

How's Cow? All Middies Must Know

By HAL BOYLE
Associated Press Staff Writer

Annapolis—Learning the technique of atomic warfare at sea doesn't worry a midshipman in his first year at the U. S. Naval Academy.

But it is highly important that he know by rote the answers to certain important questions incessantly asked him by upper classmen.

For example, if he is asked what a ship weighs when she leaves port, he is expected to stand smartly at attention and reply:

"Her anchor, sir."

And if a third year man should inquire with feigned innocence what time it is, the hapless plebe must answer rapidly but distinctly:

"Sir, I am greatly embarrassed and deeply humiliated that due to unforeseen circumstances over which I have no control, the inner workings and hidden mechanisms of my chronometer are in such incoherence with the great sidereal movement with which time is commonly reckoned, that I cannot with any degree of accuracy state the exact time, sir. But without fear of being very far wrong, I will state that it is five minutes, eight seconds and two ticks past the fourth hour, sir."

NO LEVITY, OF COURSE

Should an upper classman then solicitously wish to know how long the embryo officer has been in the navy, he must rattle back:

"All me bloomin' life, sir! Me mother was a mermaid, me father was King Neptune. I was born on the crest of a wave and rocked in the cradle of the deep. Seaweed and barnacles are me clothes. Every tooth in me head is marlin-spike; the hair on me head is hemp. Every bone in me body is a spar, and when I spit, I spit tar. I's hard, I is, I am, I are."

He must also learn that the only answer to the question "how long is a Chinaman?" is: "Yes, sir." And the standard reply if asked how long is a piece of string: "No, sir."

There is of course, to be no levity about the whole business.

ANCIENT CUSTOM

The answer to these and other timely questions are all put down for the plebe in a little book called "Reef Points" which intrudes him into a time-honored custom of the academy. It is all part of the unofficial indoctrination into the spirit of discipline that pervades the U. S. Navy and the military services of all countries, the first step toward accepting obedience to higher authority.

That is part of the long theory behind ridiculously asking "how is the cow?" and gravely listening while a beginning "middy" repeats time after time in solemn absurdity:

"Sir, she walks, she talks, she's full of chalk. The lactical fluid extracted from the female of the bovine species is highly prolific to the 'nth degree.'"

Yes, it sounds silly. Yet sometimes in combat a naval officer is ordered to complete a dangerous task that mistakenly seems as ridiculous to him as that query of his plebe days.

But high decisions aren't for him to question. The navy has to work on the basic principle that, when the cards are down and life itself is at stake, the officers will always "tell how the cow is."

Parking Lot

Licensing O. K.'d

New York—All garages and parking lots in New York City will be required to have licenses by Sept. 30 under a new local law signed by Mayor William O'Dwyer.

The law, designed to curb abuses in the industry, was signed yesterday after a public hearing. Benjamin Fielding, commissioner of licenses, announced that licenses will be issued beginning Sept. 1.

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Flashes of Life

Baby Revived on Embalming Table Pronounced Dead Second Time



TOPS IN STATE—Laverne Dann of Tunnel, left, is congratulated today by Dr. Garry T. Stone, farm labor assistant of the Broome County Farm Bureau, after winning \$400 4-H club scholarship.

Tunnel Youth Wins Award

A Broome County farmer's son today had taken top place in statewide 4-H Club competition to win a \$400 college scholarship.

The winner is 17-year-old Laverne Dann, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wellington Dann of Tunnel.

Laverne was awarded the \$400 Esso 4-H Club Scholarship on the basis of all-around achievement in 4-H Club work. The selection was announced by J. P. Hertel, secretary of the State College of Agriculture, Cornell University, and chairman of the selection committee.

The Tunnel youth, who was graduated as valedictorian from Japansville Central School in June, has applied for entrance to Cornell this fall. He was president of his high school Honor Society.

Laverne, who has been a 4-H Club member for eight years, is president of the Broome County 4-H Dairy Club, vice-president of the county 4-H Club Council, boys' leader of the Dye's Bridge 4-H Club and immediate past president of the county 4-H Club Band.

In his senior high school year, he was president of the three-county Rural Central School Student Council.

Last December, he won a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress at Chicago as winner of statewide 4-H Club dairy competition.

In last year's Broome County Fair, he won the showmanship championship and will defend this title Tuesday at this year's fair.

Scottoriggio Probe Continued

New York—General Sessions Judge John J. Sullivan has extended to Oct. 7 the life of the New York County grand jury investigating the fatal beating of Joseph Scottoriggio, Republican poll worker, on election day last November.

The extension was granted yesterday on request of District Attorney Frank S. Hogan.

KICKS TO ORDER

New Bern, N. C.—Folks who feel the need of a swift kick in the pants can still get it—self-administered.

The unique self-kicking apparatus set up by Craven County Commissioner Tom Haywood will be continued in service by popular demand.

Haywood, whose place is on the main highway between New Bern and Morehead City, a popular beach town, had thought of retiring the machine.

