

FEARLESS YOUTHS HEROES OF AIR

Exploits of Daring Airmen Thrill
All England.

TWO DOWN 76 HUN PLANES

No Chance These Human Eagles Won't Take—Captain McCudden, Flight Commander, Prefers to Work Alone and Has System of His Own—Forces Foe to Fight and Has Never Lost an Encounter.

A few nights ago four members of the Royal Horse Guards, all more than six feet in height, and built like Apollos, stood in the lobby of a London theater between the acts. They resembled the Three Musketeers, and attracted attention because of their wonderful physique and splendid bearing. Near by stood three youngsters, none over five feet four, and none weighing more than 120 pounds. The Horse Guards, mere military ornaments, resemble battalions; the three youngsters, torpedo boats; at least, such was the comment of persons who stood near by. The youngsters were airmen, an American, who had observed the six, said: "The big fellows are all right, but give the kids a try."

Are the Real Heroes. The airmen, or the flyers, are the heroes of England. All mere boys, they are clean cut, alert, and full of confidence. They are the same as the flyers of all nations. Daredevils, many call them. Most of them expect to be killed, and in the long run most of them are. But, as the average American flyer says: "We get a good fly for our money at that."

Just at the present time, the two heroes of the air in England are Capt. James McCudden, twenty-two years old, and Capt. Phillip Fougard, nineteen. The exploits of these youngsters have but recently become known in London, and when they return for leave, all Britain will be theirs. Captain McCudden has brought down 34 German machines; Captain Fougard has accounted for 42.

There is no chance these human eagles won't take. There is no such thing as fear in their make-up. Captain McCudden is the leader of a squadron which has brought down 99 enemy aircraft. Although a flight commander, he prefers to work alone. He manages his machine, and does his own firing, and is said to be one of the best wing shots in any army.

Battles Above Clouds. His battle grounds lie way above the clouds. He flies, as a rule, at a height varying from 10,000 to 18,000 feet. He has a system all his own. When he spies an enemy aircraft he jockeys the foe from his own course and compels him to fight. He never yet lost an encounter. In a letter to his mother and sister, just published, he says that he recently brought down four German airmen in one day, two before luncheon and two after. The next day his score was three.

England has already had a view of many of the American flyers on their way from America to France. Many of these young men are university undergraduates, and one has but to see them to know that they will quickly take their place with the idols of the air of France, England and Italy.

RED CROSS STILL IN NEED OF SUPPLIES

Impossible for American Women to Oversupply Hospitals With Surgical Dressings.

Starting as it may seem the assertion is true that French surgeons at times were forced to operate upon wounded soldiers without the use of anesthetics or surgical dressings. This information was given by Mrs. Benjamin G. Lathrop, director of the Paris depot of the American Fund for French Wounded, in answer to a question as to whether her organization and the Red Cross were not being oversupplied with hospital materials. "It is impossible for American women to oversupply the Red Cross with surgical dressings when there are 4000 military hospitals in France which need our help, and in addition the civilian relief stations and last, but not least, the new American army hospitals." Mrs. Lathrop worked to supply French hospitals with anesthetics and bandages before the United States entered the war and before the Red Cross became a big factor in the situation. She explained the shortage of anesthetics and other supplies as follows: "When the Germans invaded France in 1914 they occupied, and still hold, the main manufacturing districts of the country. With most of their factories lost the French had to turn to the United States for hospital supplies. The enormous number of wounded exceeded their facilities and it is true that some operations were performed without anesthetics or surgical dressings.

"Rubber goods especially were scarce. Gloves made of French rubber split as soon as the surgeons tried them on. Hot water bottles broke at the first filling. In time we got enough rubber goods from the United States to improve the situation, but there is still acute need for all that possibly can be sent over there."

DIAMONDS IN TEXAS

Finding of Gems on a Ranch Causes Much Excitement.

Much excitement has been caused among the people of central western Texas over the discovery of gems, believed to be diamonds, upon a ranch 18 miles southwest of Sterling City. An account of the discovery is given by F. Kells, county surveyor of Sterling county. He writes as follows: "About thirty-two years ago a well driller encountered a substance that cut his drill bit. The well was finished and the driller drifted away. One day a cowboy picked out of the borings of the well some pretty rocks and showed them to a jeweler, who paid him \$300 for one of them, a black stone. The cowboy some years later met the driller in Seattle, Wash. "They related to each other the facts about the find. The driller told the story to Chicago parties, who came here with the driller last winter and started a prospect shaft, following the bore of the well. The shaft is now 33 feet deep. At the start the formation was conglomerate. At about 90 feet a blue clay 'dope' was struck. In this formation they are taking out some beautiful pebbles. Some are black translucent, while others are white transparent and very hard."

