TO BEGIN TOMORROW

Court-Martial of Midshipman Merriwether.

HAZING AND THE CODE

SOME OF THE PRACTICES AT THE NAVAL ACADEMY.

Coming Trial Regarded by the Service as a Very Grave Affair—Comment on the Case.

Special From a Staff Correspondent.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., November 21, 1905.

The trial of Midshipman Merriwether, which will begin at the Naval Academy tomorrow, is regarded by the service as a grave affair, much graver even than the question of how far the individual midshipman was responsible for the death of Midshipman Branch, which resulted from injuries received in a fist fight. In the public mind it is really the "code" that is on trial, not the individual.

It is said that the Secretary of the Navy is very determined about putting down fighting at the academy. How far he will have the backing of the officers in that is a question. When the question of hazing at the academy was under investigation two years ago there were some differences of opinion, even among the officers. Of course, in the present case the officers are not talking for publication, but it is very doubtful if any of them are much in favor of breaking up the habit of fighting in the school. It may be said in passing that the fights are not frequent. But bringing several hundred aggressively healthy youngsters together in a school where of necessity one class is subordinated to another and where ideas of personal honor are even more rigidly fixed than in the average school, it would be strange if occasionally there were not cases where the code was forced into operation. This is the view the officers take of it. They say the boys are brought to the academy to be trained as fighting men, and a boy who is not ready to resent what he considers a personal affront is not the material that the school needs to work on.

Designed to Secure Fairness.

At the same time they say that the "code," as it exists, is the growth of experience by successive classes of youngsters, and it is designed to secure fairness and equality in any meetings that take place. The upper classmen naturally have the advantage of greater age and longer training in a fight, but the "code" is designed to give the "plebe" a square deal where he might not otherwise get it. The inner workings of the code change from time to time, and there are few of the older officers who profess to know anything about it. Of course, they do not care to know too much, though fighting is unofficially a recognized institution both at Annapolis and West Point. But the officers say it cannot be prevented, and the chances are that there is no great anxiety that it should be.

Hazing at the academy is another and slightly different matter. There are two sorts which might be described as "friendly" and "unfriendly."

Effects of Hazing.

Fights may sometimes grow out of the first, but never out of the second. The first variety is of a more or less individual sort. It consists in making "plebes" answer all sorts of foolish questions, rating them severely if they omit to put "sir" to his name every time they speak to an upper classman, making him do gymnastic stunts, usually of a more or less ridiculous sort, and generally "taking it out" of the aspiring youngster and frequently turning him into a perspiring youngster. It is held by the upper classmen that this is good training for the first-year men, that it relieves any tendency to cranial enlargement, makes them submissive to discipline from their superiors, and generally tends to render them meek and lowly of heart.

But this hazing is strictly circumscribed by custom. An upper classman may not touch a plebe, however much he may tongue-lash him. There are also certain personal things he may not say to the plebe, such as calling him a liar or a coward. The plebe can quit if the gymnastic stunts are carried beyond his strength and if he thinks he has been personally affronted, which is a very different thing from ordinary "running;" he can challenge his opponent to fight. If he does both his own class and the upper classmen will see fair play. In fact, if there is a great disparity in size and weight, either man or his class can nominate another man to do the fighting.

Victims Maintain Silence.

Now, of course, all this is in flagrant violation of academy rules. If a junior classman followed the rules and asserted his rights he could report his superiors several times a day. But do they? No one ever heard of it, and if they did they probably would not last long in the school. It does not seem to be the way a healthy boy is built, and so he takes his hazing or fights, as the case may be.

There is another sort of hazing that is much more serious and that cannot be reached by any rules of the school or of the Navy Department. It is meted out to a man only for some gross violation of the code of honor that cannot be reached by the rules or for intense personal unpopularity. It is a class affair, and may even extend to a man's own classmates. It simply consists in cutting him dead and ignoring his existence except in the most routine exchange of commands. Usually there is good reason for such drastic punishment. Sometimes a man has carried this stigma clear through the academy with him and into the service. And it may be said that when the ban is thus placed on a student it is usually well deserved.

PLANTING OF TREES.

Superintendent of Parking Submits Schedule to Commissioners.

