

Finding Fighters for Uncle Sam

By EDWARD B. CLARK
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The war department is trying to find ways and means to increase the number of cadets at the United States Military Academy. Since the Spanish war, when the army was enlarged, there have not been anywhere near enough graduates to fill the vacancies in the commissioned ranks of the army. The result has been that not only has it been necessary to promote to the rank of second lieutenant, enlisted men of the army who can pass the required examination, but to appoint each year to the service large numbers of civilians.

Naturally enough the war department officials feel that the commissioned officers should be men educated to the profession of a soldier. There seems to be a pretty general feeling, one hard for the authorities to account for by the way, that every man is born a soldier and that the military profession is the only one for which no special training is required. Gen. Winfield Scott, at the close of the Mexican war, said that if it had not been for the officers of his army who were graduates of the military academy the war would have been prolonged for years. This praise of the institution and the men whom it turns out was given by a man not a graduate, and who, therefore, could not be said to be prejudiced in favor of the institution.

The course at West Point is a particularly hard one and a good many cadets are found deficient every year, generally in only one study. West Point, however, differs from all other schools of the world. There they do not strike an average of studies, taking all the lessons taught in a lump. For instance, if a man stands at the head of his class in four studies, but is a little bit below the proficient average in one study, the authorities throw him out, whereas in other schools they would strike an average and give such a man a high standing.

The result of such a system as this is that men who are qualified for the service in practically every way, but who may be a little lame in French or a trifle off in geology or chemistry, are separated from the army to which they might possibly be a credit if an average of excellence was struck by the authorities.

It is quite often the case that men who do not graduate but who have had several years' training at the academy succeed in getting commissions in the service. There are no records to show that any man who spent two years at West Point failed to pass his examination for a commission after he had been successful in getting an appointment to the army from civil life.

Some of the boys who have been at West Point, but have not graduated, enlisted in the United States army in order to get their commission from the ranks. When a man does so enlist he may be sent as a private soldier to a company in which some classmate is a lieutenant. Now it must be remembered that there is a deep gulf between officers and enlisted men in the regular army, a gulf which it is necessary to have remain fixed, because familiarity of intercourse between officers and enlisted men would lead to lax discipline. It is not the case, as some people seem to think, of an officer being too proud to associate with enlisted men in high esteem. They know the enlisted men in the army and they know that they are the backbone of the army and courage hangs success in war and the credit of the army in peace. Every army in the world has learned the lesson that there must be a lack of familiar intercourse in a social way between the commissioned officers and the enlisted men.

When a young fellow who has been at West Point enlists he is likely, as has been said, to get into a command in which one of his classmates may be an officer. Then it is that a curious relation results. The enlisted man meets his former classmate, whom he once called Bill or Jim and with whom he possibly roomed as a cadet, and he must simply salute him as any other enlisted man would, and pass without a sign of "familiar recognition." Now this does not mean at all that Jim or Bill does not want to speak to his former classmate. It means simply that the enlisted man wants to preserve his own standing with his fellow soldiers and does not want to put his former classmate by and chance in an embarrassing position. If the enlisted man should learn that their newly enlisted fellow was a former classmate and a friend of one of the officers they might think that it was going to be a case of currying favor on the one side or of showing favor on the other. The man who is once a cadet and who enlists is more careful if he is built right, and he generally is, to maintain a proper attitude toward the men who rank him.

They tell a story in Washington of a young fellow who came of rich parents, but who never had been at West Point, by the way, who enlisted in the army to get his commission. He attempted to presume on the fact of his wealth and he not only got the officers down on him, but the men as well. His lot was not altogether a happy one. It can be said, however, that cases like that of this young man are few and far between. The man who is willing to enlist in order to get his commission, generally speaking, is of good stuff enough to make him willing to take things as they come and to take rather more than his share of the duties and the hardships of the enlisted men with whom he is thrown.

There was once upon a time a cadet who, having spent time enough at the United States Military Academy to cover a considerable part of the course, was compelled by the government to sever his connection with the school he had hoped would prove to him a fostering mother until the end.

This cadet, who shall be nameless because at a modest desire to avoid the use of the pronoun in the first person, had a yearning for military life, and so a few years after leaving the academy he walked into a Boston recruiting office and enlisted. Several classmates

and several other army friends knew of the enlistment and told the enlisted one prior to his application for admission to the service to strike out for a commission, and advise things, not to let any of the enlisted men, or any of the officers who did not know him, have knowledge of the fact that he had been at the military academy, for otherwise they might think he expected favors.

