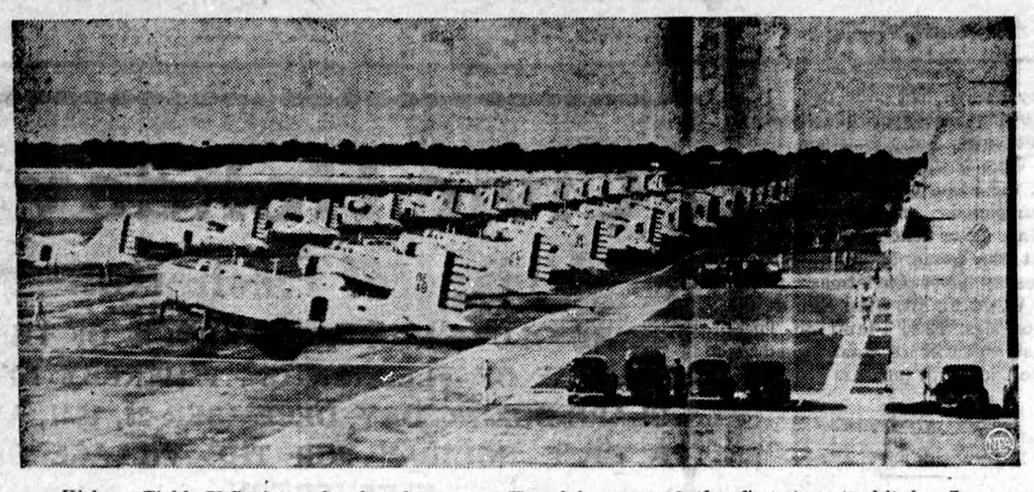
HICKAM FIELD



Hickam Field, U.S. Army bomber base near Honolulu—one of the first targets hit by Japanese bombers in sudden attack. Pictured above are U.S. Army bombers lined up on the field.

The Book Shelf

SPENLOVE IN ARCADY

by William McFee

Chief Engineer Spenlove, at the age of fifty-eight, retires from many years at sea to a little farm in Connecticut, there to spend the remainder of his days quietly and alone. His adventurous life, as any sea-faring life must be, was over — so he thought. But he fell in love!—and for the first time.

McFee, himself an old sailor with a life-long knowledge and love of the sea, unfolds the tale of Spenlove's greatest adventure with charm and master craftsmanship and brings this lovable character through romance to a happy haven of home and companionship.

Spenlove in Arcady . . . by William McFee . . . The Macmillan Co. of Canada . . . Price $3.00.

What Has Become Of Secret Weapon?

Ernst Udet, second only to Goering in Nazi aviation, was killed while experimenting with a new type of firearm, comments The New York Times. It sends the mind back to Hitler's secret weapon. He announced it more than a year ago as the trick that would settle England's business. What has become of the secret weapon? What is its nature? Speculation at the time included flying tanks for the invasion of England, new bombs, new U-boats, gas, microbes, practically everything.

Is it conceivable that Hitler's secret weapon, upon which he has been experimenting so long, could be something in the nature of repentance, truth, honor, mercy, or in that general line? It might explain his failure to make headway with it.

Have You Heard?

After examining the private's damaged leg, the M.O. diagnosed a dog bite. Then, as a legpull, he added:

"Perhaps the dog had rabies."

"All right," said the patient; "hand me a pencil and paper, please."

"Oh, there's a good chance. You needn't make a will yet."

"I'm making no will," replied the private, with fiendish grin; "it's a list of the sergeants I'm going to bite!"

—v—

Newspaper Contributor (in letter): "I am a speedy worker. I finished the enclosed article in an hour and thought nothing of it."

Editor (replying): "I got through your article in a fraction of that time and thought just the same."

—v—

A certain famous film star visited the Highlands and stopped for refreshment at a farmhouse. She was given some milk in a little bowl and while she was drinking it a pig trotted up to her.

"See," she explained, delighted, "even the little pegg he recognize me."

"It's no' you he recognises," said the farmwife, "it's his wee bowlie."

—v—

A schoolmaster was trying to explain the word "widower" to his class. "What would you call a man who had just lost his wife?" he asked.

