

FACTS AND FIGURES.

Compiled by Wm. Matthews Handy.

Referendum in Canada.—The liberal government in Canada is preparing to hold a referendum on the subject of prohibition. A bill is being prepared which will provide for a vote by the entire people of Canada on the advisability of passing a federal prohibitory act, forbidding the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquors. Since 1878 there have been plebiscites in the four provinces of Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Ontario and Nova Scotia, on the subject of a vote which gave a majority for prohibition; the aggregate in the four being 132,819 votes. It seems more than likely that prohibition will receive a majority at the proposed plebiscite for the whole dominion, but it is not sure that the government will then pass a prohibitory law.

Georgia Convict Labor.—Georgia's change in the method of caring for her convicts promises to be both profitable and to result in a better treatment of them. As was shown by the report of the legislative committee on the subject of the subject last year, under the old system the convicts were starved and brutally treated by the lessees, who had entire charge of them, and could punish them just as they chose. The control of the convicts by the new law is placed on the hands of a commission which is to regulate their hours of labor, the manner and extent of their punishment, the variety, quantity and quality of their food, and the character of their clothing. While convicts will still be leased, the leases will be on a business basis, with the result that the 1,800 convicts are hired out for about \$178,000 a year instead of the \$25,000 received under the old arrangement.

Japanese Competition.—What might happen if Japan ever came into direct competition with America is shown by an article published in the Japan Herald. Matches are sold in Japan for 80 cents per 600 dozen boxes. These prices are possible because the wages of the operatives range from 7 to 20 cents a day for adults and from 1 to 7 cents for children.

Express Trains to Siberia.—The Russian government announces that it is about to run through express trains from St. Petersburg to the eastern terminus of the Trans-Siberian railway. The trains will be made in six days.

Co-operation in Switzerland.—On March 20, 1888, the co-operative societies of Switzerland decided to form a union. They number nearly 200, with a membership of 218,000.

Co-operation in India.—A co-operative store on the Kochdal plan has been started in Calcutta, India.

Progress in New Zealand.—The New Zealand government is contemplating a loan of £2,000,000, to be expended in railways and irrigation.

Railways in India.—During 1887 the Indian government opened 800 miles of new railway, and this year 1,500 miles additional will be opened.

Swedish Government Railway.—On March 31 the Swedish parliament decided to construct a state railway from Gellivare to the Norwegian frontier, wherefrom the railway is to be continued to the always ice-free harbor of Victoria at Ofoten bay. It will open up enormous iron deposits, those of the region being so rich that it is calculated that during 250 years 1,500,000 tons can be exported. The railway is to be completed in 1902.

Bribery in London.—Municipal dishonesty is not confined to America. In the parishes of Harkney and Fulham the vestrymen (corresponding to our council) disposed of a public lighting contract to a private contractor, and the taxpayers, and it is charged that the vestrymen were influenced by bribes to vote as they did.

Municipal Tramways in Nottingham.—Nottingham obtained possession of its tramways last year and is now working the system. The private contractor, who constructed in 1878 were behind the times, so the city will rebuild them.

Municipal Telephones.—A committee has been appointed by the British house of commons to consider whether municipal telephones should be given power to operate telephones.

Municipal Waterworks in Germany.—Almost all German cities now own and operate their own waterworks, which usually yield from 10 to 145 per cent profit annually.

Paris Care for Unemployed.—The city of Paris has a number of refuges for the homeless and abandoned. There are three for men. A new city of refuge, in 1884 a workhouse was established in which employment is provided at from 50 to 60 cents a day with board and lodging. A workman's earnings are retained until he leaves the refuge. At these institutions the city, as far as possible, has to bear the expense of the workhouse, masonry, painting, etc., in connection with its charitable institutions. During the last three years the refuges have cost the city about \$39,000.

