

WASHINGTON CITY SIDELIGHTS



Universal Military and Vocational Training Bill

WASHINGTON.—Identical universal military training bills have been introduced in congress by Senator Chamberlain, Democrat, in the senate and by Representative Kahn of California, Republican, in the house, as the result of conferences among various interested organizations, including the training camps association and army officers, members of congress, and others.



Representative Kahn said it included the best features of the Swiss and Australian systems and announced that the military affairs committee of the house would begin hearings on it in September.

New phases of the bill include provision for vocational training as part of the military work and for naval as well as military training.

"As the debates with reference to the peace treaty proceed in the various countries I am more convinced that our safety as a nation will depend on our having a thoroughly trained force of young men who can join the colors without delay," Mr. Kahn said.

The Kahn-Chamberlain bill directs that all male citizens of the United States shall upon the age of eighteen, or within two years thereafter, be subject to military or naval service for training purposes and shall be inducted into the army or navy and serve for a training period of six months and such further time as may be necessary for enrollment, mobilization, and demobilization.

During the training period each man shall receive pay at the rate of \$5 a month, besides transportation, clothing, laundry, shelter, subsistence, and all necessary medical and dental attention.

National Capital May Allow "Uncle" to Return

WASHINGTON has been trying the experiment of getting along without pawnshops. For half a decade there have been no community "uncles" in the nation's capital.

The answer seems to be that it is, for Washington seems on the verge of again hanging out that sign of the three spheres which beckons perennially to the financially unfortunate and to the improvident.

The last of the legitimate "hock" shops in the District of Columbia passed in 1914. At that time a loan-shark law went into effect which cut down the interest rate that might be charged in the District from 3 per cent to 1 per cent a month.

Now the authorities of the District favor the return of the "hock" shops. Especially is this true of the police department. One reason for this is the fact that regulated pawnshops are helpful in detecting thefts.

Congress Asked for Money to Combat the "Flu"

INFLUENZA killed 550,000 persons in the United States. The doctors say there will be another epidemic sooner or later. The American Medical association in convention passed resolutions requesting congress to appropriate \$1,500,000 for investigation of the cause and means of spread.



"Whereas the recent influenza epidemic caused approximately 550,000 deaths in the United States; and whereas medical science is not yet in possession of complete data as to the cause, modes of transmission, prevention, and cure of this disease and its complications; therefore

"Be it enacted, etc., That to enable the public health service to investigate influenza and allied diseases in order to discover their causes and to prevent their spread, and for allotment of sums to universities, colleges, or other suitable research institutions, as in the judgment of the secretary of the treasury are qualified for scientific research, for the purpose of discovering their causes and methods of prevention, in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the secretary of the treasury, and including pay and allowances of regular and reserve commissioned medical and sanitary personnel, and for medical and hospital supplies, printing, clerical services, and rent in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; transportation, freight, and such other expenses as may be necessary, including the dissemination of such information to the public, there is appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,500,000, available until expended."

The resolution also sets forth that the secretary of war, the secretary of the navy, and the secretary of the treasury are authorized and directed, respectively, to utilize jointly the personnel and facilities of the medical department of the army, the medical department of the navy and the public health service, so far as possible, in the investigation of the causes and methods of prevention of influenza and allied diseases.

Two Billion Dollars Bonus for Fighting Soldiers

A BILL to authorize the treasury department to issue bonds in the sum of \$2,000,000,000 for the purpose of providing additional pay for officers and enlisted men in the army, navy and marine corps has been introduced in the house by Representative Royal Johnson of South Dakota.

The bonds would be issued under the direction of the secretary of the treasury and would be of the denomination fixed by him and bear interest at the rate of 4 per cent.

The bill provides for payments to all officers and enlisted men, including nurses, who served between April 8, 1917, and the passage of the act, who have been honorably discharged or who shall be hereafter discharged at the rate of \$30 additional for each month of service between those dates. No person who has served less than two months is to be given the benefit of the measure, and it is provided that no payment shall be less than \$240 regardless of length of service.

Soldiers, marines or nurses who were actually under fire in any battle against Germany are to receive an additional payment of \$100 each.

