# QUALIFICATIONS OF BIRDMEN MAKE THEM VERY VALUABLE

(By Associated Press.)

BERKELEY, Cal., July 14.—Athletes, including such men as have played games such as tennis, basketball, football and baseball, are among the very best material from which to pick the men who will make up the personnel of the American flying squadrons, according to B. M. Woods, dean of the school of military aeronautics at the University of California. They possess the essential qualification or a highly developed muscular co-ordination and quick judgment. In speaking of the estimate of the requirements for acceptance of a man in the aviation section of the United States army, Dean Woods said:

"When Colonel L. W. B. Rees, one of the men who has helped to make the Royal Flying Corps unit the wonderfully effective branch of the British army it now is, was flying over the German lines with an observer busily engaged in obtaining important photographs, he was attacked by an enemy airplane. Instead of immediately attacking the opposing plane as its pilot hoped that he would do, he continued his ahhigned task until the required photographs had been obtained, then turned upon his pursuer with a burst of machine gun fire, disabled his machine, and sent him down. This incident is one of many showing the marvelous morale that can be developed in a group of men of the proper caliber. It is on account of the high personal requirements of the kind indicated above that the British have found it desirable to permit no man to fly who does not possess the qualifications of an officer. The American air pilot is to be fashioned after the British pilot in this respect; in other words, every American flyer will be an officer.

An officer is a man who is expected to obey orders and display judgment at the same time. His responsibilities are great. For example, it takes six months to properly train a "flying officer." His training and machine have cost the government about $25,000 when he gets to the firing line. Hence, a single error of judgment can cost his country the whole amount invested, in addition to his life and his value to the army to which he belongs. The two hundred men now in an important school of military aeronautics in the United States have thus a minimum destructive power of five millions of dollars. Lord Kitchener has said that one good air pilot is the equivalent of an army corps for effectiveness in the field. While this is perhaps not strictly true at the present time, the lack of judgment and character in the make-up of the pilots of a field army may render its work useless. When the word of a man in the air can divert the fire of many guns from assigned tasks to a target he considers sufficiently important, it is obvious that his judgment must be reliable if he is to hold his job.

"In choosing a candidate for the air service, one is constantly face to face with the problem of deciding whether the applicant has the possibilities of an officer, whether he will develop into a man who will turn to his country's account every blunder of the enemy with that rare judgment of the American man of business or engineer. The man who possesses these characteristics will usually be one who has given evidence of brain power. Consequently, an applicant for this service may expect to have his educational qualifications investigated.

"Normally, one between the ages of 19 and 25 who has not completed high school will not possess the requisites of an officer. Consequently, selections are usually made from those who have completed high school and preferably some college work. Proper equivalents are accepted when they seem to indicate capacity on the part of the man.

"Physically, eyesight, hearing, lungs, heart, and nerves are essential. It is particularly necessary that muscular co-ordinance be exhibited. On this account, men who have played games such as tennis, basketball, football and baseball which require highly developed muscular co-ordination and quick judgment are peculiarly adapted to undertaking the work of the aviation section."

# HUNGARIAN CROPS WILL BE SEIZED

(By Associated Press.)

PARIS, July 14.—Announcement that the new Hungarian crops will be seized by the government of that country as soon as harvesting and threshing is completed has been made by the president of the Hungarian Food Administration bureau, according to a dispatch from Budapest. Farmers will be permitted to retain only sufficient of the crops for their private use and for seed. The monthly flour allotment for the rural population is expected to amount to 37 pounds for each person.

### BELGIAN MISION

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, July 13.—The Belgian mission was entertained here and will leave for Los Angeles tonight.

# KOREAN EMPEROR WEDS JAPANESE

(By Associated Press.)

TOKIO, July 14.—Prince Yi, former emperor of Korea, whose son will soon wed the Japanese princess Nashimoto, has arrived in Japan on an official visit and is receiving distinguished honors. A large body of troops received him at the station and escorted him to an imperial detached palace where he is lodged. The prince brought rare objects of art for Emperor Yoshihito.

The visit and the wedding are expected to lead to increased cordiality and friendship between the people of Japan and Korea.

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# SENSATIONAL ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF SILVER

The cause for the sensational rise in silver, which yesterday reached 80 cents, is due to the fact that all possible points from which the demand for silver usually comes are operative with the natural result of an upward price, according to Harry Choynski, assistant cashier of the Anglo and London Paris National Bank. The governments of the world, said Choynski yesterday, are seeking silver from all possible sources for coinage purposes, while China and India maintain more than their usual demand. He said to the San Francisco Chronicle:

China and India are both producers of commodities that the world needs and have been shipping out lately at high prices. This gives them a command upon something in return, and in part payment, at least, to the extent of their profit, they have demanded silver.

### SILVER COINAGE HEAVY

"Coinage of silver by the entente allies has been extremely heavy. Great Britain, France and Russia have all been heavy buyers, their purchases being the cause of the sensational advance in silver, which occurred in the spring of 1916. The United States has now entered the silver market, to what extent is not known. It is generally understood that soldiers on the march are inclined to favor silver coins and the raising of a large army will undoubtedly necessitate the distribution of large quantities of silver coin.

"The greatest part of the world's output of silver is now going through San Francisco to the Orient. Where formerly only the output of western mines and refineries went through this port, today there is passing through this city the output of Mexico, one-third of that of the world, the output of the United States, which is in excess of one-third, and the greater part of the Canadian output, which is perhaps one-sixth of the whole. The Canadian shipments are going through this port because freight rates are so arranged that large gold values of silver metal consigned materially reduced shipping costs. Silver to the value of $1,000,000, if assembled and forwarded on one steamer, would cost $3750 in freight against a cost of $10,000 if widely distributed and shipped in smaller parcels.

### ROUTE IS CHANGED

"All silver, except western production, formerly went through New York to London and was there distributed to the markets of the world. The change in routes has been prompted by the cheaper carriage cost via Pacific ports. The activities of German submarines have caused war risk insurance to advance about 15 per cent on cargoes via the Suez canal, whereas insurance on silver from San Francisco to India, via Hongkong, can be arranged from 1 to 2 per cent.

"London still dictates the price of silver, and our price is based on the London quotation. It is reasonable to suppose that London will always name the price, owing to the difference in time. As London is open for business five hours ahead of New York, the price over there can always be cabled as a basis for American operations at the opening of business here. The meagerness of silver supplies reaching London recently, due to the fact that the greater part of the output now goes through San Francisco, may be having a considerable influence on the upward price movement.

"No man can predict how high silver is likely to go. We do know that the present price of 80 cents seems to be justified by the excessive demand and that the enormous quantities which India has purchased for coinage does not seem to have created a redundancy. The greater part of the silver output of the United States comes as a by-product of copper mines, the silver output of the United States is likely to be less this year than formerly.

"Following the war, all nations will be tremendous purchasers of silver. The silver holdings of the Bank of Germany, according to the last statement published before the war, July 23, 1914, showed silver coinage holdings to the amount of $80,000,000,

(Continued on page four)


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