HUNTS FOR BURIED CITY

Scientist Seeking It on the Dolores River.

In search of a buried city on the Dolores river, in southwestern Colorado, Dr. Jesse Walter Fewkes, ethnologist of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, has left for the "Big Bend" district and plans to spend several weeks in his efforts to unearth the Pueblo ruins.

From government archives in Washington Doctor Fewkes learned that two Spanish explorers who passed through southwestern Colorado more than 200 years ago told of numerous houses located along the Dolores, and as there is no trace of these dwellings now, it is believed they have been covered by sand drift. The archeological quest may result in the finding of a prehistoric city, Doctor Fewkes believes.

HE'S OLDEST RAILROADER

James Frew Has Been in the Business for Sixty-Five Years.

James Frew of Fort Madison, Ia., recently retired as a Santa Fe employee, lays claim to being the oldest railroad man in the United States in point of service. He has worked for 65 years on the railroads of England and America.

Frew is seventy-eight years old and began work as a laborer on the English roads when thirteen years old. Coming to this country as a young man, he continued as general foreman, master mechanic and division superintendent.

As he grew older he was forced to give up these responsible positions, but he continued railroading, as that was before the day of pensions for worthy employees retiring on account of age.

Father "Hooverized" to Excess. Excessive Hooverizing from which patriotic sentiment was also brought a year's sentence in Bridewell prison in New York city for Fred Lerow. He was charged with counting the bites of meat eaten by his two sons in spite of the fact that their mother paid the grocery bills. He also was found guilty of treating the boys cruelly.

HAVE NO USE IN COMMERCE

Almost No Possibility That Submarine Boats Will Ever Be Employed as Cargo Carriers.

One point about submarines which is being settled for many years to come, if not forever, is that there is no place for them in the commerce of peace. If they ever had a chance of profitable employment in carrying cargoes or passengers, that opportunity would be found now. Germany has a few ports open to her ships in neutral countries. If vessels in the service of German owners could get there, and in some of them freight might be found which is much needed in Germany. But no commercial submarines are ever reported to be visiting the harbors of Spain or Chile or Mexico or Colombia.

And now is the time when the greatest maritime countries on the other side in the world war might be tempted to use submarines for practically complete security from other submarines if the economic obstacles were not too formidable. The fact that nothing is done with submarines in trade between countries whose coasts are menaced by the German U-boats is convincing evidence that the submarine has no commercial future.

It would be rash to predict that the exploit of the Deutschland will never be duplicated under the conditions of war. Circumstances may some time justify such use of submarines for a brief period. But business fleets of submarines are destined to remain an inventor's dream.

LESS OCCASION FOR REVELRY

Average Man Is Apt to Spend His Fourteenth Birthday Quietly Than He Did His Twentieth.

"Congratulations!"

"And Jones eagerly extended his hand to his friend.

"Forty yesterday, weren't you?"

"Yep."

"Recalls old times. I recollect your twentieth birthday and how we boys and girls of the neighborhood had a big night of it. Did you make a night of it last night and get the old crowd together?"

"Birthdays are like trips to Europe, Jim," said the man who had just passed off forty. "The first time I went across all my friends came down to see me off and brought flowers, books and good things to eat. The second time I went only my family came down. The third time I went no one came. I drank a cocktail all alone."

"So with birthdays." At twenty all the neighborhood boys and girls skinned until midnight. On my thirtieth birthday the children were allowed to sit up and we had a family birthday party. This year the wife was so much interested in war work that I ate alone and spent the evening smoking my pipe, alone."

Schwab's Story on Himself.

When it comes to borrowing money Charles M. Schwab, president of the Bethlehem Steel company, says he will take second place to no one. You remember the story about the former Pittsburgh trying to make a "touch" for \$2,000,000 and the banker calling Mr. Schwab's attention to the fact that he already owed the bank several millions, and his reply was that he had forgotten all about it. Mr. Schwab, at the New York Players' club, related another "touch" he made. "I wished to enlarge the Bethlehem Steel company," he said, "to cope with conditions; for that was the only business plant in the world free from contract obligations. I went to Philadelphia and called upon Mr. Stotesbury. I outlined my plans, leading up to telling him that I required money. He listened attentively and responded heartily: 'Well go the limit with you. You can call on us for \$500,000.' That won't be a starter," I protested. "Why, Mr. Barker over in New York has offered me many times that sum and he doesn't even know me." That, he shot back at me with emphatic promptness, "is the reason he is ready to loan it to you."