"Very careless," was the reply of a bright boy.

—v—

"Do you really love me, Alfred?" asked the girl.

"Ethel, I refer you to my last letter," replied the young man. " 'Devotedly' is on the first page, 'madly' on page three, 'passionately' on pages four and five, and 'til death do us part' in the postcript. I cannot be more explicit, Ethel!"

—v—

Domestic: "I hear that you need a cook?"

Mistress: "Thank you, but I have just hired one."

Domestic: "Very well, I'll call again tomorrow."

—v—

Mrs. Jones (showing her guest a home-made radio): "My husband made the cabinet as well."

"Oh, did he work to a design?" asked the guest.

"No," said Mrs. Jones. "He made it out of his head and he's got enough wood left over for a small table."

CHECKING ZERO HOUR?

Japan's special envoy, Saburu Kurusu, right, looks at his watch at about the time Japanese bombers were attacking Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He is pictured with Japanese Ambassador Nomura, as they awaited conference with Secretary of State Hull.

MODERN ETIQUETTE

BY ROBERTA LEE

1. What is one of the most improper topics of conversation?
2. Is it correct to leave the spoon in the cup when drinking tea or coffee?
3. Who suggests retiring, the overnight visitor or the hostess?
4. When accepting an invitation to a dance may a girl ask her hostess' permission to invite a young man with whom the hostess is not acquainted?
5. Isn't there a distinction between a person who is persevering and one who is obstinate?
6. Is it permissible to write "City" when addressing a letter to a person who lives in the same city?

Answers

1. Discussing illness. The height of social misconduct is to talk of sores, pus, ulcerated teeth, colds, mucus, boils, corns, eczema, or an other physical imperfections. It is much better to discuss these subjects only with your doctor. 2. No; the spoon should be placed in the saucer after the contents of the cup are stirred. 3. The hostess. 4. Yes; but do not invite him without this permission. 5. Yes, there is quite a strong distinction. It has been said, "The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't." 6. No; the name of the town should be written.

London has collected sufficient metal scrap to make 3,000 tanks.

HOW CAN I?

BY ANNE ASHLEY

Q. How can I keep the house plants in good condition?

A. New life often can be given to the house plant by applying a teaspoon of castor oil around the roots.

Q. How can I remove cigarette stains from the fingers?

A. Obstinate cigarette stains on the fingers can be removed by means of well-soaked pumice stone and hot water. Plain lemon juice will remove lighter stains.

Q. How can I avoid scratching the table when cutting out material from patterns?

A. Before cutting the material, it is a wise plan to spread out the table mat on the surface of the table. If cut on this surface, the scissors will slide along much easier and will not scratch the table.

Q. How can I be sure that flowers will stay fresh when sending them to someone in another town?

A. One way to keep them fresh is to cut small holes in a piece of raw potato and insert the stems.

Cats Get Milk If They Get Rats

Cats may have a milk ration only if engaged in vitally important work—catching rats and mice—the British House of Commons was told by Major Gwilym Lloyd George, Parliamentary Secretary to the Food Ministry.

Even on this basis, supplies cannot be guaranteed, he said in announcing the Ministry's ruling, so it may become a question of less milk and more rats.

Lace of Four Queens

Beautiful old lace which once belonged to four Queens of England is part of the collection flown by bomber to the United States for the benefit of a British war charity.

The Queen herself preesnted to it a bridal veil believed to be worth £4,000. Queen Mary sent some lovely pieces, including examples of the lace wor which England is renowned and a deep flounce of point de gaze which belonged to Queen Alexandria. There were gathered for the collection rare Valenciennes, once worn by Queen Charlotte, Venetian point lace that graced the gowns of Marie Antoinette, beautiful pieces of point de Flandres, Brussels, Irish, Chantilly, point d'Alencon and England's own Honiton.

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What Science Is Doing

SHEEP'S LIFE

For the average sheep, fame is only skin deep. The best he can hope for, after parting periodically with his wooly shirt, is a fleeting hereafter in the form of a framed diploma. But Billy Wassermann 2nd is different. He is a sheep with a career. For four years he has lived in honored comfort at the Montefore Hospital for Chronic Diseases. Of a summer he grazes on the hospital's lawn, an object of admiration for the children of the northern Bronx. For the winter he is now ensconed in a penthouse apartment atop the hospital, with all the hay and oats he can eat.

