

MINE TEST SHOWS NEW YORK IS SAFE FROM WAR FLEET

Enemy Couldn't Pass the Narrows Is Conclusion From Submarine Experiment.

THREE TARGETS HIT.

Coast Artillerymen Get Perfect Score for Work in Lower Bay.

There would not be one chance in a thousand for an enemy's fleet to reach the Narrows in New York bay. Three imaginary battleships were destroyed and the efficiency of the officers and men of Coast Artillery Corps Company No. 54, in charge of the submarine mine work at Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, was proved by the explosion in lower New York bay yesterday afternoon of a trio of sunken mines containing enough gun cotton to blow up half of lower Manhattan. Each mine was discharged at a moving target, and so perfectly did the men at the range finders and in the battle commanding station, chart room and casemate do their work that the officer in charge of the mine work at Fort Wadsworth, Capt. H. S. Herrick and his brother officers and company with a perfect score.

The firing of the mines afforded a magnificent spectacle for several thousand persons gathered on the hillsides and lining the rails of the various craft anchored at a comfortable distance. To see the placid, sunlit surface of the lower bay suddenly heave and gape like the crater of a volcano while from the center of the disturbance a great geyser of water lifted itself majestically to the height of at least two hundred feet was thrilling in its grim suggestion of death and destruction. As the huge column of water mounted skyward a deafening detonation crashed against the hills and rumbled off into distant echoes. Then the giant silver fountain spread umbrella-wise and dropped back into the bay, splashing the water's surface with bits of the splintered target.

The whole operation, from the dropping of the mines to their successive discharge, forms one of the most interesting chapters in a description of defensive measures taken by the United States Government to protect its greatest port against a hostile fleet.

AN IMPORTANT FEATURE IN HARBOR'S DEFENSE.
New Yorkers are well versed in facts

and theories about the big guns that line the grassy parapets of the defenses of the lower bay; but few civilians have any idea of the important role the submarine mine would play in the event of an attempt to invade our harbor. Yesterday's mine practice was a lesson in the face for the carpenter who croak of the case with which an enemy's fleet would sail into the lower bay. The lesson for training the course of an approaching vessel until it is directly over one of the great mines, where it can be sent reeling to the bottom by a twitch of a finger on the electric switchboard, is perfect in theory and, what is still better, in practice.

The mines exploded yesterday were laid in the morning by the United States ship, Gen. E. O. C. Ord, Capt. J. M. Dunn commanding, which is one of the eight planters that are employed by the War Department to travel from one coast artillery station to another and take charge of the work of planting the submarine mines in position. The mines are cylindrical in shape, made of iron and contain 100 pounds of gun cotton. They were dropped overboard attached to an automatic anchor that allows the mine to float upward until ten feet from the surface, and a red buoy. As each mine was placed a rowboat would take up a position directly over it and one of the men would raise an anchor in the immediate vicinity of the mine. The range-finding stations would take simultaneous cross bearings of the oar. The operators wear a telephone head dress and are on the line with two men in the chart room, way up on the parapets near the battle-commanding station. The chart room and the range-finding station are all counter-sunk in the ground to escape the enemy's fire. They are the heart and the brain of the fortifications and must be protected at all costs.

HOW THE CHART MEN LOCATE THE MINES.

Each of the two men in the chart room is connected by phone with one of the range-finding stations, and sits facing a table on which is spread a large sheet of white paper. Two long steel rulers intersect at some point on this paper. When the two range-finders get their sight on the oar that marks the position of the mine they call out through the phone the figures to correspond with the figures to which the rulers on the table must be set. The chart men repeat the command and then move the lower end of each ruler until each lies at the angle from which the range-finder sighted the rowboat's signal. Where the rulers intersect on the paper the chart men make a dot, which represents the position of the first mine.

The three mines yesterday were plotted in this manner. They were then connected with the electric cables leading to the casemate switchboard and allowed to remain in the water two hours to test the efficiency of the connections.

When all was ready one of the Government launches proceeded down past the nine buoys towing the three red-painted, raft-like targets, each flaunting a red flag. Two hundred yards of rope was paid out on one of the targets and then passed through a ring in the buoy rope of the mine and made fast to the stern of the launch. Onward came the launch, towing the target far astern. As the line passed through the buoy ring the target could not get off its course, but

was drawn slowly toward the spot where destruction lay waiting for it, under the peaceful, shimmering surface of the bay. To the onlookers it was easy to follow the progress of the target up to the buoy over the mine, and to know just when to expect the explosion, but the test, of course, was taken by the men in the range-finding and chart rooms under war conditions, and the observations and reckoning of the target's approach to the mine were plotted just as though there were no buoys to show where the target lay. In fact, Capt. Carrick, who gave the command to fire, was in the chart room, where there is no view to be had of the bay and accuracy in giving the firing order at the precise moment when the target passed over the mine was a fine demonstration of what an exact science this phase of modern warfare has become.

During the mine practice the battle-commanding station was occupied by Major W. G. Haun, the commanding officer of the fort, and his aides, Lieut. Phipps and Vautenouder commanded the tug work and the safety officer was Capt. R. E. Scott. The umpire, Lieut. Joseph P. Lawler, of No. 240 Broadway, is Miss Killeen's lawyer.

WOMAN WENT SWIMMING AT NIGHT TO SCARE HUSBAND.