ENGLAND GROWING MORE FOOD CROPS.

Although actual figures are not yet available, it would appear from a general survey that about one-fifth of permanent grass-land which the English food-production department hopes to put under the plow this season has already been broken up. The program of 3,000,000 additional acres under corn does not relate to permanent grass only; no less than 1,000,000 acres of the land already arable are included. On this 1,000,000 acres of arable land it is proposed to grow food crops of higher value than formerly, or food crops instead of luxury crops, and a substantial proportion of it has already been dealt with. The general body of farmers are working hard and doing their best to make the corn area as large as possible.

HYDROPLANE FOR ICE FIELDS.

Hydroplanes will be used for the first time to guide ships through ice fields of the arctic regions.

Hydroplanes will be used for the first time to guide ships through ice fields of the arctic regions when the annual expedition of the Canadian Steamship Manufacturing and Trading company leaves New York in July for the company's trading post on the Ob and Yenisei rivers. Information received by the department of commerce from Russia said the ships would follow a route north of the submarine zone to the Kara sea, where flying machines would be put into service to point out water free from ice.

WHY IT IS ASSURED SHOULD CEASE DURING WAR.

H. J. Parke Channing, one of the country's leading mining engineers, writing in the current issue of the Engineering and Mining Journal, suggests that a cessation of gold mining operations for the duration of the war would be desirable, owing to the need of labor for the production of other things. He says:

"I understand that there is a movement afoot to ask government officials and congress to adjust the war tax so as to stimulate gold production in the United States. I ask, is this action wise? Do we really need to produce gold to help win the war? Is it not coal, iron, copper, lead, spelter and possibly silver, that we need? Is it not better that our gold miners, for the duration of the war at least, engage in mining those things that we really need?"

"I observe that the president of the Dome Mines, Ltd., has issued a notice to the stockholders and the public stating that, on account of the high cost of supplies and the difficulty of securing labor, their mines will cease producing for the present."

"It may be quoted in objection to my point that Great Britain is doing all she can to stimulate gold production in the Rand. I am quite willing to admit the sentimentality or even the commercial value of increasing the gold reserves of Great Britain, but I doubt if she would encourage the production of that metal in Great Britain itself. It is very different in South Africa, where there is an organization engaged in producing gold which has no other industry on which it can fall back, but in the United States and Canada it does not seem to me that these conditions exist."

MEANS SHORTENING OF LIFE

Why It Is Feasible to Worry Over Errors That Belong Irrevocably to the Past.

A well-known practical psychologist says: "Fear confirms your weakness of character—increasingly enslaving you to your petty short-comings." By worrying over your past mistakes you open the way for more. You bring to you the very experiences you desire to avoid. The little weaknesses of peculiarities of character which you condemn in yourself grow by that condemnation. They thrive on recognition. They are fed and kept alive by the attention you bestow upon them. You give them a large place in your consciousness and they begin to assume a large influence upon your life—a much larger influence than they deserve."

If you will turn your thoughts away from these short-comings, stop trying to judge yourself too exclusively by intellect alone, open wide the door to faith and hope and love and courage and confidence, fix your attention on those qualities which represent the opposite of your weaknesses, you will begin to come out from under your obsession and enter the path to freedom.

—William Towne in Nautilus.

HOW FRENCH FORESTS ARE DEPLETED.

France is beginning to figure out how to meet an anticipated shortage of lumber and firewood after the war. The destruction of forests by shell fire and the heavy demand for lumber for barracks and road construction combine to make a deficit of 1,000,000 cubic feet annually.

Beyond the range of shells, on both sides of the front, the military woodmen's axes have drawn heavily on timbers, from the North sea to the Swiss frontier. The consumption of lumber will increase during the war at the rate of 3,000,000 cubic feet a year, and for several years after peace is made the demand will continue for the repair and rebuilding of devastated regions.

The solution of the problem is considered to be a question of transportation and of forest exploitation in the colonies. Specialists have calculated that French equatorial and western Africa, Madagascar, Guinea and Indo-China possess 875,000 square miles of virgin timber land, which could amply supply France and several other countries with fuel and lumber.

Stock companies, organized for the exploitation of these resources are already engaged in road making and other necessary preliminary work.

HOW LIPSING CAN BE CURED.

