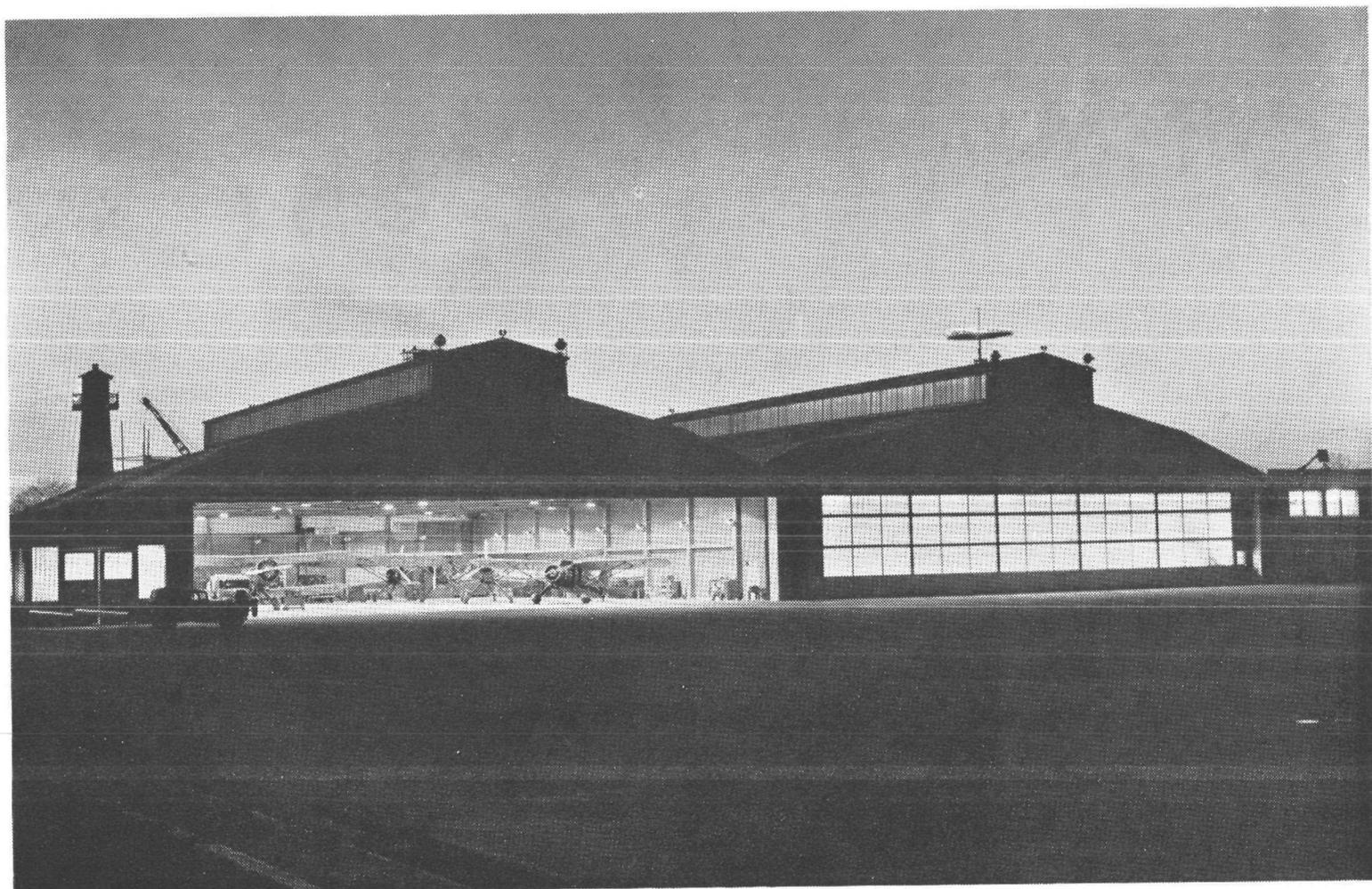


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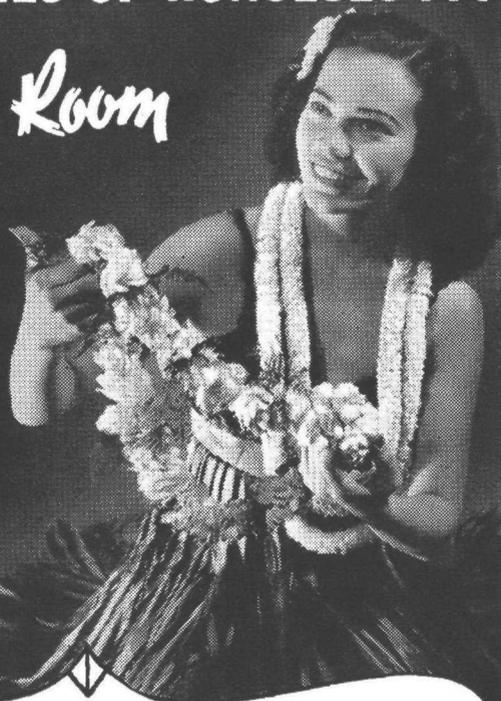
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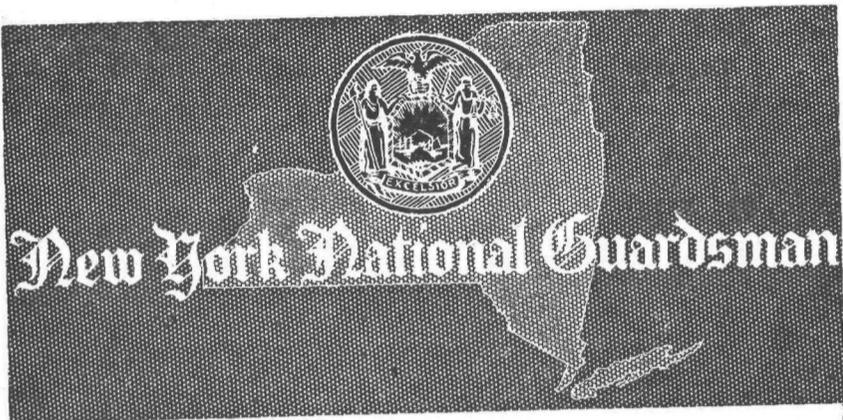
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The names of all characters that are used in short stories, serials and semi-fiction articles that deal with types are fictitious. Use of a name which is the same as that of any living person is accidental.

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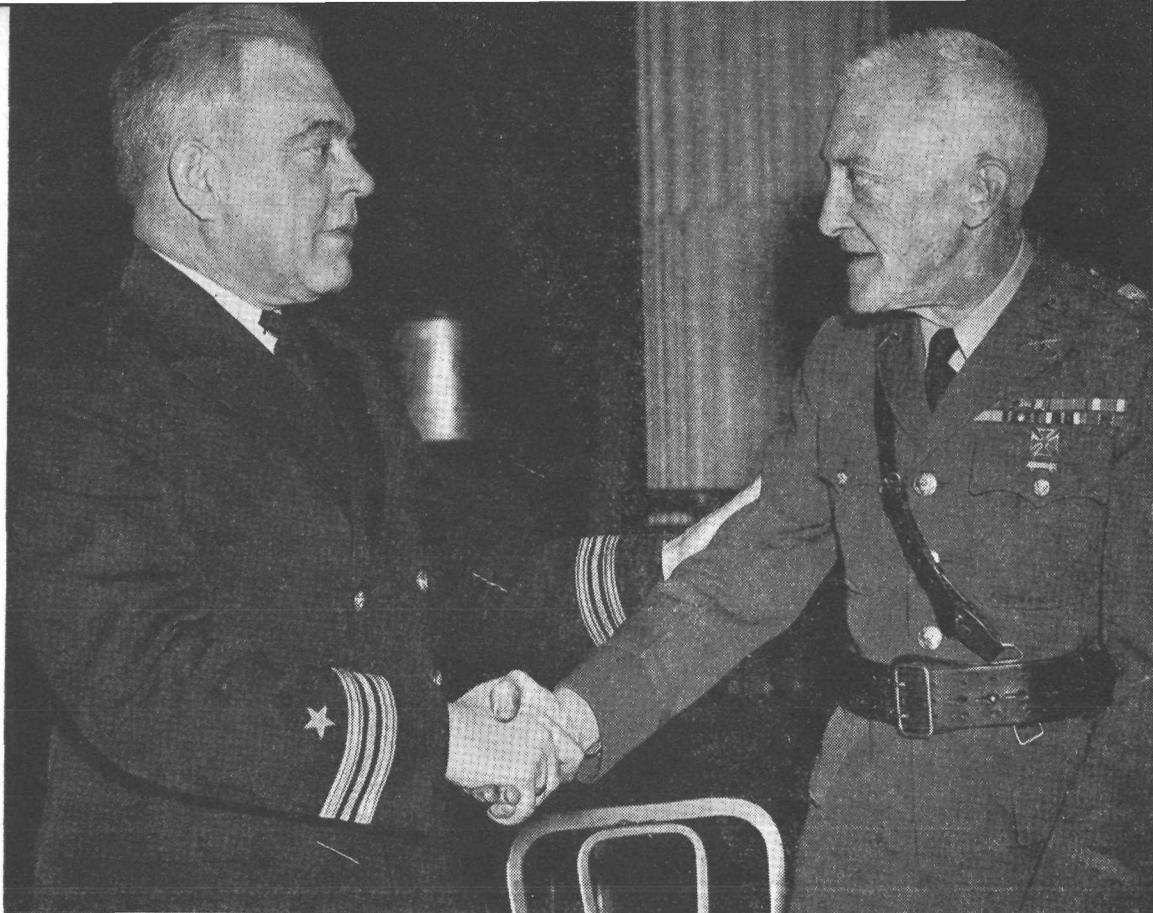
# HOTEL SYRACUSE

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SYRACUSE, N. Y.

# 1939 Convention National Guard Association, S. N. Y.

By Lieut. Col. Wm. J. Mangine,  
Q. M. C., S. S.



Lieutenant Commander John M. Gill, new president, is congratulated by Colonel William R. Jackson, retiring president.

**M**ORE than 500 officers of the New York National Guard and Naval Militia from all parts of the State mixed business with pleasure at the annual convention of the New York National Guard Association at Syracuse January 20 and 21—and departed much the richer in ideas and pleasant memories as the result of the sessions.

The business—serious business, in relation to the defensive needs and requirements of the United States and the manner in which the New York National Guard is going about meeting their share of these requirements—was presented to the officers during the business sessions by the foremost military and naval authorities of this section of the country.

The pleasure—oh, well, if you weren't there, we confess our inability to paint an adequate picture in your minds of the good fellowship that radiated from the thirty-odd "P.C.'s" that were established throughout the hotel. A description of the annual dinner Friday night is impossible on paper, for the mere black and white of words could never describe the color and brilliance of the beautiful ballroom with its red, white and blue trimmings, and the contrast of the numerous dress uniforms of the officers.

Principal speakers at the dinner

were Maj. Gen. Hugh A. Drum, Commanding General of the Second Corps Area, and Lieut. Gov. Charles Poletti. Col. William R. Jackson, of the 14th Infantry, Brooklyn, president of the association, presided as toastmaster.

General Drum, in his address, told of having followed the life, changes and progress of the New York National Guard with keen interest and admiration. "The older officers of the Guard," he said, "have witnessed many changes in its organization, equipment and efficiency since the days prior to the Spanish-American War. In many respects, those of you who know these conditions must marvel at the improvements along these lines. The general efficiency, the type and kind of personnel, the armament and equipment, as well as the spirit of self-sacrifice in meeting the demands of service, have reached standards far superior to those of the past. May I congratulate Generals Haskell and Robinson, and through them, the officers and enlisted men of the Guard on their exceptional improvement. Returning after many years in foreign and other posts, I can probably perceive better than you, the striking advance accomplished under the leadership and direction of these outstanding officers. The New York National Guard is indeed fortunate in hav-

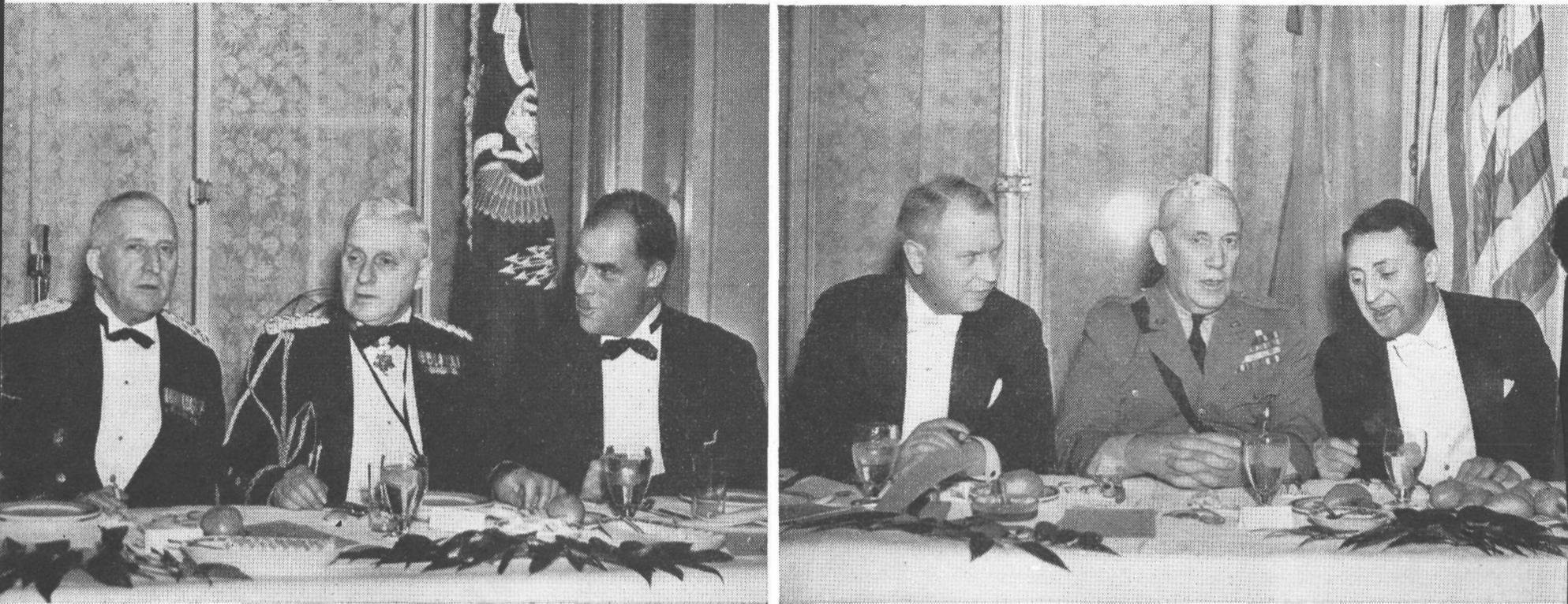
ing such able directors at its head."

Discussing the changed status of the National Guard during the last several years, General Drum pointed out that:

"The National Guard is now the major element in the nation's initial protective plan. I am sure you realize the far reaching significance of this changed status. The mission imposes upon you the obligation of being ready, with little or no advance notice, to take your place in the forefront of the first battles in protection of the nation. This recently acquired role of the National Guard has added burdens as well as prestige and under the world situation of today, I am sure you fully appreciate the responsibilities associated with this role. Your American spirit, your deep patriotism and your self sacrifice, as evidenced by your voluntarily serving in the Guard, guarantee that these new responsibilities will be cheerfully accepted and successfully met by you. They demand special and greater effort, which I know you will make willingly."

Lieutenant Governor Poletti, in opening his address at the dinner, expressed the sincere regrets of Gov. Herbert H. Lehman at the latter's inability to be present.

"I know about the sacrifices that your officers and men are making every day in carrying out their military duties, sacrifices which, at



Major General Drum, Brigadier General Robinson, Commissioner L. Osborne, Former Lieut. Gov. Bray, Major General Haskell, Lieut. Gov. Poletti

times, work to the detriment of their civil pursuits," Mr. Poletti said. "I am sure, however," he added, "that the sacrifices are not made in vain. The people of the State cannot but be grateful for the splendid body of men which stands ready at all times to defend the security of their homes and their persons.

"I share that feeling. I intend to make it a part of my official duties to learn more about the National Guard and the Naval Militia so that I shall be better able to understand your needs and requirements and better able to render what assistance I can from the State Capitol at Albany."

Mr. Poletti pledged his efforts as lieutenant governor in aid of the purpose of the National Guard in supporting the government and in

the preservation of peace by the maintenance of law and order.

"Recent events throughout the world," he said, "have disclosed numerous methods which different kinds of governments adopt to maintain law and order. I think I express the profound sentiments of every person in this room when I say that the American way to maintain law and order is through preserving and strengthening our democratic government; and that the most effective way of preserving peace is through the construction and maintenance of an adequate defense.

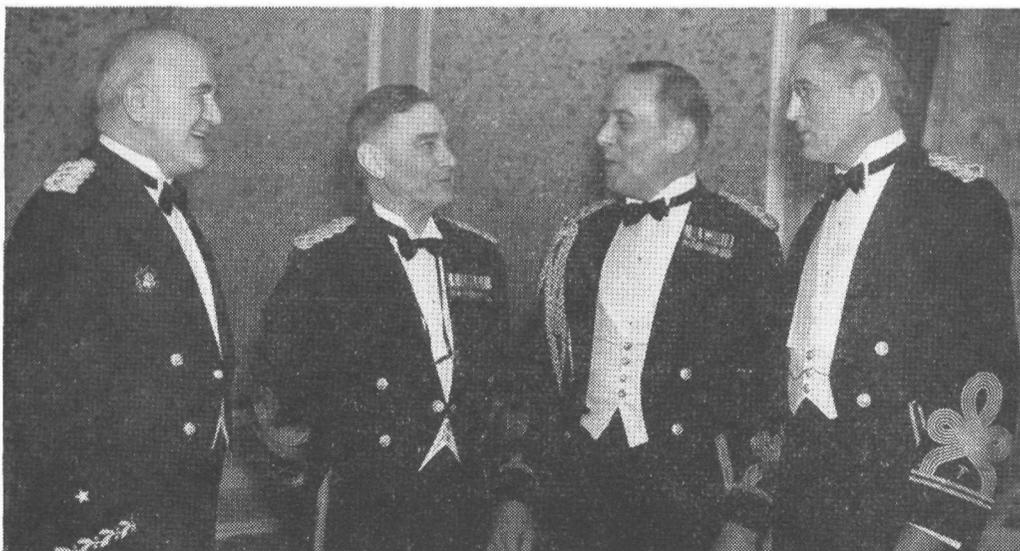
"On many occasions I have voiced my profound conviction that American democracy must stand firm in refusing every invitation to oppression and intolerance; that American democracy

must maintain an unalterable regard for the civil and religious liberties that are the hallmarks of a free people. In combating the alien doctrines that seek to destroy America from within, those principles are our strongest defense. We must similarly fortify ourselves to resist attacks from without. We need to strengthen not only our spiritual but our physical defenses as well, our army and our navy, against the dangers inherent in dictatorial government.