There are four similar refuges for women, where they are well sheltered and fed and employed. The municipality directs the directors to procure situations for them. During the first ten months of 1887, 801 women and 233 children were received in the refuge, the women remaining an average of 48 days and the children 10 days. Wages were from 10 to 15 cents a day with board and lodging. The institutions cost the city \$20,000 a year. A maternity hospital is also supported which accommodates about 1,280 unfortunate annually. The city in 1882 established the agricultural refuges, the aim of which is to follow the product after it has left its hands, and merely guarantees that the retailer shall be supplied with a pure product. Restrictions upon the after preparation and adulteration are matters of the regulation of the canons. It is interesting to note that when assessments for damages were made at the time the state assumed control of the manufacture of alcohol, no awards were made as damages for equivalents for good will and forfeited business processes, while in valuing the plants allowances for depreciation were deducted.

Municipal Waterworks.—The city of M'adville, Pa., will buy the waterworks plant from the private company which is now in control. The price will be \$200,000.

Water in Germany.—About two-thirds of the larger German cities now own and operate their own waterworks.

Paris Municipal Savings Bank.—The municipal savings bank of Paris, in October, 1887, had deposits amounting to 2,866,583 francs. This was exclusive of the deposits in the Paris branch of the postal savings banks.

Government Banks in Australia.—Banking returns for the last quarter of 1887, published for Australia, show that in the five colonies the deposits in the banks under private ownership have decreased during the year, while in the government banks the deposits in government banks show an increase.

Co-operative Production in France.—A report which has just been published by the French Labor Department places the number of co-operative associations

formed by workmen in that country at 173, with 9,929 members. Their capital is about \$2,500,000. During the year 1885 they did \$5,500,000 worth of business, earning profits to the amount of \$450,000.

Labor Registries in Moscow.—The success of the system of public labor registries and employment bureaus in foreign cities has led the municipal government of Moscow to establish such an institution in that city. During the months of September, October and November, 1887, the first three months of its operation, situations were found for 2,000 applicants.

Pauperism in Great Britain.—The average number of paupers receiving public charity in thirty-five selected districts of Great Britain during February, 1888, were 342,928, or 217 in each 10,000 of population, or 2.17 per cent of the total population of the districts.

Clearing-Houses for Labor Registries.—According to the report recently published of the proceedings of the conference held September 13, 1887, between the heads of German public labor registries it has been decided to establish a clearing house for the unemployed. The clearing house is to be directly informed of the vacant situations in all districts, and whenever the supply in one is greater than the demand, the surplus will be sent where the demand is greater than the supply.

Municipal Insurance.—The insurance companies having decided to raise the rates for insuring municipal buildings in Bangalore, India, although the city has been paying premiums for twenty years without a claim, the city has decided to cease insuring municipal property against fire and to set aside and invest the premiums. The municipal buildings are scattered all over the town, and only in the event of a general conflagration can there be serious loss.

The Unemployed.—In his annual report the Industrial Aid society of Boston said: "Since 1883, or the date of the depression in business, the ranks of the unemployed are kept full, and apparently little progress is made in diminishing their numbers. In former years it was necessary for manufacturers to retain during the entire year a very large proportion of their help, but lately it is becoming more and more the custom to employ a large force for certain months in the year and then entirely close their factories, throwing off of a sudden for two or three months a large proportion of their operating force."

Constitutionality of Gold Contracts.—The law passed by the legislature of Washington declaring that a contract to pay in gold coin should not be specifically enforced by the courts, but that the debt might be paid in and fully satisfied with any kind of lawful money or currency of the United States, has been declared unconstitutional by the supreme court of that state. The court decided that it was an attempt to legislate on a subject belonging exclusively to the federal government, and that the "stipulation in a note or mortgage that the debt shall be paid only in gold coin of the present standard value, and that the decree and judgment thereon shall so provide is valid."

Russia's Railway Policy.—Russia's policy of building the remote parts of the empire together with state railways is about to be shown in other directions, than in the construction of the great Trans-Siberian railway. A very important line will be begun at an early date to connect Ufa, in the southern Ural district, with Tashkent, in Turkestan. This line will give the shortest route from Russia into Central Asia, from which Russia draws its great supplies of native-grown cotton. A second important line is projected from Nizhnee-Novorod into the Ural district, where a number of feeders to the new line will be built.

