

The Plattsmouth Journal

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Transition of a Landlubber to a Genuine Sailor

Shore Training a New but Valuable Experience for Recruit—Precedes Assignment to Duty

"A sailor is made and not born" seems to be a fairly accurate phrase as the typical U. S. Navy or Naval Reserve recruit has never set foot aboard anything larger than a canoe or a row boat and doesn't know the bow of a ship from its stern. From "Shipping Day" (the day a new recruit is sent off to the Navy training station) to the end of his "shore training," the new bluejacket's days and nights are crammed full of new experiences. When finally he is assigned to active duty, "Boots"—the Navy's name for the new seaman derived from the regulation canvas leggings he must wear during training period—is far from a seasoned sailor, but he has hardened up a bit; absorbed a lot of basic sea-faring knowledge; fallen into the habit of regular living; learned to keep his quarters, equipment and person clean—and conditioned himself to react automatically to the spoken command.

"Boots" on his way to the training station was a little surprised that the well-educated, neat-appearing chap who had stood next to him at the recruiting station had been rejected because, of all things, he chewed his nails. Later on he will realize that the Navy doctors have had a lot of experience with sailors and know that a fingernail chews is apt to be kind of a nervous guy who is likely to go to pieces when the big guns start thundering and leave his shipmates in a bad hole.

When "Boots" arrives at the training station (for this area most generally the Great Lakes Naval Training Station) he is probably one of fifteen or twenty new men who are shipping for four years in the Naval Reserve—active duty only as long as the emergency period lasts—or for a six-year enlistment in the Regular Navy.

Within a couple of hours after his arrival at the training station, "Boots" has been given another dental examination, been introduced to the official Navy hair cut by the "Mad Russian," as recruits call the Navy barber, been given another physical examination, packed up his civilian clothing and all personal items except his wallet, toothbrush and shaving kit for mailing home.

One complete set of uniforms was issued to him and he complained a bit because they seemed loose fitting. A few weeks later he will be glad he was issued uniforms a trifle large for, unless he proves to be an outstanding exception, he will take on from five to fifteen pounds, at the same time changing a lot of that flabby civilian flesh to solid sea-going muscle.

He finds that his company barracks are spotless. The wood floor is scrubbed and waxed. If he is to sleep in a hammock, his barracks will have four parallel lines of galvanized pipe, five feet from the floor, extending the length of a room the size of a dance hall. A chief petty officer, who will act as his commander during the training period, will give instructions in slinging these hammocks on the pipes. The petty officer will also explain that from now on the sailor's sea bag will be his closet until he arrives on shipboard and is assigned a personal locker.

About this time a bugle, or more likely a bugle call played from a victrola record over an amplifying system, will introduce the new recruit to his first Navy meal. The cafeteria system is used and each recruit will be given a metal tray divided somewhat in the manner blue-plates are divided. The tray will be heaped with bread and butter, a bowl of soup, meat and vegetables, a green salad, dessert and a pint-sized mug of Navy coffee—called "Joe" or "Java."

For three weeks new recruits are checked carefully for any disease which might have been overlooked in the physical examination conducted before Shipping Day or the physical check made before "Boots" ar-

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rived at the training station. These days are filled with preliminary training in marching by squads, companies and battalions, light-arms drills, signaling with lights and flags, learning knot-tying, making rope-splices, rowing and the use of hand leads and deep sea leads.

"Boots" also learns the names of various parts of a ship and her gear from large-size ship models. Also our new bluejacket will discover that wash day comes twice a week in the Navy and he will learn how to wash clothes and stand guard over a clothes line. No ironing boards are supplied the apprentice seaman and he learns how to press his clothes by folding them tightly and packing them properly in his large canvas sea bag.

Swimming tests are given; and for those who don't know how, instructions are given until the new swimmers can pass required examinations. "Boots" learns that "Irish pennants" (loose rope ends) are taboo, that the walls of the barracks are called bulkheads, that the "scuttle butt" is the ship's drinking fountain and a "plover's mate" is an awkward sailor—in fact, "Boots" soon realizes that he must learn an entirely new vocabulary.

Athletics during the day, motion pictures, backgammon, cribbage, letter writing and some book study by night fill the new recruit's spare hours. After three weeks he gets his first liberty pass. Then he begins to receive advanced training including lectures on torpedoes, powder magazines, handling boats under sail and manning the big guns.

The last day of training, "Boots" begins to feel that he is a real bluejacket and gets a thrill as he receives his pay and is given a nine-day leave. For the first time, he is permitted to wear his dress blues, and after this leave he will be off for active duty on shipboard or will be sent to a Navy trade training school for further instruction in some specialized work.

