



Clean Men for Clean Shots

The high tension of target practice and the routine of daily drill must be relieved by moments like the one pictured above. That Jack at play has his opportunity for relaxation and athletics is as important to the efficiency of the fleet as are the hours of drill and study.

The crack gun crew of our destroyer fleet loading for target practice is shown on the left. War conditions as nearly as possible are duplicated during this practice. The men work under a high nervous strain, and shots must be made in a set time. Rivalry between gun crews is intense. Every bit of action, from the cleaning of the rifling to the final command, "Fire!" is studied and continually rehearsed, so that there will not be a second's lost motion when the real action does come.

© Photographs by E. Muller, Jr., N. Y.