National Ownership of Canals.—The steamship and grain merchants of New York have set on foot a movement for the national ownership and control of canals. They claim that they wish to see under national control in the Erie canal, which at present, by a constitutional provision, must always remain under the ownership of the state of New York.

Swiss Alcohol Monopoly.—For eleven years the trade in alcohol has been a government monopoly in Switzerland. The importation of alcohol and its distillation became a monopoly of the state in 1877, the law being adopted by means of the referendum. According to the Swiss officials the experiment has succeeded well. According to the report of the director of the monopoly it has accomplished the objects for which it was adopted. In the first place a purer article of liquor is sold and this is made of the best articles, instead of the inferior ones formerly being distilled from refuse. Although the prime motive of the monopoly was not temperance, this has been brought about, for the keen competition of the small distillers led to an increase in the number of drinking places and a drumming on the case formerly being drunk greater than they now are. The consumption of brandy has decreased 25 per cent during the ten years, while the consumption of wine shows a substantial increase. As a means of taxation it has been satisfactory. The revenue from the monopoly was partly designed to replace the old system of excise taxation, which was costly of collection. The total cost of the alcohol administration has averaged \$75,000 yearly, which is but a small proportion of the cost of levying the old import duties, while the proceeds of the latter were barely more than one-half of that of the monopoly.

The state sells liquor only in quantities of at least 150 litres. Spirits sold at cost prices for use in the arts, while for drinking an excess for profit is sold at a price which does not pretend to follow the product after it has left its hands, and merely guarantees that the retailer shall be supplied with a pure product. Restrictions upon the after preparation and adulteration are matters of the regulation of the canons. It is interesting to note that when assessments for damages were made at the time the state assumed control of the manufacture of alcohol, no awards were made as damages for equivalents for good will and forfeited business processes, while in valuing the plants allowances for depreciation were deducted.

