

FROM OREGON ORCHARD TO TOUL ORPHANAGE



Pommes des Etats Unis! Pommes des Etats Unis! American apples! American apples! That is what is in the box on the window sill; that is what is going into the outstretched hands of these war-orphans at Toul, near our Toul sector, over there.

OUR TRADE FLEET NOW 27,371 SHIPS

Department of Commerce Gives First War Statistics.

SECOND ONLY TO BRITISH

Merchant Marine of America Now 10,000,000 Tons—692 Vessels Built in Last Five Months—Single Month's Growth in 1918 Equals Whole Number Launched in 1914—Now Reckoned by Deadweight Tonnage.

The steady growth of the American merchant marine in all classes of vessels has been revealed for the first time since the war began in statistics from the department of commerce. They show that in the first five months of this year there have been built in this country and officially numbered by the bureau of navigation a total of 629 vessels of 687,055 gross tons.

The merchant fleet of the United States now amounts to approximately 10,000,000 gross tons, not including merchant craft under control of the army and navy as transports and supply ships. At the beginning of January 1914, merchant vessels of 9,353,224 gross tons were flying the Stars and Stripes on trips across the Atlantic with food and munitions into the Caribbean and Pacific with American products for foreign customers and on the lakes and rivers of this country as part of the nation's domestic transportation system.

Includes New Vessels. This tremendous fleet is second only to the merchant tonnage of Great Britain. It includes all new vessels built under the direction of the shipping board and thousands of other ships, smaller in tonnage but greater in carrying capacity, which play so large a part in commerce and the maintenance of a favorable balance of trade.

All merchant vessels are required by law to register with the bureau of navigation of the department of commerce and to receive an official identification number, before being permitted to fly the flag of the United States. The number is awarded when the finished ship is measured for gross tonnage capacity, which is the content of the ship in terms of 100 cubic feet and the internationally accepted method of expressing size.

There has been a steady increase in new ships this year, the May tonnage being three times as great as the January output, and greater than the whole output for the year 1914. In the first month of 1918 there were 57 ships of 64,750 tons given official numbers. In February 84 ships of 117,601 gross tons were numbered. March saw a notable jump in the production of small ships, numbers being awarded to 138, the tonnage being 147,145. The record in April was 165 ships of 163,050 tons, and in May 185 ships of 194,465 tons.

GETS BROTHER TO RECRUIT

Agent From Canada Had Not Seen Him in Twenty Years. "Why don't you join the army and do your bit, friend?" said Sergt. Harry Binck, on recruiting service for the British recruiting mission to a man standing idly on a corner in Minneapolis.

"Beg pardon, but is your name Binck?" was the stranger's answer. "Yes, it is, but you are a stranger to me," retorted the sergeant. "I may be a stranger, but I am also your brother," was the reply.

BRITISH OFFER GRATUITIES

Men Promoted From Ranks to Receive Grant of \$250. Important concessions to noncommissioned officers and men who receive temporary commissions are announced in a new British army order. Men promoted from the ranks will receive a grant of \$250 for the provision of kit and uniform, and those who sign an undertaking to serve at least two years after the termination of hostilities will receive a further outfit allowance of \$537.

CAPTAIN "SKIPPY" STIRS THINGS UP ON LINER

Plans Big Program of Sports, but Ship's Commander Figures on Safety First.

In America Captain "Skippy" would get credit for being a "self starter," or perhaps a "steu-winder." He does not smoke, nor drink. He is twenty-one, blonde, pink cheeked and rushes about bareheaded always, like a schoolboy at picnic. And the first day out he started the good American school girl game of skipping the rope, thus winning his title.

"Skippy" has gone out and got a war cross for bravery. He also got himself a captaincy in the British army, and he has come safely through three years of war. Outside the smoking room—it is not on record that he infests that spot—the captain has been just about the life of the party. He started galloping promenades with nurses, stealing them right and left. Starting also dissensions and mutterings among the less fortunate.

"We'll have pillow fights, tug of war, potato races, you know; no end of fun," he said, "and we'll give some prizes—a wooden spoon or some such rot." It was going great guns when the captain of the ship explained it wouldn't be safe to try to crowd the entire ship's company at one spot on the boat. Plans have been changed and the movement goes forward now for a mighty concert in the first cabin dining-room.