"To preserve law and order and to maintain peace, we in America neither need nor want the compulsion of a dictator. But what we do need and what we do want are an adequate physical defense and the firm conviction that in preserving American democracy and in fighting for social justice, we are preserving our surest guarantee of peace and freedom."

Former Lieut. Gov. M. William Bray, long an outstanding friend of the association, was present for the banquet and reception, and spoke briefly during the after dinner program, complimenting the New York National Guard as being

(Continued on page 16)

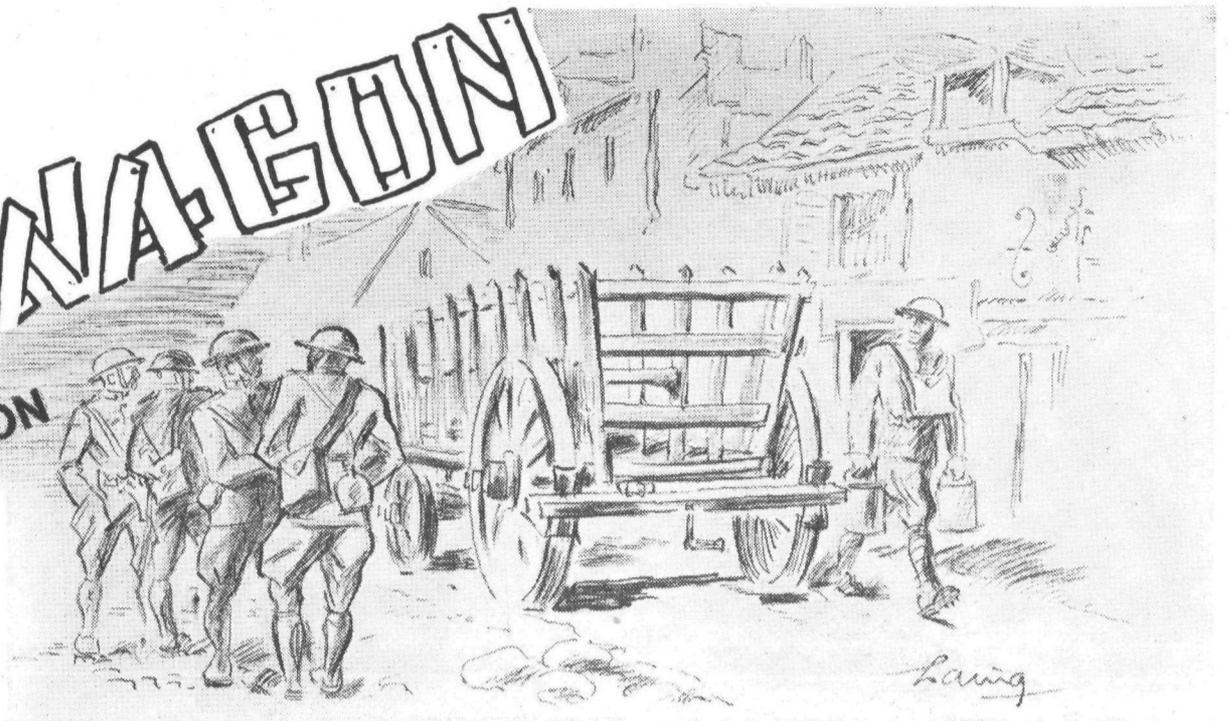


Left to Right: Brigadier General Phillipson, U.S.A., Colonel Herbst, U.S.A., Colonel Brown, Colonel Snyder, U.S.A.

# THE SLAT WAGON

by LEONARD H. NASON

Author of  
"Eagles Eastward"  
"Among the Trumpets"  
"Three Lights from a Match,"  
etc.



## PART I

"MAKE up your packs," called the first sergeant, stalking down the road among the trees. "The outfit moves forward at daybreak."

A wild hum of comment rose from the underbrush. Men stood up and looked at each other in consternation.

"What was that?"

"Make up your packs!"

"What will we make 'em up with?"

"Move forward!"

"How come, forward? Them G. I. cans fall close enough right here."

The top kick came to a group of men clustered about the rolling kitchen, peeling potatoes for the morrow—four of them, the goldbrick squad. If they had been congressmen, they would have formed an agricultural block or something of the kind. Work was foreign to their nature, they had no fixed place in the battery. Odd jobs, digging officers' dugouts, working in the kitchen, taking care of the few horses, helping the mechanics, and in between times crabbing and rawhiding. What a gang! "Belt" Haynes, the "Funnyman," "Dish-Face" Sloyd, and "Goose" Mott. They solemnly peeled spuds, unshaven and unshorn.

Unto them came the first sergeant.

"You men," said he, grandly, "will load up the slat wagon, and have the care av it, and march behind it whiles we play hide-and-seek with Fritz up beyant the river-bank. 'Tis mostly ammunition we'll carry on it, and officers' bedding. An' you, Goose, Mott, av I find anything gone at the small av the day, I'll have your black soul flutterin' at hell's gate, within the half hour."

This referred to a time when Goose had bartered half a dozen bath towels removed from a lieutenant's suitcase for a large quantity of liquor, with which the whole kitchen detail, mess sergeant, cooks, and all had got drunk. Officers of artillery did carry suitcases and had bath towels, at least at that stage of the game, for the outfit had but newly arrived at the front and,

judging from the fact that none of them were out at seat, knee or elbow, had not been thereon for more than a week or so.

"That won't be a bad job," said Belt, after the top had gone. "I hate to march with the column. The wagons will be at the tail end and if anything starts, the ditch for us. No horses to hold, and no non-competent officers to bother us."

"An' we can fall out and get a drink whenever we want to," said Funnyman.

"Do you realize, you simple idiot, that you are now at the front, and that there is not a drink parlor on every corner?" asked Goose bitterly.

"Well, we can fall out, anyway," said Belt. "What's the diff?"

This battery had sustained, during the past week, a continuous bombardment. A counter attack by the French and American forces at Soissons had relieved the pressure on their front, and the forward movement was the result. The limbers came up from Grand Forest as soon as nightfall made it safe to travel, and the goldbrick gang were kept awake a good part of the night by the raging of the drivers, as they stumbled around in the darkness, trying to unhitch and tie their nervous charges. With good foresight, they had moved their tarpaulin from its usual resting-place quite a distance into the woods, so that the mess sergeant, awake at 2 a.m., and hunting them with crimson language, was unable to find them. The cook had to split his own wood and light his own fire.

"I'd just like fo' to get my two paws on that there Sloyd fo' jus' one little ole minute, I'd sure frail him till his old face was flatter than it is now!"

The cook was a tar heel, yclept Conrad, and known as "Cracker" Conrad. He could neither read nor write, and upon being asked by the chief of the Third Field Artillery Brigade as to the whereabouts of his gas mask, had produced a rabbit's foot from his pocket. He could, however, camouflage corned willie and canned hash until the worst chow-hound in the outfit

could not say whether it was fresh beef or not. Hence, he was above rubies.

"How is breakfast coming, Conrad?" Thus the Old Man, the captain. An old-timer, he, who had won his commission before the war, after long service in the ranks. No camouflage deceived him. He knew all the tricks, having employed them himself in bygone days. Conrad straightened up painfully.

"Captain, suh, the K.P.'s is A.W.O. Loose. I kain't find 'em nowhere. That there Belt and Goose Mott ain't wuth a damn no how."

"Well, we'll see if we can find them for you," and he turned off into the woods.

At that time, a battery of field artillery had plenty of wheeled transportation. Two fourgons, small covered wagons, one used as the battery office, the other for the observers and instrument detail to figure firing-data in, and a huge van known as a slat wagon. This last was drawn by four to six horses, driven from the saddle like gun teams. It had two tiny front wheels, supposed to give it a small turning radius, but the disadvantage of those wheels more than offset any help they gave in turning. This wagon had sides of slats, hence its name, and was always loaded far beyond its capacity. It was equipped with a brake that wound up by a worm and wheel gear. By the time the lone man on the seat had wound up the brake the need of it was past. The three drivers and all within hearing would then arm themselves with crow-bars and release the brake, after considerable language.

The slat wagon of the battery in question had been drawn into the woods and covered with boughs for concealment from hostile aircraft. The captain found two men industriously working about it, removing the leaves and branches, re-fastening the spare pole, and giving the appearance of intense labor.

"Why aren't you at the kitchen, Haynes?"

"Sir, the first sergeant told us to load up the slat wagon, and we are getting it ready."

"How long have you been working at it?"

"Oh, quite a while, sir."

If it had been lighter, the two men might have seen the captain's mouth twitch. Both Haynes and Funnyman were in their stocking feet. And then a fresh voice broke in, rather distant, yet clearly audible.

"Aw, lemme alone, Goose, I ain't gonna get up yet. We come out here so we wouldn't have to get up." A murmur of another voice. "T' hell with the Old Man! He and that shavey are still poundin' their ear. Catch them gettin' up before daylight."

The two by the fourgon were frozen to their hearts' innermost chamber. Horror dripped from them. There was a silence that shrieked. The Old Man fought inwardly for self-control. The sight of those two pitiful figures by the slat wagon would have made a brigadier laugh.

"Get Mott and Sployd and report to the cook," said

the captain at last, and he went off to get the gunners up.

The four went sadly off to the kitchen and the Cracker's wrath.

"One more bonehead play like that," said Goose, "and I told you very clearly and distinctly that the captain was around looking for trouble, and the whole works will be sent back to the echelon."

Goose, perhaps I should have said before, was a college man, who had been cast ignominiously from Plattsburgh for climbing upon the stage and dancing with the actresses at a burlesque show. At once he had enlisted, but a life of ease does not fit one for the rigors of a soldier's life in the regular army. Hence, private Mott's ultimate end in the kitchen.

"I don't crave no echelon," said Funnyman, "standin' formations and workin' like a slave all day. An' the Dutch raid the hell out o' that place every night, too."

"You an' me, both," agreed the other two. "Shells is bad enough, but when one o' them birds gets layin' great big eggs around, I want to be somewhere else."

Breakfast in the dark. The whole outfit sitting around, making merry over bacon and syrup, a slice of hard French army bread, and a cup of black coffee. These men could have eaten nails and enjoyed them. No house dweller ever knows the raging appetite of the outdoor man, his tissues wasted from a night-long battle with the cold. The goldbrick gang were employed in loading the slat wagon, carrying cases of ammunition from a pile in the underbrush. They were unfed and bruised in spirit. The battery was unsympathetic. When the task of loading was at last completed, it was a sad party of four that grouped themselves about the wagon, eating hastily-made sandwiches of bacon. When the wagon pulled out, a drawing of straws decided that Belt should ride the seat and have charge of the brake, and that Goose



Mott should crawl under the tarpaulin, safe from prying eyes, and sleep. In this manner the slat wagon took up the march, trailing in the rear of the battery. Down the long hill they went, to the road that leads into Chateau Thierry. The sky had turned to a rosy hue, but the sun's rays had not yet reached over the eastern hills. Far, far up in the cloudless sky appeared a silver dot, like a tiny moth. Upraised arms began to point this out. Speculation was rife.

"It's a boche."

"Ain't either. If it was, the anti-aircraft would be shootin' him up by now."

"The anti-aircraft are movin' up the same as we are."

The moth grew suddenly larger. The column halted in consternation. A loud command from the head. "Under cover, men!" The moth no longer looked like anything but an airplane—except perhaps a swooping hawk, and it was coming nearer at terrific speed. Near the road was a patch of woods, and longing eyes began to look in that direction. The swoop ended. At the head of the column there was a sound like a bundle of firecrackers and shouts. The column left horses, guns and wagons, and made for the woods. Some laughed. A thousand men doing a fifty yard dash is an amusing sight.

Something awakened Goose Mott where he slept peacefully beneath the tarpaulin. He lay for a moment trying to place himself. The wagon had stopped, but he heard no voice, no sound but a loud humming. Startled, he threw off the tarp and stood up. Directly over him, and turning and darting like a fish, was a German plane. He could see the thick square cross on its underwings, not at all like the cross that he had believed the German planes wore. Also he saw that he was entirely alone. His eye fell on the machine gun resting on the pile of boxes. A chance at last to show his worth, to bring down this plane when all had fled! Floundering over the load, he reached the gun, pulled back the lever, and turned loose on the German. The clip ran through with a soul-stirring clatter. With trembling fingers, he inserted another. The boche fired another burst, went into a side slip, and then flew up the valley, flying low, and paying no attention to the machine gun fire that was beginning to be brought to bear on him from every angle.

Slowly the artillerymen came back from the woods, and the column started again.

"Who did the shootin' from the slat wagon?"

"Goose Mott, he stuck by the gun and drove off the Jerry."

"Good for you, Goose, good stuff."

Comment and congratulations from all sides. Goose, enthroned by the gun, made no remark. His mind was on a future day, the regiment at salute, and "Black Jack" pinning the D.S.C. on his breast.

A motorcycle and side car barked along the side of the road. The major of the first battalion unwound

his long frame from the little side car and stepped out.

"Who fired that machine gun?" said he.

Men dropped back from the telephone detail to hear, and the drivers of the battery next in rear urged their horses forward to get all that was going on.

"I, sir," said Goose, standing as straight as the bumping wagon would allow.

"Come down here." He went down.

"D'you see that balloon?"

He pointed far up the valley, to where a kite balloon could be dimly seen, far over on the French sector, like a jelly bean in the morning mist.

"Yes, sir."

"Well, why don't you try to bring that down? Why don't you fire a couple of clips at that? D'you think you are in a wild west show, or what? You shot away as much money as you get in two months. You're under arrest!"

The side car barked on its way.

Much mirth from the drivers and telephone men.

"You'll get the Croddagerr, all right, Goose."

"Now will yuh do it again?"

"By gosh," said Goose, "I wouldn't touch that gun if the whole German army came down the road, and every one in the division from the general down was begging me on his hands and knees," and he crawled under the tarp again and composed himself for a sleep. Alas, sleep was not for him. He could hear quite plainly the telling of the tale of his downfall. Men kept dropping back all the time to find out what happened, and after Dish Face and the Funnyman had gleefully related the details, with more and more additions each time, to some fifteen or twenty different hearers, poor Goose could stand it no longer. He appeared and joined the other three at the tail of the wagon. The machine gun bobbed serenely above their heads.

*(To be Continued)*

## PEEKSKILL HORSE SHOW

THE Eighth Annual Horse Show conducted by the Service Battery, 156th Field Artillery, at its armory in Peekskill for the benefit of the American Red Cross attracted a record number of entries and despite unfavorable weather, was exceptionally well attended.

The show was preceded by the annual Horse Show Ball held at the armory and hundreds of enthusiasts braved the storm to attend.

The New York National Guard was well represented; Captain C. H. Forbush, Commanding Service Battery, being President of the Show, and Mrs. A. D. Reutershan, wife of Lieut. Colonel Reutershan of the 27th Division Staff being Chairman of the Red Cross Committee. Colonel Thiede of the 156th Field Artillery attended as did many other officers and the music was furnished by the 156th Field Artillery Band.

# Marksmanship with the Browning Automatic Rifle

*Editor's Note: As orders have been issued to modify the Browning Automatic Rifle to include the bipod rest and the hinged butt plate and as the course prescribed for qualification with this weapon by BFM, Vol. III, Part I, Rifle Company, Chapter 2A, will be fired at Camp Smith this summer, it is believed that the following reprints from the Infantry Journal of November-December 1936 and January-February 1937 will be of interest to members of the New York National Guard.*

NOT the least of the problems resulting from mechanization and motorization is that of firing on and hitting targets that are moving. It is quite probable that all units in the field will be called upon at some time or other to fire on this type of target. Anti-tank units are not the only units that need moving-target training. Riflemen and machine gunners in an advance guard should be able to go quickly into action and secure effective fire distribution against fast moving scouting and reconnaissance vehicles.

This article will be limited in its scope to the construction of a range and target on which moving-target firing can be accomplished. No technique of fire or methods of fire distribution will be undertaken.

The range lay-out as shown in figure No. 1 has been used by the Department of Experiment for the past year with excellent results. It will be noted that two firing points are indicated—a close-range firing point for the first steps in training and mid-range firing point, when training has progressed to a point where satisfactory results are being obtained at close range. Where the range and time are available a third firing point for long-range firing might well be included. It will be noted that Course No. 1 is a simple passing course to give initial training on the simplest type of moving target. Course No. 2 presents two changes in direction. However, this course can be modified to conform to almost any desired pattern.

Figure No. 2 shows a more complicated set-up on the same range as shown in figure No. 1. Here we have three targets, the last two appearing after the first target has been in sight for any predetermined

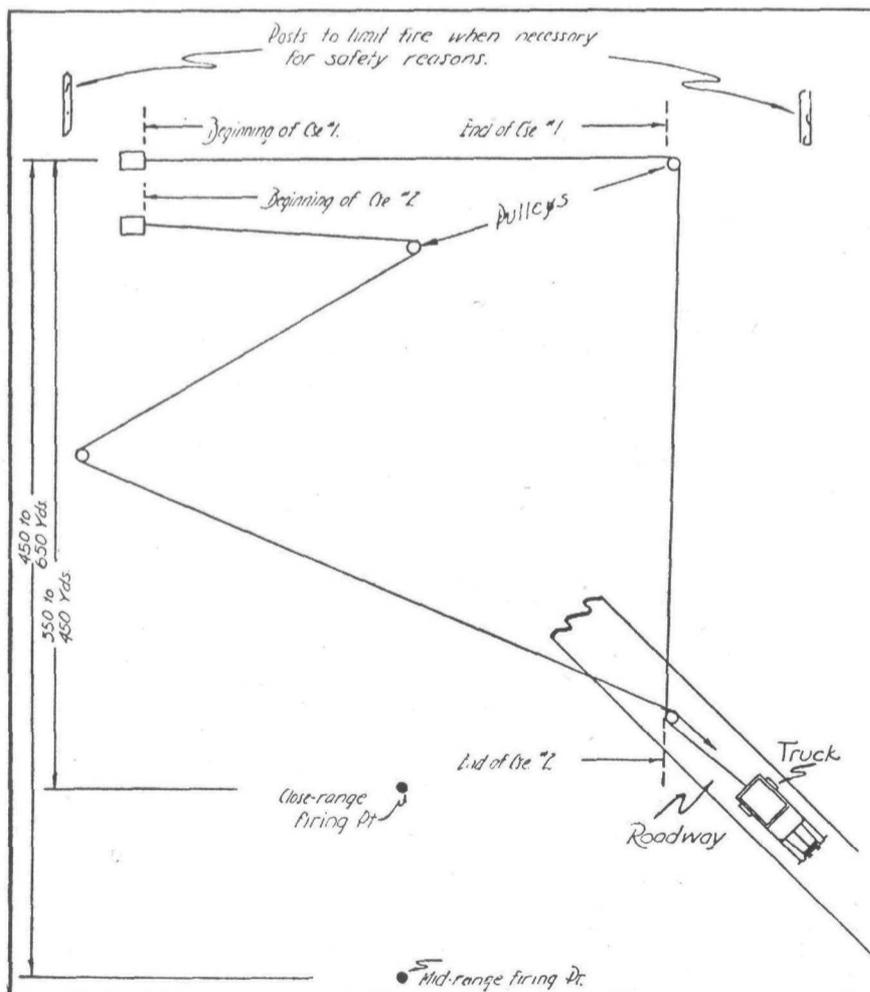


Fig. 1. Range layout—Simple passing course.

