men for the same service. Mr. Wilson, on the other hand, though he voted for equal suffrage in his own State, has consistently opposed the dangerous doctrine of suffrage by Federal action. The overwhelming vote of the suffrage association rejecting the partisan resolution went far toward indorsing the President.

It is to be noted that the Worcester Continentals will visit Richmond before November 1. Doubtless their neighbors, the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, advised with them.

Commodore Vanderbilt Reincarnated

UNLESS James L. Quackenbush, general counsel for the Interborough Rapid Transit Company, was merely carried away by the fervid joy of the contest when he declared the President had no business engaging in the recent railroad situation, he is rather a startling reversion to the type of the late Commodore Vanderbilt, and exemplifies the sort of mind the country—and the railroads—would be better off without.

If Mr. Quackenbush meant anything, he meant that the railroads were strong enough to win in the end, and that it didn't matter about the incalculable loss the country would suffer meanwhile. As all other means had failed, it was evident that only the President could possibly avert the threatened calamity to the nation. Yet, says Mr. Quackenbush, "it was no part of the President's business nor the duty of his office" to make the effort. In short, the Interborough's counsel is a reincarnation of the old commodore, still voicing his prayer for the public. But the public won't be.

This being 100 per cent a candidate interferes, obviously, with other activities. Of course, it doesn't permit Mr. Hughes to be even 10 per cent a judge—which accounts for some of his recent estimates of national policies.

Dismissal for Striking Policemen

NEW YORK already has begun to suffer other ill effects from its street-car fight besides public inconvenience and private loss: five policemen have been suspended, pending trial for having refused to guard elevated trains. The excuse given by the men was that they had been on duty all day, and were physically and mentally too tired to work; but police surgeons who examined them reported they were fit for duty.

Assuming the surgeons' report was justified, apart from their insubordination, there is no place for these men on the police force of New York or of any other community. Regardless of their sympathies, their duty was clear before them. They had no more right to side actively with either party to the controversy than a judge has to show partiality to a litigant. Their business—for which they were paid and to which they were sworn—was to keep the peace; in this instance, to protect the company and the public from lawlessness and violence. Failing to do this, they richly deserve what they will certainly get—prompt dismissal.

Of course, the Fair Grounds ought to be put in repair, but the Administrative Board is right in the stand it has taken that the government should provide the money for that purpose. It was for the nation's business that the grounds were used, and it is the duty of the nation to put them in order.

City Attorney on Wrong Track

CITY ATTORNEY POLLARD'S communication on the subject, we suppose, of benefit assessments for public improvements, displays great ability in attacking a position The Times-Dispatch has never taken and in controverting statements The Times-Dispatch has never made. Certainly this newspaper has never urged that "the present constitutional prohibition against the taking of private property for public use should be repealed." It is a wise provision, universal in the State Constitutions of this country, and we know of no one, save a section of the Socialists, who has suggested its abolition.

As to "damaging" private property, when a portion is taken for public use, the legal rule for the assessment and diminution of damages is as stated by Mr. Pollard. We share his regret that juries cannot be induced to follow the judicial interpretation of the law, but we have not been discussing that matter, either.

The provision whose repeal we do advocate is included in section 170 of the Constitution. It declares "no city or town shall impose any tax or assessment upon abutting landowners for street or other local improvements," except for the paving of sidewalks and alleys and the construction or use of sewers. That provision is peculiar, we believe, to the Constitution of Virginia, and its injurious effects are notable not only in the case of street paving, but whenever and wherever a great improvement, such as the extension of Chamberlayne Avenue or the restraint of Shockoe Creek's noisome and unruly waters, is to be made.

It is very clear, for example, that property along the new Chamberlayne Avenue will be enhanced largely in value by the creation of this thoroughfare. In most cities outside Virginia abutting property would be assessed a share of this enhanced value, and the city thus would recoup a part of its outlay. That abutting property should be subject to such assessments seems to us so obvious as to require no argument.

Assessments of this character have only an incidental relation to the rule for offsetting damages. They are applied to property no part of which is taken, as well as to property a part of which is taken. In the latter contingency, they may be, and frequently are, in excess of the damages allowed. For the land it condemns for public use the city pays the fair market value, and from that whose market value it enhances it reaps an immediate benefit.

By applying a just and reasonable benefit assessment law, scores of American municipalities have paved their streets, constructed viaducts, opened boulevards, abated such nuisances as Shockoe Creek and yet continued to pay a due regard to the condition of their exchequers. Of all the States, only Virginia prohibits such assessments. With every proper respect to "the able men who composed the late Constitutional Convention of Virginia," we insist, and shall continue to insist, this handicap ought to be removed.