The advice was needless, for whatever else the recruit intended to do he desired that his service should be performed on the same level with that of every other man in the United States army, but the truth is that this deter-



SKIRMISH LINE DRILL, WEST POINT CADETS

TYPES OF RECRUITS UNITED STATES ARMY

nation and its carrying out led to some complications that had humor enough at the time even though they lose the humor because of lack of power in the story-teller.

This cadet recruit was landed at David's Island, New York harbor, where there were 700 other recruits undergoing instruction, and a green lot they were. The cadet was turned out for squad drill with five other recruits, not one of whom knew enough about soldiering to keep his heels together. A tall, raw-boned Irish sergeant with the euphonious name of O'Baldwin was in command of the squad. He began to explain the position of a soldier. He found that the recruit on the right of the line already was in the position of a soldier. The truth was he couldn't help himself.

O'Baldwin eyed him critically. "Fall out!" he said.

The one-time cadet fell out. "What regiment did ye desert from?" said O'Baldwin, pleasantly.

"This is my first enlistment," answered the recruit, and in answering he told the truth, for a cadet isn't enlisted.

"What company are ye in?" asked O'Baldwin, though he knew perfectly well, for his own bunk was not three bunks removed from that of the recruit.

"D company," answered the queried one, and that's where he made the mistake of his life.

That apparently simple answer proved conclusively to the sergeant's mind that he had an ex-regular before him, for all the national guardsmen would have answered "Company D" instead of "D company." The regular who would speak of his command as "Company D" would be considered deserving of the guard-houses for a month, for to put the letter after the company name when it is written is to the army man the height of things unmilitary.

"You go to your quarters; we'll look into this," said the sergeant.

The recruit went to his quarters and half an hour later the first sergeant of the outfit sent for him. The "Top" opened the conversation cheerfully with a query as to what regiment the recruit had left in the lurch. Finding that he was bound to be considered a deserter, the unhappy one took the bull by the horns thus: "I am serving my first enlistment in the army; I never was in the marine corps and I never saw the inside of a national guard army."

"Ever been in one of them private military schools?" asked the "Top."

"Never."

"Go to your quarters."

In another hour the recruit was given a rifle and cartridge box and belt and was ordered to turn out with the squad of recruits who had advanced far enough in the school of the soldier to receive lessons in the manual of arms. Now as a matter of fact the recruit knew the manual of arms so well he couldn't have hidden his knowledge if he had tried. This time there was another sergeant in charge. His eye took in the way the recruit on the right handled his piece and executed the manual.

In less than a minute the sergeant ordered him who was showing such proficiency to step to the front, and ordered "place rest" for the remainder of the squad. Then turning his attention to his victim, he said: "We'll try the bayonet exercise a bit. Guard!"

The recruit came down to "a guard" possibly with as much precision and in probably as proper style as the veteran sergeant had ever seen it done.

"Passing yourself off for a recruit. It's a fraud you are. Get to your quarters." And the recruit went to his bunk again, knowing that he was in deep disgrace.

About half an hour later he heard two old

soldiers talking outside of the barracks window. One of them said to the other: "There's a cuss in there who ain't never been in the marine corps, nor in the milshy, nor in the reg'ars, nor to one of them military schools."

The sergeant says he's either a blankety-blank liar or else he learnt his soldierin' from books, which ain't likely."

That night just after "tattoo," the first sergeant appeared and told the recruit that the company commander wanted to see him at once in the orderly room. The recruit went to the presence of the commissioned officer and stood attention as he had stood attention as a cadet a thousand times before. The captain looked him up and down. "I understand," he said, "that this is your first enlistment; that you have never been a national guard; that you have never been a marine and that you never attended a private military school."

The recruit acquiesced with a respectful "Yes, sir."

"About face."

The recruit made an about face, and then at a repetition of the command, again faced the captain, who was grinning.

"Go to your quarters," said the commanding officer.

The recruit went and in ten minutes the top sergeant was there, saying: "You can't fool the old man. You've been made a lance corporal and you go on guard as corporal of the third relief tomorrow morning."

There are a good many officers in the United States army today who served for a



WANT ABLE BODY UNITED STATES ARMY

APPLY UPSTAIRS

while at the military academy as cadets, but who were compelled to stay five years at the academy in order to get their commissions, having been "turned back" into the class next below them either for deficiency in studies or for breaches of discipline. If General Sheridan had not been given another chance after he had engaged in a little affair which was considered a breach of discipline while he was a cadet the wonder is who would have been the right-hand cavalry leader of Grant during the Civil war.