Lipsing and stammering, according to Popular Science Monthly, are separate imperfections of speech, which require entirely different treatment.

Lipers, for instance, can be cured in a short time by tongue and palate gymnastics. They "lithp" simply because they do not work their tongue and palate properly. By making the child speak before a mirror, however, the teacher can correct these mistakes.

Stammering is a nervous disorder which cannot be cured so easily. The pupil involuntarily applies too much force to certain parts of the vocal organs, causing the stuttering and a spurring forth with which we all are familiar. The cure is to relieve the overworked parts by distributing the energy evenly. This is learned by pronouncing certain flowing sounds in front of a candle—until the flame does not flicker.

PLAN BACKYARD GARDEN EARLY

People Urged by Department of Agriculture to Begin Now.

BIG CROP NEEDED FOR 1918

Determine Location and Area to Be Planted to Vegetables as Soon as Practicable—Each Town and City Should Be Able to Supply the Needs of Its Own Population—Order Your Seeds Early.

How shall we get ready for home gardening activities in 1918 is a question now reaching the United States department of agriculture from all sections. To these questioners the department is giving the following advice:

Determine the location and the area to be planted to vegetables as soon as practicable. Clear it of rubbish and as material suitable for a compost heap is available, start one. Arrange if possible for the necessary fertilizer for the season's garden from local sources, such as stables, streets or abattoirs. Add these materials to the compost heap so as to insure a large supply of possible suitable material with the smallest practicable use of commercial fertilizers. This is desirable to insure plant food and to save expense. Commercial fertilizers are scarce and high, and in garden work even when such materials are abundant and relatively cheap they cannot entirely replace stable manure and compost. Each city or town should be able to supply the major part of the needs of its gardening population if the fertilizers produced within its limits are husbanded for their use.

Get Seeds Early.

As soon as the spring catalogs are available, select the list of seeds needed to plant the area to be used for gardening. In choosing the list, have in mind the selection of those sorts which did best last season, those which the family relished most, and determine the quantity with care in order that only the seed necessary to meet your requirement be purchased. The supply of some of the important varieties of garden seeds is limited, and in order that all may obtain the quantity needed to meet their needs, everyone should co-operate to make the supply available produce a maximum crop.

Place your seed orders early.

Plan Your Garden in Advance.

In planning the garden have due regard to supplying the family with fresh vegetables as well as those desired for canning or drying, but refrain from entering the field of commercial vegetable production unless you are an experienced practical gardener with suitable soil and location and adequate capital to finance the operation.

Planning the garden on paper—that is, drawing a right plan to scale on which are indicated the spaces to be devoted to early planted and later crops, the best planting dates, etc.—is an interesting winter evening employment for the entire family.

See that garden tools are properly protected and are ready for spring use. Have fruit trees and small fruits pruned and sprayed at the proper time.

Secure Farmers' Bulletin No. 818, "The Small Vegetable Garden," and books on gardening and prepare yourself to make every seed count.

WEDS AS PRISON OPENS

Paroled Convict Finds Bride-to-Be Waiting for Him.

True to her promise to wed Thomas Carrigan, alias Thomas Patrick Hogan, bank robber, if he was given a pardon, Miss Pearl Morris of Topeka, Kan., was married to Carrigan by Rev. Father J. P. Melles, Catholic chaplain of the penitentiary at Jefferson City, Mo. The ceremony was performed a few minutes after the bridegroom was released under his parole. The couple will go "somewhere in Kansas" to live.

Carrigan was convicted of robbing a bank at Phillipsburg, LaCade county, of \$1,800 by blowing the safe. He was sentenced to ten years and came to Jefferson City in 1914.

Miss Morris, who was engaged to Carrigan before he went to prison, has been unremitting in her efforts to get a parole for him. She declares she will make a good man out of him. She formerly lived in Kansas City, but gave her home address as Topeka.

USE OF WINE ENCOURAGED

Advised by War Cabinet in View of Beer Shortage.

The British war cabinet, with an eye on the shortage of beer as a cause of industrial unrest and the consequent increased demand for spirits, has decided to allow the release from bond of wine up to the full amount released in 1916.

In releasing this quantity the war cabinet expressed the hope that all those who could afford to drink wine will refrain from drinking beer.

"Postwomen" Discharged.

Women letter carriers are not a success, according to Postmaster Collin W. Selah of St. Louis, who says the work is too heavy for them. He gave them a 15-day trial on several city routes and after observing their inability to carry on the work, finally announced that their services would be required no longer.