Responding to a recent request of the Columbia Heights Citizens' Association, the superintendent of parking, Mr. Lanham, has recommended that trees be planted in parts of streets indicated as follows:

In Euclid street (formerly Irving street) between Sherman and Brightwood avenues, 23; in Fairmont (formerly Yale street) between 11th and 13th streets, 8; in Harvard street between Sherman avenue and 11th street, 7; in Irving street (formerly Kenesaw street) between Sherman avenue and 11th street, 16; Kenyon street between Sherman avenue and 11th street, 25; Monroe street (formerly Lydecker avenue) between Sherman avenue and 13th street, 28; a total of 107 trees.

In making the recommendation Mr. Lanham states that Columbia Heights has received very liberal treatment in the matter of tree planting, but he states that the trees ordered are necessary to fill out blocks where planting has already been commenced. The Commissioners have approved the plan and it will soon be carried into effect.

Ever Ride Your Bicycle Now?

You can trade it for a camera, musical instrument or anything you have use for by inserting an ad. in the "Trade" column of The Sunday Star. Only 1c. a word for 15 words or more.

$50,000 Fire in Pittsburg Suburb.

PITTSBURG, Pa., November 21.—Thornburg, a suburb of this city, was visited by fire early today and two handsome residences owned and occupied by Eugene J. Beck and S. T. McClarren, together with the contents, were completely destroyed. The fire started in the Beck residence and spread so quickly that the members of the family were forced to use a rope fire escape from the upper floors. The loss is estimated at $50,000.

THE PAY TOO LITTLE

Appointees to Office Refuse to Accept.

ARE NOT ATTRACTED

GOVERNMENT SERVICE DEPRIVED OF THE BEST ELIGIBLES.

Interesting Feature of the Annual Report of Chief Examiner Frank M. Kiggins.

The most interesting feature of the annual report of Frank M. Kiggins, the chief examiner of the United States civil service commission, is the statement that numerous successful applicants for positions have refused to take the places offered to them.

The report says: "The positions under the government are considered desirable, and it is generally supposed that the commission has little difficulty in filling vacancies as they occur. This, however, is not always the case. While sufficient applicants enter the general examinations, there are numerous declinations of appointments when tendered, especially to positions in Washington. Many of the highest eligibles on the registers decline appointment on account of the low salaries offered, which frequently do not equal the salaries received by them in private employment."

Attention is called to the insufficient supply of eligibles on various registers, including the stenography and typewriting; aid, coast and geodetic survey; assistant topographer, draftsman, copyist, topographic; draftsman, land office; draftsman, topographic; irrigation engineer, meat inspector, physician, Indian service; assistant examiner, farmer, farmer with knowledge of irrigation; teacher, Indian service; industrial teacher, civil engineer and superintendent of construction, mechanical draftsman, ordnance department, and engineer, Indian service.

It appears that since January 137 appointments were made from the clerk register. Before these could be made 91 eligibles who were tendered appointment declined; from the bookkeeper register 91 appointments were made since December 19, 1904, but 52 eligibles declined before the positions were filled; from the stenographer and typewriter register 255 appointments were made since October 21, 1904, and 186 eligibles declined before the vacancies were filled. The report says: "These figures indicate that the salaries offered are, in many cases, not a sufficient inducement for the best eligibles on the registers to enter the government service. The properous times have directed the attention of many qualified eligibles to the advantages offered in private employment. If larger salaries could be offered by the government for the more important positions, more applicants of a higher grade would enter the examinations, and there would be fewer declinations by the highest eligibles on the register when they are tendered appointment. The government would as a result be the gainer, because the difference in the quality and quantity of the work performed by the eligibles who received the highest rating as compared with those who barely passed the examinations would more than offset the difference in salaries."

Examinations of the Year.

Over 650 different kinds of examinations were given during the year, of which 231 were educational and 419 non-educational tests. For all branches of the service 148,730 persons were examined, 116,019 passed, and 39,427 were appointed. The number examined shows a gain of 15,661 over the preceding year, and was the largest in any one year in the history of the commission. The principal increases were due to the holding of certain examinations during the year which were not held in the preceding year, such as clerk, 3,809; printer's assistant, 2,160; immigrant inspector, 1,608; tagger, 837; bookkeeper, reclamation service, 234, and third grade (male), 1,358. Several large technical examinations were also held for the isthmian canal service, in which nearly 3,000 persons competed.