Roumania already has learned that in the game of war it is not wise to lead all your trumps.

Lloyd George's Admission

NOTHING more amazing than Lloyd George's confession, that Britain's censorship of American and other neutral mails is being utilized to discover neutral business secrets and that secrets so acquired are being employed to prosper British trade, has been made public since the inception of this controversy. Such additional and abominable misapplication of the censor's usurped privileges had been suspected and even charged by aggrieved American business men, but it has been flatly denied by responsible members of the British government.

Apparently the censor has further employed himself in keeping from newspapers on this side the ocean knowledge of the debate in the course of which Lloyd George's admission was made. Information comes belatedly, but no less surely. The War Secretary had not hesitated to make his position and practice clear. "The government is perfectly within its rights," he asserted, "in using any information which comes to it in these conditions for any public and national purpose."

Lord Robert Cecil and Sir Edward Grey have issued joint and several denials of the very charges whose truth Lloyd George now admits. The British government not only has done a dishonorable thing, but has sought to conceal it. Even British members of Parliament were startled and shocked. One of them recalled that "when the censorship was instituted we were told it was definitely and solely for the object of preventing information getting to the enemy which would be of advantage to them and that otherwise the freedom of discussion and the secrecy of censorship would not be abused."

It appears specifically that freedom and secrecy both have been abused. Neutral ships are halted on the high seas, taken into a British port and their supposedly inviolable mails opened. Trade secrets are handed over to other departments of government for such use as these departments may see fit to make of them.

In the light of these revelations it will be regretted the Senate amendment to the revenue act, which empowered the President to refuse American mail privileges and cable and telegraph facilities to nations which discriminated against American citizens and trade, was dropped in conference. Its application to Great Britain would have been a proper answer to these particular injustices.

Kaiser Wilhelm is still sure Germany will win the war, but he is no longer so positive it will be possible to destroy all of Germany's enemies. Slipping.

Those soldiers at Camp Stuart who could not wait for pay day will have a chance to learn that patience is a military virtue.

SEEN ON THE SIDE

Wilson.

Who's kept the land he loves at peace?
Wilson.
Who'll not the dogs of war release?
Wilson.
Who has endured the jingo's sneers,
But saved the widow's sobs and tears,
Through history's most bloody years?
Wilson—that's all.

Who's kept prosperity at hand?
Wilson.
Who's carried comfort o'er the land?
Wilson.
Who's lightened weariness and gloom
Of little workers at the loom,
And sounded, clear, oppression's doom?
Wilson—that's all.

Who stands for fairness and for right?
Wilson.
Who's ready for the truth to fight?
Wilson.
Who bears his country's flag on high,
Makes "Justice" o'er the battle cry,
America to glorify?
Wilson—that's all.

The Pessimist Says:

Charity covers a multitude of sins, but the saints seem to feel they can do without that sort of mantle.

Shakespeare Day by Day.

For one real unfortunate: "He hath never fed of the dainties that are bred in a book; he hath not eat paper, as it were; he hath not drunk ink."—Love's Labor's Lost, iv. 2.

For the critic of the times: "If to do were as easy as to know what were good to do, chapels had been churches and poor men's cottages princes' palaces."—The Merchant of Venice, i. 2.

For the wise man: "I had rather have a fool to make me merry than experience to make me sad."—As You Like It, iv. 1.

For the pretty maidens of to-day:

"All plumed like estridges . . .
Glistering in golden coats, like images;
As full of spirit as the month of May,
And gorgeous as the sun at midsummer."
—King Henry IV., Part 1., iv. 1.

Reward for His Labors.

The minister had labored in his revival meetings all week without a single convert. On the last night Jim Flint, hard sinner and as tough-looking as a lightwood knot, "came through." He proceeded up the aisle, shedding bitter tears, to profess before the congregation.

On the other side of the church sat pious old Sam Scroggins, whose dress, facial appearance and general make-up made him strongly resemble an animated scarecrow. Being a pillar of the church, he at once left his seat, ambled over to the convert in front of the altar, embraced him and proceeded to kiss him on both cheeks.

Red-whiskered Tim Dugan, who was leading the "coming-up" hymn, stopped singing, swallowed the plug of tobacco he had in his mouth and, pointing to the weeping, kissing couple, remarked:

"Aw, Brother Sutten, that thar sight is wuth yo' whole week's wouk."

