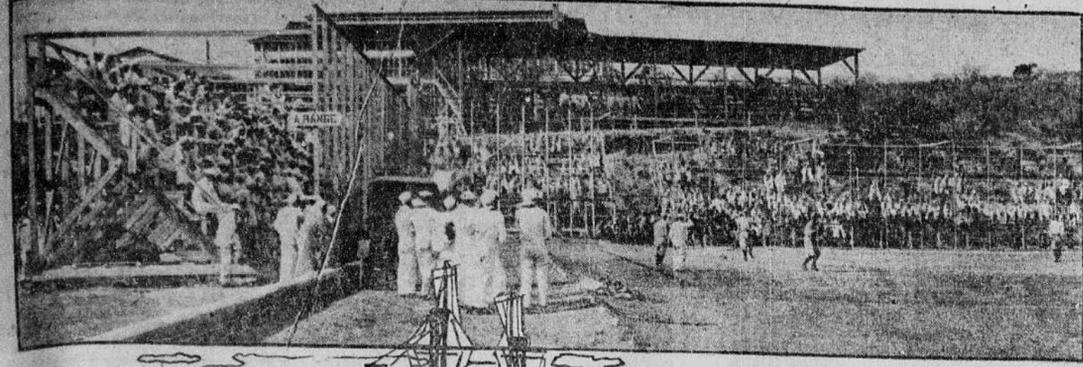


KEEPING THE NAVY AT PLAY IS A SERIOUS JOB



Baseball at Guantanamo. Finals at the Atlantic fleet are played off at this superb recreation ground

I'm sick of the dark, crowded city,
Its various noises and smells;
I'm through with the joints and the dance halls
And other similar hells;
I'm disgusted with painted-doll faces,
I'm done with their smeared, scarlet lips,
And thank God we're
For Guantanamo Bay
Join with the other big ships.

A few days at sea makes a difference;
Your mind gets the right view of things
When the waves roar their call all around you
And the wind 'cross the upper deck sings.
Then I long for the warm southern sunshine,
The ball field, the boat crew, the men,
And the old rifle range
Won't look a bit strange
When we get back to Cuba again.

There'll be smokers and fights and boat races,
When we're not out there steaming squads right,
And the shots that we'll bluff through the canvas
Won't leave a much prettier sight,
We are out to put "Es" on our turrets,
And collect a few cuds for the ship;
And at night, up on deck,
There'll be movies, by heck,
When we get down to Cuba this trip.
Commander E. A. Boehman, U. S. N.

By Arthur Chapman

IT ALWAYS takes a poet to express mass sentiment in the most approved way, and in these verses, which were written for "The Tennessee Tar," a daily and monthly publication issued in the interests of the sea on the U. S. S. Tennessee, the feeling of the enlisted men for the morale division of the navy has been well put.

The references to Guantanamo Bay, the ball field and the movies all mean more to the average sailor than to the mere outsider, for it is at Guantanamo Bay that the navy has established great recreation grounds, where baseball and all other sorts of healthful, inspiring sports are encouraged and where the sailors find pleasures which no other port can quite equal.