While there was an increase in the number examined, there was a decrease of 9,867 in the number appointed, or 39,427 as compared with 49,294 for the preceding year. This decrease was due almost entirely to the falling off in the number for the rural carrier service and for the navy yard service. There were fewer changes in the rural carrier service owing principally to the fact that the maximum salary of rural carriers was increased on July 1, 1904, from $600 to $720 per annum. The reduction in appointments in the navy yard service was due to a variety of causes. The largest number of examinations and appointments were for the following positions and services:

	Exam.	Passed.	Ap'd.
Bookkeeper	1,121	357	170
Clerk	3,809	1,772	243
Clerk-carrier, post office service	22,516	15,336	5,669
Custom house service	8,058	6,301	396
Custom house service	8,056	6,801	396
Engineer department at large	3,649	3,606	2,107
Government printing service	3,095	2,816	226
Immigrant inspector	1,608	1,382	11
Isthmian canal service, mechanical trades	2,133	1,640	194
Lighthouse service	1,070	1,036	273
Mere unskilled laborers	3,949	3,491	146
Navy yard service	28,500	28,301	10,956
Ordnance department at large	3,060	2,979	1,598
Railway mail	6,972	4,218	1,558
Rural carrier	33,033	26,641	10,627
Stenographer	1,047	280	85
Stenographer and typewriter	2,707	829	435
Typewriter	1,045	766	126
Watchman, messenger, skilled laborer	1,358	1,156	183
Philippine service	1,183	557	133

Modifications were made in various examinations with a view of making them better tests of fitness for the positions to be filled. The commission is aiming to eliminate all tests which are not of value in determining the qualifications of competitors. It is noted that training and experience are subjects which have been added to various examinations.

Fees for Examinations.

Examinations are now given by the commission without cost to applicants, but the chief examiner calls attention to the great expense in the preparation and rating of papers, correspondence, recording, printing, photolithographing, etc., and recommends that a fee be charged each applicant. He suggests fees ranging from 50 cents for the simple third-grade examinations, such as watchman, messenger, printer's assistant, etc., to $2 or more for important examinations requiring unusual time in the preparation and rating of papers, such as for civil engineer, patent office examiner, etc. Attention is called to the fact that the Post Office Department is partly self-sustaining on account of the charges for the stamp, money order and registry systems; that the patent office is more than self-sustaining on account of receipts for examining and clerical work involved in determining rights for patents, and that a considerable sum is collected by the Library of Congress and the land office for examining any clerical work in connection with land grants and copyrights.

Civil Service District Work.

Attention is called to the satisfactory results that have followed the organization of the civil service districts. There are twelve of these districts, with headquarters at Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Atlanta, Cincinnati, Chicago, New Orleans, St. Paul, St. Louis, Denver, Portland (Oregon) and San Francisco. The following extract from the report indicates the work devolving upon the district boards:

"The district boards are charged with the duty of furnishing information to applicants and to public officials concerning civil service matters. They also hold the examinations of the commission throughout the United States and make certifications for appointments to fill vacancies in the different branches of the service in their respective districts. Examinations are held and certifications for appointment are now made to fill vacancies much more promptly than was the case before the district method was adopted. All certifications for appointment are checked at the commission, where all examination papers are prepared and rated. Although the district plan expedites the business of the commission with the general public and officials outside of Washington, none of the safeguards surrounding the examinations or in making certifications for appointments has been dispensed with as a result of the assignment of a part of the work of the commission to district boards."

Foot Ball, Bowling and Other Sports

(Continued from Ninth Page.)

he pulls the team together and gets them back out of the air.

"He has everything Bender has in the way of curves, shoots and command, and is a .400 batter besides. He pitched last summer for Chautauqua against Point Chautauqua, both teams being made up of the flower of the eastern college base ball talent. Five times straight he beat John Doyle, the crack Princeton twirler, three times shutting out Doyle's men. In two of these games they only made three hits.

"Jude is a wizard at the bat and in the outfield. He hits hard and timely, making more runs than any college player of the year and being fine on the bases."