When the bonds are issued the payments may be made in bonds if the recipients so desire.

One effect of this distribution of extra pay and bonuses—it may or may not have occurred to Mr. Johnson—would be the establishment of records of service under fire. The deserving would be rewarded, and not the least of their reward would be the government's certificate.

SOLDIERS ARE SUPERSTITIOUS

British War Museum Official Digs Up Some Interesting Information.

NEARLY ALL WEAR AMULETS

One Officer Carrying Charm Refuses to Reveal Its Nature for Fear of Bad Luck—Another Carries Piece of Coal.

London.—Certain interesting superstitions prevalent among British colonial troops at the front are described by Edward Lovett, an official of the Imperial War museum at London, in the Morning Post. He says:

"Many of the superstitions held by British soldiers are also held by our troops from overseas and by men of the allied forces. One day I happened to meet an Australian soldier who wore the figure 5 on the collar of his tunic. This 5 is known on the continent as the Pentad, and in Belgium the Fifth regiment is considered to be the lucky regiment. The logic of the Pentad is as follows: Figure 1 stands for God, absolutely alone. Figure 2 is the mind of God in operation as shown by the works of nature. Figure 3 represents man as the highest work of God. Taking, therefore, figure 1 as being unique, the figures 2 and 3, that is, God's work in the hands of man, equal 5, and this 5 is said to represent everything. In this country we do not fully appreciate the meaning of the figure 5.

Lucky Australian Five. "To come back to our Australian soldier. He told me that he knew nothing of the Pentad, and he was rather inclined to sneer at luck in general. But he told me that his company, which was the Fifth, was very lucky, and day after day the men had many narrow escapes from death or wounds. The company, in fact, had lost only 15 men out of 180, while the Second company had lost a much larger proportion. He also told me that the No. 13 was considered by them a lucky number, and most of the men in the Fifth company, curiously enough, had 13 in their regimental numbers, his own number being 51327.

"On one occasion, after lecturing to some men from New Zealand and Australia, I was entertained for the night and put up in an officer's hut. Before turning in I chatted over the subject of folklore and soldiers' mascots with four officers. One of the officers told me that he carried a charm, and I said I would like to know what it was. It turned out to be simply a Swastika, which was apparently new to him, and he was glad to hear more about it. The second officer took from his pocket a small cross of grotesque form, which he informed me, was his mascot. The third officer laughingly added, "Well, I

need not show you mine, because it is only a piece of coal, wrapped in a little bag which I brought over from Australia." The fourth (and this to my astonishment, being the "highest possible") said, "I also have a mascot, but I regret to say that I don't intend to show it to you. I won't even tell you what it is, because it would spoil my luck." Nothing I could say would induce him to alter his decision. His was the most superstitious case of all.

The commonest charms among the soldiers of France and Belgium are made of aluminum and copper fragments of German shells. It is considered that if you wear a piece of an enemy's projectile it inoculates you against future danger from such sources. In Italy the men wore the kinds of charms and amulets which have been common in that country for many generations—even centuries, I

may say. They consist chiefly of phallic emblems, and may be seen by thousands in the streets and markets of Naples especially.

What the Germans Wear.

"I have a number of examples of German charms, some of which were taken from German prisoners, while others were collected by myself in Germany about 12 years ago. They are of a character you might expect from such a people, and consist largely of pigs, many of which, I regret to say, are grossly vulgar and offensive. Another German charm is a small model of a fungus, which is of natural blood-red color. This is really a phallic emblem. A third kind is a teetotum, the meaning of which is 'chance.' On the other hand, in the German navy, or what remains of it, they have rather a pretty charm. It consists of a small, cheap medal, bearing the figure of Christ stilling the tempest, with the motto 'Safety in storms.' I gathered from several of my friends that the charms in common use by the Germans were generally small objects, such as I have mentioned, which had been presented to the wearers by their mothers or sisters, but in few cases had the charm any definite logical meaning.

Patrols Ready for New Mexican Outbreaks



Three-inch field pieces going to their station on the border along the Rio Grande. The military authorities are taking all necessary precautions to be ready for any new outbreak on the Mexican border.