Advice Meant for Others.

The missionary from the far-off field, speaking to a congregation in a little country church, had told in vivid language the story of his work among the heathen, and had made an impassioned appeal for funds with which to carry it on. At the end of his address he called on Brother Brown, generous with words, but hard-fisted with money, to pray.

"O Lord," said Brother Brown, "send missionaries to Asia and to Africa and to all the islands of the sea where the foot of man has never trod and the eye of God has never seen."

Collection was then taken up.

"Now, Brother Brown," said the missionary, "how much will you give?"

"Narry cent," answered the prayerful brother.

To-Day's Best Hand-Picked Joke.

When Police Captain Patrick Costello met a man on the main street of Dobbs Ferry loudly and joyfully disturbing the peace of the historic hamlet he said: "My friend, you're drunk, and I'll have to run you in."

The stranger drew a tattered Bible from his pocket and, leading the captain to the nearest street lamp, read, with fervor: "First Timothy, five, twenty-three: 'Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.'"

The captain scratched his head and thought. Finally he said: "What were you drinkin'?"

"Well," replied the stranger, "the last one was beer."

"Then," said the captain, "you lose on a technicality, and it's come with me."

So the stranger, who said he was John Hasch, of the Bowery, New York, was locked up to await the morning session of the police court.—Cincinnati Times-Star.

A Wonder.

There was a man, whose name was Brown,
Who used to live in our town.
He was not handsome, rich or wise,
And yet folks learned this man to prize,
For when he came back from a trip
He ne'er by any chance let slip
A single word of fish he'd caught
Or havoc 'mong the girls he'd wrought.

Chats With Virginia Editors

"Even the Richmond papers seem to think it is time to let the boys in camp return to their homes and business affairs," says the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch. And so, also, does the Richmond Administrative Board.

"As all the Christian nations of Europe are at war," says the Newport News Times-Herald, "it is no surprise that China and Japan should fight." Perhaps the Japs and Chinese, like some other people, consider warlike Europeans Christians in name only.

"Hannibal starting across the Alps to attack Rome," says the Roanoke Times, "was less excited about it than the youngster who is packing his duds this week to go off to college." Let us hope the ancient warrior was not more enthusiastic.

The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot paragraphist is getting uneasy again. He says: "A food specialist tells us that 'dietitians class meat with the stimulants.' The next thing some of the reformers will be demanding that meat-eating be placed under the ban of the law."

"We are glad to note," says the Fredericksburg Star, "that the much written and talked about Chappawamsic Road will soon be put in good condition, and there will be no further complaint about it." There will still be complaint unless the name is changed and materially shortened. The Chappa-what-is-it is a part of the Washington-Richmond Highway.

The issue of the Farmville Herald, in which the editor complained of The Times-Dispatch for intimating that some things in that town were a little "old-timey," contained the following: "The cow bell ringing on Main Street makes unusual noise, but the better way to attract attention is to advertise in the columns of the Herald. That is if you have something to sell or something you wish to buy."

Old-fashioned hickory switches need to be brought into use down in the good town of Tappahannock. The Tidewater Democrat has the following in its editorial column: "A few evenings ago a lady visiting in Tappahannock was attracted by the noise of falling stones, and at once discovered that about half a dozen boys were using the Essex monument as a target. Unfortunately, she was unable to identify the boys, whose father or grandfather's name in all likelihood is engraved on the granite. She heard one of the boys exclaim: 'I got him in the eye that time; I'll now try for his nose.' We hope the parents of all the small boys in Tappahannock will question them, find out who are the guilty ones and see to it that there is no repetition of such conduct."

Discussing the increase in print-paper prices, the Emporia Messenger says: "Probably the increase in price is more heavily felt by the weekly newspaper than any one else. The country publisher, under the old prices, had considerable difficulty in making both ends meet, his income not being a large one at best. He has a clientele that does not take kindly to any increase in price, and as a general rule the paper is so small that it cannot well be reduced in size. The railroad employees can strike and increase what is already good wages. The munition workers and manufacturers of every kind can appreciate and obtain a part of the prosperity now abroad in the land, but the newspaper man, whether of high or low degree, suffers as a result of the very conditions that make the prosperity of the others. He can write of prosperity, but feels little of it himself."