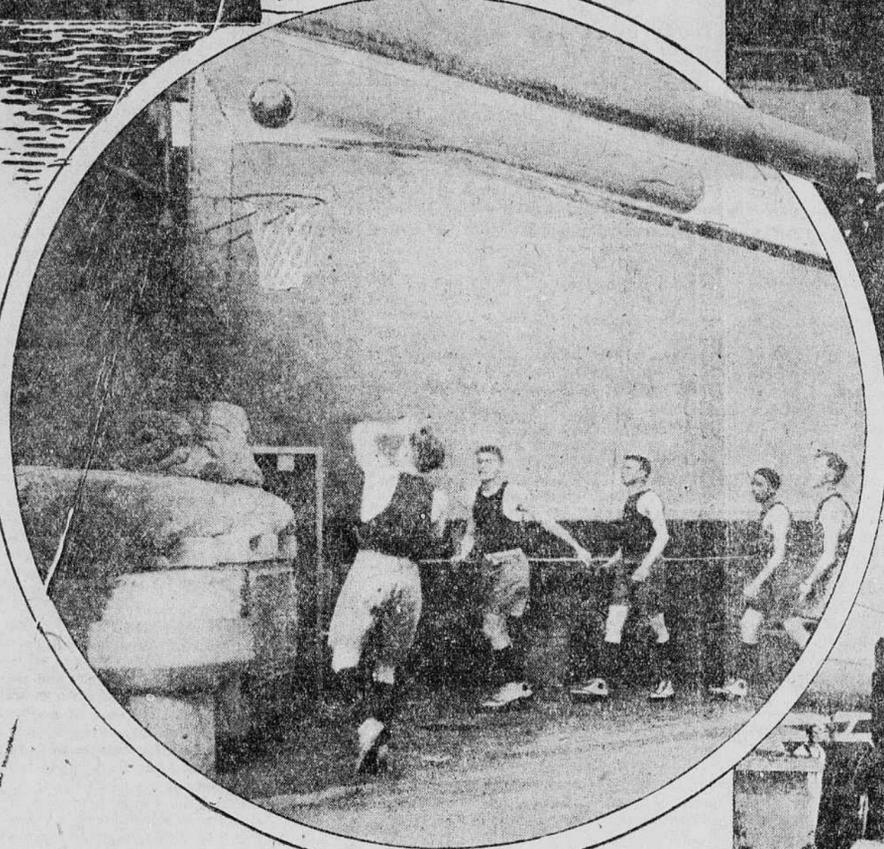
The American sailor, wherever you meet him, gives the impression of mental alertness as well as superb physical capabilities. He is no mere automaton, drilled to a point of exhaustion day after day. If you question him, no doubt you will find that he makes good use of the ship's library (if he doesn't he is likely to have awkward questions asked), that he is taking vocational education of some sort, that he knows something of dramatics and music, that he is capable at almost any sort of outdoor sport, that he is a steady reader of ship and station newspapers and that he never visits a big port that he does not make a thorough study of it from guide books which are provided and which he is supposed to master. This is the work of the morale division of the navy. "Morale" is a formidable word, but is the only word available. To quote from the Bureau of Navigation Manual, "Contentment of mind and body are the foundation on which good morale is built. This, plus determination to succeed, is the purpose for which the organization exists."

Through mental stimulation coming from good environment, information and education, not to speak of good amusement, the navy has found that the effectiveness of each individual is greatly enhanced and unnecessary sources of discontent are removed.

All this sounds simple enough, but providing education and good amusement for restless young men on constantly shifting ships is anything but easy. To be sure, the motion picture simplified matters considerably. Today the navy runs one of the largest film exchanges in the world. This exchange is located at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and it keeps in continuous circulation more than 2,000 shows of eight reels each among the ship and shore stations of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, the Mediterranean, South and Central American waters, the West Indies, the Philippines, Hawaii, Samoa and the different locations of the Asiatic station. The exchange has branches in various parts of the country and in the Canal Zone. Through these various agencies a constant supply of film is kept going to the ships and stations, no matter how far away. The sailor who is on duty in Vladivostok knows he is going to see as good a bill as the man who is stationed nearer home.

The "movie" exhibitions aboard ship are quite informal affairs. Bulletin boards announce that films will be shown in the evening. Soon after supper the sailors begin to congregate here and there about the quarterdeck to avoid the rush that is to come later. A steel frame and canvas screen have been rigged and the mess benches are arranged for seats, with chairs in front for the officers. Both sides of the screen are utilized and many of the sailors prefer the reverse side, where all the captions are transposed. Not a bad idea for those bored patrons of the films in town who find the general run of "movie" captions not to their taste.

