

AMERICAN DEFENSE COMMENT

By C. S. THOMPSON
FOUNDER AMERICAN DEFENSE SOCIETY

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eaders of this Defense Comment are in favor of "The Searchlight Congress," will do well to keep in...

in a recent paper before an Anglo-American audience at Rome, David Lubin of San Francisco made the suggestion of a league of democracies against autocracies.

The Army and Navy Journal, in a recent issue, prints a forecast of what the Navy will have to do now that it has been declared.

Reports received from various sections of the country by the American defense society prove a growing interest among educators and high school students in the Junior American Defense society.

Signal Quartermaster Leo H. Lukens of the U. S. Coast Guard Service, Austrian by birth, has received a gold medal from the Sons of the Revolution for knocking senseless a man who wiped his hands with the American flag in New York city.

Four thousand boys and girls, members of patriotic organizations, crowded the Hippodrome in New York one day recently and, with their vocal strength, vowed allegiance to their country and the flag.

In a recent article in "The Nation's Business," which is the official organ of the United States Chamber of Commerce, Bascom Little sums up the defense situation today with the following heading: "Experts call the National Guard a bulwark of straw; the regular Army cannot get recruits; the volunteer system is obsolete; security lies in Universal Service."

"Of course we all want peace, but not at the price of American honor and the continued and inhuman sacrifice of the lives of American citizens while engaged in their lawful and peaceful pursuits."

Importance of engineers in Army plans was pointed out to members of the American Institute of Mining Engineers by Captain Stuart C. Godfrey, an instructor in the United States Military academy, when the engineers visited West Point recently.

Warning that there may be trouble between the United States and Japan if this country does not change its attitude toward the Japanese, was uttered at a Washington's Birthday dinner in New York by Dr. T. Lyenaga, regarded by many as an official spokesman for the Nippon government.

According to Howard E. Coffin, of the Naval Consulting Board, it is the duty of the business men of the United States to see that the men on the front line—the men of the Army and the Navy—shall lack for nothing from shoe laces to 16-inch shells.

Anyway the people look forward with calm confidence that Congress will supply the usual full line of talk.

ARTHUR L. RICE DEPUTY SCOUT COMMISSIONER
Founder of Wilmette Troop Honored By Chicago Council—Eight Snare Drums Are Presented Boys.

Arthur L. Rice, founder of the Boy Scout movement in Wilmette, has been appointed Deputy Scout Commissioner for the north shore suburban district by the board of trustees of the Chicago council.

CAUSTIC COMMENTS

The Pacifists propose to have peace even if they have to lick everyone in sight.

Even the fellow who enlisted for fear of what people will say if he doesn't, may make an excellent soldier.

Some people will let a house remain empty for months rather than spend a few cents for a little To Rent ad.

The spies would much better watch out, with 500,000 federal employees, mostly skilled politicians, gumshoeing after them.

A keen desire is manifested by the automobiles in this nice spring weather to get out and get fined for overspeeding.

The report that the British will capture Jerusalem is not an intimation that they will soon make a descent on New York city.

Uncle Sam has concluded that whereas it is fairly safe sitting up on top of the picket fence, it is exceedingly uncomfortable.

Still another case of strategic retirement to carefully prepared positions occurs when the editor perceives the spring poet coming in.

There are some people who can't support the United States government in this crisis, but they don't seem to want to remove to any other country.

While un-American talk is irritating to the last degree, the really dangerous spies and plotters keep their mouths shut and look quite inoffensive.

After denouncing the government for failure to conserve resources, millions of people will again this summer let sizable back yards remain uncultivated.

The rustle of the seed catalog leaves is heard in the land, but will the squash of the hoe in the damp earth be equally prominent?

About this time the coal companies usually reduce their price, and claim great credit because it is only 25 cents higher than it was a year ago.

No Easter egg rolling took place on the White House grounds this year. Not so much perhaps on account of the war crisis, as that such inordinate display of wealth was not considered good taste at this time.

Among the pleasures which the newspaper publishers felt like denying themselves during Lent, was that of inserting those long write-ups of entertainments without charge.

The soprano singer need not feel that the message of Easter failed to reach the people merely because she did not strike the high C with a purely bird-like note.

Stagette and Suffragette are now synonymous. The latter refers to a political party and the former to a social party. If you fail to see the point try to break in at a stagette and you will probably feel it.

RANK OF ARMY OFFICERS DETERMINED AT GLANCE

Insignia Worn On Shoulder Straps Designate Various Grades of Command—Stars for Generals.

In these war days, when officers of the regular army are required to wear their uniforms at all times, it is not difficult to know at a glance the rank of every officer, if the following little allegory be remembered:

Generals have stars on their shoulders, colonels, an eagle, lieutenant colonels a maple leaf, majors an oak leaf, captains, two bars, first lieutenants one bar and second lieutenants no bar at all. The allegory:

The second lieutenant enters into service with the world before him. When he has become a first lieutenant he has climbed one bar. When he gets his captaincy he has climbed another bar. Over the bars is the oak leaf and above the oak leaf the maple leaf. Soaring majestically high above the trees is the eagle and in the blue vault of heaven above all others are the stars—the leaves of the major and lieutenant colonel, the eagle of the colonel and the stars of the general. That's the significance of the insignia.

FORD CAR BATTERS DOWN A CONCRETE LAMP POST

Emerges from Collision with Traffic Sentinel Practically Uninjured—Post Left a Total Wreck.

When the city fathers decided to put up traffic posts at the principal street intersections in Crossett, Ark., they took counsel with themselves and decided the situation demanded something emblematic of the stability of the authority behind the traffic ordinance, so they ordered heavy concrete posts about ten inches square at the base, slightly tapered toward the top.

But little recked the city fathers of the destructive forces to which these dumb directors of the street traffic would be exposed.

At a late hour the other evening a prominent citizen of Crossett was hurrying homeward in his Ford car. It was Sunday night—almost Monday morning—a busy week portended and the anxious driver opened the throttle another notch as the Ford sped down the avenue.

After an inventory of damage, amounting to one cracked headlight lens and a dented oil cup, the prominent citizen climbed back into the Ford and hastened on his way.

Lent being supposed to be a time for considering sins, many people have observed it by considering other people's offenses.

About now the American youth joyously celebrates the return of spring by putting a baseball through the kitchen window.

Is it not funny the way prosperity affects people? Some take it as a matter of course and continue in the even tenor of their way. Others imagine the community cannot get along without them—and then wonder why prosperity starts to cross the street.

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When the boys are driven off private land they are told they must play ball in the street, and when they are driven off the street they are told they must play on private land.

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