ST. THOMAS PICKS UP

American Port Regains Former Marine Standing.

Improvements Slow During the War, but Ships Are Now Calling Regularly.

St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.—This American port is beginning to regain some of its former maritime importance. Owing to the war, improvements in this direction have been slow since the Virgin Islands were purchased from Denmark, but now, after considerable agitation by business men of St. Thomas, American steamers are beginning to call here. This is the result of representations which have been made to Washington in behalf of the inhabitants of the islands.

The islanders feel that American steamship owners, and especially the shipping board at Washington, have

heretofore overlooked the facilities of the harbor of St. Thomas for providing coal, fuel oil, and other stores.

While few American steamers have been calling at St. Thomas for supplies, many have called at the neighboring British islands, where facilities are not considered as good as here. The price of coal is cheaper at St. Thomas than at the British islands.

To bring this matter before the shipping board and to obtain all the help possible from the American people and congress, a meeting of the inhabitants of the Virgin Island was held here. Resolutions were adopted calling the attention of the shipping board to the facilities of the port, such as a pier 3,000 feet long with thirty-one feet of water alongside and all up-to-date appliances for the quick dispatch of vessels wanting coal, water, fuel oil and other stores.

The resolution was carried to Washington by Darwin O. Curry, collector

JEWES IN SERBIA IN BAD PLIGHT

Economic Ruin and Epidemics Have Fallen to Their Lot in Balkans.

BULGARIAN OUTLOOK BETTER

Investigator Urges Shipments of Food and Clothing to Roumania—Fund of \$35,000,000 Being Sought in United States.

New York.—Reports of the condition of Jews in the Balkan countries, as made to the American Jewish Relief committee by its investigators abroad show that economic ruin, epidemics of typhus, tuberculosis, and other diseases have fallen to the lot of Balkan Jews to an extent equal to that suffered by their co-religionists in other war-torn countries, but that political and religious repressive measures have been lacking.

The first detailed account of the situation in Serbia in many months is from Dr. Isaac Alcalay, chief rabbi of Serbia, with headquarters in Belgrade. He said Belgrade was still without regular communication with the provinces, because the railroads and bridges destroyed by the Austrians have not been restored.

"During the war," he wrote, "Jews in Belgrade suffered proportionately more than the rest of the population. Most of their habitations were exposed to gunfire throughout the 15 months that the city was under bombardment. Almost all homes are destroyed. The

"A soup kitchen is being run for these people of Sophia, but many are desperate. An allotment from our American Jewish relief fund must be made to care for them."

In Roumania there is need of clothing and staple foods. It was Miss Goldman who made the investigation in this country also.

Clothing Greatest Need. "The people needed clothing above everything else," her report reads. "Almost everybody is shabby, and a large percentage of the poor are practically without clothing. I went into many homes where the inmates had on mere rags or were huddled in torn blankets of sacking.

"The second greatest need is for staple foods, such as dry beans, peas, rice, vegetables, fats and the like. Such supplies as are to be had are sold at exorbitant prices.

"I was painfully impressed by the number of sick in Roumania. In Bucharest, out of a Jewish population of 45,000 there was an average of eight funerals a day last winter. A large percentage of typhus cases in Bucharest and Jassy have been among Jews."

Machinery for the effective distribution of relief in the Balkan countries is in operation. More than \$200,000 worth of supplies, including several tons of kosher meat, was sent from New York late in July to Constantza, Roumania. The American Jewish relief committee, under the chairmanship of Louis Marshall, plans to continue regular shipments of this kind to the Balkans and to Poland, Galicia, Czechoslovakia, and the other countries.

For this purpose a fund of \$35,000,000 is being sought in the United States this year.

of customs, who laid it before the shipping board. Mr. Curry has since returned and reports that that board, members of congress, and American business men have promised to do all they can for the island.

Another oil depot is being erected here to meet increased demands. The people of St. Thomas believe it possesses far better facilities than most other West India islands, and are determined to make known its availability as a port of call for supplying steamers.

Marine Good Walker.