The reason for this special attention is that Billy fulfils a vital function. Every fortnight or so he graciously permits a doctor to draw from his veins a small amount of blood. Its red corpuscles serve to diagnose human syphilis in the well-known Wassermann test. Nearly 10,000 such tests have been made routinely with the corpuscles supplied by this one sheep.

This particular animal happens to have come into the news. But there are many other creatures of the laboratory to whom a debt is owed for their role, involuntary though it be, in maintaining and advancing human health, and science need not be sheepish about acknowledging that debt. Cows provide vaccine, horses manufacture anti-toxin, chickens indicate the value of hormone products, rats respond quantitatively to doses of newly discovered vitamins, mice run through mazes and unravel the fundamental springs of animal behavior. Some of these test animals must inevitably be martyrs to the progress of physiological knowledge. It is comforting to know that the specimens used are invariably given the fullest consideration consistent with their function and that, in the case of such stout veterans as Billy the sheep, they become well-loved pets of the laboratory.

MALAYA CHIEF

The commander of empire troops in British Malaya, Maj.-Gen. A. E. Percival.

Calling Norwegians In North America

Norwegian male subjects from 20 to 37 years old in the United States and Canada soon will be called for military service, Lieut.-Col. Arne D. Dahl of the Norwegian Military Mission to North America stated.

With about 3,000 eligible Norwegians in Canada and thousands more below the border, he said there may be enough for a division—12,000 to 15,000 men.

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PLUG SMOKING TOBACCO

Bennett Stays Night At Labor Hostel

Viscount Bennett recently lived overnight the lives of factory workers occupying a North Midlands war workers' hostel.

After an address in which he impressed on workers the necessity of a speed-up in production, the former Canadian prime minister went into the big communal dining room, loaded his tray with food and later carried the dishes to a washing-up hatch.

Lord Bennett slept in a cubicle-type bedroom containing two beds and running hot and cold water. He said he found the hostel cleaner, more convenient and more comfortable than many up-to-date hotels he had stayed in during his travels around Britain on behalf of the ministry of supply.

Plumb-bob The Cat Solves a Problem

The Todd-California Shipbuilding Corporation was in a dither. The engineers were stumped. The electricians were dismayed.

The problem facing them was to run a cable through the 12-inch conduit pipe which ran from the British Purchasing Commission to the fitting-out dock—a distance of 200 feet. The pipe was two feet underground and too small for a man or practically anything else to go through.

Suddenly an idea was conceived. A solution was brought to the scene.

The "solution" was Plumb-Bob, alias Toddy, the shipyard cat.

A chalk line was tied around Plumb-Bob's neck, and he was placed at the end of the pipe. Without a moment's hesitation he disappeared.

An anxious crowd of engineers, electricians, and maintenance men waited at the other end of the conduit. In a few minutes Plumb-Bob walked nonchalantly out into the sunlight again, pulling the chalk line. The hero had done his part.

The cable was hooked to the line and pulled through. The engineers got down off their stumps; the electricians stopped sweating, and peace was restored.

Plumb-Bob's genius was rewarded with a hero's dues.

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Seagull Nearly Wrecked 'Eagle'

A seagull came close to ending the fighting career of an American pilot flying against the Germans—that and a storm of bullets which somersaulted and shattered his plane.

Sergeant Pilot John J. Mooney of East Hempstead, Long Island, an Eagle Squadron fighter, told his own story of near escapes on an offensive patrol along the Netherlands coast:

"I was flying low over some fighting boats near the Dutch coast when I flew among some seagulls and saw one go apparently through my propeller.

"Later, when I attacked gunposts, my engine out out and gave off black smoke every time I put the nose down. I couldn't figure it out until I got back and found a gull—or rather feathers, for that was all that was left of it—jammed in my air intake.

"During the attack, the plane was blown over on its back by ack-ack (anti-aircraft fire), the radio was smashed and the craft was riddled. I got back by skimming the waves all the way."

Mooney's Spitfire was hit by three cannon shells and some 30 machine gun bullets.

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