REFUSED NATURALIZATION

Austrian Has Two Sons in the United States Army. Anton Kugler, forty-one years old, of St. Louis, who has two sons in the military service of the United States, has been refused final naturalization papers. He is a native of Hungary and came to St. Louis in 1904.

HOW REIMS WAS BATTERED BY SHELLS



This extraordinary photograph shows how grievously Reims has been battered by the latest enemy bombardments. Erevissime street shown here is cluttered with ruins, and along its entire length there is not a house left standing uninjured.

Here's the Dope. One of the men employed in the rope walk at the Charlestown navy yard has written the following lines, and a copy of them has been posted near the rope plant, where it is attracting much attention from sailors and civilians:

HERE'S THE DOPE. We make the rope That rings the bell That sounds the knell That sends the Kaiser Back to H—.

Carp, Not a Submarine. West side residents at Union City, Mich., were terrified recently by a report that a German submarine had been sighted in the St. Joseph river, at Union City, Mich. The first farmer to reach the river, armed with a shotgun, found a German carp instead. He stabbed the fish to death with the butt of his gun and dragged it home. It weighed 35 pounds.

THE NEW MINUTEMAN

He was working just as peaceful as he used to work at home—That's anywhere you care to name from Galveston to Nome—He was oiling up an engine, or was toy- ing with a spade, When the Teutons took a notion that they'd like to start a raid.

Well, the worker saw them coming—like the spawn spilled out of hell—And he cocked his Yankee eye at them and said: "Oh, very well, If my job is interrupted I'll find some- thing else to do." And he shook his hairy Yankee fist at all the Teuton crew.

He hadn't soldier training and he didn't need command, But he knew the proper place was "front," and there he took his stand Like a soldier of the soldiers, like a peat among his peers, For the credit and the honor of the Yankee Engineers.

And he may be dead or living, but where- ever he is found He will sure be facing forward and hold- ing "front" to the ground, And he holds his proper station in the hearts of those at home—That's everywhere that you can name from Galveston to Nome! —C. A. Child, in "The Fighting En- gineer."

Mother's Cook Book

A bar of soap may become a murder- ous weapon. A poor cooking stove has sometimes been the slow fire on which the wife has been roasted.

Good Wartime Dishes.

A most tasty combination which was discovered quite by accident is the fol- lowing: In preparing a potato salad for a small family the addition of two guests made the stretching of the salad imperative, so a cupful of nice- ly seasoned cottage cheese, which had been left over, was added to the potato salad, making such a tasty one that hereafter we will use cottage cheese with our potato salad. A pimento had been used to season the cheese, which added to the appetizing flavor.

Gingerbread.

Beat one egg, add a cupful of sugar, a tablespoonful of ginger, two cupfuls of flour, a half cupful of melted fat, one cupful of molasses, a teaspoonful of salt and lastly a cupful of boiling water in which a teaspoonful of soda has been dissolved. Bake 40 minutes in a moderate oven.

Virginia Spoon-Bread.

Add a half cupful of hominy to a quart of water and cook for 25 min- utes, then add two teaspoonfuls of salt, three beaten eggs, four tablespoonfuls of shortening; add a cupful of milk, two cupfuls of cornmeal and one and a half teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Mix and beat thoroughly, then bake in a well greased dish 45 minutes. Serve with a spoon from the dish.

Oat Crackers.

Take two cupfuls of rolled oats ground through the meat chopper, add one-fourth of a cupful of milk, one-fourth of a cupful of molasses, one and a half tablespoonfuls of fat, one-fourth of a teaspoonful of soda and one teaspoonful of salt. Mix and roll thin, cut in squares and bake 20 min- utes in a moderate oven. This recipe makes three dozen cookies.

Spiced Oatmeal Cakes.

Take one and a half cupfuls of wheat flour and oatmeal, one-fourth of a cupful each of sugar and raisins, one-fourth of a teaspoonful of soda, a half teaspoonful of baking powder, three tablespoonfuls of fat, one-fourth of a cupful of molasses and a half tea- spoonful of cinnamon. Heat the fat and molasses to the boiling point, mix and bake in muffin pans for 30 min- utes.

Onions Good, Disinfectant in Any Case of Infection

Much has been said about the vir- tues of the onion, but few know of its use as a disinfectant, says the Lon- don Chronicle. An onion cut in half and set in a room will attract to itself all manner of germs, leaving the air sweet and pure; it is therefore most valuable in cases of infection. You should take care, however, to burn the onion afterward.