BIG SALARY FOR FIRST BASEMAN NEALON

CINCINNATI, November 21.—Seven thousand dollars a year, just $3,000 more than Hans Wagner draws, is what Manager Clarke of the Pittsburg team has contracted to pay his new first baseman, Joe Nealon, according to Ted Sullivan, scout for the Reds, who thought he had Nealon safe until the final announcement came as an eye-opener. Cincinnati started with an offer of $3,800, and as Nealon's father had posters printed and distributed all over San Francisco and telegraphed the news to all the papers in the east offers came along from New York, Boston and Pittsburg, and despite Herrman's offer of $1,000 more than any other highest offer the Pirates won.

AMATEUR ATHLETIC UNION.

Atlantic Body Expelled From Powerful Association.

NEW YORK, November 21.—Sensational developments marked the seventeenth annual meeting of the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States, held yesterday at the Grand Union Hotel. Chief among these developments was the expulsion from the national body of the Atlantic Association, at one time one of the union's strongest members, owing to the defiant attitude taken by the Atlantic's board of managers in the case of Frank J. Floyd, alias "Jack" Egan, the present middleweight champion of the A. A. U.

The registration committee of the Atlantic Association, through its chairman, T. L. Gamble, permitted Floyd to assume the name of Egan in a number of competitions, and particularly in the 1905 championships, held in Boston. After the tournament the Boston championship committee found out the facts and presented them to the notice of the A. A. U. and the Atlantic Association. The latter body refused to take any action toward disciplining the officials who had countenanced the evasion, and so it remained for the present A. A. U. board to take action.

In addition, Floyd has been ordered to return all prizes which he won while boxing under his assumed name.

The Atlantic Association has 369 registered athletes, belonging to nine clubs. These will be apportioned to two districts—the Metropolitan and the South Atlantic—in the redistricting, which will be immediately made.

Another feature of the meeting was the lifting of the suspension against Walter Eckersall, a Chicago athlete, who was set down several years ago for playing summer base ball. Eckersall, who is probably the most wonderful all-around athlete in the west, has been for two years a student at the University of Chicago. Although not permitted to compete in track and field games, in which he made a great mark before going to the university, he has been the star player on the foot ball team.

Delegates were in attendance from each of the allied bodies, with Joseph B. Maccabe of Boston as the presiding officer. The secretary was James E. Sullivan of New York. General prosperity was shown all along the line in the sports governed by the union, the treasurer's report showing the largest balance in the organization's history, viz., $5,869.07.

Mr. Maccabe, at the election of officers, was continued by the delegates as president, as was James E. Sullivan as secretary-treasurer. The latter was unanimously appointed as the union's envoy to the meeting of the Olympic games committee, to be held in Paris next month, arranging for the Athens sports in April of 1906.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TO PLAY BASKET BALL

The championship series of the High School Girls' Basket Ball League will begin tomorrow afternoon, when the teams representing Central and Technical high schools will contest for supremacy. Both of the teams are strong, and as much rivalry exists between the two schools, it is more than probable that a good game will be the result. The Central line-up will include Miss Dolly Cunningham, who is one of the best players among the girls in the city. Miss Swett will also play left center for Central. Miss Heine, the Tech. captain, will lead the dark red and white. The line-up will be as follows:

Central.	Positions.	Technical.
Miss Roberts	right forward	Miss Gloetzner
Miss Cunningham	left forward	Miss Spier
Miss Little	center	Miss Heine (capt.)
Miss Sweet	right center	Miss Cameron
Miss Carroll	left guard	Miss Beall
Miss Kenneally (capt)	guard	Miss Townsend
Miss Johnson	guard	Miss Weirick

BASE BALL NOTES.

Bender, the Athletics' Indian pitcher, has a brother who pitched in the Iowa League last season under the name of McCoy.

President Bryce of the Columbus team and Manager Watkins of Minneapolis are in Cincinnati watching the meeting of the national commission.

"Dick" Cooley is still trying to get the Topeka, Kans., franchise in the Western League. It all depends upon whether the circuit is enlarged to eight clubs.

Terry Turner of the Naps is going to be a sport this winter. Instead of hibernating at Elwood City, Ind., he is going to hang out at Pittsburg. Whew!

Catcher Carisch of the Pittsburgs is working in his father's brewery at Alma, Wis. If he's in bad trim next year look out for the anvil chorus.