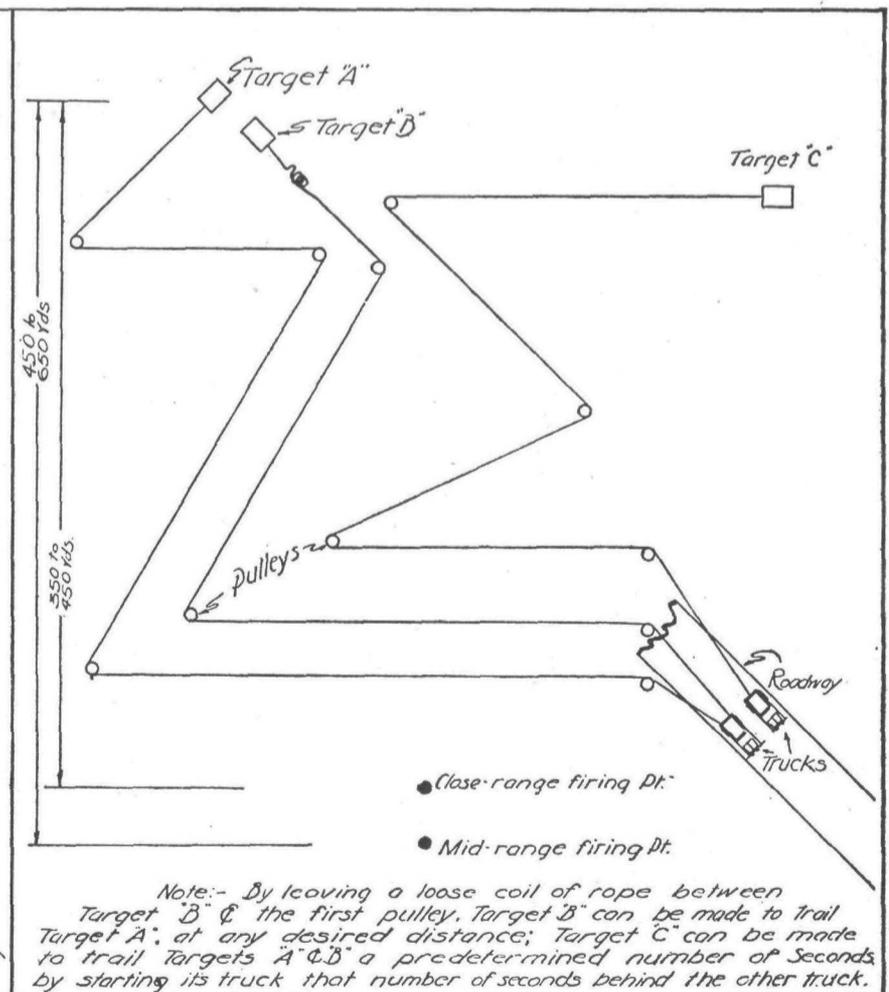


Fig. 2. Range layout—Two changes of direction.

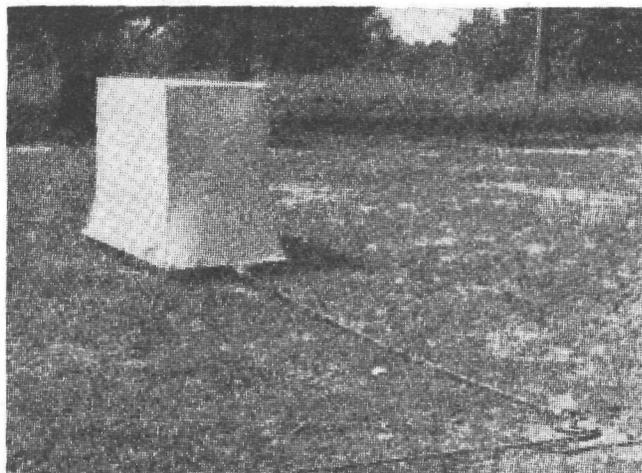


Fig. 3. Sled target and pulley.

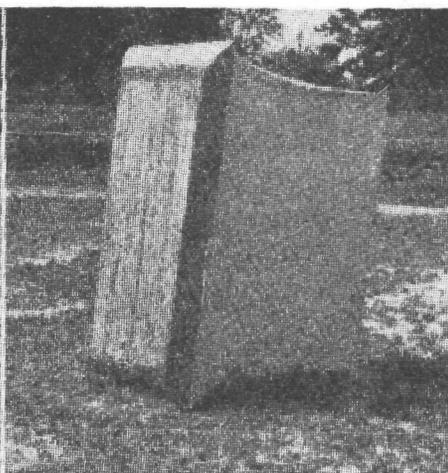


Fig. 4. Bottom Construction of sled.

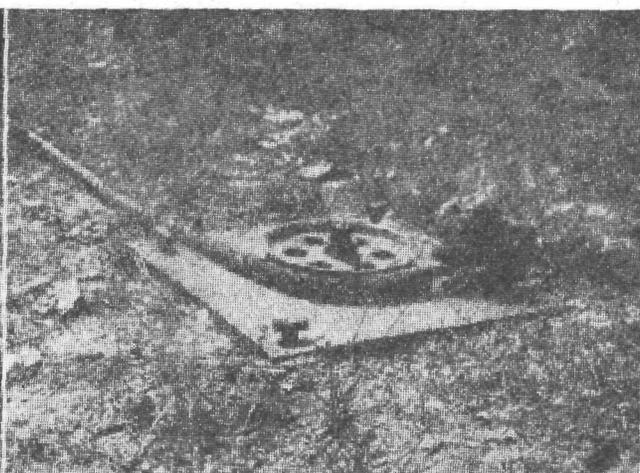


Fig. 5. Pulley showing use of knot.

number of seconds. As indicated for Course No. 2, shown in figure No. 1, the course of the targets shown in figure No. 2 can be varied in an infinite number of patterns.

Figure No. 3 shows the sled, target and pulley arrangement which has been found to be most satisfactory for practical use. This target is two feet wide, three feet high, and five feet long. The target cloth is placed over a well braced frame of 1" x 1" and 1" x 2" wooden strips. Metal laths, while stronger than wood stripping, are not considered desirable due to the danger from ricochet. Figure No. 4 shows the bottom construction of the sled on which the target is erected.

It will be noted that in figure No. 2 that the towing rope passes around the pulley sheave. Care should be taken that the rope does not pass against the pins which hold the sheave plate in place. In order to prevent the target from bumping into the pulley a large knot is tied in the towing rope about 18 feet ahead of the target. This knot is clearly shown in figure No. 5. As the knot comes to the pulley the rope is forced out of the sheave and allows the target to take a new course. Figure No. 6 gives the detailed plans of the pulley sheave, and the sheave plate.

With this type of equipment the Department of Experiment has had excellent results in towing targets up to speeds of 30 miles per hour. One precaution which must be taken in towing targets at speeds

of over 10 miles per hour, is that the ground over which the targets will pass must be free from rocks, roots or hummocks of grass. It has been found that if such obstructions are left in the ground that the bottom of the sled will be broken up or that the sled will be overturned, in which case the entire target structure is generally wrecked beyond repair.

II

**A** MARKSMANSHIP course for the Browning automatic rifle equipped with bipod and hinged butt plate has been service-tested, with satisfactory results in teaching men to utilize full automatic fire. It was found that a training course must include a reasonable amount of actual firing, because the ability to use the full automatic fire cannot be developed by the explanation-demonstration method alone.

Figure 7 shows the target used at 1,000 inches. The target illustrated shows the results obtained by an expert gunner in a demonstration. The following procedure is used with this target:

The gunner, in the prone position, fires five shots, semi-automatic, at scoring space No. 1. He fires five shots, semi-automatic, from the kneeling position with the hasty sling, at scoring space No. 2. Five shots, full automatic, are fired at No. 5; and fifteen shots, in three bursts of five shots each, are fired at No. 6. Using two magazines loaded with ten rounds each, the gunner traverses from No. 3 to No. 4, endeavor-

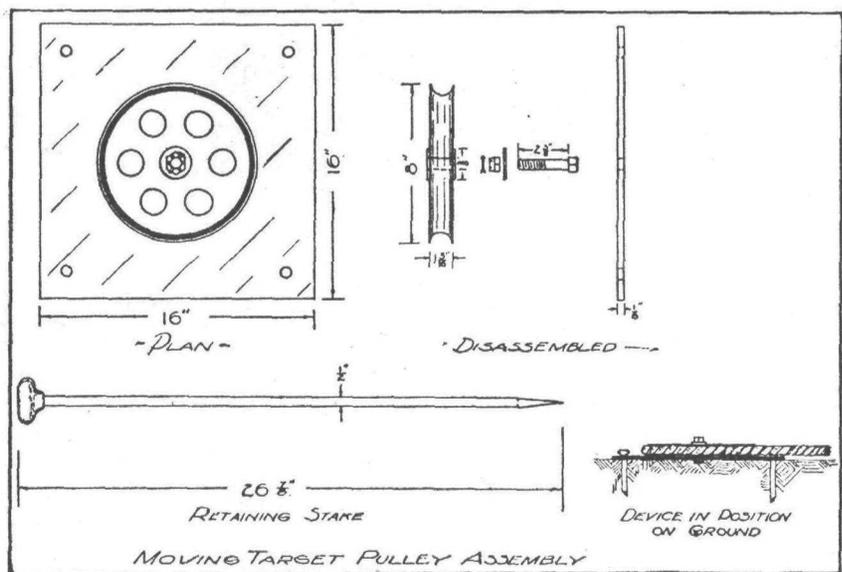


Fig. 6. Details of pulley.

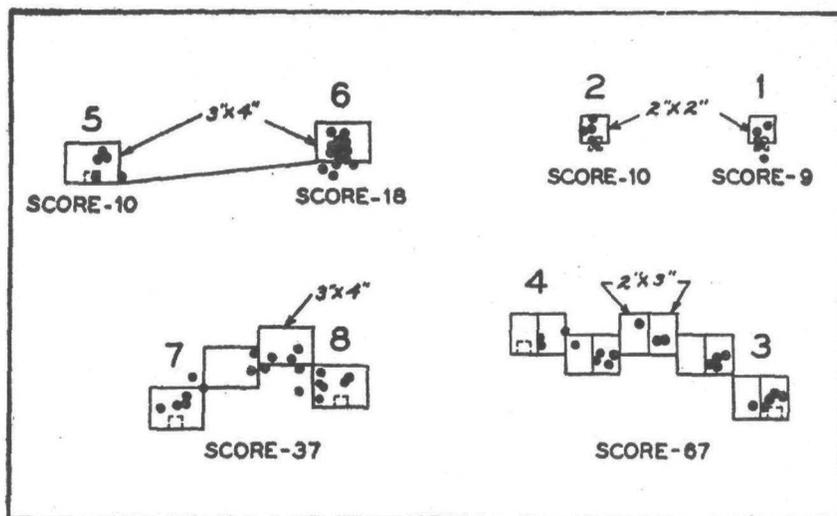


Fig. 7. Results at 1,000".

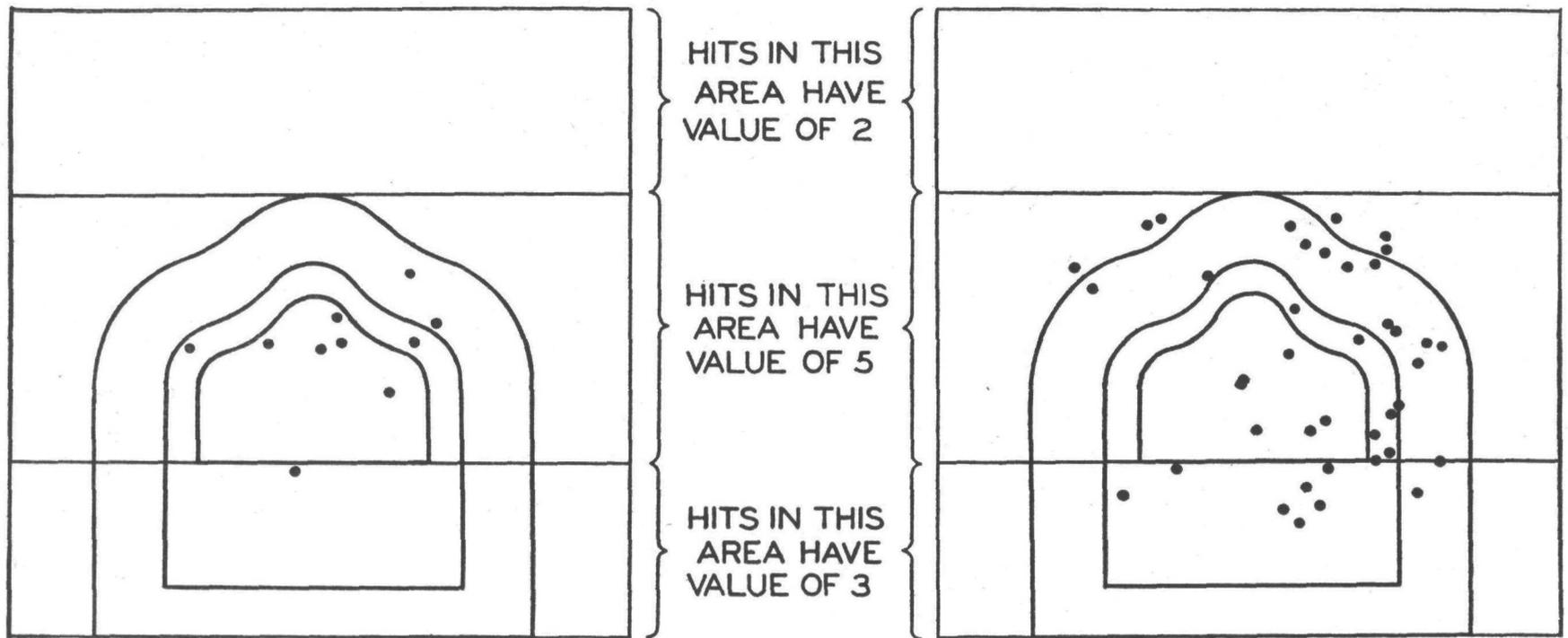


Fig. 8.

ing to place two shots in each of the two scoring spaces in fifty seconds, using semi-automatic fire. Then, starting with a magazine load of twenty rounds, he traverses from No. 7 to No. 8, firing five shots at each of the four scoring spaces, with automatic fire. He must complete this within twenty seconds.

Figure 8 shows two five-shot bursts and eight five-shot bursts fired automatically at a range of 300 yards. The latter bursts clearly show the possibility of sustained fire with this weapon at mid-ranges. The eight bursts were fired in forty-eight seconds, changing magazines after each five-round burst. An assistant gunner was not used. If full twenty-round magazines and an assistant had been used, the eight magazines (160 rounds) could have been fired in fifty-six seconds.

Following the training on stationary targets, a moving target was used—that shown in the November-December number of *The Infantry Journal*. The target moved at speeds of ten to twenty miles an hour and at a range of 600 yards. The weapon was fired automatically, in bursts of four to six rounds. With not more than an hour of dry shooting, the gunners scored 26% hits.

A model tank target was also used. This is shown in Figure 9. Men without training in the marksmanship course designed for the weapon, scored 11% hits on this target at 600 yards using automatic fire in bursts of three to eight rounds.

In combat tests with this weapon the gunners at 400 yards scored 15% hits on 75 kneeling silhouettes, spaced a yard apart. This, in spite of the fact that the targets were invisible to the gunners. These men had been trained, however, in the use of automatic fire.

Against visible targets representing a section column at 800 yards range, twelve gunners fired twelve rounds each, and scored 33% hits in five seconds of firing.

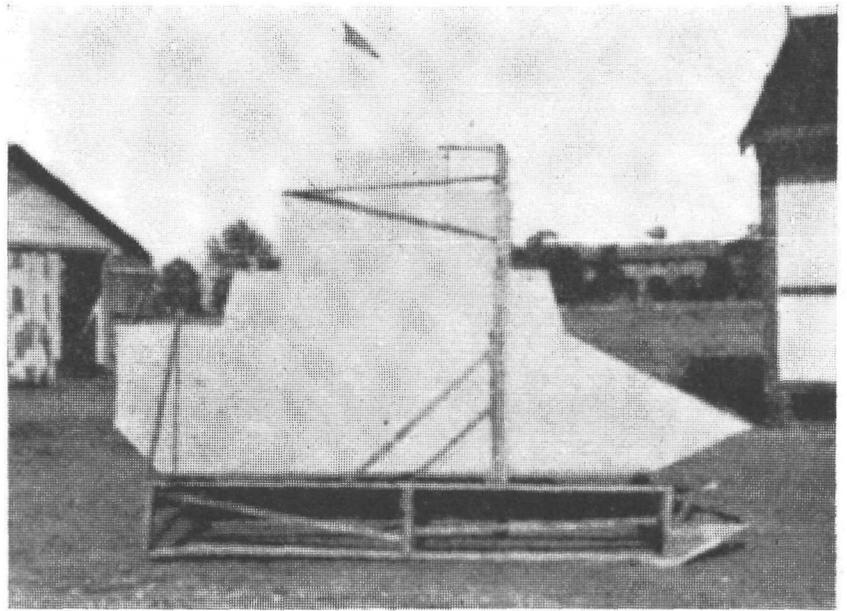
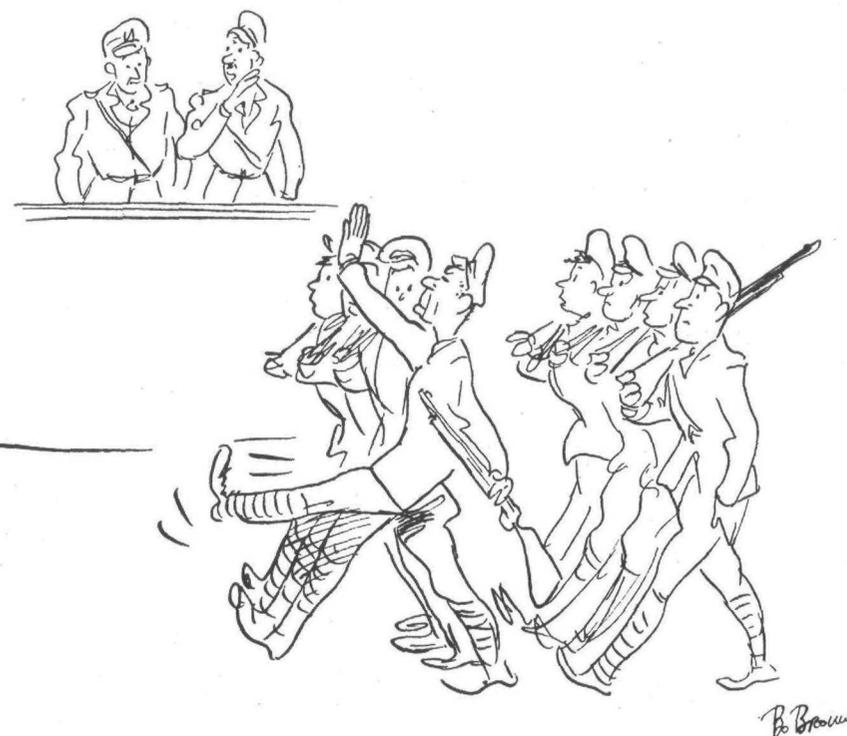


Fig. 9. Tank target.