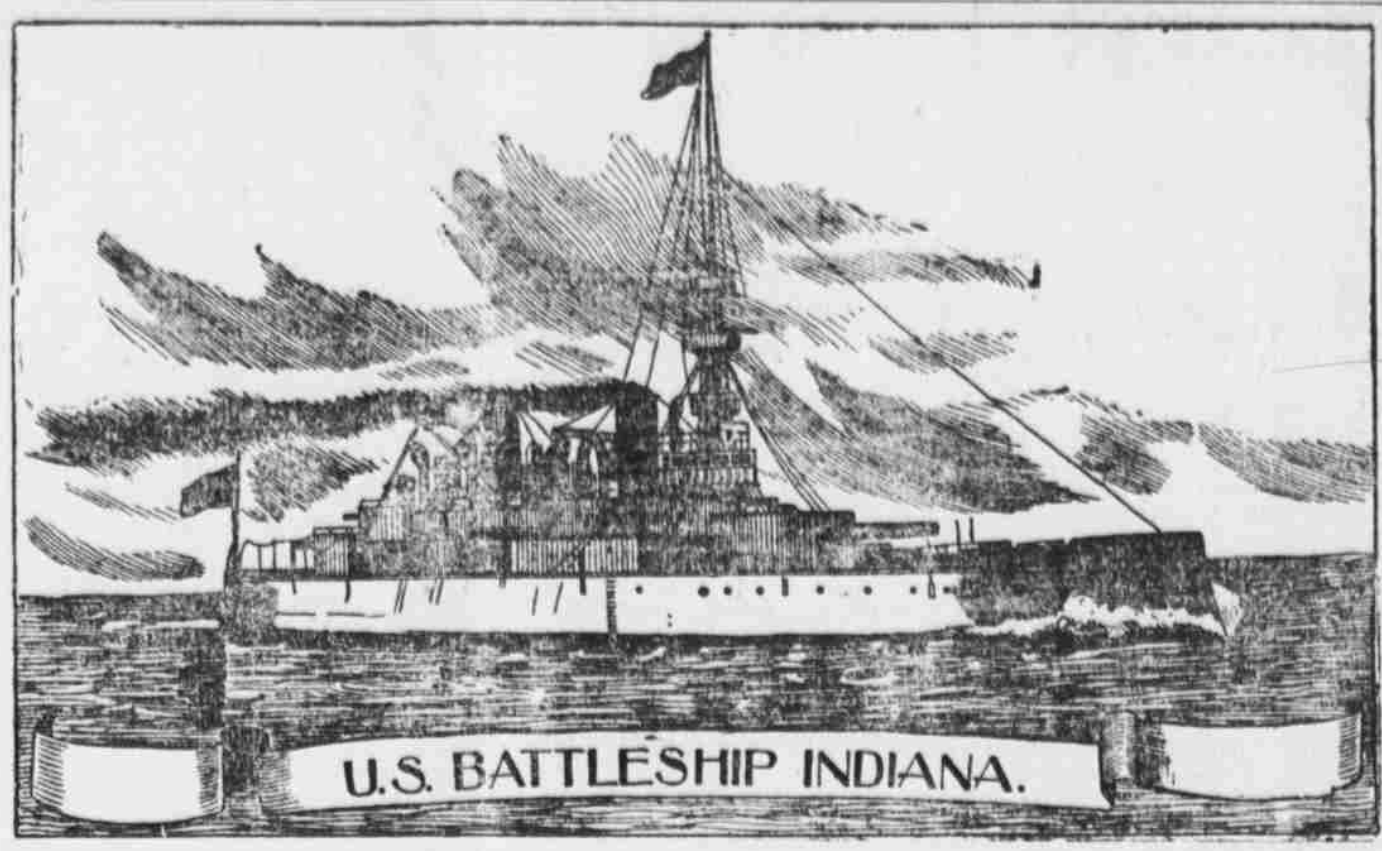
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U.S. BATTLESHIP INDIANA.

UNSEEN ENEMY TO WARSHIPS

If Paul Jones' ghost wanders around our new navy he must see many surprising accessories of the fighting and working forces as organized in his day. One novel and necessary addition to the crew of a warship of the present time is the submarine diver. The importance of this individual to the welfare of a warship has been amply shown during the recent operations against the Spanish fleets. Speed has been the most important point in the maneuvering during the opening events of the war, and this has rendered it necessary for our ships to be in the best possible trim for the fast work. As, owing to the lack of foresight, we are not provided with the necessary dry docks to clean the hull bottoms of our vessels when they come off a long voyage, it has been necessary to send divers down to do the work as best they could.

When a ship goes into dry dock and is then treated to a new coat of paint, she emerges from the dry dock as clean and fit as when she made her maiden voyage. These submarine divers are able only to scrape away the barnacles and seaweed, and even then they are so handicapped by the heaviness and unhandiness of their dress that it is impossible to do the work in any but a clumsy and incomplete manner. But, good or bad, the diver has become a necessary part of the ship's crew. Many warships carry one or more trained divers, and to attain to the rating of divers requires very special qualifications. Before being sent for training, the man applying has to undergo an extremely rigorous medical examination, and is mercilessly rejected unless absolutely sound in wind and limb, possessed of an exceptionally strong constitution, and, above all, without the slightest tendency to any heart weakness.

Every foot the diver descends, the greater of course, becomes the pressure, and at the deepest descent made, namely, 200 feet, the pressure was as much as 88 pounds to the square inch. It is, however, only rarely that it is necessary to go to such depths as this, but even working in shallow water, most men suffer severely at first, and emerge from their diving suit with racking head and bleeding from the nose and ears. In truth, every time he descends the diver takes his life in his hand, for anything going wrong with the air supply, or the pump which places him in a very hopeless condition. The diving apparatus used in our navy is a costly affair. The method of its working is simple. A long coil of tubing supplies the diver with oxygen, and by means of a coil of rope attached to his hand he is able to pull up the surface, and be raised to the surface when the work is done. To descend, the diver has, of course, to be heavily weighted. The weights carried on breast and back weigh some 80 pounds, while the heavy leather boots and the helmet, which is ingeniously fitted with valves to allow the vitiated air to escape, is no less than forty pounds, and to this must be added the weight of the rubber dress itself, and the weight of the heavy underclothing of the diver.