The Voice of the People

Damages to Private Property.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Referring to the editorial in your paper of this date, entitled "Another Case in Point," it should be said, I think, that while the present Constitution in the Bill of Rights provides that no person can be "deprived of, or damaged in, their property for public use, without their own consent" (article 1, section 6 of the Constitution), and by section 58 of the Constitution, that the General Assembly "shall not enact any law whereby private property shall be taken or damaged for public uses without just compensation"; yet these provisions of our Constitution and similar provisions in the Constitutions of practically all the States of the Union, as well as the Constitution of the United States, have been construed as not prohibiting the courts from allowing damages occasioned to property by public improvements to be diminished—that is, set off by special benefits which will inure to property owners growing directly out of the public improvement. In other words, while the courts have held that full compensation—that is, the market value of the property taken—must be made to the property owner, yet damages which may be occasioned him, such as the expense of adjusting his property to the improvement, interference with his business, removal of his personal effects from the property to some other location, etc., should be offset by benefits which will accrue to him by reason of the public improvement. This construction was adopted by the Supreme Court of this State in the notable case of Swift & Company vs. Newport News, 105 Va., 165, decided in 1906, in which His Honor, Judge Cardwell, in a very able opinion, sustained and justified similar findings which had been made in other States having similar constitutional provisions. In this condition of the law my experience in condemnation proceedings has led me to the conclusion that the vice of the present law, if such there be, is not so much in the law itself as in the indisposition of commissions and juries to follow the construction placed upon the constitutional provisions by the courts. And kindly allow me to say, in addition, with all deference to your positive assertion that the present "constitutional prohibition" against the taking of private property for public use should be repealed, that it is, at least, a debatable question whether the able men who composed the late Constitutional Convention of Virginia did not act wisely in prohibiting private property from being taken for public use without just compensation being made. You will please bear in mind that what is said above does not bear, except remotely, on the condition or policy which should govern where no part of the property is taken and a claim is made that the owner is damaged by the improvement, which is often done in case of the change in the grade of a street. There the damages claimed may, by the principle settled in the above-cited case, be set off by the benefits. HENRY R. POLLARD.

Richmond, September 9.

Queries and Answers

Old Coins, Etc.

Lists from "M.," "Patrick," "E. D. D." and Donald Walker contain nothing worth selling.

"Macmacree."

Please tell me where the word "Macmacree" comes from, and what it means. CLIFTON.

It is unclassic Irish for "dear."

Widow Bride.

Is there any matter in relation to invitations or proper marriage etiquette which ought to be observed because the bride-to-be is a widow? M. W. P.

None.

Slave Ship.

Is it true, and does any historian state, that a Dutch ship in 1620 brought and sold twenty African slaves into Virginia, and that this was the beginning of slavery in the colonies? MISS G.

The statement may be found in about all the histories.

Worms in Floor.

Worms have started to destroy some of my floors. I can never see them, but the evidence of their presence is plain from the eaten spots. Can you advise me what to do? B. B. C.

It is rare that the borers may be found in a house. They are very common in stack yards and out of doors in lumber piles. The Bureau of Forestry, Washington, D. C., has caused to be made exhaustive study of the conditions you refer to, and they will, without doubt, be able to suggest a remedy.

Pensions for Confederate Widows.

To whom must widows of the War Between the States apply for information concerning the pension bill which Congress has adopted, increasing the payment from $12 to $20 a month? I am the widow of a Confederate soldier. If I understand aright, all widows of the War Between the States are included in its provisions. I am in my seventy-second year, have no income and sorely need help. WIDOW.

The Federal government provides no pensions for Confederate veterans or for their widows. For information concerning Virginia pensions, apply to the Auditor of Public Accounts, State Library Building.

Current Editorial Comment

By Leave of Britain

Great Britain has seized the Dutch trawlers, and hereafter the Hollanders must do as the British tell them, or they will not be permitted to fish in the sea. America may be admonished, too. Her cotton crop is short, and prices have risen to very high levels. The spinners of Lancashire need cotton; but the British government, it is estimated, will fix a maximum price these spinners may pay for American cotton, beyond which they must not go, regardless of the law of supply and demand. This is not pleasant for the American cotton growers. It will depress prices seriously. On the same principle, Great Britain might put a price boycott on every American product. But this has not been done yet, and if it is, we will not be in Holland's plight, for we still may fish on this side of the sea "by leave of England."—New York Evening Mail.