There is no ban on comment so long as the men keep within certain bounds. In fact, the "wise cracks" from the wits of the messroom add to the enjoyment of the performance and

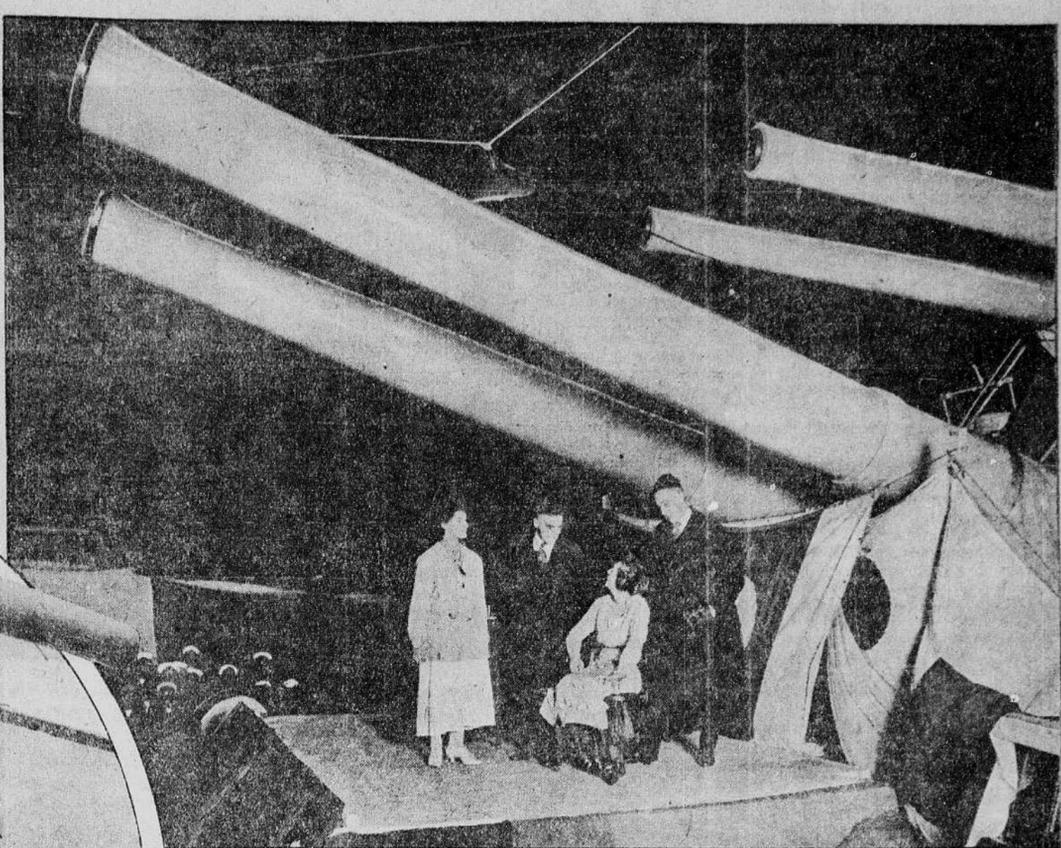


The deck of a battleship makes a fine place for a basketball game, and it is often used for such purpose

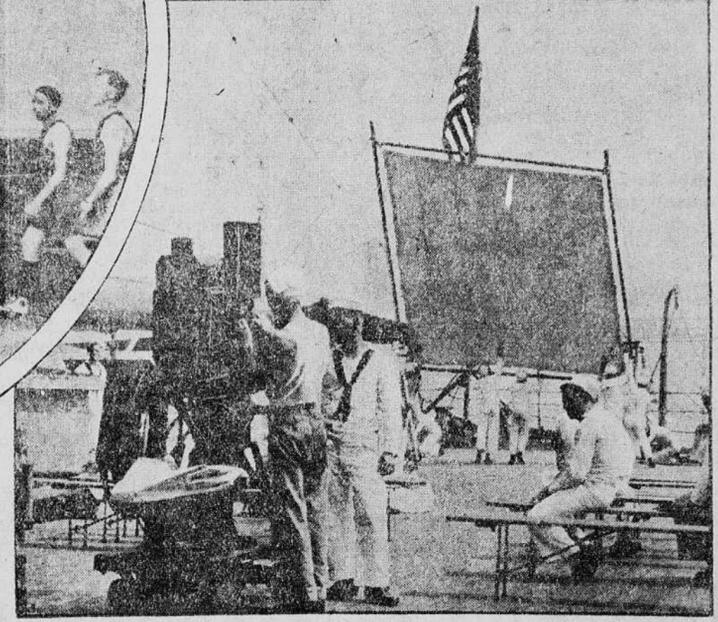
not infrequently the whole company is sent into a roar of laughter by some comment which perhaps would be anything but flattering to the film star making the picture.