"We haven't been able to figure out Private Dorffberg"

# Changes in Machine Gun Marksmanship

by Major Hugh Mayberry

(Ed. Note: Of particular interest to the Machine Gun Companies was the issuance recently of a new basic field manual (Volume III, Part 3) on machine gun marksmanship. The following article presents some observations on the changes made in the new manual. The author, Major Mayberry, was The Regular Army Instructor assigned to the 14th Inf. from 1927 to 1931 and is now an instructor at the Infantry School, Ft. Benning, Ga. This article is reprinted by courtesy of "The Red Legged Devil.")

THE opinions and statements which follow are purely personal statements and opinions and are not to be construed as official opinions and statements emanating from the Infantry School. So far as I am able to determine, neither the Chief of Infantry nor the Infantry School have officially published reasons for the changes in machine gun marksmanship. However, it must be realized that such changes have been made only after years of study and months of experiment with troops in the field.

In the first place it must be borne in mind that all machine-gun marksmanship has just one purpose. That purpose is to develop competent *machine gunners in the field*; men who can fire at unknown ranges and can hit the target. Of course I realize that every company commander wants to qualify every man he possibly can (for record purposes) on the 500-inch range. However, the company commander must not lose sight of the fact that a competent gunner *in the field* is more desirable than an expert gunner on the 500-inch course.

In the old machine-gun marksmanship course many artificialities were developed. I have long contended that the old 1000-inch course was not worth a hoot from the standpoint of developing a competent machine gunner. If you will read the last half of paragraph 93 of Vol. III, Part Three, Basic Field Manual (1938), and notice such statements as: "constructing ranges with special reference to light conditions . . . the use of

screens or shades or other devices," you will immediately become aware of the fact that much artificiality had been developed in the conduct of the 1000-inch course. Now we all are guilty of having developed artificial means and methods in the conduct of the 1000-inch course *in order that we qualify as many men as possible on that course*. But in *qualifying* those men on the 1000-inch course, have we been developing machine gunners?

Now to return to a discussion of machine-gun marksmanship as laid down in Part Three, Volume III, Basic Field Manual, 1938. Principally there is described in Chapter 2 of that manual the (1) Preparatory exercises, (2) 1000-inch (or 500-inch) course to be fired, (3) Conduct of range practice, (4) Rules governing record practice, (5) *Long range observation and adjustment practice*.

The details of the 1000-inch (500-inch) course are greatly influenced by a revision of the third fundamental of marksmanship and by the substitution of a single 1000-inch (500-inch) target for the six targets used in the old course.

The *fundamentals* of marksmanship (see paragraph 61, page 46, BFM) of the new course are the same as those of the old course except the third. As you will remember the third fundamental of the old course was: "Observation of fire and the adjustment of fire from observation." This fundamental has been changed to read: "Adjustment of fire by the following methods:

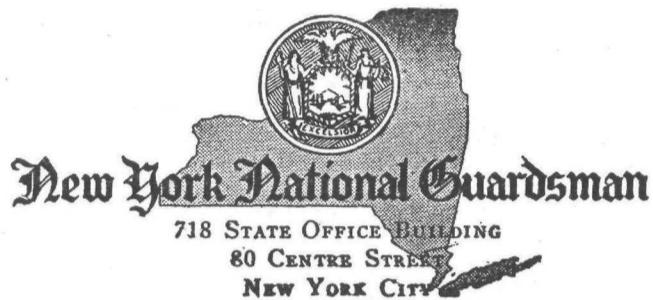
- a. Observation of strike.
- b. Observation of the flight of tracer bullets.
- c. Frequent relaying of the gun during firing."

The fundamental as stated in the old course includes observation of fire or strike and adjustment by

that means but does not include adjustment by frequent relaying of the gun nor by the observation of the flight of tracer bullets. All the adjustment of fire on the old 1000-inch course was by observation of strike. In the new course the gunner, using his sights, adjusts his fire by a frequent relaying of the gun on an aiming point or line. He does not adjust by means of observation of the location of the shot holes and, obviously, he cannot adjust by the use of tracer ammunition at 1000 or 500 inches. As I have indicated in a previous paragraph of this article, practice in the adjustment of fire by observation of strike and by observation of tracer bullets, is prescribed for long-distance range work and is treated separately from the 1000-inch (500-inch) practice part of the course (see Section VIII page 89, Part Three, Volume III, BFM, 1938).

The reason for the change just described is that observation of a shot group on a vertical intercept at either 500 or 1000 inches has no relation to the observation of the interception of the cone of fire on the ground in the field. For instance, on the 1000-inch target if the shot group is observed to be centered astride the upper boundary line of the scoring space, the gunner depresses the gun one mil, since at the 1000-inch range a change of one mil in elevation at the gun changes the center of impact once inch at the target. *In the field*, if on level ground, a change of one mil in elevation at the gun changes the center of impact of the beaten zone about 80 yards at a range of 500 yards; 40 yards at a range of 1000 yards; etc. From this it will be seen that not only does the gunner receive no practical instruction in the *adjust-*

(Continued on page 21)



**"For the propagation of one policy and only one:  
'Better Guardsmanship and Better Citizenship!'"**

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### CIVIL ASSOCIATIONS AND PAY CHECKS

ALTHOUGH there have been but few stoppages arising from alleged irregularities in connection with Federal pay checks in the New York National Guard, certain well established methods for obtaining prompt payment of debts of enlisted men to their organizations, civil or military, have been brought into question by the publication of Bulletin No. 3, A.G.O., N. Y., of July 27, 1938, and it is believed that a statement as to a practical and legal method of handling this problem will be welcomed by all concerned. The Bulletin in question cites certain irregularities, (not necessarily in the New York National Guard) which have been reported by the U. S. Comptroller General, and it is apparent that the following should not be done:

1. Enlisted men should not indorse their pay checks to a company officer.

2. No company officer should advance money to enlisted men, the repayment of which is guaranteed by indorsement or hypothecation of pay checks as collateral.

3. No officer should, in order to encourage attendance, advance cash to enlisted men at weekly drills or secure powers of attorney from them in order that the drill pay checks may be retained and indorsed in case they fail to make voluntary repayment of such advances.

4. No officer should make loans to the men or assume the liability for purchases of the men, receiving payment therefor from their pay checks when received and refunding the difference between the amount of the pay check and the amount of the debt by personal check or in cash.

5. No officer should subscribe to or guarantee payments for obligations contracted by enlisted men.

It is stated that the requiring of the payee's in-

dorsement on a check or use of power of attorney and withholding the amount thereof from him for delivery to creditors, amounts to a voluntary assignment or to an instrument in the nature of an attachment, both of which are prohibited by the Revised Statutes U. S. A.

Debts of enlisted men to their organizations commonly arise from the following causes :

- a. Loans from the civil associations.
- b. Dues of civil associations.
- c. Installment payments for dress or special uniforms, not of issue, which are originally purchased by the company or regiment and supplied to the individual.
- d. Expenditures of the civil associations for entertainments, etc., which have been authorized by vote of the associations.
- e. Canteen checks for small purchases from the company or regimental canteen or restaurant.
- f. Summary Court Martial fines.

The great majority of enlisted men ordinarily have not sufficient funds at hand to make regular payments on these debts except at the time of the receipt of their quarterly drill pay checks. To meet this situation it has been customary in many organizations to have a man, at time of enlistment, sign a paper in more or less the following form:

"As a member of Company \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_th Infantry, I agree to abide by the following regimental and company customs:

1. I agree to pay for or have deducted from my pay the following amounts:
  - (a) The amount to cover one full dress uniform complete to be purchased through the company commander.
  - (b) Any amount necessary to keep it in proper fit and repair.
  - (c) Such amount for the company mess fund, entertainments or any other expense of the company which has been approved by a vote in accordance with company by-laws at any company meeting."

It is believed that this procedure is proper provided that the words "or have deducted from my pay" are omitted.

Also in order to insure regular payments, it has been customary in many organizations to pursue the following procedure:

The enlisted man, on receiving his pay check, signs the retained payroll, indorses his check and cashes it through the treasurer of the civil association to which he belongs who gives him in return the check of the civil association or cash in an amount equal to the pay-check less dues owed, installment payment on dress uniform or any other debt incurred by the individual which he owes to the civil association or organization. The treasurer then deposits

(Continued on page 15)



# General Haskell's Message

I THINK it is generally understood that if funds are made available in the War Department Appropriation Bill of the fiscal year 1940, which means July 1, 1939 to June 30, 1940, the First Army will participate in field exercises somewhere in the northern part of the State of New York during the latter half of August, 1939. Two localities have been under advisement for selection as the area in which to hold these Army maneuvers. First we have the Pine Camp reservation and vicinity, near Great Bend, New York; where the field artillery and cavalry of the New York National Guard have been taking their summer field training for many years; second, an area in the vicinity of Plattsburg, New York. I think it is probable that the Plattsburg area will be the one selected, because it seems to be the locality favored by the high command. The location of the maneuver area is of little interest to the National Guard of New York, and either locality has certain advantages over the other.

The troops to participate in the Army exercises will include three corps: the First Corps from New England, the Second Corps from New York, New Jersey and Delaware, and a Provisional Corps made up pretty much of the 1st Infantry Division Regulars, plus other Regular troops from New England and a few National Guard organizations. There will be, of course, certain troops not belonging to divisions, but known as Army troops and Corps troops. Each Corps, in other words, will consist of two infantry divisions, plus its Corps troops. The First Corps will be made up of the 26th (Massachusetts) and 43rd (New England) Divisions, plus its Corps troops, and the Second Corps will be made up of the 27th (New York) and 44th (New Jersey) Divisions, plus its Corps

troops. The Provisional Corps will be as stated above. General Drum will be the Army Commander.

One regiment of the cavalry of the State of New York is scheduled to participate in the Maneuvers. The other cavalry regiment may train at Plattsburg prior to the Maneuvers. This is different than the Army exercises of 1935, when no cavalry was present.

Most of the movement to and from camp, except for motorized organizations, will be made by rail.

Of course, the plans for the exercises are very sketchy, and have not really been determined upon, but so long as there has been a certain amount of talk about maneuvers this year, I thought it might be interesting for me to tell you as much as I know about it at the present time. As I understand it, the plan is to make the maneuvers progressive, i.e., regiment against regiment, brigade against brigade, division against division, corps against corps, and, finally, the Army operating as an army. This is an innovation, because, in previous exercises of this kind, the army did not function as such, but simply supervised the operation of corps against corps.

Roughly speaking, it is expected that about 40,000 or 50,000 troops will be engaged in the exercises. The 27th Division, provisional, will be one of the complete Divisions involved, and certain other New York troops not in the 27th Division will participate, such as the 87th Brigade with the 44th Division, the 156th Field Artillery with the 44th Division, a regiment of cavalry with the Army; the 101st Signal Battalion, etc.

As plans are developed later on, I shall try to give you a more detailed picture of what to expect.

We are all looking forward with keen interest to August.



# *New Instructor for the 27th Division*

**T**HE many admirers of Lieutenant Colonel John W. Foos will be happy to learn of his assignment as Instructor of the 27th Division to take effect on February 1st. He succeeds Colonel George A. Herbst who retires in May of this year and who leaves with the warmest wishes of the many friends he has made during the two years of his association with the New York National Guard.

Colonel Foos' service with the Guard has been a long one, for he enlisted in October 1895 in the 3rd Infantry of the Pennsylvania National Guard, since which time he has served almost continuously either in the Guard or in the Regular Army. He was honorably discharged in May 1898 to enlist in the 3rd Pennsylvania Volunteers and served in the Spanish-American War until October of the same year when the volunteer regiment was mustered out and he re-enlisted in the 3rd Infantry on its reorganization in 1899. Rising through the non-commissioned grades he was appointed Second Lieutenant in 1903; promoted First Lieutenant two years later; Captain in 1907, and seven years later he was promoted Major.

As Major of the 3rd Infantry of the Pennsylvania National Guard he served on the Mexican Border from June to October 1916 and was called into the United States Service the following March. He was honorably discharged from the federal service October 31, 1919, and was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry, in the Pennsylvania National Guard the next day where he served until September 29,

1920, when he was appointed a Major of Infantry in the United States Army. He was promoted Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry August 1, 1935.

Colonel Foos' war service was an active one. Before the Pennsylvania National Guard was reorganized into the 28th Division he was on duty guarding essential public utilities in the Pittsburg district. Thereafter he was assigned to command the 109th Machine Gun Battalion of the 56th Infantry Brigade with which he served throughout the war. With it he trained at Camp Hancock, Georgia, and went overseas with the division in 1918. As commander of this battalion, he participated in the following engagements: Chateau Thierry Sector; Champagne-Marne; Aisne-Marne offensive; Fismes Sector; Oise-Aisne offensive; Argonne Sector; Meuse-Argonne offensive; Thiacourt Sector. He returned to this country with the division, and after it was mustered out at Camp Dix in early May he remained there on duty with the Demobilization Center.

Colonel Foos has served with the 14th, 18th and 29th Infantry Regiments. He was instructor of the 105th Infantry, New York National Guard, from 1926 to 1931 and since 1934 has been instructor of the 106th Infantry, New York National Guard. He is a graduate of the following service schools: School of Musketry, Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, 1917; Army Machine Gun School, Langres, France, 1918; Infantry School, Field Officers' Course, Ft. Benning, Georgia, 1922; Command and General Staff School, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, 1926; Army War College, Washington, D. C., 1932.

## CIVIL ASSOCIATIONS AND PAY CHECKS

(Continued from page 12)

all cashed checks in the civil association bank account.

It is believed that this method is practical and proper and it is not thought that men who enlist agreeing to abide by these regulations (which after all are for the good of the organizations to which they belong) deem them onerous. Nor is it believed that that should lead to irregularities if proper records are kept of receipts and expenditures and if the agreement between any member and the civil association is fully understood.

## REGULAR ARMY RESERVE

**T**HE announcement from Governors Island of the new qualifications for enlistment in the Regular Army Reserve should be of interest to many of our readers.

"Voluntary continuation of their membership in the Regular Army, but on an inactive status, is made possible for the thousands of Regular Army soldiers returning each year to civil life, by terms of the legislation creating the Regular Army Reserve. Since 1920 these splendidly trained Regular Army men, many of them highly qualified in aviation, automotive, radio and other work essential to the military service, have had no opportunity to remain in official contact with the Army after accepting their honorable discharges unless they made application for the Reserve before three years had elapsed since their separation from the service."

In line with the recent policy for widening national defense forces, former enlisted men who have recently been honorably discharged, who are citizens and who have not reached their thirty-sixth year, may now apply for the Regular Army Reserve, regardless of how long they have been separated from the service.

"No military duty will be required from those who are accepted but all would be subject to call to active duty during an emergency declared by the President. While on inactive status, a Reservist will be paid at the rate of \$24 a year, payable every four months in installments of \$8. From Second Corps Area Headquarters on Governors Island, New York Harbor, each Reservist residing in New York, New Jersey and Delaware will be mailed a report-form every four months. When this is returned with the Reservist's current address and properly signed, his check will be mailed him for the preceding four months.

If called to active duty during a national emergency declared by the President, the Reservist would be paid an immediate cash allowance upon reporting of \$3 for each month he has been enlisted in the Regular Army Reserve, but not more than \$150. His pay would be the same as that of other members of the Regular Army of corresponding grade.



**LT. COLONEL VINCENT A. O'NEIL**

On December 30th, 1938, the commission of Lieutenant Colonel Vincent A. O'Neil, as Finance Officer of the 27th Division, was announced by the Adjutant General. Those who have watched and known him through the years of his service with the New York National Guard will be pleased with his promotion, and those who have served with and under him will be enthusiastic at his well merited selection.

Colonel O'Neil enlisted at the age of twenty-one in the 105th Field Artillery on February 23rd, 1914, serving in Battery "C" and in the Headquarters Battery on the border, in Camp Wadsworth, and in France. Rising through the enlisted grades to Color Sergeant, he participated in the St. Mihiel Drive, and in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive when his regiment supported the attacks of the 33rd and 79th Divisions northwest of Verdun.

Returning with the regiment in 1919, he was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant and was detailed as Aide to Brigadier General DeWitt C. Weld, Jr., of the 52nd Field Artillery Brigade in May, 1921, and 1st Lieutenant and Adjutant in October of the same year. He was made Plans and Training Officer and Captain in 1929, and has been Major and Executive Officer of the Brigade from 1934 to September 29, 1938. He has been decorated by the State with the Conspicuous Service Cross and by the United States Government with the Silver Star Medal.



Left to Right:

Brigadier General DeLamater, Mr. Walter Brown, Sec'y. to The Governor; Commissioner A. Weber, Director of The Budget.

"one of the finest organizations in the world."

During the afternoon session of the convention January 20, addresses were given by Maj. Gen. William N. Haskell, Commanding General of the New York National Guard; Rear Admiral Frank R. Lackey, commander of the New York Naval Militia, and Brig. Gen. Walter G. Robinson, Adjutant General of the State.