He is not a prepossessing sight, this monster with the huge head dress and the glaring eyes, but his usefulness to the navy is immeasurable. He was wanted in a hurry, and unfortunately he was not wanted in coming engagements to patch holes in the sides of war craft, if these wounds mercifully fall short of being mortal; he will assist in wrecking operations, and in fishing for the valuable portion of a Spanish fleet's equipment after we have treated it as Dewey treated it at Manila; he will be ready to help a United States vessel out of a score of unforeseen troubles that may arise when the modern warships are engaged in fighting that is not all one-sided.

Theoretically, the submarine diver is a formidable aid in operations against the enemy. Whether or not he will be so in practice remains to be seen. The theorists assert that the diver can be sent under water on dark nights to get his way into the mined entrances to harbors, and cut the wires connecting the explosives with the shore; or they say he can attach mines to the keels of anchored craft and explode the mines when he reaches a safe distance; or he can saw the cables of anchored vessels and cut their crews to great inconvenience, if not in a position of positive danger. There is scarcely any limit to the theorists' suggestions for using the submarine diver as a means of offense in naval campaigns, but most of the plans are visionary, and it is probable that the most practical use to which the diver can be put is to clean and repair the ships of his own nation when it is necessary that the cleaning and repairing be done extraneously, and facilities are not at hand to dry-dock the vessel.

The limitations of the diving entrants forbid any very dangerous offensive work being done by the man who descends in it. He can not wander too far from his base of operations on account of his dependence on the air supply, and the boat from which he lowered could not approach very near to a vessel or harbor in these days of searchlights without being discovered. It is probable, however, that daring souls will try the experiment before the present war is over, and naval experts will have to find some way to guard against a new enemy of the invisible variety—the submarine diver on blowing up purposes bent.

WARSHIP PHRASES MADE PLAIN

Arm and Away.—The order for the launch of a ship to prepare for service.

Ardois System.—Electric signal lights carried on a stay from a masthead and made to show a series of red or white lights.

Atwart.—Transversely; at right angles to the keel.

Armor Inclined.—A perpendicular belt running diagonally on board for a short distance at the forward and after ends of the belt.

Backing.—The timber to which the armor plates are bolted.

Armor Rigidly.—A rigidly attached to the deck, protecting the turret, which revolves inside. The guns fire over it. Guns are mounted in barbette when they fire over a parapet and not through port holes.

Bore.—The rear portion of a shot or gun.

Bilge.—That part of the hull more nearly horizontal than vertical.

Bilge Keel.—A projection on the bilge of a vessel parallel with the keel.

Bow Chaser.—A gun mounted in the bow to fire on retreating vessels.

Breech.—The portion of the gun abaft the chamber.

Bridge.—A platform extending across the deck above the rail for the convenience of the officers in charge.

Conning Tower.—The armored tower forward where the wheel, engine telegraphs, etc., are placed, and where the captain is supposed to go to direct the fighting of his ship in time of action.

Convoy.—A merchant fleet protected by an armed force. The ships which defend the merchant vessels while en voyage.

Crosstrees.—The short arms extending across the topmast.

Crown.—The round-up of the deck from the level line.

Crow's Nest.—A perch for the lookout at the masthead.

Dead Flat.—The name of the widest frame of the ship.

Dead Lights.—Coverings to the side air ports.

Dinghy.—The smallest boat on a warship; also called "dinghy" and "dinky."

False Keel.—A plank bolted to the main keel so that when a ship touches bottom the false keel will be injured and not the main keel.

Flush Deck.—A deck from stem to stern without a break.