Richmond, Va.—Ralph Walter Slater ambled over from his home at Mount Tell, W. Va., to Charleston, a distance of 26 miles, to join the marine corps. Having successfully passed the examination he strolled over home—another 26 miles, to tell his folks good-by. Completing his farewell he made his way over the West Virginia mountains back to the recruiting office. In all, Slater walked 78 miles to become a marine.

He who is happy is forgetful.

THE JOY OF MOTHERHOOD

Came to this Woman after Taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to Restore Her Health

Ellensburg, Wash.—"After I was married I was not well for a long time and a good deal of the time was not able to go about. Our greatest desire was to have a child in our home and one day my husband came back from town with a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and wanted me to try it. It brought relief from my troubles.



I improved in health so I could do my housework; we now have a little one, all of which I owe to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."—Mrs. O. S. JOHNSON, R. No. 3, Ellensburg, Wash.

There are women everywhere who long for children in their homes yet are denied this happiness on account of some functional disorder which in most cases would readily yield to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Such women should not give up hope until they have given this wonderful medicine a trial, and for special advice write Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass. The result of 40 years experience is at your service.

BELCHING Caused by Acid-Stomach

Let EATONIC, the wonderful modern stomach remedy, give you quick relief from disgusting belching, food-rotting, indigestion, bloated, gassy stomach, dyspepsia, heartburn and other stomach miseries. They are all caused by Acid-Stomach from which about nine people out of ten suffer in one way or another. One writes as follows: "Before I used EATONIC, my food just sat in my stomach without being digested, sour and bitter. I have not had a bit of trouble since the first tablet."

Millions are victims of Acid-Stomach without knowing it. They are weak and ailing, have poor digestion, bodies improperly nourished although they may eat heartily. Grave disorders are likely to follow if an acid-stomach is neglected. Cirrhosis of the liver, intestinal congestion, gastritis, catarrh of the stomach—these are only a few of the many ailments often caused by Acid-Stomach.

A sufferer from Catarrh of the Stomach of 11 years' standing writes: "I had catarrh of the stomach for 11 long years and I never found anything to do me any good—just temporary relief—until I used EATONIC. It is a wonderful remedy and I do not want to be without it."

If you are not feeling quite right—lack energy and enthusiasm and don't know just where to locate the trouble—try EATONIC and see how much better you will feel in every way.

At all drug stores—a big box for 50c and your money back if you are not satisfied.

EATONIC (FOR YOUR ACID-STOMACH)



FARRIS' COLIC REMEDY

TO TREAT HORSE COLIC No Drenching—A Child Can Give It. Old Kentucky Mfg. Co., Inc., Paducah, Ky.

Clear Your Skin While You Sleep with Cuticura

All druggists: Soap 25c, Ointment 25c & 50c, Talcum 25c. Sample each free of "Cuticura, Dept. 3, Boston."

Strong Drink in Japan.

In contrast to a world going dry, Japan is extending its manufacture of hop and distilled beverages. To sake (a liquor brewed from rice and drunk piping hot) and beer is onw to be added the more ardent potation of rum. A \$500,000 company to distill rum from the sugar cane is being formed by active spirits in the community of Nagasaki, headed by T. Nagano, president of the Nagasaki, prefectural assembly.

Important to Mothers

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, that famous old remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fitch*.

In Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Caustic. Reggie—Yes, I have subscribed \$50 to a school for the weak-minded. Miss Keen—As tuition?

The Strong Withstand the Heat of Summer Better Than the Weak. Old people who are feeble and younger people who are weak, will be strengthened and enabled to go through the depressing heat of summer by taking Grove's tasteless chili tonic. It purifies and enriches the blood and builds up the whole system. You can soon feel its strengthening, invigorating effect. 50c.

Would See Her Started.

"Will you accompany me on 'A Long, Long Trail'?" "Part of the way, anyhow," he said gamely.

MURINE

Keeps Your Eyes Strong and Healthy. If they're Smart, Itch, or Burn, if Sore, Irritated, Inflamed or Gravelled, use Murine often. Safe for Infant or Adult. At all Druggists. Write for Free Eye Book. Murine Eye Remedy Company, Chicago, U.S.A.