In his address, General Robinson declared in part:

"In these days subversive propaganda is rampant not only in our large communities, but to a more or less extent in practically every section populous enough to support a National Guard unit, and,

I can think of no more appropriate group of citizens to gather information, concerning such activities, than an alert National Guard—thus rendering valuable assistance to those agencies of Government that are seriously occupied in contra-subversive service. Any person, who is known to have voted for a communist, or who is otherwise connected with communistic activities, is a potential danger to our American institutions and government, and, in my opinion, is to be looked upon with suspicion.

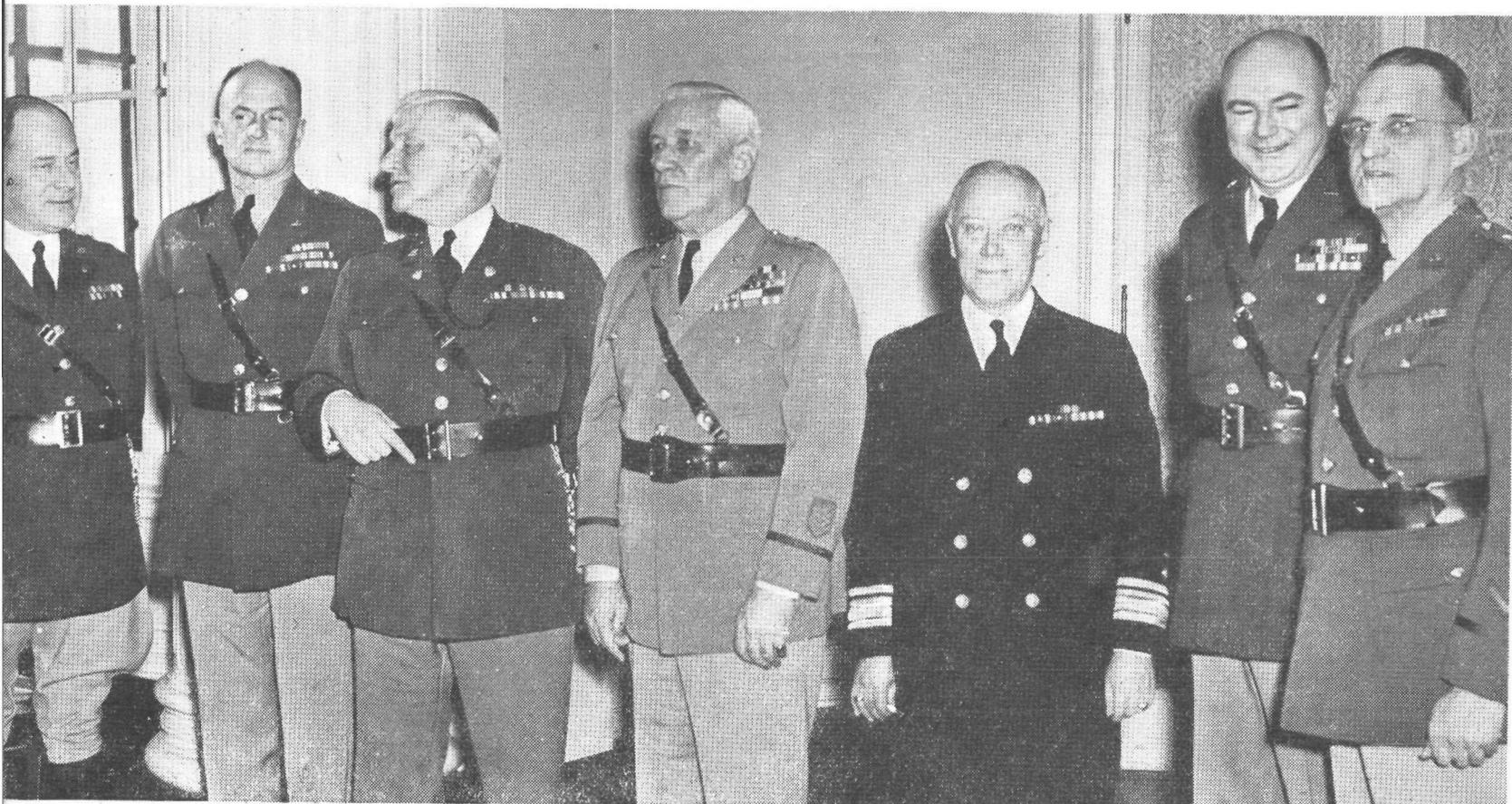
"A Congressional Committee reports that we are preparing to appropriate billions to defend ourselves against enemies from without, yet we are doing little to de-

fend ourselves against enemies within our country, and comments, that if some hundreds of thousands marched down the streets of any of our large cities, dressed in the uniforms of foreign governments, carrying foreign flags, it would create great consternation; we would leap to the rescue of our country without a moment's hesitation; yet there are thousands of people in this country today who think more of Russia, Germany, Italy or some other foreign country than they do of the United States. Any program of national defense that does not make provisions to uncover, expose and summarily deal with these enemies, is wholly inadequate."

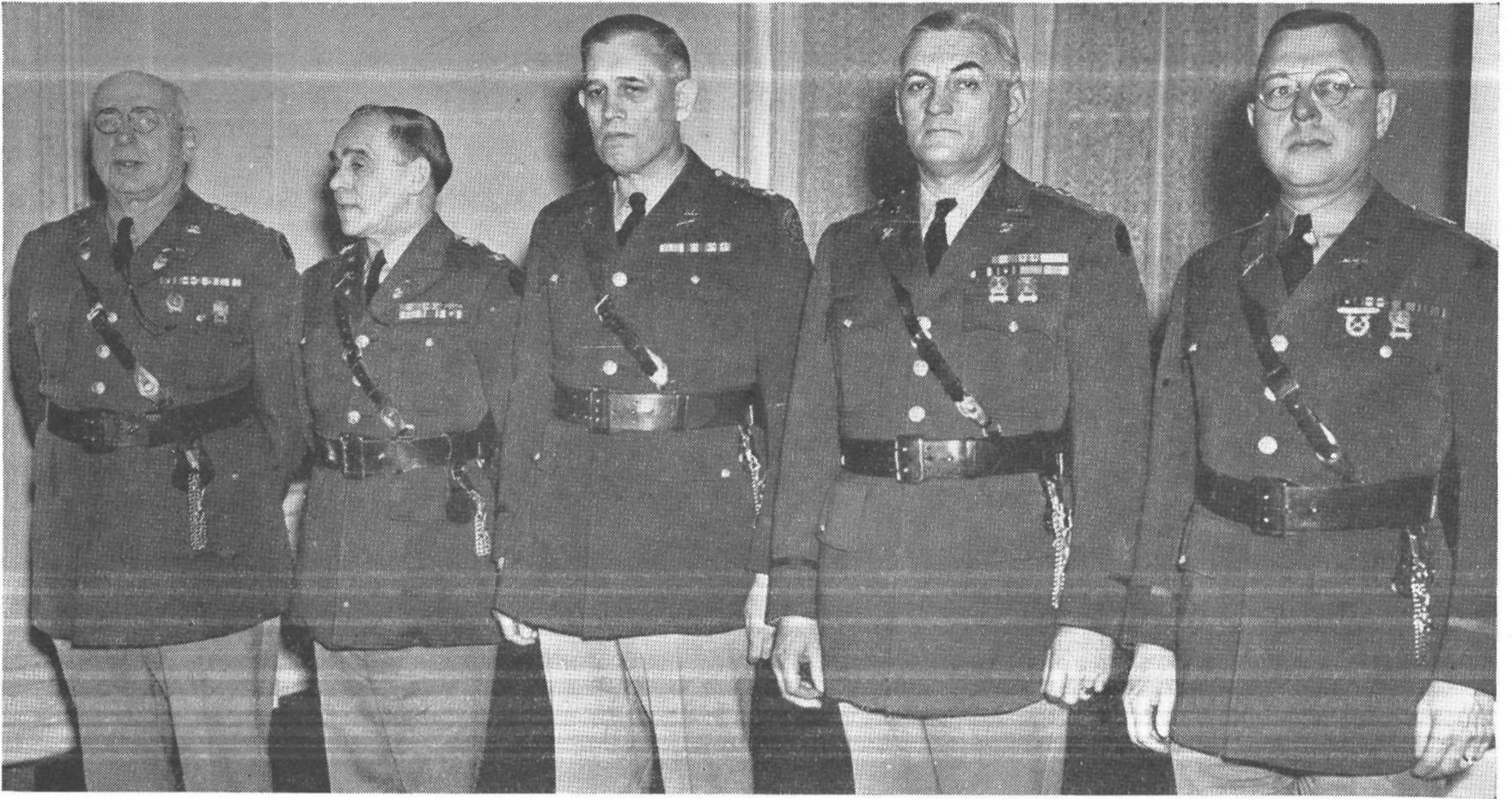
Maj. Gen. William N. Haskell, our division Commander, was another speaker during the afternoon session. In his address, General Haskell declared that "A lot has happened since the last time we met. A lot of things have happened all over the world. We have read articles about the road to Munich, the road from Munich and all about it."

"England," he said, "had to crawl on her knees. Why? For one reason, she had only 100 anti-aircraft guns around London. It is an amazing thing, but we only have 12 around New York."

He spoke of the "amateur strategists" who in these days are trying to tell the nation over the radio and through the newspapers what it should do in the way of defense.



Left to right: Brigadier Generals Ottmann, Egleston, Robinson; Major General Haskell; Rear Admiral Lackey; Brigadier Generals Kearney, DeLamater.



Left to Right: Colonels Donner, Vincent, Terry, Hetzel, Becker.

"They know all about it," General Haskell said. "They want to talk about something dramatic, so they talk about an airplane or a submarine, but they don't care whether they have any machine guns on the airplane, or whether we have any pilots or mechanics, or ammunition. They don't think we need them. We are listening to a lot of baloney and we are reading about it and hearing it over the radio.

"There is such a thing as a War Department General Staff and a Navy General Staff. Now those poor fellows aren't supposed to know anything about it, even though they have studied such things for thirty or forty years. No one wants to know about their ideas. They would rather listen to someone from Long Island who is all steamed up about someone's speech at the World Fair."

General Haskell urged that we refrain from talking about things we do not know anything about and support the War Department's program in as much as they know what can be done with funds available and where it can do the most good.

Rear Admiral Frank R. Lackey, commander of the New York Naval Militia, in an address, directed principally to the Naval Militia delegates, congratulated all Naval Militia commands in the state on

the splendid records made during the last year. He urged a continued improvement in attendance records, pointing out that "the organizations that we have that stand the highest have the best attendance records." Admiral Lackey also urged that closer attention be given the matter of organizing for training, which was brought out by Col. George A. Herbst, our senior instructor in an address during the Friday morning session.

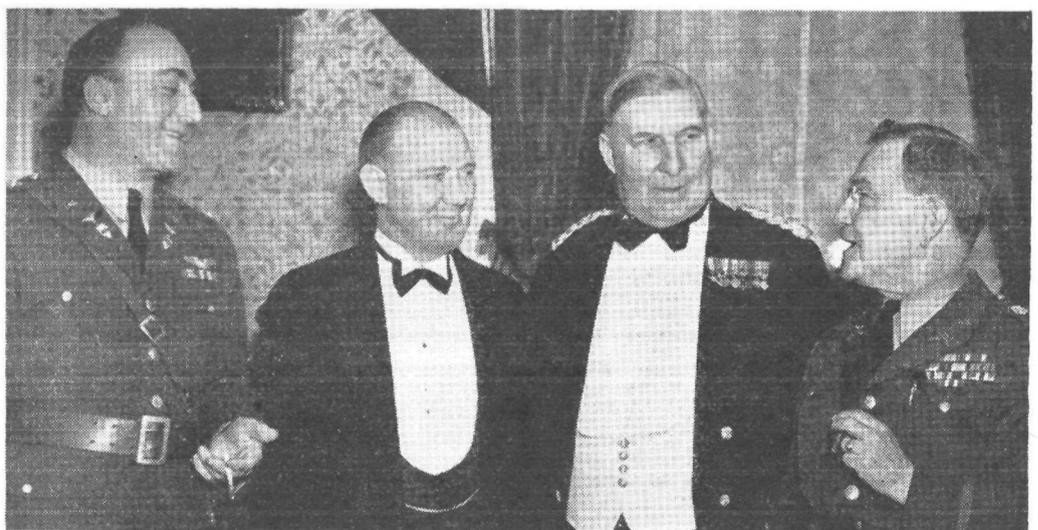
Colonel Herbst pointed out that "in all training and particularly in tactical training, emphasis should be placed on individual instruction; well trained soldiers and minor units are the foundation on which maneuvering power under modern combat conditions is based.

"A study of the history of war

brings the definite conclusion that in decisive combat it is exclusively the man with whom we must deal. Any weapon or machine used in battle is only as good as the man behind the weapon or the machine. Training, persistent training of the individual, is the price that must be paid for the efficiency of the man behind the gun. This weapon training can be and is attained to an excellent degree."

During the opening session, Brig. Gen. Walter A. DeLamater, commander of the 87th Brigade, New York City, gave a resume of the national convention at San Francisco last September and discussed the purposes and workings of the state association's standing committee.

(Continued on page 20)



Left to Right: Major Brower, Assemblyman Hayes, Major General Thompson, Lieut. Col. Clune.

# Sons of Orion

by Herbert E. Smith

**P**PRIVATE 1ST CLASS WALTER J. KENT of the Sanitary Detachment, 105th Infantry, exhibited outstanding heroism in action near St. Souplet, France, on October 17, 1918. Kent, who hailed from White-stone, Long Island, New York, with reckless disregard of his own safety, remained out in the open, under raking machine gun and artillery fire to attend wounded men of his own organization throughout the action. He dressed the wounds of no fewer than forty men before he was himself so severely wounded that he had to be removed to the base aid station himself.

\* \* \* \*

During the New Yorkers' attack on the Hindenburg Line in 1918, Company B of the 108th Infantry was, on September 29, in the first assault wave against the enemy line east of Ronssoy. The company's attack was progressing favorably until it was held up by fire from a strongly-intrenched German machine gun nest. The company took what cover it could and volunteers were called for to rush the German position and shoot it out of action.

First to step forward in response to the call was a Geneseo man, Private Earl W. Lautenslager. Single-handed, he crossed an open space under fire from all sides and attempted to rush the "pill box." The enemy immediately opened a terrific frontal fire on the heroic New Yorker, and dropped him, fatally wounded. The fire had disclosed the enemy position to the 108th's snipers, however, and the nest was shot out forthwith. The official War Department citation accompanying the award of the D.S.C. (post-humously made) reads, in part: "His heroic self-sacrifice was a splendid example to the men of his company."

\* \* \* \*

Also hailing from upstate was Private Joseph Mastine of Ogdensburg, who served "over there" in Company D of the 107th Infantry. On the morning of September 29, during the fighting east of Ronssoy, Private Mastine voluntarily left shelter and rushed across an open space to attack an enemy machine gun position which was holding up the company's advance. Mastine's accurate fire killed two of the enemy gunners, caused five others to surrender, and the obstacle was removed. Later that day Mastine again voluntarily left shelter and rushed another machine gun position, killing one of the enemy gunners and putting this gun out of action. Leading a small group of attackers forward, Mastine then rushed a German trench, killing two more of the enemy and taking sixteen men prisoner.

Serving in Company K of the same 107th Infantry was a Malone man, Corporal Alexander Menard, who also proved his courage in that same action east of Ronssoy. During the advance of his unit, fire from flanking machine guns forced the company to take cover with several of its men lying wounded between the lines.

Menard and three other men voluntarily left shelter to go to the aid of those wounded, rushing forward in the face of a heavy fire and bringing wounded Americans back to our lines.

\* \* \* \*

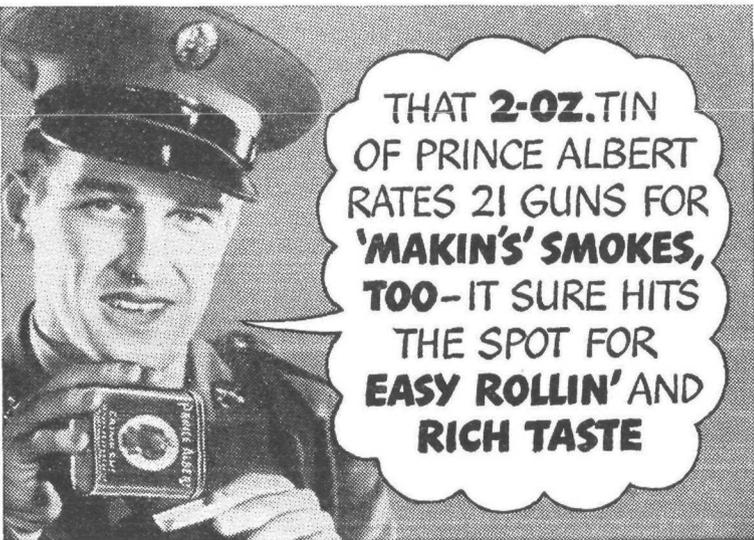
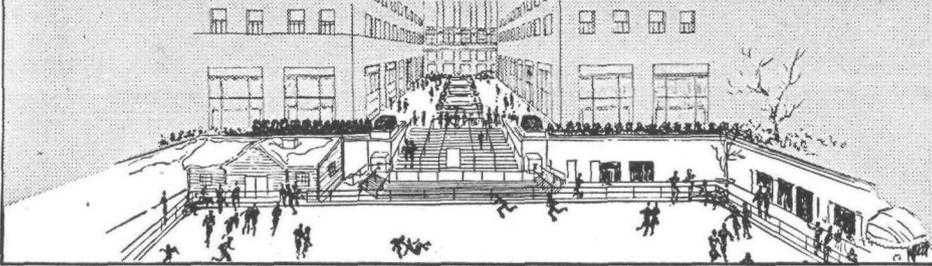
A Buffalo man, Sergeant Henry W. Miller, serving in the Machine Gun Company of the 108th Infantry, was severely wounded at the outset of the Ronssoy engagement. Dropping out of action only long enough to have his wounds treated by medical corps men at the front, Sergeant Miller ran forward, caught up with his combat platoon and remained with it throughout the rest of that day's action despite the fact that he grew steadily weaker from exhaustion and loss of blood. Several times he was ordered to drop out of action by his officers but each time he insisted he was able to carry on.

\* \* \* \*

Near Bony, France, on the morning of September 27, advance elements of "Brooklyn's Own" 106th Infantry were cut down by severe enemy machine gun and artillery fires. The surviving members of the patrol dived for the nearest cover. Among them was a native Brooklynite, 1st Lieutenant Thomas F. Ward, Jr., who, with a brother officer had been in command of the advance party. Lieutenant Ward dropped severely wounded into the nearest shell hole. Then, learning that his comrade was lying badly wounded between the lines, he laboriously dragged himself up to the top of the shell crater and crawling to the other wounded lieutenant, he administered hasty but adequate first aid to him and helped him creep to a nearby place of concealment. Meanwhile the enemy counter-attacked in force, sweeping across and past the spot where the two wounded officers were lying. For more than forty-eight hours, while the German troops thrashed about near the spot, he remained with his more severely wounded comrade, cheering him up and making fresh dressings of his wounds. At the end of the two-day period the Germans were driven back and Lieutenant Ward staggered into the 106th Infantry's lines, carrying his brother officer to the advanced dressing station.