A few months ago Gen. Hamilton S. Hawkins died. He entered the military academy some time prior to the opening of the Civil war, but the authorities did not allow him to graduate. Hawkins was not discouraged by the failure and as soon as the Civil war broke out he offered his services to his country and was given a commission. He staid in the regular army until the time of his death and so strong was his love of the military academy that before his death he asked that he might be buried in the cadet cemetery. It was Hawkins' custom each year when he could get away from his command to visit the school where he had spent three years of his boyhood. He had just as strong a love for the institution as did any graduate in the army.

Recently there has been a disposition on the part of the graduates of the military academy to give more consideration to the men who spent some time at the school, but who did not graduate. One class organization includes in its membership all the cadets who at any time were members of the class, and no distinction is made between graduate and non-graduate, even the offices of the organization being open to men who did not complete the course.

Other class organizations are said to be preparing to follow the example of that of the members of 1884 and if the custom of taking into full brotherhood the non-graduates becomes general the belief is that good will come to the academy and the country.

Statue of Liberty Grafters

If the visitors who paid good money to a soldier for the privilege of climbing up the steps of the statue of Liberty had only known about the sixty-second article of war they never would have graduated from the dead-head class on a reservation belonging to Uncle Sam, the New York Herald says. As it is, under the last general order from the war department two soldiers who levied tribute are doomed to penal servitude for their speculative enterprise.

According to the army orders, Axel T. Holm, a first-class private of G company, signal corps, and Edward A. Bagnall, of the same grade and command, organized a syndicate for the exploitation of the French evidence of friendship for America, which, following the actual language of the order, operated, as to Holm, after this fashion:

"He, the said Holm, did designedly and fraudulently obtain money from certain visitors to the statue of liberty, fees for the privilege of going up into said statue, by knowingly making false pretenses that such fees were necessary."

And as to the enterprising Bagnall:

"That he did knowingly assist in fraudulently obtaining money from visitors to the statue of liberty by acting as a 'lookout' with the duty of actually giving warning to the man collecting the fees in case an officer were approaching."

All of this, according to the charges and specifications upon which conviction was made, and approval then passed, violated the sixty-second article of war. In the case of Holm the department orders his dishonorable discharge

and his confinement for two years at Fort Leavenworth. Bagnall gets off with reduction to the grade of private, four months' confinement and the forfeiture of \$13 a month. He will work his sentence out around the base of the statue, cleaning up such litter as the tributeless visitors see fit to make.

The evidence showed that the two men arranged a scheme to tax all visitors ten cents a head for the pleasure of climbing to the head of the goddess, with the ever-burning torch, and the story was printed exclusively in the Herald at the time. While one of them took in the toll the other lingered about to give the collector a tip if an officer chanced to be bearing down upon the post exchange. Capt. D. J. Carr, commanding the post, is very proud of this pretty show station, and he broke up the game just as soon as he found what was in the air.

STREET TRAFFIC OF PARIS.

There are nearly half a million horses and motor vehicles of all kinds in Paris today, with 20,000 hand carts and 9,000 wheelbarrows. In 1909 45,879 accidents were caused in the Paris streets by 31,863 vehicles. These statistics are contained in a report drawn up by M. Emile Massard at the request of the Paris municipal council on the increment of the Paris streets. One of M. Massard's calculations shows that the street traffic of Paris, if stationary, would occupy 445 acres of the 2,079 acres of streets which Paris possesses. Last year 600,000,000 persons traveled by omnibus and tramway, and there were 294,000,000 passengers on the underground railway.—Indianapolis News.

Beliefs About Lightning.

There is a popular tradition that lightning will not kill any one who is asleep. According to one school, the splinters of a tree struck by lightning are an infallible specific for the toothache. An amusing superstition used to be cherished by the boys of a Yorkshire (Eng.) village, who believed that if they mentioned the lightning immediately after a flash the seat of their trousers would be torn out. No boy could be induced to make the experiment.

Boon Companions. Cruelty and fear shake hands together.—Dallas.