The Philadelphia Americans will do their preliminary stunts next year at Montgomery, Ala. They will leave about March 1.

Pat Donovan again declares that he will manage an independent Tri-state League team in Pittsburg next season, and that he will have several major league stars with him. W. W. Kerr, former owner of the Pirates, is reported as being behind Donovan.

Arlie Latham will don the spangles once more next season. "The Clown" will manage and play first base for the Jacksonville (Fla.) team. Last season Latham was an umpire in the South Atlantic League.

Managerial duties did not interfere with the batting of Manager Chance of the Chicago Cubs. In 1904 he finished fifth, with .310 per cent. Last season he finished in the same position, with .316.

Cliff Blankenship, the ex-Red, was not drafted by the Philadelphia Americans at last Wednesday's session of the national commission. He expected to be.

Jack Haydon, the Baltimore outfielder who has been blacklisted by the national commission for jumping to the Tri-state League, is playing quarterback on the crack Massillon foot ball team of Cleveland.

Charlie Dexter, manager of the Des Moines Western League club this year, is acting as advance agent for the Britt-Nelson pictures. He is an old newspaper man and understands his business.

Bob Ewing, the star twirler of the Cincinnati team, was married last Wednesday to Miss Nellie May Hunter of Wapakoneta. After the ceremony the couple left for the east for their wedding trip.

J. Ira "Slats" Davis is an applicant for a position on the National League umpire staff. Davis has done good work in the Pacific Coast League. Once upon a time he was one of the Giants in the days when they were "pigmies."

Umpire Jack Sheridan left Chicago last week for his home in San Jose, Cal., after resolutely declining Ban Johnson's earnest efforts to sign him for next season for the American League staff. Sheridan will become an undertaker.

Bob Hall, who was with the Brooklyns the greater part of this year, has been turned back with thanks to New York, to whom he belongs. He will probably be released by the Giants, as his work with Brooklyn was not of National League caliber.

Jimmy Whalen, the San Francisco pitcher, purchased by Manager Clark Griffith, for the Highlanders, is doing some talking in 'Frisco. He says, while he is satisfied with the salary of $2,600 offered him, the club must pay his expenses east before he will report. If this is not done Whalen threatens to "go into the bushes and shoot them over."

Players who have up to date received offers to join clubs in the independent Tri-state League are Roger Bresnahan, Hans Wagner, "Wid" Conroy, Schreckengost, Harry Gleason, "Kitty" Bransfield, Jesse Burkett, Charley Hemphill and Rockenfield.

Cobb, the youngster who wound up the past campaign in Detroit's center garden, was grabbed from Augusta, in the South Atlantic League, by Williyam Armour. Averages show that Cobb led the South Atlantic binglers, running up the tidy average of .326 in 103 games. Spade, a new Cardinal boxman, swatted .255. Spade, besides, bagged 25 of his 33 games, tying one other. Harry Kane captured 32 of his 34 stunts. Loucks, who played with Spade at Macon, topped the pitchers. In 21 tries he won 16, lost 3 and tied 2. He's been overlooked, and, on the "dope," sure looks worth being picked up.

Automobile Notes.

Asa Goddard, chairman of the committee on maps and routes, recently authorized by the American Automobile Association, will start from New York today on his first trip to Boston. This will be the first trip in the series that he is arranging for the purpose of securing definite and detailed information of automobile touring routes throughout the United States. Mr. Goddard will spend about a week on the Boston tour. He will visit all the small towns, securing names of the reliable hotels and garages, and these, with information concerning the condition of the roads, will be published in special touring books by the American Automobile Association.

The New York Motor Club has announced "a mass meeting for the abolition of care" in its rooms at the Hotel Cumberland, Broadway and 54th street, on Friday night. In other words, this will be a club smoker, the first of the kind to be held in the club's new quarters. A musical program will be prepared as one of the features of the evening.

An incident full of suggestion occurred in an uptown New York thoroughfare the other day. One of a team of horses hitched to the delivery wagon of a big department store slipped on the asphalt, fell, broke his leg, and had to be shot. A few minutes later an Oldsmobile delivery wagon of sixteen-horse power, that is part of the big store's rolling stock, appeared. The load that the team had been drawing was transferred and added to the load already in the motor vehicle. The helpless delivery wagon was then towed to the stable, and the motor vehicle afterward completed its double delivery, finishing in less time than had been scheduled for the horse-drawn wagon.