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# PRINCE ALBERT

THE NATIONAL JOY SMOKE

## 1939 CONVENTION

(Continued from page 17)

An address dealing with mobilization was given by Lieut. Col. Hampton Anderson, assistant chief of staff, G-3, 27th Division Headquarters.

The address of welcome was given by Albert B. Merrill, president of the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce, with the response by Col. Charles S. Gleim, 245th Coast Artillery. A concert was given at the opening by the Manlius School Band, this being arranged through the courtesy of Lt. Col. Guido F. Verbeck, commandant of the school. Music during the dinner was furnished by the 108th Infantry Band, under Warrant Officer Wallace A. Modjeska.

New officers of the association, elected are:

President, Lieut. Commander John M. Gill, 15th Fleet Division, New York Naval Militia, Oswego; First Vice President, Col. Edward E. Gauche, 212th Coast Artillery, New York City; Second Vice President, Brig. Gen. Bernard W. Kearney, 53rd Infantry Brigade, Albany; Secretary, Lieut. Col. William J. Mangine, Q.M.C., State Staff, Albany; Treasurer, Maj. Patrick T. McMeniman, 165th Infantry, New York City, and additional

General Ottmann, right, telling a good one to Colonel Brown, left and Colonel Ross, center



members of the executive committee, Col. Willard H. Donner, Tenth Infantry, Albany and Col. Foster G. Hetzel, 102nd Quartermaster Regiment, New York City.

The next convention will be held at Albany and will take place during the latter part of September in order to bring the state convention ahead of the national convention in October.

Col. William R. Jackson, 14th Infantry, Brooklyn, retiring president, presided over the sessions, and at the conclusion of the gathering a rising vote of thanks was accorded Colonel Jackson for "the uniform kindness, consideration

and courtesy which characterized his conduct as president of this association and as presiding officer of this convention."

A resolution was adopted by the convention on the 43 members who have died since the last gathering and the members and guests stood in tribute to their memories. Resolutions were also adopted expressing keen interest in Resolutions No. 44 and 45, adopted at the national convention last September. Another resolution was adopted advocating such minimum strength and minimum appropriation support as will best promote the efficiency of the Naval Militia.



New officers and retiring president of the Association—Left to Right: Lt. Com. Gill, Col. Gauche, Brig. Gen. Kearney, Major McMeniman, Lt. Col. Mangine, Col. Jackson

## CHANGES IN MACHINE GUN MARKSMANSHIP

(Continued from page 11)

ment of fire for combat from the old 1000-inch course, but this latter course tends to build up a wholly false conception of such adjustment in the mind of the gunner. Moreover it is very difficult in field firing to see where the center of impact of the beaten zone is at any range greater than 600 yards. Frequently all the gunner sees, if he sees anything at all, is a spurt of the dust kicked up by one or more bullets. He cannot tell whether or not this spurt is at the center of the beaten zone. In this case what can the gunner do to keep his fire on the target? He can check his laying frequently through the sights. He will have to do it anyway for the first few bursts because the gun, hastily mounted without a sandbag mount, will proceed to dig itself in, the trail sinking perceptibly with every burst. He can receive practice in this method of adjustment on the 500-inch or 100-inch range. Practice in adjustment by observation of strike and by observation of tracer bullets must be received by him at longer ranges.

The foregoing gives some idea as to the reason for the statement in paragraph 93, BFM, that "the 1000-inch range is not suitable for teaching the observation of strike or tracer."

It will be necessary to observe the initial burst in firing at pasters Nos. 5, 7 and 9 on the new target not for practice in adjusting fire by observation, but because on that target, observation is the only way in which you can tell whether or not your initial burst is correctly placed. It is evident that it would be useless to traverse and search if your initial burst was incorrectly fired. Probably in an armory with splendid lighting arrangements, one will be able to observe all bursts and correct accordingly. However, the 500-inch and 1000-inch course as now specified calls for the adjustment of fire by frequent relaying on the aiming line and the gunner should be required

to follow *that method* of adjusting his fire. It is on the long-distance range, using 0.30 caliber ammunition, that the gunner is to receive his instruction in the adjustment of fire by observation of strike and by tracer.

Now a few words about the preparatory exercises. I am considerably a "Nut" in my insistence on detailed attention to preparatory exercises for all weapons. No soldier should fire any weapon until he is thoroughly instructed *and tested* in the preparatory exercises.

The preparatory exercises laid down in Part Three, Volume III, BFM, 1938, are, in general, similar to those in the old course. The main difference is due to the change in the third fundamental and in the target. The three sighting and aiming exercises are the same as the first three exercises of the old course. The old fourth sighting-and-aiming exercise on the effect of canting the gun has been omitted as an exercise. It is merely demonstrated in the new course. The position and sight-setting exercises are similar. In the sight-setting and laying exercise the new 1000-inch (500-inch) target is used in a manner similar to the old manipulation target the various pasters serving as aiming points. In the old course there were three manipulation exercises; searching, traversing, and combined traversing and searching. In the new course, since there are few targets which require only searching, the manipulation exercises have been reduced to two; i.e., traversing and combined traversing and searching. These exercises use the regular 1000-inch target on which the machine-gun organization draws aiming lines to permit practice in the third fundamental or frequent relaying of the gun. For instance, pasters 1, 2, 3, and 4 are connected by a  $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch line so that when the gunner lays on any one of these pasters in the traversing exercise he will have an aiming line on which to check his sight after each 2-mil traverse. Similarly, pasters 5 and 2, 10 and 4, 6 and 1, 9 and 2, and 10 and 8 are connected by

lines so that in the combined traversing and searching exercise the gunner will have an aiming line on which to check his sights after each traverse and search. The obliquity of the various lines gives him practice in several combinations of traverse and search.

One other point before I close. In comparing the old and new targets you will note that on the new target the aiming point is placed in the scoring space while on the old target "A" the aiming point is below the scoring space. Although this change gives less practice to the gunner in sight-setting, since he always uses the sight-setting for the zero of the gun (441 yards), it does permit him to aim at the area he desires to hit, which is what he would do in actual combat.

---

Medical Professor—"Now, when you examine a patient's lungs, what do you find?"

Smart Student—"The seat of his pants."

---

Landlord (to prospective tenant): "You know we keep it very quiet and orderly here. Do you have any children?"

"No."

"A piano, radio, or victrola?"

"No."

"Do you play any musical instruments? Do you have a dog, cat, or parrot?"

"No, but my fountain pen scratches like hell sometimes."

---

### RIFLE CHALLENGE

The rifle team of Squadron VMS-2R, Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, wishes to arrange small bore matches with company teams of the National Guard in New York City, or postal matches. Please write A. S. Haeussler, 155 Henry St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

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# A National Defense Program

Seven editorials reprinted from *The New York Times*, December 12 to December 18, 1938

## PART I

### I—FUNDAMENTALS OF A SOUND POLICY

THE peace of Munich, the conquest of Ethiopia and the overrunning of China by the armed forces of Japan have demonstrated that we are living in a new age of imperialism. We have our own interests to conserve in this disordered world. Those interests do not stop at our own borders. We cannot forget that the first line of our defense lies on the highways of the sea. Nor can we forget that there are rich lands to the south of us, lands now protected by few armaments and subjected to a steady infiltration of ideas alien to our own, which a few years hence may become a base of operations directed, if not against our own territory, at least against every principle of democratic government in which we believe wholeheartedly. If there is one doctrine of foreign policy to which the whole American people subscribe, and upon which the whole American people will be prepared to act if necessary, it is Monroe's doctrine that the western world belongs to the western nations.

In the light of these circumstances it is essential to reconsider the fundamentals of a sound policy of national defense.

\* \* \*

It would be a mistake to believe that the American people are not already arming. We are spending today more than a billion dollars annually for national defense. That enormous sum has never before been equaled in any year of peace. Our forces on land on the sea and in the air are stronger than they have ever been except in times of war. The last

Congress authorized an unparalleled peacetime naval program which will increase the overall strength of our fleet by a probable 50 to 75 per cent. We have spent nearly two billion dollars during the past five years for the maintenance and improvement of our army. We are spending more than \$150,000,000 annually on our air defenses, which is twice as much as we spent in 1933.

There can be no question, in these circumstances, of American "rearmament." We are already armed, and we may at once admit that "rearmament" is a misleading term. The real question is whether we should add to the extensive armaments we now possess, and on that ground the issue should be faced openly and frankly.

Why should it be necessary now to increase the armaments we have? Why should it be necessary to add more taxes to the heavy burden of taxation imposed upon American business, or to follow the alternative course of borrowing more millions from the banks? Why should it be necessary to invest in instruments of death and destruction funds which could be used more profitably for purposes of slum clearance and new housing, for the construction of roads and bridges, for the reforestation of hillsides and the control of floods, for the building of schools and hospitals and parks?

\* \* \*

The case for a further increase of American armaments rests upon our inescapable interest in helping to protect the integrity of the two Americas and upon two immediate and immensely practical considerations.

First, there is the necessity of rounding out, into a better bal-

anced and more modern machinery of self-defense, such armaments as we possess today. Wherever the fault lies, in Congress or elsewhere, too much emphasis has been put upon the more dramatic aspects of an armament program and too little emphasis on the less dramatic, all-important details. We have some excellent coast defenses, but a number of them are not even manned. We have large quantities of certain types of field artillery, but most of our ammunition is too old to be effective. We are building new destroyers and submarines, but we haven't enough torpedoes for them. We have one of the best light tanks in the world, but not a single modern anti-tank gun in the hands of American troops.

Second, there is the unpleasant but indisputable fact that armaments are wholly relative. Ships and guns, tanks and planes must be matched against the ships and guns and tanks and planes of other nations. And other nations, particularly a group of nations in whose purposes we have least reason to feel confidence, have been building certain armaments at a much more rapid pace than ours. So long as this continues, the ordinary rules of common sense and prudence require that we be prepared.

\* \* \*

These are the essential arguments in favor of a further increase of American armaments at this time. To us they are convincing. They do not warrant a sudden sensational expansion of either our army or our navy. But they do constitute valid and persuasive reasons for giving prompt support to a new arms program that is intelligently conceived and specifically planned to meet the needs

of the present situation.

There are three dangers to guard against:

First, there is the danger of hysteria, always present in matters of this kind. Unless we watch ourselves, we can easily become involved in a panic over a complete "defenselessness" which does not exist in fact, and be swept along on a high tide of oratory toward wholly unreasonable objectives.

Second, there is the danger of over-simplification of the problem: the danger that we shall concentrate our whole attention on one type of armament of a particularly dramatic character—airplanes, for example — when what we need above all else is a better balanced and better rounded force.

Third, there is the danger that the whole defense program will become involved with some new "pump-priming" plan, and that we shall begin building certain armaments not because we need them but because they offer the quickest way of making jobs or of boosting the business index.

It is as important to guard against these dangers as it is to arm. The situation calls for clear thinking on the part of every citizen. In an effort to contribute toward such thinking, THE TIMES begins today the publication of a series of seven editorials, to appear consecutively each day this week, dealing with problems of national defense. These editorials will consider the present needs of the armed forces of the United States on the sea, on land and in the air.

## 2—AMERICA ON THE SEAS

**T**HE most challenging naval question before the United States today is the proposal for a "two-ocean" navy. That proposal has been disavowed by President Roosevelt, but it is certain to meet with powerful support at the next session of Congress.

A "two-ocean" navy means a navy strong enough to cope simultaneously with the strongest fleets that can possibly be sent against us both in the Atlantic and in the

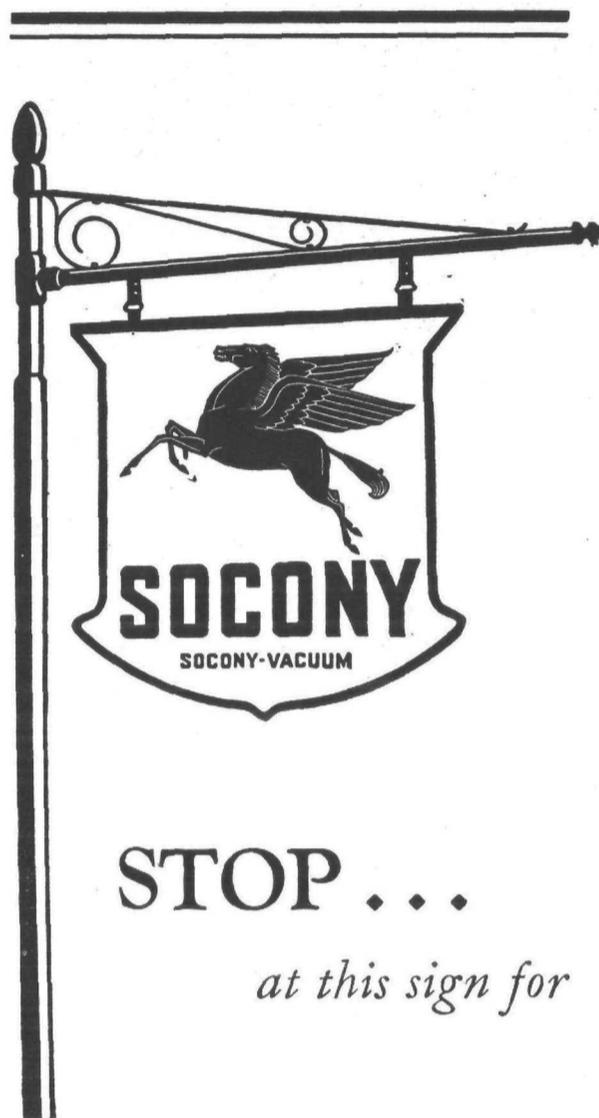
Pacific. Our main fleet today is in the Pacific. The proponents of the "two-ocean" plan want a fleet of approximately equal strength in the Atlantic. They base their case for it upon two points: first the indisputable fact that the defense of the two Americas has again made the Atlantic and the Caribbean of great strategic consequences to us; second, the more questionable assumption that the Panama Canal, connecting link for our present single fleet between the two oceans, is vulnerable to attack.

The assumption is scarcely strong enough to warrant the expenditure of the gigantic sum— at least three billion dollars for initial construction alone — that would be required for the creation of a second fleet for the Atlantic. The defenses of the Panama Canal doubtless need some strengthening — another set of wider and longer locks, and the flanking support of an adequate naval and air base in the Guantanamo Bay-San Juan-Culebra-St. Thomas area; but even as it stands, the Canal is by no means vulnerable. Nor should the fact be overlooked that our naval strength, while confined principally to the Pacific, compares favorably with the naval strength of any nation in the world. The assumption that any likely alliance of hostile nations could afford simultaneously to strip their own coasts of all means of self-defense, in order to attack us at a great distance in two oceans, is so unlikely as to amount almost to the fantastic.

In these circumstances what we need on the seas is not a whole new fleet for the Atlantic, a fleet which could be built only at an inordinate cost, but rather a continuation of the program of expansion already authorized, and meantime a fresh approach to the problem of creating a better-balanced and more-rounded single fleet than we possess today.

Here our chief needs lie in details which may readily escape the

(Continued on page 28)



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**Officers Commissioned in the New York National Guard  
During the Month of December, 1938**

LT. COLONEL		Date of Rank	Branch and Organization	1ST LIEUTENANTS		Date of Rank	Branch and Organization
O'Neil, Vincent	.....	Dec. 27'38..	F.D., Hq. 27th Div.	Mackey, John J.	.....	Dec. 8'38..	245th C.A.
<b>CAPTAINS</b>				Oehmke, Benjamin H.	.....	Dec. 14'38..	108th Inf.
Rizzo, Peter C. L.	.....	Dec. 3'38..	M.C., 212th C.A. (AA)	MacLennan, James F.	.....	Dec. 15'38..	52nd F.A. Brig.
Schultz, Oscar E.	.....	Dec. 7'38..	10th Inf.	Clark, Charles J.	.....	Dec. 16'38..	244th C.A.
Scott, John H.	.....	Dec. 8'38..	104th F.A.	Hale, David C.	.....	Dec. 16'38..	244th C.A.
Palmer, McKee A.	.....	Dec. 14'38..	108th Inf.	Brinckerhoff, Gilbert G., Jr.	.....	Dec. 16'38..	244th C.A.
Amblem, William H.	.....	Dec. 19'38..	106th F.A.	Goodman, Carlon H. M.	.....	Dec. 19'38..	104th F.A.
				Graves, Paul T.	.....	Dec. 22'38..	54th Brig.
<b>2ND LIEUTENANTS</b>							
McCarthy, John J.	.....	Dec. 8'38..	105th F.A.	Sincavich, Leon E.	.....	Dec. 14'38..	14th Inf.
Masterman, Earl W.	.....	Dec. 8'38..	174th Inf.	Hickok, Donald S.	.....	Dec. 22'38..	107th Inf.
McNeil, Lincoln C.	.....	Dec. 8'38..	258th F.A.	Johnstone, William W., Jr.	.....	Dec. 23'38..	107th Inf.
Walker, Lewis H.	.....	Dec. 8'38..	174th Inf.	Bodnar, Michael T.	.....	Dec. 27'38..	71st Inf.
Meek, Robert L.	.....	Dec. 10'38..	Inf., Sp. Tr., 27th Div.	Pasquini, Attil A.	.....	Dec. 27'38..	10th Inf.
Benchley, Walter K., Jr.	.....	Dec. 14'38..	174th Inf.				

**Resigned, Resignation Accepted and Honorably Discharged,  
December, 1938**

CAPTAINS		1ST LIEUTENANTS					
Batcher, Frank E.	.....	Dec. 2'38..	104th F.A.	Grier, Albert C.	.....	Dec. 2'38..	369th Inf.
Burns, John J., Jr.	.....	Dec. 16'38..	A.G.D., 27th Div.	MacLean, Donald N.	.....	Dec. 16'38..	A.C., 27th Div. Avi.
Downs, Ernest B.	.....	Dec. 19'38..	M.C., 102nd Med. Regt.	Schroeder, William K.	.....	Dec. 27'38..	A.G.D., 27th Div.
Edelmann, Walter	.....	Dec. 5'38..	106th F.A.	<b>2ND LIEUTENANT</b>			
Hanssen, Eilif C.	.....	Dec. 19'38..	M.C., 101st Cav.	Weiss, Henry A.	.....	Dec. 7'38..	Inf., Sp. Tr., 27th Div.