Opposed to "Rookettes"

The rookettes in camp up in Wisconsin trying to make soldiers of themselves do not appeal to the male portion of humanity very strongly. In the account of it we see Major-General Mary Smith, Colonel Cordelia Jones, Captain Sarah Jenkins and so on, all of which seems out of harmony with true life. It is all a discord in a lovely symphony. And if the very appearance doesn't make occasion discordant, listen awhile and see how soon the dignity of official control gets rattled. The account before us tells of a flurry among the officers and several resignations and a prompt withdrawal of the same. We do hope that no sweetheart of ours will volunteer with the rookettes, on penalty of losing the last shred of our love. It is a grim joke on the men that they have to call on the women to do the fighting for them. Don't, dear ladies, wives and sweethearts, get into the war, except as angels.—Ohio State Journal.

Germany's Food Allowance

The German government has issued a decree that no person shall be allowed to eat over half a pound of meat a week. That may seem a very severe regulation, but it is not. A man can get along just as well without meat, and there are many people who are doing it, and the only objection is that they are always bragging how healthy they are. There is no doubt that Germany will fight just as long on half a pound of meat per capita allowed weekly as she would if that quantity was allowed daily. Meat is an article of diet, like bread, potatoes, corn, cheese, but is no more to be preferred than any of these, and can just as well be omitted. Still, some people feel that they must have meat two and three times a day, as if it was a part of their salvation. That's mere opinion. Everything we eat comes from the ground, and it makes little difference what form it is; whether as meat, beans or boiled cabbage, it is all the same; it makes blood, which runs the whole machine.—Ohio State Journal.

Stage Struck!

One of the Day's Best Cartoons.

—From the Atlanta Journal.

OUR SOLDIERS ON THE TEXAS BORDER

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 9.—

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 9.—

"Texas is some State!" Fortunately for Texas this is now the unanimous verdict that comes from the militia stationed on her border. In the beginning it looked as if Texas were not going to please them. The men were tired from their long journey, and many had left a cool country to take up active residence in a climate where the summer temperature varies only among the nineties. To the stranger it seems as if all the dust in the world has been gathered up and deposited on the south Texas roads, and this feature proved vastly irritating to the men while marching. Altogether, Texas, was made to feel that she was considerable of a disappointment.

But Texas did not pretend to notice it. She went about her languid way, and met the men in the trains with sandwiches and roast chicken and post cards already stamped, ready to be mailed home to their families and friends. She conducted the men amidst admiring processions to the camp sites and drawled out a few apologies for local conditions. This was the beginning of her hospitality campaign which has lasted ever since, and which has made every man feel at home in Texas.

Then there was a long period of quiet, and the men again became restless. Many had left their homes and families, and a great majority had left important positions to take a long journey south to a hot, arid climate ostensibly to fight the Mexicans, but the Mexicans did not seem inclined to fight. The situation had become flat. Then a course of war lectures began which seized upon the men's imaginations. The first of them dealt with the question which had been asked again and again. Why are we here? The officer spoke to them frankly and at length, applauding them for their action in joining a national guard in the first place; in coming to the border, in the second place, and in accepting conditions as they were with a high patriotism which sacrificed personal interests to the greater interest of the nation. Then he pointed out that the Mexican situation was not any safer then than it ever had been. Conditions on the other side were worse, with Villa still at large, possibly already instigating another raid. The prestige of the country was suffering, he said, and the American public growing restive, so that a move might be forced at any time. "At any rate, whether needed in Mexico or not, the training of this large force of men is going to be a fine thing for the country—is, in fact, the greatest step which has yet been taken in the preparedness program," he concluded.

Students Wouldn't Quit.

Shortly after this talk the President's order was received mustering out of the National Guard on the border all organizations of university students so that they might return in time for the opening of their classes. Much to everybody's amazement, the students objected to being mustered out. They simply wrote the President a note in which they thanked him for his consideration, but stated that they felt as much responsibility for the safety of their country as did any other body of militia. Whether this was due to the lecture of the officer or in the increasing hospitality of the Texans has not yet been proved, but certain it is that not nearly so much talk is heard about scorpions and much more concerning dances at the country club and the Brownsville senoritas.

Meanwhile, the camp has become somewhat in the nature of a campus. Glee clubs have been organized among the different troops, and nightly concerts are held before the bugle note is sounded. Polo matches are arranged and played before an admiring Texas audience, and baseball clubs have been formed among all the regiments. Every military town along the border now has a baseball diamond. At Brownsville the Young Men's Christian Association has established headquarters for the militia, with a moving-picture projecting machine, a victrola, piano and games for the men, as well as magazines, free stationery and ice water. Two nights a week the building is turned over to the troops for amateur performances, one night being devoted to musical numbers and the other to just "stunts." Fifty Young Men's Christian Association buildings on this order are now in process of construction throughout the militia towns on the border.