Whether the new men are selected for trade school training or are assigned to immediate duty at sea, they have an opportunity to get free trade training which will pave the way for careers in later civilian life.

When we began running Navy advertisements ten weeks ago, this newspaper was so impressed with the opportunities the Navy has to offer young men that week after week we have given freely of our space to drive the message home to these lads of the middle west, and now as the advertising campaign for this state is drawing to a close, we are even more impressed and will continue to counsel with young men to at least consider the Navy before deciding on any branch of service.

We still have available a considerable supply of the book "Life in the U. S. Navy" also some of those dealing particularly with the Naval Reserve (open for shorter enlistment period than the regular Navy and subject to transfer to the inactive list at the termination of the emergency) which we will be pleased to give or mail to interested young men if they will sign the coupon in the Navy advertisement and mail or bring it to this office.

RETURN FROM SAD MISSION

Mr. and Mrs. William Woolcott have returned from York, Nebraska, where they attended the funeral service conducted for Mrs. Woolcott's sister, Mrs. Maryanne Almgren, formerly of Omaha. Mrs. Almgren had been making her home with Mrs. H. T. McNiff, a sister, of Lincoln, for the past several weeks. She was thirty-nine years old. Funeral services were conducted at York on Friday morning, October 24 at 10 o'clock. Monsignor Mandeville officiated. Burial was at the beautiful St. Joseph cemetery.

Mrs. Woolcott was in Bottineau, South Dakota when she received the death message. She had been visiting with her son, William Woolcott, his wife and son, William, III.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Royal, Lincoln, visited here and at Fort Crook bomber plant Sunday.

White Corn Show Nov. 7 at St. Joseph, Mo.

First White Corn Show in Missouri Valley to Attract Large Number of Fine Entries.

With the St. Joseph White Corn Show only another week off, farmers throughout the middle west have been busy selecting their white corn entries.

Worth-while cash prizes are being offered for 10 ear and single ear displays in both Junior and Senior Divisions, and there will be Grand Champion awards for the best ten ear and best single ear display at the show. In addition, the farmer exhibiting the best bushel of 55 ears of white corn will also receive a prize.

This white corn show will be an all day affair held in the Chamber of Commerce building at St. Joseph. Aside from the exhibits, an interesting program has been planned whereby farmers, agricultural college representatives, seed people and millers can get together and discuss a common interest—white corn. This is the first time in the Missouri river valley that such a co-operative interest has been centered on white corn. There will be an opportunity for everyone to hear several of the outstanding corn breeders talk on the developments in white corn.

Among the attractions in the exhibit section, there will be large displays of white hybrid seed, and the manufactured products from white corn as well as a homemaker's booth.

Considering that this is the first white corn show ever held in the Missouri river valley, the advance information indicates a big show, well organized and of excellent educational value.

Vinduska-Fila Wedding is Held This Morning

Holy Rosary Church Scene of a Very Pretty Wedding of Well Known Young People.

From Monday's Daily—A very pretty double ring ceremony of marked simplicity took place this morning at 9 o'clock at the Holy Rosary Catholic church, when Miss Adeline Vinduska, charming daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Vinduska, became the bride of Mr. Frank Fila, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fila of Omaha.

The couple was attended by Miss Marie Fila, sister of the groom, and Mr. Lester Vinduska, brother of the bride. Miss Fila wore a very becoming floor length gown of aqua blue moire with contrasting fuchsia slippers and wore a cluster of flowers and a small veil turban.

The bride wore a beautiful white Satin gown with a train. The gown was trimmed with seed pearls at the neckline and lace inserts at the neckline, in the sleeves and in the train. Her laced trimmed veil was held in place by a three pointed halo trimmed with seed pearls. She wore white satin slippers. The bridal bouquet was of white baby chrysanthemums and carnations. The only ornament worn by the bride was a gold heart-shaped locket, a gift from the groom.

The bridal group entered the church where the guests had assembled, to the strains of the "Bridal Chorus" from "Lohengrin" by Wagner.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Mr. John Vinduska. At the noon hour a lovely arranged three-course wedding dinner was served by the bride's parents at the Hotel Plattsmouth.

Out-of-town guests were Mrs. Mary Vinduska of Pilsen, Kansas, grandmother of the bride; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Klenda and family of Marion, Kansas and Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Combs and son, of Omaha.

The young people are to reside in Omaha.

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CHURCH OF THE HOLY ROSARY, PLATTSMOUTH

Holy Rosary Observes Golden Jubilee Sunday

Bishop L. B. Kucera of Lincoln Here for Celebration of Mass—500 Attend Public Dinner.

With the golden anniversary of the Bohemian Catholic church organization in Plattsmouth yesterday, thoughts of the Thomas Janda family went back over many years.