Then Fought Policeman Rescuer and Was Arrested on Double Charge.

Charged with attempting suicide and with disorderly conduct in resisting the efforts of the patrolman who tried to save her from Gravesend Bay, Mrs. Mary Whitney of No. 28 Bay Twenty-fifth street, Bath Beach, was arraigned before Magistrate Geisler in Coney Island Police Court today. She pleaded not guilty.

"Your Honor," she said, "I had been out with some friends and I merely wanted to take a little swim."

"Is it your custom to go in swimming at 2 o'clock in the morning with all your clothes on?" queried the Magistrate.

The pretty young matron then explained that she had really tried to frighten her husband and relatives, who, she said, had been treating her unkindly of late.

Patrolman Michael Halley said he saw the woman struggling in the breaker, well out from shore. He jumped into

an old row boat and with a broom as a paddle, struck out from shore. When he reached the woman and seized her, she broke her hold and swam away. Then he got a firmer hold and dragged her into the boat. The old craft was sinking and he dragged the woman aboard of a small yacht. Then he whistled for Policemen Maher and Williams and with a good boat the woman and her rescuer were brought ashore.

On the plea of William Whitney, the husband, in court to-day Magistrate Geisler paroled the woman.

GIRL SUES FOR \$10,000.

Miss Clara Killeen, employed in an uptown department store, has begun a suit in the Supreme Court against James J. Sheel, a wealthy liquor dealer of Forty-second street, for breach of promise of marriage.

Miss Killeen, who is young and pretty, demands \$10,000 damages, declaring she has suffered humiliation and disgrace. She said she promised to marry her in January, 1910.

Joseph P. Lawler, of No. 240 Broadway, is Miss Killeen's lawyer.

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Covered with "Wearwell" American Taffeta; selvedge seam; silk cases and tassels.

26-Inch Sizes for Women; 28-Inch for Men.

The assortment of handles is most comprehensive, offering remarkable scope of selection.

FOR WOMEN—Handles of gold and pearl, silver and pearl, Dresden, gold and silver caps, fancy novelties, horn, plain and silver trim, German etched, natural silver trim, mission, plain and silver trim.

FOR MEN—Handles include plain and fancy silver trimmed mission, horn and Congo, as well as scores of novelty effects.

- 50c Oil Cloth, yd., 29c
- FLOOR OIL CLOTH—in lengths of 5 to 20 yards.
- \$1.50 Lounging Cushions, 98c
- Covered in Silk Damasks and Tapestries; filled with silk floss. Size about 24x24 in.
- \$1.00 Embroidered Scarfs and Squares, each, 49c
- 54-INCH SCARFS AND 30-INCH SQUARES—scalloped or hemstitched edges; drawn-work or plain centres; elaborately embroidered in eyelet and floral designs; a beautiful collection from which to select.
- \$1.50 Women's Hand Bags, 95c
- FANCY TAPESTRY, SATIN "ELVET AND SUEDE BAGS—in black and colors; fitted with purse and extra long silk handles. Also SEAL BAGS—colors and black; metal and leather-covered frames; all leather lined.
- \$1.50 Storm Serges, 1.10
- 54-INCH ALL WOOL STORM SERGES—sponged and shrunken; navy and black. Reg. \$1.50 per yard.
- 18c Hair Nets, 11c
- ALL-OVER EXTRA LARGE GOLF HAIR NETS. Regularly 18c each.
- 17c Taffeta Ribbons, 12 1/2c
- FINE QUALITY TAFFETA RIBBON—4 1/2 inches wide; large assortment of colors and black.
- \$1.25 Chiffons, yard, 95c
- CHIFFON CLOTH—an exceptional assortment in colors, black and white; 42 inches wide.
- \$1.50 Couch Covers, 95c
- Oriental designs and colorings.
- 12 1/2 and Fiannelette, yd. 9 1/2c
- ENGLISH CUTTING FLANNELS—27 inches wide; double-napped; non-shrinkable; in pink, blue, tan and combination checks and stripes; for children's dresses, dressing sacsques, pajamas, etc.
- \$4.00 Ready-to-Wear Hats, 2.98
- SMART SUIT HATS—charming new shapes, including various Pokes, Turbans and close-fitting effects; stylishly trimmed; the season's most wanted colors.
- 50c & 60c Dress Goods, yard, 48c
- 54-INCH SCOTCH SUITINGS; 44-INCH ALL WOOL CHEVIOTS; ROUGH TWEED SUITINGS; ALL WOOL STORM SERGE.
- 35c Stamped Linens, 21c
- ODDS AND ENDS of Stamped Linens.
- 10c Handkerchiefs, 1/2 doz., 27c
- WOMEN'S HANDKERCHIEFS—corded border with dainty initial in wreath effect; also plain and colored borders.
- MEN'S HANDKERCHIEFS—plain and colored borders; 3/4 and 1/2 inch hem. Reg. 10c each.

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Regularly \$38.00, \$40.00, \$50.00, \$80.00

Virginia Sofa in Denim
\$30.00—Regularly \$45.00.

Virginia Armchair in Denim
\$30.00—Regularly \$45.00.

Solid Mahogany Colonial Chairs and Rockers in Denim
\$11.50, \$14.00, \$22.50, \$30.00
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