No part of an onion should ever be used for domestic purposes after hav- ing been allowed to lie about over- night. The eating of raw onions is a great personal protective in time of epidemic, and if taken with cucum- bers, the breath is left innocent of any objectionable odor.

New Caps for Yankees.

A new cap without him or peak and matching the army uniform in col- or, is being worn now by all American soldiers overseas. War department statements said the cap not only is more practical than the regulation campaign hat worn by soldiers in this country, but adds to the safety of the men in the trenches, as in the case of tall men the campaign hats could be seen above the parapets. The cap can be worn under the steel trench hat- ments.

Whales and Porpoises Are Often Taken for Submarine By the Watchful Gun Crew.

There is peril in being a whale or a porpoise in the north Atlantic these days, according to Nelson Collins in the Century. If you are a whale, particularly a spouting whale, you are apt to be mistaken for a submarine; and if you are a porpoise, you are apt to be taken for a torpedo. There is many a shattered carcass and abashed gun crew. In the phosphorescence of even winter nights a porpoise just under the surface can make an experi- enced lookout have a moment's sus- pense. The line of white is a little narrow and a little high for a torpedo, but in the first moment a lookout isn't given to exact measurements. The white at bow and stern on a phos- phorescent night is conspicuous evi- dence of a ship, though it is a ques- tion how plain it would be through a periscope at about its own level. From the decks of the ship itself or from the deck of an emergent submarine it flash- es plain. If it could only be anno- unced along with the smoke. And on such a night in the zone there is the eerie sense of more than one subma- rine that has worked her way along in the white wake of a slow ship, keep- ing tab so through the night and wait- ing for dawn to sheer off and strike. That is why, as dark comes on, a de- stroyer is apt to drop back from the side of the ship and lurk along the wake, seeking its prey also. I remem- ber one velvety black night. Sudden- ly a great white trail shot across the bow from port to starboard and just a few yards ahead. If a porpoise is too narrow to make a torpedo trail, this seemed too broad, but deep enough. It was the wake of a destroyer that had cut across in a hurry.

A FEW SMILES

Wise Mabel. Louise, nine years old, asked her mother: "Where is pap going?" "To a stag party," she replied. "What is a stag party, mamma?" Sister Mabel, seven years old, who had been listening with dimpled at- titude of superior wisdom, answered instantly: "It's where they stagger. Didn't you know?"

Preferred Richard.

It was the first time that Rich- ard's father had seen "her," and they were talk- ing things over. "So my son has proposed to you," he said, "and you have accepted him? I think you might have seen me first." She blushed sweetly as she replied: "I did, but I think I prefer Rich- ard."

No Danger.

"I understand, Mrs. Grunpy, there was a great deal of vacillation in your family." "Yes'm, but none of it ever took."

A Rational Conclusion.

"The Blukes must buy every- thing on the in- stallment plan." "What makes you think so?" "I heard Jimmy Blukes ask his fa- ther whether the new baby would be taken away if they couldn't keep up the payments."

Easy.

Wife—Your Aunt Martin is coming to visit us, but, really, I don't see how I can find time to entertain her. Hub—Invite your Aunt Eliza and they will entertain each other talking about their diseases.

Fine.

"Is this machine automatic?" "Absolutely. Needs no attention whatever. The agent says it will even pay for itself."

War Develops There Are Many Illiterates in U. S.

The war has, as Secretary Lane put it in his letter to President Wilson and the chairman of the congress commit- tees on education, "brought facts to our attention that are almost unbe- lievable" with respect to the prev- alence of illiteracy in this country, ob- serves the New York World. Nearly 700,000 men of draft age cannot read or write in any language. There are over 4,000,000 illiterates above twenty years old or more. Illiterates above ten years of age—the common basis of reckoning—number 5,516,163. Of an army so vast that marching in pairs 25 miles a day, it would be two months passing the White House—Mr. Lane figures, over 65 per cent are white and 1,500,000 are native-born whites. Immigration is 57 of means the sole factor in a condition that saps the economic as well as the mental resources of the country. "An uninformed democracy is not a democracy." Secretary Lane asks the attention of congress for a bill forming a bureau of education for the eradication of adult illiteracy.

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