

**How Armies Mobilize  
In European Countries;  
Speedy War Preparations**

**M**OBILIZATION is really a simple thing. It merely means getting fighting men to the place they are needed to fill complements of regiments, divisions, corps or garrisons as the case may be. In the United States there is no such thing as mobilization because we have no reserves to mobilize. In this country the process of gathering our forces is called concentration.

On the other hand, Germany, Russia, France and Austria have thousands upon thousands of men who have served in the army and are upon the reserve lists for further service when called upon. When the time arrives these troops and the reserves are mobilized. On the French border Germany, for instance, has her most powerful forces. The first line of troops, those nearest to the border, are nearly up to war strength.

When war comes the reservist drops his pen or his shovel or whatever tool he may be using and without more ado hastens to the front. He has served in the army before, is really a veteran. He has known during the days of peace just to what regiment and in just what city or post he belongs. And he makes all possible speed for that post. Not more than forty-eight hours are required to mobilize the entire French army. Germany is equally fast, while Russia and Austria, in military circles, are not supposed to be so well trained.

War is a business with the continental citizens, and everything gives way to preparations for it. When the reservists are called out nothing interferes with their progress to their stations. The railroads are theirs, and private business and pleasure stop.



Photo by American Press Association.

**SERVIAN SOLDIERS MOBILIZING.**

The government simply takes possession of what it wants. The reservist starts at a minute's notice, without gun, uniform or equipment of any sort. On his arrival at the mobilization camp a big bundle is thrown at him. It contains everything he needs. He puts on his clothes, shoulders his rifle and, presto, the civilian has disappeared and the trained soldier stands ready for war. Over here we have no conception of the celerity with which it all is done.

One of the most interesting parts of the operation is how the military authorities keep track of the eligible men. In every village, town and city lists are kept, and the men who are on the reserve list must keep the authorities informed of their addresses. Then when the call to colors comes thousands upon thousands of automobiles, horses, motorcycles and now even aeroplanes carry to each man the order to join his regiment. Sleeping villages are awakened as by a Paul Revere, horsemen passing through deserted streets shouting the word that the reservists are wanted for duty. Before morning an army is on the move.

In all countries in the war zone where government ownership does not exist all public utilities are seized and converted to the use of the government. Everything possible is done to speed the civilian soldier on his way to the front. Reservists who leave the country are obliged to leave their addresses with the authorities, and they are called by means of cablegrams, telegrams and other means of communication, directed by consuls and military agents.

The outward aspects of mobilization are largely routine and the result of office work. The big problem of the war heads is to decide where to mobilize and what forces to call upon. Therefore the most important part of the mobilization problem is a military secret in each country.

In Germany, France, Austria and Russia practically every citizen is liable to be called for war service. The reservists are divided into different classes, according to the number of years which have elapsed since they quit active service. In all cases the practice is to summon them back to the colors, with the latest to leave service first and the others in order.

**STRINGING PEARLS**

Only the Choicest Silk is Used For the Best Jewels.

**TYING KNOTS AS A FINE ART.**

The Perfect Hang of the Necklace Depends Upon How These Tiny Twists Are Formed, and It May Take a Year to Master the Knack.

The pearl stringers themselves call it a "trade." They are not the kind of people to talk about art. If they see anything of their work beyond the prosaic fact that "stringing" is a good employment it is only an indirect and somewhat vague appreciation of the delicate attraction of the pearls they handle.

Although not professing to be expert judges, I have never met a pearl stringer yet whose eye and taste were not trained to a fine perception of the form and color of the beamy, iridescent luster of the jewel of the shellfish. It would be as impossible for them to mistake an artificial pearl for a real one as it would be for a lapidary to begin to polish a piece of glass under the impression it was a diamond.

It is often said that the little known industry of pearl stringing is dying out, but this is not the fact. No machinery is yet invented to supersede the ten clever fingers of the practiced stringer. The industry is exclusive, too, and a business has often been passed on from mother to daughter, even from grandmother to grandchild. Drilling and mounting of pearls is quite a different branch of the industry.