The American Home

WILLIAM A. RADFORD
Editor

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 194 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

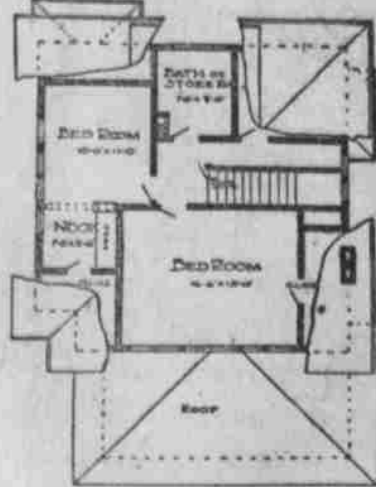
It is not at all strange that a great many people want to build "something different." They feel that the ordinary square cut house, while allright and good enough for Smith or Jones and entirely comfortable and satisfactory so long as one is renting, is hardly the desirable thing when one comes to build a home for oneself. This feeling is entirely proper. While we would not for one minute want to seem to advocate the extreme and outlandish styles which often pass for originality, still a variety is necessary, and originality, or rather individuality, if properly directed, develops some good ideas in house design.

A well-designed house costs no more to build than the plain, ordinary-looking affairs that are often put up, in fact they are apt to cost a good bit less, since the well-designed house is built from complete architect's drawings and specifications. Then there are the other kind which are put up by the carpenter who plans as he goes along and is never quite sure just how the house is to look when finished.

For anyone who wants something having an individual touch, the accompanying design is offered. There is nothing extreme about it, in fact it is planned in the best of taste, yet it has certain features which make it

much desired, but in the ordinary house plan of this size it seems to be a difficult matter to arrange. The kitchen is the proper size and shape for convenience and is well supplied with cases and the sink is well located by a window where the light is good. A small entry way accommodates the ice box.

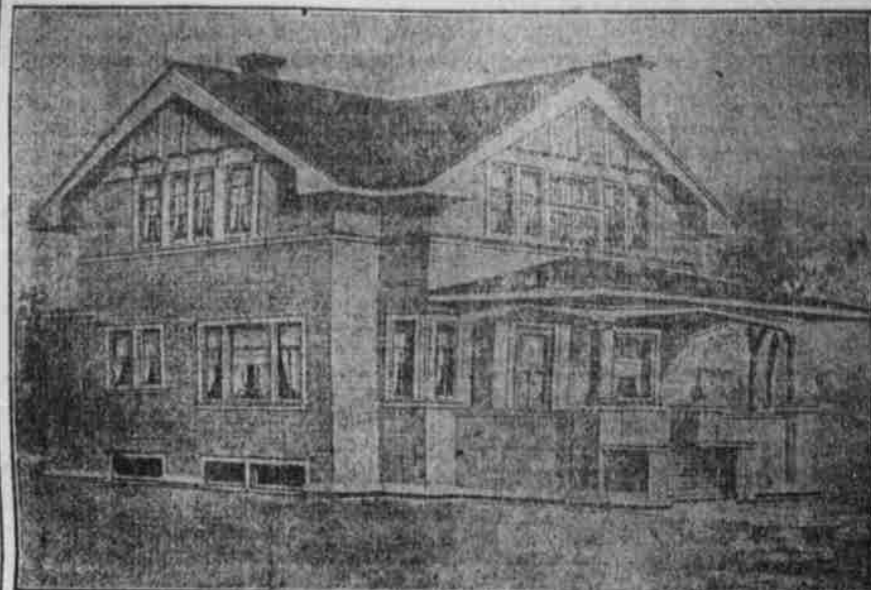
On the second floor there are two very nice bedrooms besides one large store room and three closets. One of the bedrooms has a small alcove or



Second Floor Plan

dressing room, which is a good feature.

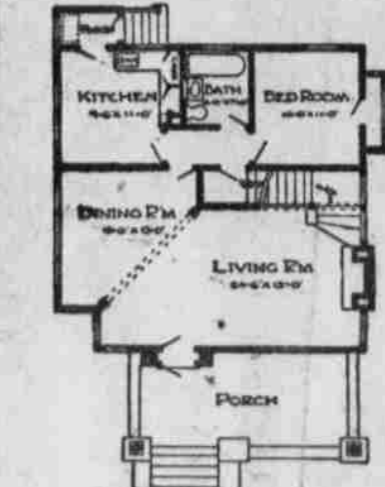
The exterior of this house is very attractive. Narrow siding is used from the water table up to the second story window sill course. Above this cement plaster is used. It is suggested that both clapboards and plaster work should be painted dark brown, while the trimming should be



entirely different from houses of the same size as they are usually planned. The living room, 13 feet by 24 feet six inches, extends across the entire front of the house, while the dining room occupying the alcove extending both back and one side is separated from the living room by a cased opening set cornerwise, or at an angle of 45 degrees, between the two rooms. This is an arrangement rarely seen, yet it is one which affords a maximum of roominess down stairs, at the same time separating the dining room space to a certain extent from the living room. An open stairway going up along the rear wall of the living room also adds to the apparent space. This arrangement affords wonderful possibilities for attractive interior decorations.

white. While creosoted shingles make a very good roof for this design, other forms of roofing of a more enduring and fire resisting nature could well be used. In one instance where this design was carried out to very good effect last year the roof was covered with metal Spanish tile.