On some ships, especially those stationed at Los Angeles, some unusually "sporty" crews go so far as to purchase films from regular exchanges, in addition to those provided by the navy. The money for these is provided from the welfare fund, which is created by the profits turned in by the ship's barber and cobbler, the laundry and other sources.

The big producers and the navy exchange work together and as soon as a production is released the navy has it. The subjects are leased for a period of three years, with the proviso that at the end of that time, which is about the period required for a film to circulate among all the navy's ships, the films must be returned. Occasionally, however, things happen to the films, as in the case of two eight-reel subjects which were being "packed" by a mule in Hayti and were lost with the animal in the Artibonite River. The Fairbanks-Hart-Mix red-blooded trium-



An entertainment under the big guns. Professionals often appear on such awe-inspiring stages, though for the most part the navy boys provide their own dramatic entertainment



Getting ready for a "movie" aboard ship. The boys like to sit on the reverse side and study out the inverted captions that show through the screen

virate is unbeatable in the eyes of the sailor-men. Among the women stars Mary Pickford is a prime favorite. The unnamed beauties featured by Mack Sennett are also favorites, probably because of their apparent fondness for the sea.

At Guantanamo Bay, where there are nearly always thousands of men, and where big ships

set new records in target practice, extensive recreation grounds have been laid out. Here the sailors from the various ships engage in hotly contested games of baseball and football and applaud while champions meet in boxing matches. These grounds are models of their kind, and it is no wonder that the sailors long to get back to Guantanamo Bay, where there

is always something stirring to keep healthy youths interested in life.

Among the amusements in the navy athletics come first, quite naturally. Then come the "movies" and then home talent, or rather "ship talent," drama. Commanding officers are instructed to encourage dramatic entertainments by their personnel, but such instruction is hardly needed, for it has been proved that good plays provide a never-ending source of entertainment for all on shipboard, from the commanding officer down. When professional entertainers can be hired to round out an evening's show they are secured from that same "welfare fund," but when the men are at station where no such talent can be secured they fall back on their own resources. Each ship has its actors, musicians, scene painters and playwrights. When a minstrel show is put on the "local gags" would mystify a land-lubber, but they make a hit with the sailormen. If a play is put on no detail of costuming or scenery is overlooked. Some surprisingly good things have been done aboard ship—and yet not so surprising when it is considered that the navy is made up of average young men from all parts of the country. These young men for the most part have a fair education, which they have improved in the navy. They are shrewdly critical when it comes to matters of entertainment, and when they are rightly encouraged, they show that they have constructive ideas of their own.

It is not alone through entertainment, however, that the morale of the navy is maintained. The American Navy is clean morally. It has had many battles with lax authorities in ports in all parts of the world and it has always come off victor. When any part of the United States Navy is scheduled to visit a port there is rejoicing in that favored spot. Yankee sailors are proverbially free with their money. But the navy has its emissaries looking the field over in advance. If their reports are not favorable authorities are told that certain conditions must be remedied. If no heed is paid to the hints perhaps shore leave is denied to the men. To have shore leave denied to perhaps 20,000 sailors when merchants have made preparation for the coming of those men would be nothing short of a calamity. The folks at home soon make it clear to the authorities that the navy's request for a clean port must be heeded.

In the matter of education the youthful sailor finds much in store for him along the lines of military and technical and vocational subjects as well as along general lines. Various trade schools have been established, to which men are transferred for study for special rating. Opportunities are provided at naval stations and aboard ship for technical and general education. Time is allowed for study. Courses which have been obtained from correspondence schools and extension divisions of colleges are forwarded to ships and stations. Also educational advisers are detailed for a limited time on request to assist the officers in carrying on instruction.

The ship's library is a matter of pride among officers and men. The assistance of the best librarians is obtained in making selections.

No doubt the navy was not always thus. One does not read of welfare organization work when Old Ironsides was flinging her flag to the breeze. But the navy was not compelled to meet the lure of a highly developed industrial life at that time. There was no question of holding men for the reason that good jobs were scarce on land. Competition for the right kind of young men has become keener all down the line, and the navy must meet this competition. One of the reasons why it is not only getting young men, but is holding them, in the face of all the allurements of big wages and varied amusements on shore, is the development of welfare work as outlined.