Good light is one of the essential needs of the pearl stringer, especially when she is employed in making or repairing seed pearl ornaments. All the beads have to be arranged according to their size and then separately and most carefully sewed into place on their dainty framework. For instance, if the design is that of a flower or leaf the skill lies in graduating from the biggest pearl to the one that touches the extreme point. Some of these ornaments, by the way, are very old, for if they are carefully handled there is no reason why they should not be as long as the handsome, antique pendants and pearl studded medals of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries that one still admires in the British museum.

Only the finest silk is used for stringing the finest pearls. Great beads, round and shiny, unmistakably artificial and with no more real luster than white marbles—with the exception of what are called Roman pearls, manufactured many years ago—may be allowed to hang together on catgut, but pearls must be threaded, pearl kissing pearl, on silken strands worthy of their shape and "skin."

Now the art of the stringer lies in the apparently simple manner of tying the knot that attaches the snap. Sometimes also she has to make a knot between head and head, a method that adds to the length of the necklace, but detracts from the beauty of the line of pearls. The knack of making this tiny knot will perhaps take a girl a year to master; the perfect hang of the beads, neither too loose nor too tight, depends on how it is made.

There is no needle fine enough for threading small seed pearls, so the stringer makes her own out of a piece of wire as thin as a hair. She arranges her pearls, if they are of different sizes, on a grooved board covered with billiard table cloth, any other material, such as green baize, being much too coarse. When she is making a tassel or loops, it is pretty to watch her hold her work at arm's length every few minutes, measuring its size and effect with her well trained eye.

It is hardly necessary to speak of the strict integrity and unflinching care required in a pearl stringer. She is entrusted with great possessions, for the value of pearls is continually on the increase. There are some ladies who never trust their treasures out of their own houses, but arrange, through a jeweler, for a pearl stringer to call so many times a year to repair ornaments or restring necklaces.

The work of the pearl stringer is so little known, so quiet and dainty, that it is doubtful if one in a thousand women who stop to admire and covet as they pass show windows ever gives a thought to the patient fingers that have threaded the beautiful beads and tied the almost invisible, cunning knots that link them to their diamond clasps.

The little band of stringers are very simple, but businesslike people in their humble workrooms—devotees of beauty, although they are unconscious of the fact, and true artists in the perfection of their work.—London Chronicle.

**Both Played the Game.**

The head of the firm approached his son. "What was the idea when I looked in your room just now? You and that traveler appeared to be walking round and round the office."

"Oh! It says in this Business Manual that one should always be careful when interviewing anybody to have one's back to the light. But I think the other fellow must have been up to that dodge. When we settled down at the finish he was sitting in the window sill, was the disconsolate reply.—London Answers.

Happiness is in doing right from right motives.—Margaret of Navarre

**BATH ROBES.**  
The Smart Flowered Crapes Very Suitable For These Garments.



GRAPE BATH ROBE

The attractive bath robe pictured here is fashioned of blue and white flowered crape. It has matching bands of blue silk, with a jaunty blue silk cord and tassel to encircle the waist.

**NOW LONGER WAISTS.**

Wide Girdles Used to Give This Modish Effect to Gowns.

The lowering of the waist line is one of the characteristics of smart fall frocks. Illustrated here is a gown of taffeta in striped effect. The wide gir-



Photo by American Press Association.

**STRIPED TAFFETA GOWN.**

dle outlines the waist with startling distinctness as to lines.

Entire skirts are occasionally made of Roman stripes.

Embroidered taffeta dresses are among the novelties.

Figured basques are seen worn with plain black tunic skirts.

Little capes suit almost every type woman, provided only she is slender.

Fall skirts are being made with clusters of plaits.

There seems to be a decided return to long, simple lines in dress.

Combinations of broadcloth with satin or moire are seen.

Fur trimmings, it is said, will be in good standing for fall.

**Night Light in Glass.**

A modern idea has gorged the humble jelly glass. It now appears ribbon covered, with a gallow band at bottom and top, its tin top gilded and inside a wax night light melted to fit. The cover protects it from the dust by day.

**KEEPING FLOWERS FRESH.**

To keep flowers before arranging them in the vases arrange loosely in a large bowl brimful of water, allowing the water to come just under the blossoms, and place in a dark place for an hour or so. This plan will stiffen the blossoms and increase the length of time the flowers will keep in a fresh state.

