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better to loaf only a part of the time for two semesters than it is to take a complete vacation, concluding with a return to the farm after February first.—Ex.

**The Making of Soldiers**

In this day of the greatest of all wars—the conflict in Europe—much is being said and done to improve military conditions throughout the United States, and the general opinion of all the officials interested in the matter seems to be that there are many more departments of the national defense, that need a complete reorganization. The general conclusions that are drawn by the public are also unified, and everyone is agreed that should any of the European countries become hostile to the United States, this country would be thrown into great embarrassment because of the small number of trained men that can be depended on in the time of war.

Military training at Purdue has always been conceived of by the great mass of students as something which should be gotten over with with as small an expenditure of effort as possible. The two years of "War" have been thought of as the drudgery of the entire course and as something that has been put into the university curriculum merely to discourage the ambitious freshman or sophomore.

Despite the fact that the military authorities at Purdue have in the last few years done everything in their power to make the training interesting, and that the commandant has spared no efforts in his attempts to raise the rating of the corps as turned in to the national headquarters each year, reports of the annual inspection at Purdue have been less favorable each year.

It is wholly because of the general student attitude in the past that conditions are reaching such a low point. The facilities are here, and the instruction is as good if not better than at most land-grant colleges. Co-operation should be the motto in the coming year of military training of Purdue will fall still further. We appeal to each one of the freshmen and sophomores who are taking drill to show his patriotism and respect for his country in these troublesome times by giving the best that is in him for the three short drill hours each week. The government grant which helped materially to make Purdue one of the greatest engineering schools in the country was made solely that a reserve army could be made out of the large number of men graduated from the land grant colleges each year. It is the present wave of patriotism that is going over the country that has caused so many influential business men to give up their annual vacations and go into military training at Plattsburg, N. Y., and at Fort Sheridan. It is this same feeling of national pride that should cause every Purdue student to make an especial effort to fit himself as an able defender of his country's rights if it should ever become necessary.—Ex.

**When a Joke is Dangerous**

For some years there has been agitation in University circles against the custom of fussing to athletic contests. Unfortunately most of the students seem to consider the whole affair as a huge joke.

It is sometimes a costly joke. Judging from advance reports, the football situation in the Rocky Mountain conference is so evenly balanced that the result will hinge upon the last ounce of energy.

Every man missing from the rooters' section is going to mean a wasted ounce of Colorado spirit.

The co-eds have few ways in which they can give their support to the team. They are barred from the grid-iron and are not even allowed to join in the yells. But they can, if they will stand together, keep the men out of the women's stand, and over among the rooters where they belong.—Ex.

**JAPS KNOW NO PROFANITY**

Their Language Contains No "Swear words," Unfortunately So Common in the West.

The Jap is always polite, but once in a while he slips from grace—and when he does he is up against it, for there are no swearwords in the Japanese language, says a writer in *Leslie's Weekly*. When a Japanese meets you he bows three times and takes off his hat, but does not shake hands. When he greets you his first concern is about your ancestors and next about your stomach. It would be almost an open insult for one Japanese to meet another without asking him how his stomach fared. On the third bow he asks: "This morning, how is it with your honorable inside?" As you come up on your third bow you answer to the effect that the place mentioned is doing as well as could be expected and in turn ask him what news he has from the front. Then he lifts his hat again and says: "Your delightful head this morning, I hope it have no commotion." When you tell him that you are pleased to report that it feels well this morning he asks about a few generations of honorable ancestors and then you are free to take up the weather.

Even though they are elaborately polite, once in a while one Japanese will get mad at another. Their anger kindles slowly at first, finally fanning to a blaze that knows no staying. But even though there is a torrent of emotion seething in his soul there are no words to give it vent; it keeps surging harder and harder until it throws aside all restraint and gives up all idea of decency by putting into one phrase all his bitterness and snapping squarely into the other man's astonished face the worst thing that can be said in the whole language: "Your stomach is not on straight!" This is the final insult; nothing more can be added—he has cast the glove. There is nothing left for him to do but to give his enemy a cutting look, turn on his heel and haughtily clap-clap away on his wooden shoes.

**If Civilians Learn to Shoot**

Civilian rifle clubs are lately receiving much attention. They have developed a number of men who are excellent shots with 22-caliber rifles, indoors, at a distance of 50 to 75 feet.

Comparatively few, however, are able to handle the modern high-powered 30-caliber United States magazine rifle and hit a target 1,000 yards away. Moreover, even were all our men good shots, it must be remembered that shooting is merely one of the important parts of a soldier's training, and that it is a very small part.

The soldier who can do nothing but shoot has about the same relative value as a polo player who can sit on a fence and wield a mallet skillfully, but who can't ride a horse.—Capt. Richard Stockton, Jr., in *Collier's Weekly*.

**Sunday and Holiday Spring**

Is it not Izaak Walton who tells of a river in Palestine that never flowed on Sunday? A strictly veracious story to match this is told in a recent number of the *Proceedings of the Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers* by Mr. Robert E. Horton. It appears that in the red sandstone of the Passaic valley there is a spring, located in a picnic ground, which formerly flowed perpetually. Its habits have changed, and it now flows only on Sundays and holidays. The mystery is easily explained: A number of artesian wells were bored into the sandstone in the vicinity of the spring to supply water to adjacent silk dyeing establishments. Except on Sundays and holidays, when the pumps are not running, the artesian slope is drawn below the level of the spring outlet and the spring ceases to flow.—*Scientific American*.

**Book of Mormon**

Joseph Smith published his work known as "The Book of Mormon" in the year 1830. He claimed that the work was a transcript, under divine guidance, of certain golden plates buried in central New York, the existence of which had been supernaturally revealed to him by an "angel from heaven."

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