The first of the Jandas came many years ago, but the little church with its small steeple and cross has been identified particularly with family members. Cyril Janda, now 82, was the first organist in the new church, and little children became men and women with their own children in the years he served. His music was his pride, and to the older communicants it sometimes seems a little strange not to see Cyril Janda at the organ.

At 10:30, His Excellency the Most Rev. Ludvik B. Kucera, D.D., LL.D., bishop of Lincoln, celebrated the pontifical mass with assistance of other clergymen. Deacons of honor were Rev. Edward J. Chapuran, and Rev. Albert of Omaha; deacon, Rev. Thomas Kealy; sub-deacon, Rev. Tucek, Lincoln; archpriest, Monsignor Adolph M. Mosler; master of ceremonies, Very Rev. Msgr. M. Helmann, editor of the Southern Nebraska Register. The beautifully decorated church and dexterously prepared bishop's throne, seemed to be rivaling with many clads servers and fourth degree Knights of Columbus, Omaha, who were acting as the guard of honor for his excellency the bishop. The Omaha Knights were Hugh Gillispie, J. P. Corrigan, M. Morgan Dorcy, Captain James R. Strong, Martin Polcar, Lawrence Jewell, Charles J. McDonald, James J. Connolly, Lawrence J. Abts.

After the gospel, Rev. Edward J. Chapuran, pastor of the St. Wenceslaus church in Omaha, delivered the festive sermons, the first and main address in Bohemian. After mass the bishop himself addressed the congregation in both the English and Czech languages. He congratulated the Holy Rosary parishioners, and particularly the old pioneers, on their achievements during these fifty years. Jubilees are celebrated to value the work of the organizers, to give credit to the work of the officers and the activities of its members. The Holy Rosary church is of Czech-Catholic origin. It sprung up from insignificant beginnings of a handful of organizing members, and within the fifty years it claims the first place among the Czech Catholic parishes in the diocese of Lincoln. After mass a picture was taken in front of the church.

Serving as acolytes at the jubilee mass were Edward Kubicka, Dowell Anthony Kubicka, Richard Bintner, Bill Prohaska, Charles Eaton, Edward Eaton. The music of the mass highlighted the service. A half hour of organ music preceded the 10:30 a. m. mass. Joseph Chapuran was the

leader. The Plattsmouth high school band played for the procession. The entire church was jammed, and many were forced to stand. Persons from all over came to Plattsmouth for the event, some for the pontifical mass, some for the noonday banquet and still others for the evening dance.

The high choir of the St. Wenceslaus Bohemian Catholic church of Omaha, furnished the music.

In charge of the beautification of the interior of the church was Miss Julia Svoboda, whose untiring efforts during these last few days proved fruitful. The main altar as well as side altars were banked with floral bouquets. Large yellow pom-poms and other special greenhouse flowers adorned the main altar, while deep yellow marigolds, symbolizing gold, made the side altars pretty.

The major portion of these bouquets were gifts of parishioners and friends. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sinkula of Cleveland, Ohio were donors of a large basket of pom-poms, Mr. and Mrs. Anton Novak, also of Cleveland, Mrs. Ferdinand Duda, Mrs. John Jirousek and daughter, Miss Anna, Mrs. Charles Vitousek, Mrs. Anna Rys, Mrs. John Fischer, Ernest Zitka of Plattsmouth, and Mrs. Mary Vinduska of Kansas were among the other donors of flowers. The pillars and the communion railing were decorated in yellow and white papal colors.

The American Legion building was the scene of the second portion of the golden jubilee, when the group of some 500 participated in the dinner arranged and served by the ladies of the church.

The golden anniversary theme was carried out in the flowers and as well with gold colored napkins and the gold of the souvenir booklets that each guest received. Henry Jasper presented the flowers to the church party.

The ladies had prepared a fine menu as follows:

Breaded Pork Loin
Mashed Potatoes - Creamed Green Beans - Yams
Cabbage Slaw
Cranberry Sauce - Rolls
Ice Cream and Cake
Coffee

During the serving the Svoboda Red Raven orchestra of Omaha, played a program of Czech numbers, received with the greatest of enthusiasm by the group.

So large was the attendance at the dinner that almost two complete bands were necessary.

With the many to serve, the program of the afternoon was late in getting under way, with Walter H. Smith, county attorney, presiding as the toastmaster of the afternoon.

Mayor Arnold J. Lillie extended the welcome on behalf of the city, and an appreciation that all in the community feel to the residents of the vest portion of the city in establishing and maintaining the Holy Rosary church.

Charles F. Stastka, of Nebraska City, long an active worker in the Holy Rosary parish, former head of the Knights of Columbus, made the formal welcome from the members of the parish to their friends who were participating in the enjoyment of the anniversary.