Fore Foot.—The forward end of the keel.

Fore Orlop.—That part of the ship next forward of the hold and under the berth deck.

Forepeak.—The extreme forward hold of the ship where the paint room and other storerooms are.

Grates.—A thoroughfare. The aperture in the ship's side where people enter and depart.

Great Guns.—The heavy ordnance of a ship. All guns above 6-inch caliber are styled great guns; below that guns are now usually called rapid-firers or rapid guns.

Hatch.—An aperture in the deck more than two feet square. When smaller they are usually called manholes.

Hull.—The body of a ship, independent of masts and rigging.

Jacob's Ladder.—Short ladder with curved rungs and rope sides.

Keelson.—The inside keel of a ship.

Line of Fire.—The line of the prolongation of the bore of a gun when fired.

List.—The lean to one side or the other.

Mast.—The science of making and mounting guns.

Orlop.—The lowest deck, where the cables and storerooms usually are.

Platform Deck.—The upper part of the protective deck.

Protective Deck.—The armored deck, curved, protecting the vitals and extending from the ram to the stern.

Quarter Deck.—The upper deck, abaft the mainmast.

Quarters.—The stations of the officers and men at the guns for working them when in action.

Rate.—In our navy, a classification of ships according to displacement tonnage. Above 5,000 tons, first rate; 3,000 to 5,000, second rate; 1,000 to 3,000, third rate; below 1,000, fourth rate.

Redoubt.—An armored space in the center of the ships protecting the turret mounts and ammunition.

Side.—The side of a ship includes all the outside upper works down to the water edge.

Skin.—The inside or outside plating of a ship.

Spar Deck.—The upper deck on which the turrets are placed.

Strake.—One breadth of plating worked from end to end of the ship.

A handy store device is a take-up attachment for twine holders which pulls the end of the string up in the air after it is broken off. The cord passes over two pulleys at the top of the frame, and a weighted pulley hangs between them which rises as the string is pulled and falls as it is released, taking up the end of the string.

A Virginian has designed a torpedo-carrying balloon which has the explosive suspended by a number of cords, with a rope to assist in holding it until it reaches the right current of air to carry it toward the enemy, when a second cord is pulled, which ignites a slow fuse to drop the torpedo at the proper place.

Earthenware railroad ties, the invention of a Japanese, have been recently experimented with at Shimabashi station, Japan. Fairly good results were obtained, and it is said that the increased cost will be more than compensated for by their freedom from decay.

SIGSBY'S SHIP'S NEWSPAPER

Desire for news was so strong among the crew of Captain Sigbee's United States unprotected scout ship the St. Paul, that several members of the crew got an idea of issuing the St. Paul War Budget every week.

The first number made its appearance to the steward's hand press last Thursday afternoon as the ship was nearing Sandy Hook. The paper contains four pages, 6x8 inches. Its editors are James White and Thomas F. Richardson. Fred C. Zinn is the printer.

"At Sea, Thursday, June 2, 1888," is the way the date line reads. As there are 24 members of the crew of the St. Paul its circulation is somewhat limited, but there is no limit to the fun which the sailors extract from its columns. The pages are devoted to descriptions of the trip of the scout ship from the time she left Hampton Roads until she parted with Admiral Sampson's fleet off Havana.

To the editors all the news was necessarily local, because from the nature of the St. Paul's mission she was cut off nearly all the time from telegraphic communication. But although the news was intensely local, the locality was constantly changing and that made the paper interesting reading.

One article, entitled "Great Chase by the United States Steamship St. Paul," describes how, on May 24, while the St. Paul was quietly cruising off the entrance of Santiago, she sighted a sail. After a hard chase she caught up with the object of the pursuit, which proved to be an Italian bark, scrub and wash clothes six days from misery, with ballast of stone, bound for Pensacola, Fla. "We allowed her to depart," the description continues, "and with much sadness of heart returned to our old cruising ground." But later in the day, after having steamed many miles in a circuitous course, much to the disgust of the St. Paul's crew, they had a second chase, which ended as before, by their running down the same old Italian bark.