**Transferred to Inactive National Guard, Own Application,  
December, 1938**

CAPTAIN		1ST LIEUTENANTS		2ND LIEUTENANTS			
Mandell, Rudolph	.....	Dec. 7'38..	244th C.A.	Boland, John P.	.....	Dec. 21'38..	165th Inf.
				Scheiterle, Charles M., Jr.	.....	Dec. 16'38..	174th Inf.
<b>1ST LIEUTENANTS</b>				<b>2ND LIEUTENANTS</b>			
Arendt, Howard C.	.....	Dec. 6'38..	258th F.A.	Manin, Harry A.	.....	Dec. 21'38..	102nd Engrs.
Bidwell, Miles O.	.....	Dec. 19'38..	107th Inf.	Williams, Lewis C., Jr.	.....	Dec. 16'38..	107th Inf.

### MAJOR CLARENCE STREVELL

**M**AJOR CLARENCE STREVELL, director of the Bureau of Veterans and Military Affairs, in the Adjutant General's Office since 1914, and one of the most widely known and best beloved military men in the state, died at his home in Albany, January 6.

He was the recipient of the New York State decoration for long and faithful service in the National Guard. His position as director of the Bureau of Veterans and Military Affairs was not affected when he retired from the National Guard a few years ago.

Major Strevell began his National Guard career with Company B of the Tenth Battalion of the New York National Guard in 1884, and became a second lieutenant in 1890. Three years later he was promoted to first lieutenant.

During the Spanish-American War he served as a captain adjutant of the First New York Volunteer Infantry and saw service in the Hawaiian islands. He was later promoted to major in 1903, and was placed in command of the Tenth Battalion. From 1904 to 1915 he was out of active service after being honorably discharged.

During the World War he was listed as a major on the reserve list and was attached to the Military Training Commission, which supervised training of boys for military duty. He served as Governor Alfred E. Smith's military secretary in 1920.

### CAPTAIN CHARLES T. STOLL

**C**APTAIN CHARLES T. STOLL, of the 107th Infantry, died of a cerebral hemorrhage in the French Hospital, Sunday, December 11.

Enlisted as a private in Co. C., 7th Inf., N.G.N.Y., April 30, 1917, he was drafted into U. S. Army August 5, 1917. He was promoted to corporal October, 1918, and served with the 107th Inf. in Belgium and France. He was mustered out of the Federal service April 2, 1919, and re-enlisted in Co. C.; made corporal December, 1919, and sergeant January, 1925. He was commissioned second lieutenant, Co. C. July 10, 1925, first lieutenant July 2, 1930, captain December 26, 1931.

On October 18, 1918, Corporal Stoll, for extraordinary heroism in action near St. Souplet, France; was awarded the D.S.C. and the Croix de Guerre with the following citation: "After the advance of his company had been stopped by strong hostile machine gun fire, Corporal Stoll, with three companions, advanced far ahead of the front line to attack an enemy position located in a large farm house. By skillful maneuvering in the broad daylight, they covered all entrances to the house and forced the surrender of the entire enemy force, numbering 36 men and 2 officers. During the exploit, they killed two Germans who attempted to take cover in the cellar."

On April 22, 1938, he was presented with the Seventh Regiment Cross of Honor.

Captain Stoll was buried December 14, with full military honors in Arlington Cemetery.



At a recent review of the 369th Infantry, General Haskell presented the State decoration for 20 years' service to Captain Roy F. Morse, Co. D, and Pvt. William T. Cookson, Service Co.

Left to right—Captain Morse, Pvt. Cookson, Major General Haskell, Colonel Mundy, Colonel Davis.

## OUR SOCIETY

A PRIVATE AID SOCIETY like our own, The National Guard and Naval Militia Relief Society of New York, must necessarily be guided by certain sensible principles when it extends its assistance, in time of emergency, to the needy widows and fatherless children whom it helps. One of its principles is to help people help themselves, and to withhold its assistance when it is no longer needed.

A case in point was that of Mrs. Black (the name is fictitious, of course), who found herself and her two small children in dire need shortly after the death of her husband, a high-ranking officer. She applied for and received a monthly grant from the local Board of Child Welfare, but the sum she received fell short of her budgetary needs. She consequently applied to the National Guard and Naval Militia Relief Society for supplementary assistance. The case was in every way a worthy one, but for our Relief Society to have stepped into the breach without consulting the local Board of Child Welfare would have been unwise, and might well have caused the Board to cut down its monthly grant to Mrs. Black by as much as our Society granted her. What our Society did, consequently, was to ask the Board: "How large a monthly grant would you permit the National Guard and Naval Militia Relief Society to make to Mrs. Black without jeopardy to the monthly check that you are now sending her?" They consulted their tables of allowances, found that Mrs. Black was receiving \$12 a month less than her minimum budget requirements, and named this sum as the maximum grant permissible under their rules. Now, \$12 a month is not all the money in the world, but in this case it meant the difference between want and sufficiency. Meanwhile, Mrs. Black, a young and intelligent person, secured a position as a typist after many discouragements. She promptly notified our Relief Society of her good fortune, and its assistance to her was suspended, being no longer essential, until (and if) she again asked for assistance—in the event, for example, of her losing her position, and not being able to find another. The total number of checks mailed to Mrs. Black was seven, and her case may be considered fairly typical of those that our Society handles.

\* \* \*

"Life is short, and time is fleeting," and the Society's many friends are reminded that only three more months remain of the fiscal year 1938-39, which ends on April 30th 1939. The total membership contributions received to date from some Branches give them definitely a rating of "Superior"; others have not yet done so well, and a few have been very laggard.

(Continued on page 31)

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A negro minister was preaching on the horrors of Hell. "There shall be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth."

"But I ain't got no teeth," announced one of the parishioners.

"Teeth will be furnished," assured the minister, sternly.



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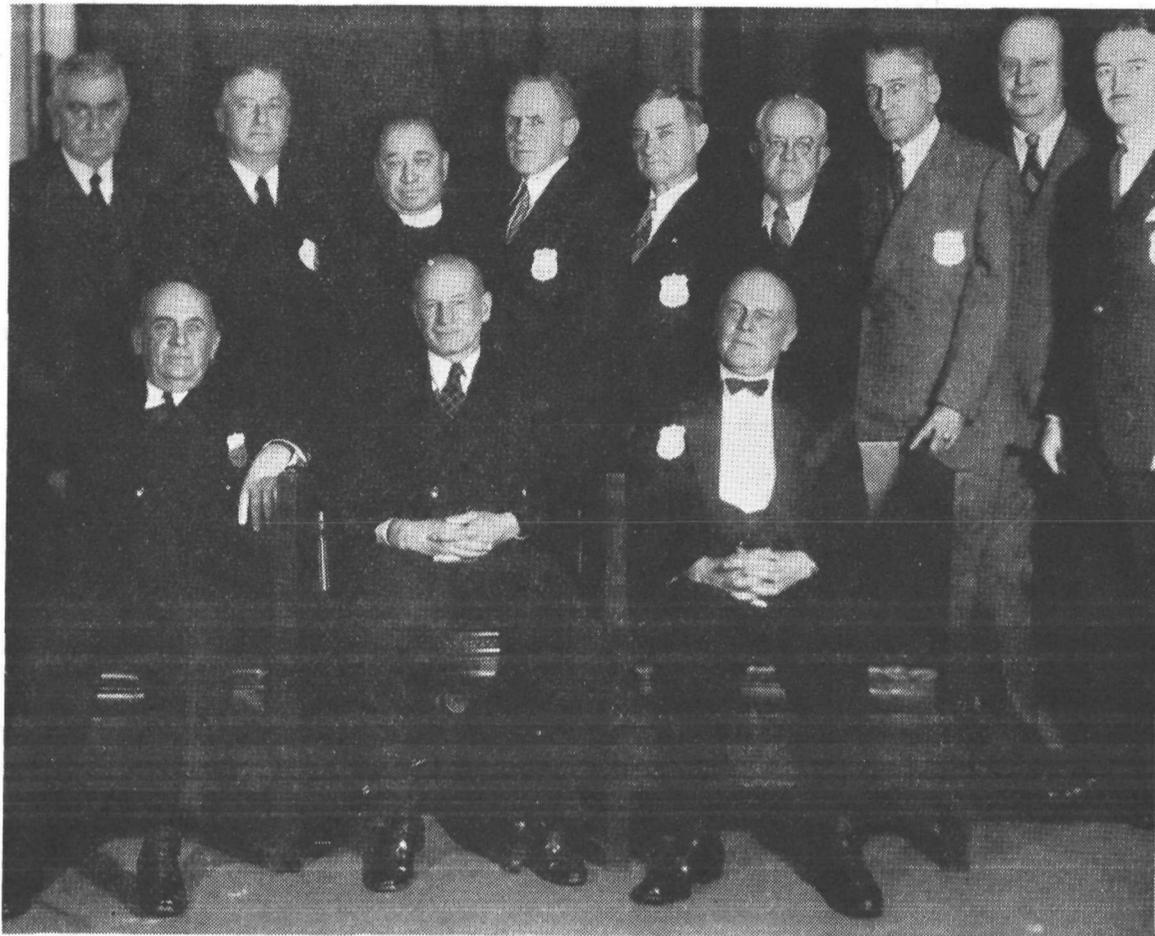
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MEDICAL DEPARTMENT  
OFFICERS HOLD

*Annual  
Dinner and  
Conference*

Sitting, left to right: Colonels Grissinger, Salisbury, Gibner.

Standing, left to right: Lieutenant Colonels Wadhams and Porterfield, Major (Chaplain) White, Lieutenant Colonel Thompson, Colonels Herbst, Mundy and Snyder, Lieutenant Colonel Suavet, Major Kelly.

THE Headquarters Armory of the 102nd Medical Regiment, NYNG, at 56 West 66th Street, New York City, was the scene, on Saturday evening, December 10, 1938, of the Annual Dinner and Conference of the Officers of the Medical Department of the New York National Guard at which Colonel Lucius A. Salisbury, the Division Surgeon, and the Officers of the Regiment were the hosts.

The 1938 Dinner and Conference was, by far, the biggest and best of those held so far. Over one hundred were present, representing practically every Medical Department unit in the New York National Guard. To quote the expressed purpose of these Dinners and Conferences, as printed in the very attractive program of the evening, ". . . to make a better Medical Department in New York State", they have done much to do just that and to promote cordial relations among the Medical Department units.

The Officers and guests commenced to gather at about six-thirty o'clock for cocktails and a "get-to-know-your-brother-Officer" session. Upon arrival, each one was given a tag for his lapel with his name on it and which read, "Hello! My name is ——. What's yours?" Dinner was served at seven-thirty, preceding which the Invocation was pronounced by the Regimental Chaplain, Major John F. White.

After dinner, addresses were made by Colonel Jay W. Grissinger, MC, USA, The Surgeon, Second Corps Area; Colonel George A. Herbst, Infantry, USA, Senior Instructor, New York National Guard; Colonel Herbert C. Gibner, MC, USA, The Commandant, Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, Penna.; Colonel E. Kearsley Sterling, Cavalry, USA, Officer in Charge of National Guard Affairs, Second

Corps Area; Colonel Howard McC. Snyder, MC, USA, Assistant to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, Washington, D. C.; Colonel Joseph A. S. Mundy, Chief of Staff, 27th Division; Lieutenant-Colonel Herbert D. Porterfield, MC, USA, Instructor, Medical Department, New York National Guard; Lieutenant-Colonel Henry E. Suavet Ordnance Officer, 27th Division; Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew H. Thompson, United States Property and Disbursing Officer for New York; and Major William H. Kelly, 165th Infantry, NYNG, Camp Quartermaster, Camp Smith, New York. Remarks were also made by Major Charles D. Bles, MC, NYNG, 102nd Engineers, the senior Medical Department Detachment commander in New York City, and Major Walter D. McKenna, MC, NYNG, 105th Infantry, the senior Medical Department Detachment commander present from up-State. Colonel Salisbury acted as toastmaster.

Lieutenant-Colonel Robert P. Wadhams, MC, NYNG, Executive Officer of the 102nd Medical Regiment, spoke on the importance of membership in the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States to which all officers of the Medical Department are eligible and of which Colonel Salisbury is the Fifth Vice-President. At the present time, only about seven and one-half per cent of the eligibles in the New York National Guard are members. It is hoped that during the coming year all will have joined. The annual dues are three dollars which includes a subscription to the Association's monthly magazine, *The Military Surgeon*.

After the dinner and the speeches, there was a renewal of the "get-to-know" movement which lasted until well after midnight.

## A NATIONAL DEFENSE PROGRAM

(Continued from page 23)

attention of a Congress tempted to think of the problem of national defense in more dramatic terms. We have no present need of battleships, beyond those now building and authorized. But we do need more destroyers and more submarines, because most of those we have today are over-age. We need torpedoes for such ships (the reopening for production of the Alexandria, Va., plant only partially solves this problem). We need more aircraft carriers, more auxiliaries, a moderate strengthening of the marine corps and a more adequate merchant marine and shipbuilding industry to supplement our naval strength in time of war.

But the greatest need of our navy, paradoxically enough, lies on shore and not at sea. Here the organization of our national defense has shown itself to be wholly inadequate to the task before it. During the last five years few ships except submarines have been finished on time; today most of them are months behind schedule. The Navy Department itself admits the discovery of defects in new ships—defects which have increased costs and decreased efficiency. There is, within the Department and in the shore organizations, a somewhat antiquated machinery which is plainly in need of overhauling.

### 3—THE AMERICAN ARMY

There is nothing in the present situation that calls for a change in our basic military policy. We do not need a large standing army. Nor do we need conscription. What we need is a moderate increase in the strength of our present army and the complete equipment of that army with the weapons of modern warfare.

The increase in strength is necessary partly for reasons of geography. We have today a Regular Army of 165,000 enlisted men (a small army as armies go, putting us eighteenth in numerical strength among the nations of the

world). But of these 165,000 enlisted men, more than 40,000 are in our overseas possessions and other thousands are scattered about the United States itself—either garrisoned in small army posts which survive as relics of the past or distributed small handfuls among hundreds of towns and cities, for the desirable purpose of giving military instruction to National Guardsmen, Organized Reserves, ROTC and CMTC. In addition, there are new branches of the army—its air service, for example—which cannot be operated efficiently without more personnel.

These circumstances warrant an increase of our Regular Army from 165,000 to 185,000 enlisted men, and of our National Guard from 200,000 to 215,000 together with the necessary increase of officer personnel. Along with this increase should go a tactical reorganization of the army, in order to give us an adequate protective mobilization force. It is high time to abandon political army posts which exist primarily for the prestige of Congressmen and to concentrate the army in large enough units to enable it to function as an army, with ample training areas. The Second Division, shortly to be concentrated at San Antonio for special field tests, should be stationed permanently there. The First Division should be concentrated in one area on the East Coast, and the Third at a similar concentration point on the West Coast. Meanwhile, the 100,000 officers of the Organized Reserves should be given at least fourteen days of active duty training every other year, and provision should also be made for the attendance of at least 300 Reserve officers annually at the general and special service schools.

The problem of equipment is, if anything, even more important than the problem of personnel. There is not a single modern anti-tank gun in the army. Considerably more anti-aircraft equipment is needed. (We do some of these things badly; the 37-mm.

anti-aircraft gun recently adopted is essentially the same gun as a model first tested in 1926.) We need more tanks, and the manufacture of these weapons, now almost exclusively a Government monopoly at the Rock Island Arsenal, should be taught to commercial concerns by means of "educational orders," so that a basis will be laid for their production in quantity in case of an emergency. Modern "medium" tanks, only eighteen of which are now on order, should be substantially increased in number, and experiment with heavier types should be undertaken.

All these new weapons, however, are of limited application. In the provision of material the needs of the old reliable infantry and artillery ought to have priority. The supply of new semi-automatic rifles, designed to replace the old Springfields, should be speeded up. The infantry needs light machine guns, trench mortars and gas masks (there are only eight gas masks per hundred men in the National Guard today). The artillery requires, above all else, a very considerable reserve of ammunition. Lack of such a reserve is one of our greatest weaknesses. Faster production of the 105-mm. howitzer and of the new 8-inch howitzer should be developed. Both the Regular Army and the National Guard need many more motor cars and trucks. All this, it should be noted, is solely for the purpose of equipping our protective mobilization force of Regular Army and National Guard in accordance with plans already drawn.

Of scarcely less importance is the necessity of completing the modernization of our coastal fortifications along the Pacific seaboard; of taking in hand the projected program for strengthening Atlantic and Gulf Coast defenses; of adding certain anti-aircraft equipment to our already strong outposts in Hawaii and at Panama, and of establishing fortifications for a projected naval and air base in Puerto Rico.

(To be continued)

**CHESS CHAMPS OF 27th DIVISION?**

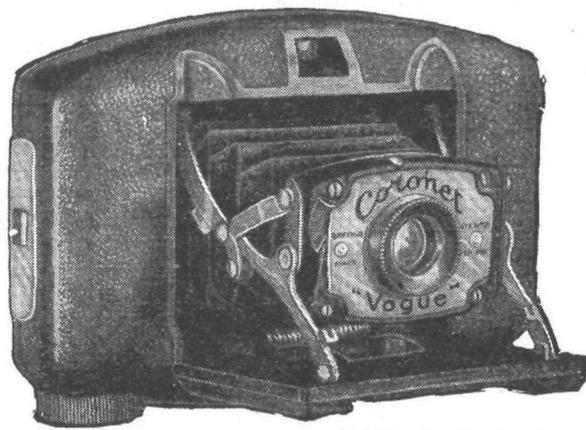
**T**HE 1st Bn. Hq. Co. of the 108th Infantry, having practically clinched the rifle title for the battalion, are now seeking laurels in a new field—Chess.

A chess club has been formed among the units of the 108th in Syracuse and by the process of elimination, 1st Bn. Hq. Co. team are the undisputed champions.

The chess club idea was originated by Corp. Szczudlik, captain of our team, who hereby challenges any other National Guard team, if any exist, to a match by mail either between the teams as a whole or the individuals. Games will be played by designating each move on the back of a post card, using the coordinate system to locate positions on the board. As in all chess games time will be no object; there will be plenty of time between moves to plan the next move.

Chess provides many valuable lessons in tactics and we would like to stimulate interest to the point of organizing a Division tournament or possibly an inter-Division tournament. So we extend this challenge to any Guardsman in the United States. Address all mail to Corp. Joseph Szczudlik, 1st Bn. Hq. Co., 108th Inf., Syracuse, New York.

So until it can be proven otherwise "Battling Headquarters Company" claims the chess championship of the 27th Division, or possibly the entire National Guard.