The cost of this house runs somewhere between \$2,800 and \$3,000, depending on the quality of materials used and the fixtures and equipment installed. In the instance just referred to where this house was built the entire first floor was finished in oak with hardwood floors in the living and dining rooms and the second floor was finished in yellow pine. The roof was covered with best quality metal Spanish tile. A hot water heating plant and plumbing system costing \$600 and electric lighting and fixtures costing \$65 were installed and all the interior walls were frescoed in lead and oil, the entire actual cost was \$3,700. This is a striking evidence of what can be accomplished in home building by the use of properly designed building plans.



First Floor Plan

five effects. Such a space is also very easily furnished for comfort.

Another desirable feature of this plan is the bedroom and bath on the first floor. This is a feature very

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Rescued a Bridal Couple.
Attorney General Wickersham has a chance to offer "first aid to the injured" the other day. He was riding in his automobile when he came upon a bridal couple who had just been tumbled out of a carriage drawn by a runaway horse. They were on their way to the Union station for their wedding tour, and while neither of them was injured, the bride was pretty badly shaken up. Attorney General Wickersham helped the young lady into his automobile, and her husband climbed in, and he carried them to the Union station, where they continued their bridal trip.

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A Stroke of Luck.
A rich old farmer who had moved into a Michigan village had a ne'er-do-well son who would not work, but insisted on loafing around the village and living on his father, meantime waiting for the happy moment when the father might die.

One morning the news came from the rich old farmer's house that he had a stroke of apoplexy and was dying. The good women of the village rushed over to see if they could do anything. They found the son sitting on the porch in a rocking-chair rocking slowly and rubbing his hands.

"John," one lady said, "is this terrible news true? How is your father?"

"Well," replied John, continuing the rocking, "all I can say is that I expect to be a rich man in a few minutes."—Saturday Evening Post.

Need for Alarm.
Before climbing up to his seat the colored cabman set the alarm on a small clock that hung in one corner of the cab.

"What is that for?" asked the passenger, but the driver had already mounted to his seat and was telling his horse to "Giddap," and apparently

did not hear. The alarm was set for four o'clock. That was 20 minutes past the time the passenger had counted on arriving at the given address, but he was so desirous to find out what the cabman would do when the alarm went off that he called up instructions to take him many blocks out of his way so he would be in at the finish.

At four o'clock the alarm sounded. The cabman alighted, set the alarm for five o'clock, and hung the clock back in the corner. Then the passenger's curiosity could be restrained no longer.

"What's the meaning of this?" he said. "I have ridden 20 minutes longer than I ought to and have run up a dollar extra on my bill just to find out the secret of that alarm."

"Yes, sir," said the cabman, "that's it."

A Century Hence.
"The 20 minutes and the dollar extra. They all do it, just as you did, out of curiosity."—New York Times.

Bonaparte's American Wife.

Marriage of Jerome and Elizabeth Patterson Greatest Social Event in Baltimore's History.

Just two and a half years after the death and burial of "Old Mortality" on Christmas eve, 1863, all Baltimore was with the greatest social event of the city of beautiful women had ever witnessed—the marriage of Je-

rome Bonaparte and Elizabeth Patterson.

The groom was resplendent in a purple satin coat, heavy with costly embroideries and gold lace, whose skirt, lined with white satin, in the latest fashion of the directory beau monde, fell over his satin knee-breeches and silk hose, to the very tips of the diamond buckles, that clasped his low-cut shoes. His long,

his hair was powdered snowy white, contrasting well with his dark eyes and rich complexion.

The bride wore a white muslin dress, of diaphanous texture, such as the famous Indiana looms have made famous for centuries, which, despite rich embroideries and costly lace, veiled the beauty of arms and neck, and fitted in the extreme of a fashion that emphasized the outlines of her faultless limbs and perfect form.

"All the clothes worn by her might have been put in my pocket," wrote a

lively correspondent of that letter-writing era. "Her dress was of muslin of an extremely fine texture. Beneath her dress, she wore but one garment."

Congratulations and good wishes were showered upon her, and the weeks of the honeymoon were a dream of sweet madness and gratified ambition.—National Magazine.

Boon Companions. Cruelty and fear shake hands together.—Dallas.