URGES MORE SNAIL FARMS

Department of Agriculture Points Out Possibilities in Their Cultivation in This Country.

One form of shell food with infinite possibilities for development in this country is the snail—the savory delicacy of France, long an international joke, like frog legs, but seldom failing to make its way with the appetite when fresh and properly prepared. The department of agriculture considers snails important enough to issue a bulletin on snail farming. There is already a great demand from our foreign-born population, which would undoubtedly be increased if snails were cultivated here. Any back yard is big enough for a snail farm. A plot 25 to 30 feet square will accommodate 10,000 snails, fed on leaves, cabbages, lettuce, endive, chopped Kohlrabi, dandelion leaves or potatoes. On larger plots snails will thrive on wild plants. Snails will not leave their farm if they have sufficient food and reasonably range, and do not need to be fenced in. A female will lay from 50 to 60 eggs in June and July, and in 20 days the baby snails will be hatched out and attain mature size by the cold weather. They spend the winter hibernating in the ground, coming out in the spring and feeding all summer, being ready for market by the following autumn.—Food Administration Bulletin.

DO REPAIRING UNDER GROUND

Not Necessary to Haul to the Surface the Larger Locomotives Used in Mines.

At one of the large mines of the Northwestern Mining and Exchange company, in Clearfield county, Pa., reports a writer in Coal Age, is a rather interesting underground motor room in which all repairs are made to C. haulage locomotives. The small gas engine locomotives are sent to the surface to undergo repair work, but the large ones, which cannot be run onto the cage and hoisted to the surface, are repaired in the mine when it is possible. The motor room, says the magazine quoted, "is about 15 to 20 feet wide. The walls are of brick and the roof of steel beams. A track runs through the room at one side. A large pit permits the mechanics to work under a locomotive. At the left of the room is the workbench, which is equipped with all the various vises and tools needed for repair work. The crane can handle a weight of 15 tons. It is operated by hand and can travel the full length of the room. Electric lights furnish sufficient illumination for the machinist and his helper."

AFRICA NO LONGER ISOLATED

The war has from the first hour brought right home to Africa. The four German colonies, over which the war extended, have an area of more than four times as great as Germany; and there has been long and hard fighting in all of them except in Togo. Outside and within these areas of actual warfare live thousands of whites who are intensely interested in the European struggle. Many of these whites, even in the depths of Africa, are receiving the essence of the news every day. Even the Sahara desert is now partly belted by a telegraphic line, a French enterprise, with wireless extension in Timbuctoo. Thus this once mysterious city of the Sudan is now in touch with the great events of the day. The Belgian Congo is actively served by the French cable to Libreville and the land line to Stanley Pool, where navigation of the upper Congo begins. The news is then wired up the Congo to the mouth of the Congo, and then by wireless to Stanley Falls, 870 miles above the Kasai.

TWO SAVED BY HEROIC OFFICER

Hanging by his feet from the edge of the deck and stretching his arms to two struggling men in a terrific sea, an officer of the United States navy, made a heroic rescue during the Searo gale which swept the coast early in December. In the midst of a northeast gale, which had the ship almost on her side, a quartermaster was washed overboard while trying to clear the steering gear. The sea was running mad and he soon became exhausted. Tying a line about his waist the ship's cook jumped overboard and succeeded in getting the man to the side off the ship. It was then that Lieut. Richard L. Conolly, U. S. N., swung himself over the rail, and catching his feet by the edges, let himself head down to the struggling man. One grappled him, outstretched hands and he drew them up until they were pulled aboard. Conolly is from Waukegan, Ill.

HUMORS OF WAR.

The humors of war are the humors of humanity. They have a body and a substance as real as are the laughing men who jest before they die. They bring relief to our spirits, because they savor of nature's "undefatigable renewals." The callous levity of the trenches never offends us when we remember that the jokers are pledged to the great sacrifice. The determined and not too easy cheerfulness of the warring nations is a miracle of courage. We shall have plenty of chance to be courageous along these lines. But the mirth of neutrals is apt to be distasteful when it mocks at the things of war. In one of the most charming and intimate of English essays, Cowley speaks this word of wisdom: "God laughs at a man who says to his soul, 'Take things easy.'"—Agnes Repplier in the Yale Review.

MANUAL TRAINING FOR WAR CRIPPLES



An artificial limb manual training center was recently opened at Baltham, near London. The crippled soldiers went through various performances to show that their artificial limbs are practical. The picture shows a complete artificial leg as it appears when taken apart.