Among the notes by the editor is the following: "Our sympathy is with the wash woman at Hampton Roads, Va., who tried to catch the St. Paul. 'Useless waste of energy, my dear,' was her suggestion as she watched the ship's funnel." Here are some of the items of interest: "We enjoyed that impromptu concert on the promenade deck the other night very much. We respectfully request that the other officers who play the guitar so sweetly will use illuminating paint on his face so that we will have the pleasure of knowing who he is hereafter."

"Divine services will be held in the main saloon every Sunday at 10 a. m. A short bible reading will be held at the same place at four bells in the afternoon. All are cordially invited. Boys, you would do well to observe the above note; the best of us are none too good."

"We are keeping up to regulation, anyhow. Duff and general quarters, Thursday, salt pork and beans, together with fire drill, Fridays, and so on." "Potatoes have gone up lately. I notice that the C. P. O. mess have put extra bolts on their pub lockers."

"Who stole the molasses?" is a forbidden topic while any of the P. O. mess are within hearing distance." "The Cox of the gig is waxing fat and sassy lately. He eats sardines and soft tack, much to the envy of his messmates."

Under the caption, "Dreams of the Midwatch," appear the following: "If our mascot, 'Yankee,' and his side partner, the cat, do not find a different roosting place other than the muzzle of the forward five-inch rifle, that time-worn expression, 'It's raining cats and dogs,' will become a literal fact one of these days."

"Say, did you ever hear some of the recruits talking about their servant girls at home? Just notice these blowers and you will find that they are the ones who wear the dirtiest clothes at muster."

"I don't like the idea of calling down berth deck cooks, but we have some dandies aboard here. One of them a few days ago started to make a cake, and after mixing up a mess of stuff, and when about to put it in the oven, he found out that he had forgotten the flour."

"Some of the boys are wondering how the N. Y. B. C. stands for the pennant. If you would take my advice, boys, you would get out your own bats; you may have a chance to get some practice knocking Spanish balls off the ship's side soon; then you might get a job with the club you so highly admire."

"I have it from good authority that each man in the navy will receive during the continuance of the war 20 per cent increase on his salary. This will be good news to the majority of us, I am sure. This is not a dream."

"A coal is an item which must be considered in a warship. We must insist on the firemen and coal passers leaving the coal down in the fire room and not bringing it up on deck with their feet."

INSULTING A YANKEE.

Though a carefully guarded secret for several weeks, the details of two duels fought in the City of Mexico by Lieutenant Commander Arlington U. Betts of the First Battalion of Ohio Naval Reserves, and a resident of Toledo for several years, have leaked out. The story in full has been obtained from Mr. Betts himself.

For many weeks, so far as Lieutenant Betts knew, only one man, ex-Adjutant General H. A. Axline of Columbus, O., was acquainted with the remarkable incidents. Betts told him soon after arriving in Ohio from the City of Mexico, whither he had gone to look after his extensive lumber land interests, he having received a government grant of nearly 200,000 acres of virgin rubber land. He was contemplating the erection of a manufacturing plant on his property and spent much of his time in the quaint old Mexican capital. While there the fact was made known through a few American friends, that Betts was in command of a battalion of Naval Reserves up in the States.

One night he attended the Theatre Principe, returning to his hotel about midnight, after the performance had closed. He was standing in front of the hotel a few moments before retiring to his room. Suddenly his attention was directed to half a dozen young Spaniards, who stood but a short distance from him conversing in loud tones.

He soon became aware that the young dons were "talking a thin," and uttering uncomplimentary remarks about the United States navy and about Americans in general.

Betts stood it as long as he could, then suddenly stepping up to them he slapped one of them on the cheek smartly, following it by casting his glove at the fellow's feet. Before the crowd could recover their surprise he had removed his other glove, struck the next nearest man in the face and threw the glove at the man's feet.