Greetings were extended by L. S.

Devoc, superintendent of the Plattsmouth city schools, he citing as a part of his observation in his ten-year service, of the fine type of young men and women who had come to the city schools from the Czech homes of the community. Both boys and girls, descendants of the Czechs, had occupied high places in the schools, in music, athletics and scholarships. He also stressed the fine feeling of tolerance that existed here among the peoples of all religious faith, their friendliness and desire to give to all the full benefit of religious freedom.

Two of the musically talented young people of the parish were presented, Bernard Knoflicek giving two vocal numbers in his very artistic rendition that gave his fine voice a full scope of melody, while Miss Wilma Swatek entertained with two piano-accordion solos played in her usual talented manner as her part of the afternoon program.

Rev. Edward J. Chapuran, pastor of the St. Wenceslaus church of Omaha, well known in this city where he has often visited, brought the greetings of the clergy to the parish. Father Chapuran paid high tribute to the members of the Holy Rosary parish for their loyalty and devotion to their church. Speaking of his personal contacts with the members of the parish he extolled their fine character and remarked that many former residents of the Holy Rosary were residents of his parish in Omaha and fine loyal church men and women.

The members of the audience were very pleasingly entertained by Frank Buglewicz and his group of entertainers from Omaha, they giving musical numbers of unusual merit as well as a Czech playlet that was enjoyed most thoroughly by the older members of the banquet party in their native tongue.

Miss Shirley Walling, another of the talented musicians of the parish, gave a very lovely vocal selection well suited to her fine voice. Miss Dorothy Svoboda was the accompanist for Miss Walling as well as Mr. Knoflicek.

The Rev. Joseph R. Sinkula, pastor of the Holy Rosary church gave a short talk and expressed the appreciation for the great success and for the fine manner in which the members had labored in making the event possible.

Monsignor George Agius, pastor of the St. John's church, also extended the greetings of his parish and himself to the members of the Holy Rosary parish.

It was late when His Excellency Bishop L. B. Kucera, was called upon and the bishop made a very brief talk. The bishop told of the fine work of the pioneer Czech residents of Plattsmouth in the erecting of their own church, the sacrifices that had been necessary in the lives of all of these people to make their dream come true. The builders of the church are now few in number and their children and grandchildren were admonished by Bishop Kucera to give their lives as freely in the work of the parish as had the pioneer. He also expressed appreciation at the general good feeling of the two parishes in this community toward each other.

WPA Aiding in Training Defense Plant Workers

Six Hundred Men Provided Training to October 1—Opening Some New Courses

"The WPA is co-operating in the training of workers for employment in defense industries," said D. F. Felton, State Administrator of the Work Projects Administration. "This program has been in operation for twelve months. Originally it was a refresher course, open only to skilled persons and operated only in Omaha and Lincoln. It has recently been expanded and is now providing primary training for persons having education and aptitude warranting training for defense trades.

"Training has been provided for six hundred men employed on WPA projects. At the end of September, 1941, two hundred and fifty-seven were in training. Of those trained, one hundred and eighty-three are known to have obtained private employment. Classes are being conducted in the Omaha public schools providing training in sheet metal work, pattern making and machine operation. Public schools in Norfolk, Beatrice, Nebraska City, Fairbury, Kearney and North Platte are operating classes in aircraft sheet metal work. Lincoln and Kearney are conducting welding classes. Classes have been approved for early operation at Fremont, McCook and Scottsbluff.

"The State Vocational school at Milford authorized by the last legislature, is rapidly being expanded for defense training. Buildings at the Old Soldiers and Sailors Home are being reconstructed and improved under a WPA project to make them available as a training center. Classes are now being operated training mechanics, radio operators, welders, auto mechanics, auto electric and motor winders. As soon as repairs are completed and equipment arrives, sheet metal classes will be added.

"WPA trainees are selected on a basis of education, qualifications and aptitudes for learning the various defense trades within the age limits fixed by private employers. Trainees completing the courses are finding ready employment in aircraft factories, such as the Martin, Bell, North American, Consolidated and Lockheed. Mechanics have been placed with the railroad and machinery manufacturing companies in Illinois and Missouri.

"Due to the rapidly expanding aircraft industries, great need is found for trained employees at airports. The WPA is conducting a school at the Omaha airport, training twenty men for such employment. Before completing the course, several were given employment by airlines and airports."



Shopping— at a disadvantage

Faulty eyesight makes a woman look cross, older. She strives to see—and her brow is furrowed by a Focus Frown, her whole face droops with fatigue. Look pleasant, live pleasantly, save energy: be sure your eyesight is right. Have it examined periodically; corrected when necessary.

No Tax or Other Increase in the Price of Glasses—as yet
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