Published Own Newspaper.

By way of amusement the Illinois troops at Brownsville started publishing their own weekly newspaper, containing the news of all the regiments on the border. The sheet has recently attracted the attention of the New York Times, which has given it an established reputation. The first issue made its appearance about six weeks ago, and really startled the regiment by its newspaper technique and clever composition. It is a four-page paper with a live sporting page, a list of cryptic editorials and an accomplished reporter by the name of Harold Hairlip, Intrepid Staff Correspondent." It carries a weekly cartoon in the prescribed daily newspaper fashion, which is the product of a young corporal in the militia. In the issue of August 5 there was a particularly clever one entitled "Anywhere in Europe." It showed a European soldier with a broken arm, a shattered leg and a bandaged head reading the big headlines of an American newspaper which said: "Terrible Condition on the Border! Troopers Get Their Feet Wet!" This newspaper, called by the New York Times a "Soldier's Paper," is known as the "First Illinois Cavalryman."

Thus the National Guard does not lack entertainment on the border, but neither does it lack hard training and work. When the government spends a lot of money on what, after all, appears to be nothing more serious than a preparedness measure, it is at least going to see that the men are prepared. Every man on the border is going to be a soldier before Uncle Sam gets through with him. Hence, the long hikes detailed by the American dailies, in which many of the boys return to camp prostrated and ready for bed; hence the excessive drills which make the men appreciate the futility of golf as an exercise; and hence the long hours of target practice and field maneuvers. At first, the men were inclined to rebel against such hard work in such a hot climate. It was at this time that many fond parents at home began to start agitations concerning conditions on the border, spurred on by the detailed accounts of the remarkable feats performed in their sons' letters. Now, the men have ceased to brag about their own cleverness, and take a thirty-mile hike as a matter of course.

Sickness Due to Carelessness.

According to our new authority, the Illinois Cavalryman, when the men go sick it is due to some carelessness of their own. They either eat ice cream or drink pop in a climate where such a thing is disastrous, or they attempt to lie shirtless and hatless in the sun in order to acquire a deep coat of tan, and, incidentally, a week or so in the base hospital. The only time the hospitals were full was when the first detachment of Red Cross nurses arrived from Washington.

Not only are the guardsmen learning the business of war, but the officers themselves are gaining facility in managing large bodies of men, and are trying out certain new articles of military equipment which first made their appearance upon the battle fields of Europe. The portable kitchen, for example, is now a conspicuous feature in the commissary department. Several portable kitchens have been received from Canadian factories where they are being manufactured for Canadian regiments, and they have proved remarkably efficient on the border. They are complete kitchen outfits on trucks which permit the men to have a hot breakfast anywhere on the line of march. When in the trenches the truck is simply wheeled along the trench, and each man is fed a hot breakfast, which, of course, could not be done if the food had to be carried from the kitchen to the trenches.

It was also soon discovered that the aeroplane was impracticable for border duty owing to the peculiar lightness of the air, and the carrier pigeon had to be used for message-carrying. Thus several very special problems are being worked out among the regiments stationed in Texas which might have proved exceedingly awkward in time of actual war.

Whether the occupation of the border by the National Guard was a necessary step or not, the training which they are receiving could never be duplicated anywhere else. If war should come, the United States will have at its disposal a large force of expertly trained men, already acclimated.

Grading Apples by Motor Power.

An apple grader has lately been designed which will do away with much of the handling of fruit in large orchards. Apples of all sizes are fed into a hopper beneath which runs an endless belt with holes of various sizes in it. The grader is operated by motor power, and is capable of handling fifty barrels of apples an hour, grading them in seven different sizes.

The Homestead.

Here we came when love was young.
Now that love is old,
Shall we leave the floor unswept
And the hearth acold?

Here the hill wind in the dusk,
Wandering to and fro,
Moves the moonflowers, like a ghost
Of the long ago.

Here from every doorway looks
A remembered face;
Every sill and panel wears
A familiar grace.

Let the windows smile again
To the morning light,
And the door stand open wide
When the moon is bright.

Let the breeze of twilight blow
Through the silent hall,
And the dreaming rafters hear
How the thrushes call.

O, be merciful and fond
To the house that gave
All its best to shelter love,
Built when love was brave!

Here we came when love was young,
Now that love is old,
Never let its day be lone
Nor its hearth acold!
—Bliss Carman, in the Century.