M. Lacroix, the French automobile tradesman who has returned to Europe after seeing the Vanderbilt cup race, and reviewing trade conditions, said in an interview abroad, that America held an undoubted superiority in the manufacture of light runabouts. He was convinced that automobiling was on the eve of a great advance in America, in view of the fact that the various states had commenced to vote credits for road improvements.

When it is considered that the first automobile race, held ten years ago in France, resulted in the winning car averaging fifteen miles an hour, while in the last Vanderbilt race the winer traveled at an average speed of sixty-two miles an hour, the tremendous advance made in motor car construction in a comparatively short time can be understood. In no other manufacturing business has anything been brought to a point of perfection in such a brief space of time.

TEMPORARY SOLDIERS' HOME.

United Action of Patriotic Societies to Secure Improvement.

United action will be taken by several of the patriotic organizations of Washington in a determined effort to secure suitable permanent quarters for the Temporary Home for Soldiers and Sailors, now located at 106 3d street northwest. In order that there may be unity of action in this movement Mr. B. F. Chase, president of the board of management of the home, and Capt. A. A. Maxim, secretary, have called a meeting of the joint legislative committee to be held at 7:30 o'clock tomorrow evening in the Spanish War Veterans' hall, 719 6th street northwest. In the call for this meeting it is stated that the co-operation of all patriotic bodies in the District is urged in behalf of "this most worthy object."

At the request of the president of the board of management Commander John Lewis Smith of the Department of the District of Columbia, United Spanish War Veterans, has appointed a committee of three to co-operate with the legislative committee of the Temporary Soldiers' Home. This committee of Spanish War Veterans is composed of Commander John Lewis Smith, Capt. J. Walter Mitchell, secretary of the national committee on legislation of the U. S. W. V., and Adjt. G. E. Rausch of the District department. The legislative committee also announce that arrangements have been made for a lecture by Bishop C. C. McCabe, to be delivered in the Metropolitan M. E. Church Wednesday evening, December 13, for the benefit of the home fund.

Capt. E. E. Kirk, chairman of the national committee on legislation of the United Spanish War Veterans, while in Washington several days ago, arranged for the committee to take up first of all the bill appropriating $60,000 for the purchase of the old Scheutzen club house on the 7th street road, or other suitable property, to be transformed into a suitable temporary home for indigent soldiers and sailors who may come to Washington on business or for other legitimate purposes.

This action has been ordered in furtherance of the resolutions introduced by Capt. J. Walter Mitchell at the recent national encampment of the United Spanish War Veterans at Milwaukee and unanimously passed. The measure when presented to Congress will have the undivided support of all the officers and members of the U. S. W. V., including men who became famous in the short war with Spain. Already, it is said, several prominent members of Congress, who are aware of the insanitary and overcrowded condition of the building on 3d street, have promised to support the measure, which will provide for more suitable quarters for Uncle Sam's fighting men.

ILLUSTRATED SERMONS.

Temperance Lecturer Uses Novel Means to Enforce Arguments.

"Pictures on the Wall," or "Seeing Things at Night," was a feature of the services at the People's Mission, 910 Pennsylvania avenue northwest, last night. The visitors to the mission were treated to a free exhibition of colored views and dissolving pictures, which vividly illustrated a temperance talk by Mr. A. D. Wilcox, noted as an orator throughout the United States.

Mr. Wilcox tells the temperance story differently from other speakers on that subject. His descriptions are thrilling word-pictures, illustrated by colored views on a great white screen in the rear of the auditorium.

A pretty feature of the program is the illustrated songs. Those given last night included "Rescue the Perishing" and "Nearer, My God, to Thee." Mr. W. C. McMichael, evangelist of the mission, and other workers assist the lecturer in his efforts to restore men and women to Christianity and good citizenship. The announcement was made that the picture services this evening will be of especial interest to children. The illustrated lectures by Mr. Wilcox will be continued every evening this week, and Saturday night there will be other special features.

To Sing for the Blind.

Mrs. Stilson Hutchins will give a song recital in the reading room for the blind at the Library of Congress, Thursday afternoon, at 2:30 o'clock.