LITERALLY "THE BOYS" RULE IRELAND

By PADRAIC COLUM

DUBLIN.
YOU know how you feel when one of "the boys" does something that is very conspicuous. The thing is sensational—at least, it is sensational to you. And there seems to be a rivalry against more than ONE "of the boys" being in on the big things. It is sensational in the case of Harry, but it is incredible if to Harry's case are added Dick's and Tom's.

In Ireland the ruling is suspended. It is not ONE "of the boys" who is directing and controlling the affairs of the land. It is two, three, four, five and six "of the boys." In fact, ALL "the boys." And the short way of describing the new leadership in Ireland is to say that ALL "the boys" are in EVERYTHING.

And it is literally "the boys." Take Owen O'Duffy, who has been chief of staff and who is now the commissioner who is organizing the civil guard that is to take the place of the Royal Irish Constabulary. He might belong to an American college football team, a very swift, a very alert, a very clean-cut young man, marked for military leadership only by a very forward nose. And take Richard Mulcahy, who is commander in chief and Minister of Defense. He is in his early thirties and looks as if he were a quiet sort of student. He sits in the Dail as if he were used to being solitary; he speaks like one who has literary feeling, and in spite of his hard work and dire responsibilities he has humor—a sort of detached humor. The young man who has just succeeded Richard Mulcahy is even younger than the others. And at the age of twenty-eight Sean MacMahon becomes chief of staff in the Free State army.

All these young men have been in the fight for years; all of them have been hunted by the military and the Black and Tans; many of them have been in prison or in an internment camp; they were young professors, young journalists, young business men. Richard Mulcahy was a student; he was studying medicine when he became chief of staff to the secret republican army. While the military and the Black and Tans were hunting for the man who was directing the republican military operations this sensible-looking young student was working quietly away in his office in the National University. They are all extraordinarily simple young men; they are of the Puritan type, but Catholic mainly; they care nothing for luxury, lavishness or ceremony; they have little about them that is traditionally Irish—no droilery, no oratory, no swagger; they speak fluently in the Dail, but without gesture, or ornament or abundance of words. Such are the new leaders in Ireland.

The Anglo-Irish element has been completely displaced, and those in power are "kindly Irish of the Irish, neither Saxon nor Italian." The Macs and the O's have it all their own way. But nevertheless they are willing to take into the government some of the old governing class. That will have to be done discreetly, for at the moment the Irish people would become restive if they saw any sign of Dublin Castle coming back. Still, in the new constitution provision is being made for the taking in of men who could hardly hope to be returned to the Dail by popular election.

This will be through the creation of an unprecedented cabinet or ministerial council. The cabinet will be made up of about twelve members. But only four of them will be directly

responsible to the Dail. The other eight will be taken from outside. They will be chosen for their fitness to run various departments. A committee representing all the groups in the Dail (and the Dail, as one can see now, will be made up of several groups and not of two parties) will draw up a panel for the eight vacancies. The President will nominate the eight ministers from this panel. The four who are taken from the Dail will retire in the event of a cabinet defeat. The eight who do not belong to the Dail will not retire. They will go out only when the life of the Parliament expires, and, of course, they will be eligible for renomination. By this method of cabinet selection, through the wide selection through proportional representation to the first chamber the old Unionist element will be given a chance of co-operating in the government of Ireland.

The Dail, as I have suggested and as any one can see, will not be like the British House of Commons nor the American House of Representatives, but like the French Chamber or Italian Chamber. It will be made up not of two parties, but of perhaps half a dozen groups—a national bloc, a labor group, a farmers' group, a mercantile group, a university group and so on. The singular Cabinet arrangement alluded to will have the effect of checking—or, rather, blasting—the growth of a party system in Ireland. That is very much to the good; able men who could not conform to the exigencies of party can be drawn in to the business of administration, and can go on with their job without thinking of what way votes are going. And the formation of the Irish Cabinet will help toward the unification

(Continued on page four)