Just then two gendarmes appeared, and Betts sprang in the street, fearing the treacherous nature of the men with whom he was dealing, and feeling assured if he could keep them in front of him he would be perfectly safe. Catching sight of the gendarmes the young Spaniards quickly passed out of sight. Betts entered his hotel and retired.

He was satisfied he would hear from the affair again, but kept his counsel. Early next morning he was waited on in his room by two Spaniards, who presented letters to him which, although written in Spanish, he perfectly understood. They were the contents of a second guess as to their contents. Betts called an interpreter and sent for three American friends. The letters proved to be formal challenges to fight a duel with each of the men whom he had met the night before.

Lieutenant Betts, who is a practiced athlete, recognized his rights as the challenged party and demanded the choice of weapons, which the friends of the challengers could not refuse. In the first case he named 36-inch rawhide of a certain weight and thickness. This raised a storm of protests from the Spaniards' friends, who insisted that this was no child's play, but a challenge to avenge an insult to one of the members of a leading Spanish family. Betts insisted that he was in earnest, and furthermore told the interpreter to say to them that he would give them just one hour in which to comply with his demands, and if the terms were not complied with at the expiration of that time he would publicly brand them as cowards. After considerable parleying, they accepted the young American's terms.

Betts then turned his attention to the friend of No. 2, and informed him that he should again insist upon his prerogative as the challenged party, and named buckskin gloves as the weapons. Thereupon the interpreter howled about questions of honor, child's play and other similar talk, but a similar threat to the one employed with the friend of No. 1 brought the parties to terms, and the matter was considered settled, although very much to the dissatisfaction of the Spaniards. At one o'clock the following morning was named as the hour and Chepultepec Hill, about three miles outside the city, was selected as the spot where the duels were to be fought.

Promptly at the appointed hour the following morning the challengers and their seconds, the lieutenant and his friends, a referee and physician, were at the appointed spot. A stick three feet in length was fastened in the ground. Lieutenant Betts placed his toe against one end of it, the Spaniard No. 1, making the other end, and the referee stood at the other end of the stick. Both were armed with 36-inch rawhide, and at the signal agreed upon went at it. Betts is an expert swordsman, and as the movements with the Mexican rawhide and the sword are very nearly identical, the young American was perfectly at home. Add to this the fact that the trousers of the Spaniard about the fleshy portion of his body were nearly skin tight, and it may well be imagined that Betts got along very nicely.

He parried the angry, excited don's blows with his left arm, meaningly lapping him about the neck in such a manner as to make him fairly howl with pain. A very hard cut brought out a terrible yell, and at that moment, by a swift upper cut, Betts caught his adversary under the chin with a blow that fairly lifted him from his feet. Dropping his weapon, the Spaniard started off with a yell for the woods, and Betts has never seen him since.

The lieutenant then announced that he was ready for No. 2, who by this time was in anything but a satisfied frame of mind. The gloves were donned, and the two went at it. Here again the American was perfectly at home, while the Spaniard had no skill whatever in boxing. Betts thumped him several times in various portions of his anatomy until a good opening presented itself, when he shot a blow straight for the nose, and the don went to the grass, the blood fairly streaming from his proboscis. His second announced that they were satisfied and the party separated. Lieutenant Betts and his American friends returned to the hotel for a late breakfast, and that evening attended a swell social function as though nothing unusual had happened.

Betts and his friends carefully guarded the secret of the duels until coming north to join his command, he told the Adjutant General of Ohio the entire story. For a time nothing was heard of it, until General Superintendent Whittlesey of the Ohio Central lines got hold of it and gave it to a newspaper man.

Lieutenant Commander Betts is a well educated man and a magnificent specimen of manhood. He is popular in society a thirty-two degree Mason, and Shriner, and has by his own thrift accumulated a nice property.

Great Britain has a longer seacoast line than any other nation in Europe. It measures 2,755 miles, with Italy second, 2,472 miles. Russia ranks third, and France fourth.

He—But I thought you hated her so? She—So I do. Didn't you notice that I only kissed her twice?