The kicker, consisting of a belt driven hub with four shoe-mounted arms, is driven by a crank, from which the penitent can back squarely into position. It has worn out its 10th belt and its sixth set of shoes.

FANCY EXCUSE

Amherst, Mass.—The next time you bump into a door the result is ochymosis of the conjunctive and the periorbital cuticular tissues, which the University of Massachusetts extension service says is the proper name for a common black eye.

SOLID MARRIAGE

Niagara Falls—Honeymooners visit Niagara Falls in vehicles of all vintages, sizes and shapes. Parking attendants said a honeymoon pair showed up in a cement mixer.

Tree Cutter Killed

Whitehall—John Matello, 40, of Whitehall, was killed yesterday when a tree he was cutting kicked back from the stump. The tree struck him in the face and chest, breaking his neck.

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Beckley, W. Va.—(INS)—A premature baby, boy who was taken to a funeral home presumably dead, then revived on an embalming table, died today in Raleigh General Hospital here.

Dr. Fred Richmond, to whom the hospital referred all calls concerning the infant, reported the baby was pronounced dead officially at 12:15 a. m. by Dr. P. E. Vaughn.

Dr. Richmond explained that a student nurse whose name he didn't know contacted the Rose Funeral Home yesterday after she noticed the infant had not stirred in its incubator for several hours.

He added that the nurse probably assumed the baby was dead because of its inactivity and comments of doctors who had said in her presence that there was "no hope" for the two-pound infant.

CHILD PREMATURE

Richmond said the baby had been rushed from its birthplace, 15 miles from Beckley, on Thursday, shortly after it was delivered three months prematurely by Dr. Newman of Lillybrook, W. Va.

Dr. Richmond added that he "did not believe the baby had been pronounced dead officially the first time."

The infant's mother, Mrs. Delbert Warden of Coal City, W. Va., remained in her home after giving birth. Mrs. Warden's husband is a coal miner.

Funeral Director Douglas Bryant reported that he did not cover the baby's body when he got it at the hospital, but took it directly to the embalming room.

GIVES ACCOUNT

He gave the following account: "First I got a piece of cotton and put it under the baby's chin to keep its mouth shut, then squeezed on its chest to remove any possible obstruction."

"The baby's head snapped back and I heard a gasp but thought it was just gas escaping from the baby's chest so I did the same thing again. This time the baby gasped, started breathing, and then began to cry."

Bryant said that he finally "got calmed down long enough to get to a phone and call the hospital." He added that hospital attendants found the baby "very much alive" and immediately put it in an incubator.

The funeral director declared that he used balls of cotton soaked in hot water for five minutes to help revive the infant.

'WHEEL' OF A NOTE

New York—With a perspiring passenger in evening dress lending an inept hand, the driver of a horse-drawn carriage attracted a Times Square audience estimated at 2,000 with his frantic efforts to dislodge a wheel which became stuck in an abandoned trolley car line rail at 1:30 a. m. today.

The carriage, which usually runs in Central Park, finally was freed by a police emergency squad using jacks.

Quiz Ex-G.I. About Other Sex Crimes

Pittsburgh—(INS)—State police said today they planned to question the confessed sex slayer, of little 5-year-old Carol Ann Thompson of Lansdale, in an effort to link him with other sex crimes along the Eastern Seaboard.

Their decision to quiz John Henry Fay, 33-year-old itinerant steelworker from Marcus Hook, came after he admitted the attack on Carol Ann and the attempted attack on two of her two companions.

District Attorney Artemas C. Leslie said Fay, a former merchant marine and soldier, signed a confession admitting the brutal attack—murder of the blonde, blue-eyed girl after he lured her into a car by promising her an ice cream cone.

BODY IN WELL

Fay, the district attorney said, borrowed a car from a friend, John Mitchell of Chester, last May 12. Leslie quoted Fay as saying he picked up Carol Ann about sundown and drove about five miles.

"When I turned off the main highway," Fay's confession read, "the girl became frightened and screamed."

"I put my hand over her mouth until she was unconscious. When I was sure she was unconscious I attacked her," the confession said. Fay said he became panicky when he discovered she was dead and tossed her body into a well. It was found several hours later by a small boy.

ROOFTOP CHASE

Police said Fay was picked up Wednesday night after being pursued over five rooftops in McKeesport following the attack on a girl in the basement of a house.

Asked whether he felt better now that he had confessed, Fay said:

"I got more than that bothering me. I'd have been better off if I had died at that time I took poison."

Fay said he tried suicide in Chester July 5 at Chester. Friends took him to a hospital where he recovered.

Skeleton Prompts Questions

Eskimo Age Theory Confused by Discovery

Albuquerque, N. M.—(P)—Recent discovery of an ancient human skeleton in a stratus of pleistocene gravel on Alaska's Kodiak Island conflicts with long-held theories on the age of the Eskimo, Frank C. Hibben, curator of the University of New Mexico Museum of Anthropology, said today.