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Photo by Syracuse Post Standard

Left to Right: Capt. E. M. McCabe, Capt. G. M. Goodrich, Mayor R. B. Marvin, Major G. A. Elliot, Lieut. C. E. Ames, Rear: Lieut. Polchlopek, Major Stuart.

**NEW YEAR'S TWILIGHT BALL**

FOLLOWING an old custom inaugurated in 1911, the officers and enlisted men of the 108th Infantry stationed in Syracuse entertained their friends at their annual New Year's Twilight Ball at the State Armory on Monday, January 2.

The program started at four o'clock with a concert by the 108th Inf. Band conducted by Warrant Officer Wallace A. Modjeska. Immediately following the concert the troops consisting of Hq. Co. 108th Inf., Hq. Co. 1st Bn., Medical Detachment and the Band passed in review before Hon. Rolland B. Marvin, mayor of Syracuse, and Major George A. Elliot and his staff.

Following the review the band furnished music for dancing. During the dancing the enlisted men of the individual companies entertained their guests at private parties in their quarters.

Among the guests present were Brig. Gen. Ralph K. Robertson of Buffalo, Col. Samuel H. Merrill of Geneva, Lieut. Col. Frederick S. Johnston of Auburn, Major George W. Daley of Auburn, Major Donald C. Stuart of Utica, Major Arthur J. Smith and Major John McBride of Rochester.

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**OUR SOCIETY**

(Continued from page 26)

To date, the 102nd Quartermaster Branch is the Society's pride, for under its energetic officers it contributed 100 per cent in membership contributions, which means that every enlisted man gave \$1 or more, and every officer \$2 or more. Last year's total membership contribution for this Branch was \$400; this fiscal year (1938-39) it was \$415.

Another definitely "Superior" Branch is the 369th Infantry. This Branch lagged behind in 1937-38, but its present total contribution of \$940 marks an increase of 175 per cent over last year's total; the Branch is enthusiastic, and it is forging steadily ahead.

Other Branches which merit the Society's gratitude are the 10th Infantry, 27th Division Special Troops (six Sections, of which two have so far sent in their membership contributions, both 100 per cent); 104th Field Artillery, 106th Infantry, 156th Field Artillery, and the 245th Coast Artillery.

The National Guard and Naval Militia Relief Society of New York hopes to add to this heartening list in its next report to readers of the "Guardsman."



Infantry and Staff Liaison at the Convention. Col. R. Tobin 107th Inf. and Lt. Col. H. Anderson.

**TEN YEARS AGO THIS MONTH IN THE  
NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARDSMAN**

FEBRUARY 1929

National Guard Convention at Niagara Falls.

\* \* \* \*

Regimental Historical Sketch—106th Field Artillery.

\* \* \* \*

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General Westcott Memorial.

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History of the National Guard.



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# AVERAGE PERCENTAGE OF ATTENDANCE

## MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1938

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE FOR ENTIRE FORCE (November 1-30 Incl.) . . . . . 89.73%

Maximum Authorized Strength New York National Guard..1499 Off.	22 W. O.	19500 E. M.	Total 21021
Minimum Strength, New York National Guard.....1467 Off.	22 W. O.	17467 E. M.	Total 18956
Present Strength, New York National Guard.....1397 Off.	21 W. O.	19047 E. M.	Total 20465

NOTE

(1) The small figure placed beside the bracketed figure shows the organization's standing on last month's list as compared with its present rating.  
 (2) The "How We Stand" page has been condensed into the "Average Percentage of Attendance" page by showing, beneath each organization's percentage, its maintenance and actual strength.

<b>102nd Qm. Reg.</b>	<b>94.44%</b>	<b>(2)</b> <sup>1</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....235	<i>Actual</i> .....325
<b>165th Infantry</b>	<b>93.85%</b>	<b>(3)</b> <sup>7</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....1038	<i>Actual</i> .....1135
<b>174th Infantry</b>	<b>92.62%</b>	<b>(4)</b> <sup>9</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....1038	<i>Actual</i> .....1170
<b>212th Coast Art.</b>	<b>92.57%</b>	<b>(5)</b> <sup>4</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....703	<i>Actual</i> .....755
<b>369th Infantry</b>	<b>92.50%</b>	<b>(6)</b> <sup>3</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....1038	<i>Actual</i> .....1117
<b>245th Coast Art.</b>	<b>91.54%</b>	<b>(7)</b> <sup>11</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....739	<i>Actual</i> .....801
<b>101st Cavalry</b>	<b>90.92%</b>	<b>(8)</b> <sup>15</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....571	<i>Actual</i> .....661
<b>156th Field Art.</b>	<b>90.55%</b>	<b>(9)</b> <sup>6</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....602	<i>Actual</i> .....639
<b>106th Field Art.</b>	<b>90.53%</b>	<b>(10)</b> <sup>5</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....647	<i>Actual</i> .....690
<b>14th Infantry</b>	<b>90.26%</b>	<b>(11)</b> <sup>16</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....1038	<i>Actual</i> .....1088
<b>102nd Engrs.</b>	<b>89.97%</b>	<b>(12)</b> <sup>10</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....475	<i>Actual</i> .....504
<b>27th Div. Avia.</b>	<b>89.92%</b>	<b>(13)</b> <sup>8</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....118	<i>Actual</i> .....128
<b>244th Coast Art.</b>	<b>86.67%</b>	<b>(14)</b> <sup>19</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....648	<i>Actual</i> .....681
<b>71st Infantry</b>	<b>89.63%</b>	<b>(15)</b> <sup>12</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....1038	<i>Actual</i> .....1123
<b>105th Field Art.</b>	<b>89.28%</b>	<b>(16)</b> <sup>14</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....599	<i>Actual</i> .....647
<b>Spec. Troops, 27th Div.</b>	<b>88.64%</b>	<b>(17)</b> <sup>23</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....318	<i>Actual</i> .....361
<b>101st Sig. Bn.</b>	<b>88.43%</b>	<b>(18)</b> <sup>20</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....163	<i>Actual</i> .....173
<b>102nd Med. Reg.</b>	<b>88.31%</b>	<b>(19)</b> <sup>13</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....588	<i>Actual</i> .....670

HONOR ORGANIZATION	No. Dr.	Aver. Pres. and Abs.	Aver. % Att.	Aver. % Att.
<b>121st Cavalry</b>			<b>94.91%</b>	<b>(1)</b> <sup>2</sup>
<i>Maintenance</i> .....571			<i>Actual</i> .....610	
HEADQUARTERS ..	4	7	7	100
HDQRS. TROOP ....	6	68	63	93
BAND .....	5	26	25	96
MACH. GUN TROOP	5	69	65	94
HDQRS. 1st SQUAD.	4	2	2	100
TROOP A.....	5	65	61	93
TROOP B.....	5	67	63	94
HDQRS. 2nd SQUAD.	4	2	2	100
TROOP E.....	4	67	62	92
TROOP F.....	5	68	66	97
HDQRS. 3rd SQUAD.	4	2	2	100
TROOP I.....	5	68	66	97
TROOP K.....	6	66	63	95
MED. DEP. DET....	6	32	31	96
		609	578	94.91

<b>54th Inf. Brig.</b>	<b>96.67%</b>	<b>(4)</b> <sup>4</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....27	<i>Actual</i> .....43
<b>HdQRS. 27th Div.</b>	<b>95.52%</b>	<b>(5)</b> <sup>5</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....65	<i>Actual</i> .....68
<b>51st Cav. Brig.</b>	<b>94.87%</b>	<b>(6)</b> <sup>7</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....69	<i>Actual</i> .....79
<b>53rd Inf. Brig.</b>	<b>92.85%</b>	<b>(7)</b> <sup>8</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....27	<i>Actual</i> .....41
<b>52nd F. A. Brig.</b>	<b>91.30%</b>	<b>(8)</b> <sup>6</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....36	<i>Actual</i> .....46
<b>93rd Inf. Brig.</b>	<b>89.18%</b>	<b>(9)</b> <sup>9</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....27	<i>Actual</i> .....37

### BRIGADE STANDING

<b>10th Infantry</b>	<b>87.89%</b>	<b>(20)</b> <sup>18</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....1038	<i>Actual</i> .....1104
<b>104th Field Art.</b>	<b>87.42%</b>	<b>(21)</b> <sup>17</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....599	<i>Actual</i> .....632
<b>107th Infantry</b>	<b>86.30%</b>	<b>(22)</b> <sup>25</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....1038	<i>Actual</i> .....1054
<b>258th Field Art.</b>	<b>86.23%</b>	<b>(23)</b> <sup>22</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....647	<i>Actual</i> .....657
<b>108th Infantry</b>	<b>86.16%</b>	<b>(24)</b> <sup>21</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....1038	<i>Actual</i> .....1098
<b>105th Infantry</b>	<b>85.97%</b>	<b>(25)</b> <sup>24</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....1038	<i>Actual</i> .....1115
<b>106th Infantry</b>	<b>85.05%</b>	<b>(26)</b> <sup>26</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....1038	<i>Actual</i> .....1082
<b>State Staff</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>(1)</b> <sup>1</sup>	<i>Maximum</i> .....78	<i>Actual</i> .....74
<b>Brig. HdQRS. C.A.C.</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>(2)</b> <sup>2</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....11	<i>Actual</i> .....10
<b>87th Inf. Brig.</b>	<b>97.72%</b>	<b>(3)</b> <sup>3</sup>	<i>Maintenance</i> .....27	<i>Actual</i> .....43
<b>51st Cav. Brig.</b>	<b>92.95%</b>	<b>(1)</b> <sup>1</sup>	HdQRS. & HdQRS. Troop 101st Cavalry 121st Cavalry	
<b>93rd Inf. Brig.</b>	<b>92.04%</b>	<b>(2)</b> <sup>4</sup>	HdQRS. & HdQRS. Company 14th Infantry 165th Infantry	
<b>87th Inf. Brig.</b>	<b>91.67%</b>	<b>(3)</b> <sup>2</sup>	HdQRS. & HdQRS. Company 71st Infantry 174th Infantry 369th Infantry	
<b>Brig. HdQRS. C.A.C.</b>	<b>91.36%</b>	<b>(4)</b> <sup>3</sup>	HdQRS. & HdQRS. Detachment 212th Coast Artillery 244th Coast Artillery 245th Coast Artillery	
<b>52nd F. A. Brig.</b>	<b>88.85%</b>	<b>(5)</b> <sup>5</sup>	HdQRS. & HdQRS. Battery 104th Field Artillery 105th Field Artillery 106th Field Artillery 156th Field Artillery 258th Field Artillery	
<b>54th Inf. Brig.</b>	<b>86.45%</b>	<b>(6)</b> <sup>6</sup>	HdQRS. & HdQRS. Company 107th Infantry 108th Infantry	
<b>53rd Inf. Brig.</b>	<b>86.39%</b>	<b>(7)</b> <sup>7</sup>	HdQRS. & HdQRS. Company 10th Infantry 105th Infantry 106th Infantry	

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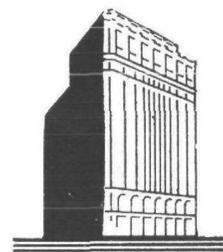
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Typical of all UNITED Hotels, the Onondaga anticipates your every want, provides you with ideal accommodations at reasonable rates . . . good, wholesome food . . . restful, well-ventilated rooms . . . attentive, efficient service. Central location, of course!

L. W. OSTERSTOCK  
*Manager*



**The TEN EYCK**  
*in Albany*

In the heart of downtown Albany, at State and Chapel, the Ten Eyck is especially convenient for all your business calls. A pleasant place to stop as well—comfortable rooms, wonderful food. Well appointed display and exhibition rooms.

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**OTHER UNITED HOTELS**

*Where the Same Comfort and Convenience are Found*

The Roosevelt in New York • The Bradford in Boston  
 • The Lawrence in Erie • The Robert Treat in Newark  
 • The Penn-Harris in Harrisburg • The Brunswick in Lancaster  
 • The Alexander Hamilton in Paterson • The Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia • The King Edward in Toronto.

*Be Comfortable: Travel*

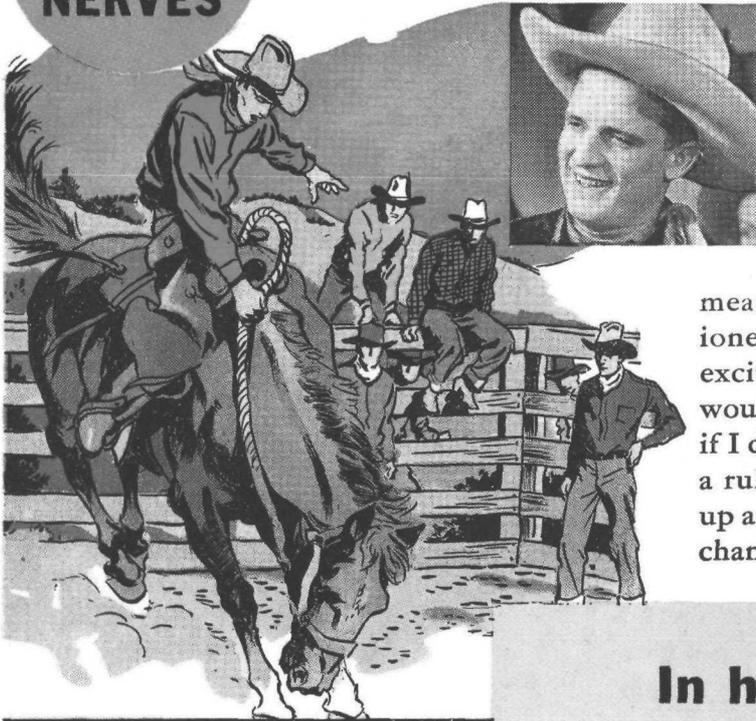


*the United Route*

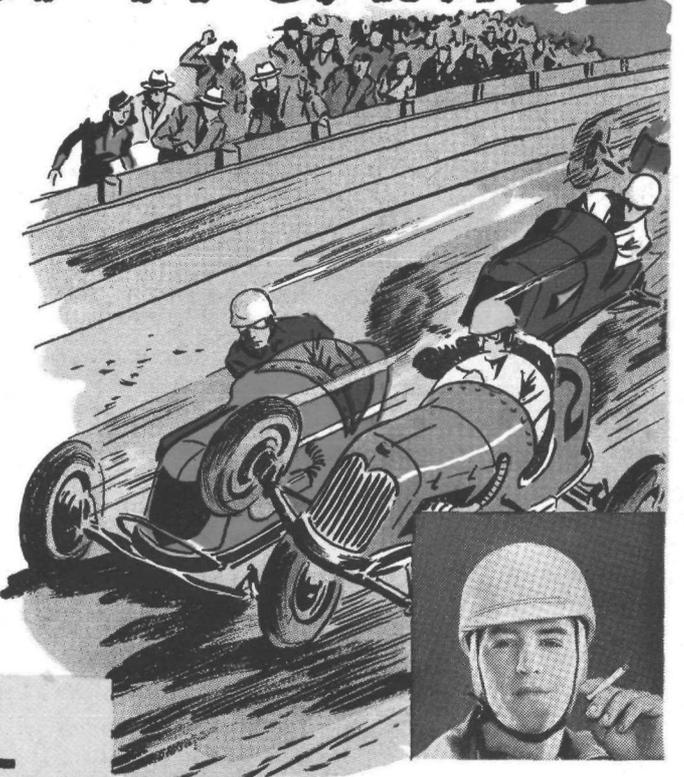
**YOUR HOME—TO AND FROM THE NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR 1939**

**WATCH  
YOUR  
NERVES**

# LET UP LIGHT UP A CAMEL



**BAREBACK RIDING TITLES** fall to rodeo star Carl Dossey (left) because of his splendid muscular control and the fact that he keeps his mind one jump ahead of the "bronc." But that means plenty of good old-fashioned nerve strain. "It's tough, exciting work," says Carl, "that would soon get my nerves jittery if I didn't ease off regularly. It's a rule with me to let up—light up a Camel every time I get the chance. Camels are comforting."



"AT TWO MILES A MINUTE on a dirt track anything can happen!" says Ernest Gesell, Jr. (above), who won a National Circuit Championship in midget auto-racing. "Skids, rolls, crashes put a big strain on nerves." It's a rule with him to give his nerves frequent rests—to let up—light up a Camel. He adds: "A pause with a Camel gives me a wonderful sense of well-being."

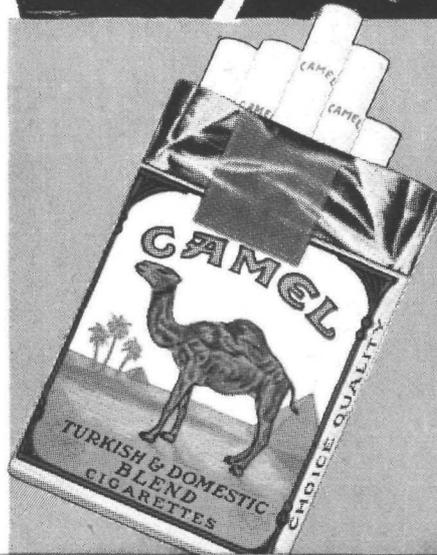
**In hazardous jobs —  
in every-day "grinds"  
— smokers say  
"CAMELS ARE SOOTHING  
TO THE NERVES"**



**JOAN NELLIGAN** is a proof-reader. She doesn't live a hazardous life, but there's plenty of nerve strain in the close work she does. She concentrates intensely to keep mistakes from getting into print. "When I feel 'nerve fag' coming on," she says, "I let up—light up a Camel. Camels soothe my nerves. I can smoke as many as I please. Camels are so mild, and they never tire my taste!"



**TWO AND ONE-HALF MILLION** miles of flying without an accident—the first pilot to fly the air mail *at night* (by road map and flashlight). Meet Captain James H. (Jack) Knight, United Air Lines. "I make it a firm rule to keep my nerves from getting strained and jumpy," says Captain Knight. "Every opportunity, in the air or aground, I let up—light up a Camel. Camels are really soothing!"



**COSTLIER  
TOBACCOS**

Smoke 6 packs of Camels and find out why they are the **LARGEST-SELLING CIGARETTE IN AMERICA**



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R. J. Reynolds Tobacco  
Company  
Winston-Salem, N. C.

(left) **A GORDON SETTER** is a handsome dog to be proud of. It's a thrill to watch his flashing action. And it's a valuable lesson to observe that after strenuous activity, this dog suddenly halts...relaxes! Though his nervous system is high-strung like our own, the dog responds to the instinctive urge to rest. We don't usually look after our nerves that well. Perhaps you have often willed yourself on... ignoring nerve strain. Try breaking that nerve strain occasionally—pause now and then—LET UP—LIGHT UP A CAMEL! Camels are a matchless blend of finer, *more expensive* tobaccos.