It is interesting to note that cornflowers quickly lose their color if deprived of sunshine. Therefore if used as a table decoration the best plan is to put them in the window between times.

**A TRIP INTO SPACE.**

With a Peep at the Milky Way and Its Fiery Spiral Nebula.

If you could stand still and let the world glide from under you the most impressive characteristic of space would be its emptiness, its awful black silence, of which man knows about as much as the deep sea fish do of their ocean. As the sun went sailing away its planets would close in on by one until apparently consumed by the solar rays. Before you had passed through the orbit of Neptune the sun would look no larger than an arc light. Fainter and fainter, deprived bit by bit of its dominance, it would finally fade into a pitiful spark. In spite of your tenses efforts to keep that glinting point clear of its fellows, it would at last melt into the multitude of soft lights that make up the Milky way, and henceforth, seek as you might, you could never distinguish your sun again. Lost in the Milky way, it would be as futile to try to find it as to find a certain grain of dust which you had noticed settling on a country road.

Then drifting spittlelike out into inky nothingness you would be surrounded by myriads of brilliant lights. Soon they would impress you with this startling fact: The universe of stars is arranged like a mighty world. The Milky way encircles the skies very much as the equator does this earth, and since life is most abundant in the south so the stars grow thickest about the Milky way. Let the eye travel away toward the imaginary north and south poles, and not only do the stars thin out, but entirely new forms of star life make their appearance.

Through the telescope they are nothing more than filmy patches of light; to the cameras and spectroscopes of observatories they become the most amazing and frightful spectacles of all nature. They show themselves then to be stupendous whirlpools of fire, inconceivable in magnitude, thousands of "light years" away (light traveling 185,000 miles a second, where whole systems of suns are being slowly evolved. We call them "spiral nebula," but to describe them we need the tongue of God himself. They seem to be measureless cauldrons, where his hand stirs cosmic dust until new suns rise and float off in flaming bubbles. They are so unthinkably gigantic that there is no perceptible motion to them. Already the cameras have recorded several hundred thousand in every stage of condensation, presenting an undeniable challenge, perhaps an answer, to those who would solve the riddle of the universe.—Maxwell Parry in Chicago Herald.

**Ships and Waves.**

When the waves of the ocean are one-half the length of the ship and one-twentieth of the length in height the stress upon the ship itself is very little increased above that in smooth water. But when the waves are of the same length as the ship or one and one-half times its length the stresses are considerable higher than when the ship is in smooth water; hence, in view of the fact that waves are seldom over 500 feet long, the maximum bending moments which come upon a ship 300 feet long are much less than those which come upon one 500 feet long.—Chicago News.

**Improving the Milk's Quality.**

A certain Glasgow milkman was suspected of using the pump handle rather too much before starting out with his milk delivery. The other day as he was standing serving customers in a busy side street a man passing nudged him and whispered, "Look out; the sanitary inspector is coming round the corner." Turning off the crank, he rushed for his cream barrel and, billing a huge can from it, opened the milk cask and emptied it in. The "sanitary" did not come, but the wife of the "tipster" got a splendid supply of rich creamy milk that morning.—London Tatler.

**Giving Proper Credit.**

Two Philadelphians were talking of the fortunes of a third denizen of that city when one said: "His first lucky strike was in eggs. He bought 10,000 dozen at a low figure, put them in cold storage and sold them at a profit of more than 300 per cent. That was the cornerstone of his great fortune."

"Ah," exclaimed the other. "Then the hens laid it!"—Harper's Magazine.

**Both Together.**

Little Mary had been sent to the store by her mother to get some fly paper. She was a long time in returning, and the mother began to get anxious. Going to the door, she cried the little girl coming up the street, and called to her, "Mary, have you got the flypaper?"

"No, mother," replied Mary; "It's got me; but we're coming together."—Lippincott's.

**The Why of the Tip.**

The reason why the tipping system will never be abolished is that the attitude of the average patron of the restaurant toward the high mighty waiter is that of Alice, who wept with delight when Ben Bolt gave her a smile and trembled with fear at his frown.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

**A Good One.**

"What test would you apply to men seeking positions as waiters?" "I would select those of fetching ways."—Baltimore American.

Every great crisis develops some master mind as well as a multitude of surprises.

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