Hibben said the bones recently discovered there had aroused a series of new anthropological questions.

Anthropologists have claimed that the Eskimo dated back only a few hundred years before Christ, whereas the pleistocene gravel has an age of 10,000 years, B. C., Hibben said.

He advanced the theory the Eskimo fell into a crevice during some ice-age hunt, and may not be as old as the gravel in which he was found.

The skull of the skeleton, he reported, has all Eskimoid characteristics.

On the basis of his privately financed Alaskan trip, Hibben said he hoped to show how a group of people older than those of the Folsom culture came to New Mexico during the latest interglacial period.

Wolf Protectress

Atlanta, Ga.—(UPI)—Atlanta Post Office officials have been baffled in their search for someone named Betty Grady who will claim to be the leader of the American Women's Wolf Protective Association. Miz. or Mrs. Grady has a truckload of mail at the Atlanta post office.

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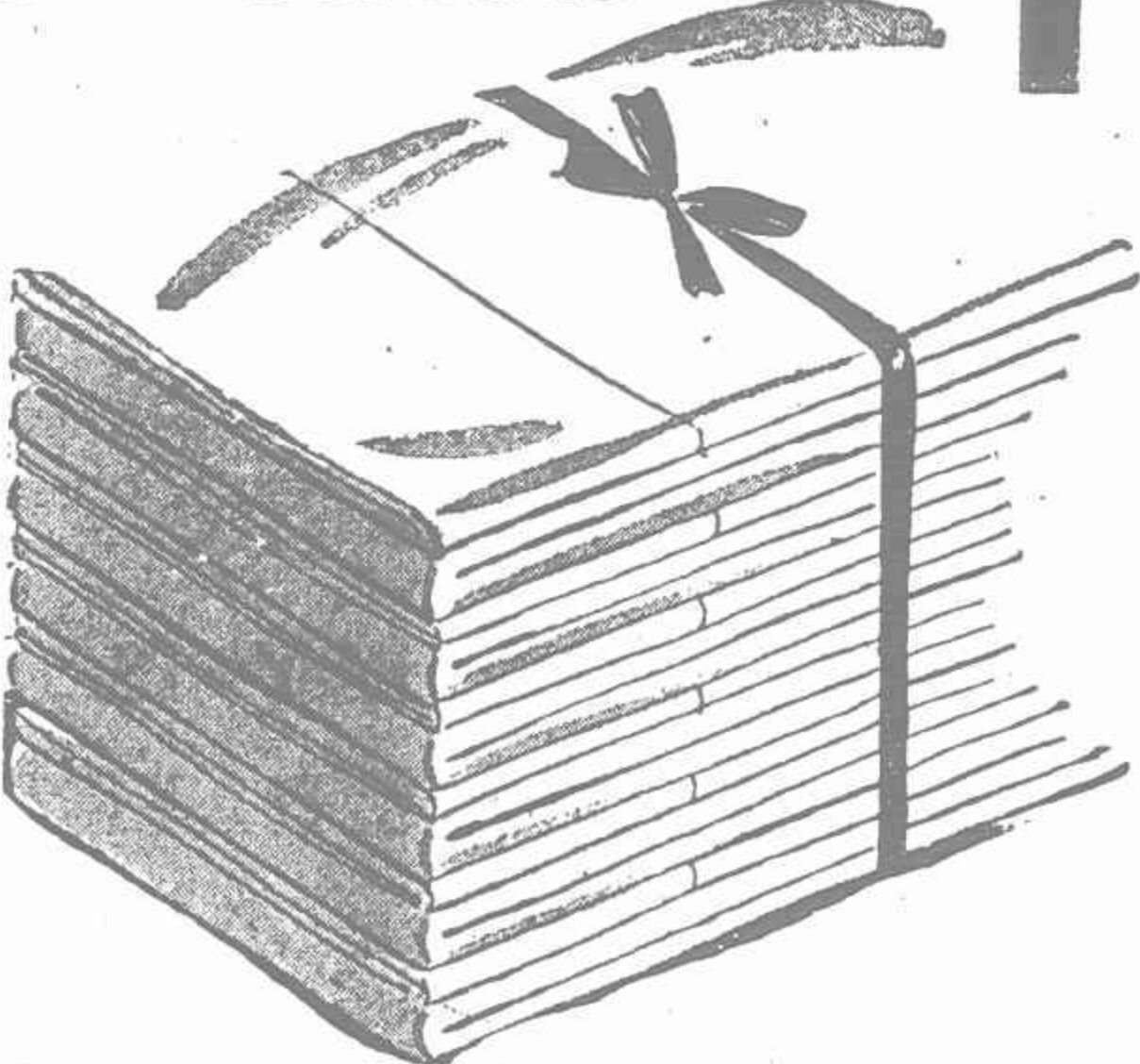
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Plane Found in Alps

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