JOHN BODEN TO MANAGE RACE TRACK IN CANADA

John Boden, formerly of St. John, will have full charge of the racing t Delorimier and Dufferin parks, Montreal and Toronto respectively, next summer, it is reported.

Announcement is made by the Coney Island Jockey Club that during the season of 1910, for the two meetings at Sheepsheaad By, there would be distributed in prizes $250,000. This figure is only an estimate, and it is probable that the amount will run over rather than under when the books for the meetings are framed.

The Ring

New York, Dec. 31.—Matthew J. Clune, for years proprietor of the Vanderbilt Hotel, and one of the most popular sporting men in New York, died yesterday at 3.30 p. m. in his home at Peekskill (N. Y.) He had been ailing for some time, and recently had told his friends that he did not believe that he "would last for many more rounds."

"Matty" Clune, as he was favorably known, was one of the first to recognize John L. Sullivan's ability as a fighter, and one of the original backers of that great pugilist before and during the time he was champion of America.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—The first big bet here on the Jeffries-Johnson fight was recorded today, and the big Californian was made favorite. Harry Frazee, who is handling the Jeffries-Gotch tour, wagered $5,000 to $4,000 on Jeff, a broker taking the Johnson end. Speaking of Jim Corbett, Frazee said that Corbett's offer to help train the Californian would be accepted, and that Jeff would listen to every piece of advice that Corbett might hand out.

Bill Lang, the Australian heavyweight, who knocked out Bob Fitzsimmons in Sydney, Monday, is to visit the States under the management of Sam Fitzpatrick.

Phil Brock, the Cleveland lightweight has accepted terms of the Phoenix A. C. of Memphsis, for a match there January 3 with Tommy Devlin of Philadelphia. They will box eight rounds at 133 ponds at 3 o'clock.

Pat Moore, the best of the fighting family of that name, who showed such a wonderful form against Eddie Carr a few weeks ago, will have in Henry Meyers next Tuesday an opponent who is just as busy as Moore is in the ring.

Jim Barry, the Chicago heavy-weight, while passing through Memphis on his way to Hot Springs had a talk with Paddy Carroll, match-maker of the Phoenix A C. whom he authorized to match him against any heavy-weight he could secure. Al. Kaufman preferred.

In trying to arrange a card for January 11, the Armory A. A. of Boston is negotiating with Jack (Twin) Sullivan, Frank Mantell, Frank Klaus and Hugo Kelly, and the first pair to agree between themselves will get the date. Mantell and Sullivan cannot agree on weight, but Kelly or Klaus may see their way clear to waive any obligations.

In a fast and interesting bout Jahnny Glover of Boston won the decision over George Alger of Cambridge before the Appollo A. A. in Salem Wednesday night.

Jig Stone substituted in the semi-final and won from Harry Engle of the U. S. S. New Jersey in the first round. Kid Taylor of Haverhill bested Young Jefferson of Lynn in the preliminary.

Skating

Word has come from Saranac Lake that a movement is on foot to recognize the Eastern Skating Association and remove the officers who have declared war on the International Skating Union in the case of Champion Edmund Lamy, suspended by the former and reinstated by the last-named organization. The whole thing is a tempest in a teapot, and Lamy's worst sin appears to be that he is too good some of the speed boys.

Curling

In the Carleton curling rink last night in the rink medal competition, Skip Roy Drynan defeated Skip George Scott 12 to 11 and Skip Harold Estabrooks defeated Skip J. B. M. Baxter 12 to 10.

Baseball

Umpire James E. Johnstone was among the first to answer President Lynch's query as to who the real trouble makers were in the National League. The arbiter's reply was novel, inasmuch as he said he had so little trouble during the last three years that he was hardly qualified to point out the eral offenders. It will be remembered that Johnstone was with Billy Klem under the grand stand at the Polo Grounds last year when the alleged birbery attempt took place just prior to the deciding championship game between the Giants and Cubs. It may alse be remembered by the regular fans that Johnstone was barred from the same field the year previously by the police, who said they were acting on advice from the club. This followed a decision which nearly precipitated a riot the day previous.

Johnstone is a good umpire, and his decisions are usually received with calm and quiet. But if he is not qualified to whisper the names of some trouble makers to the new executive, who is?

"Eddie" Summers has signed a year's contract with the Detroits.

Bill Lange, one of the greatest in baseball, is said to have struck it rich in a mining proposition near Phoenix, Cal.

Football

The English Rugby Football Annual for 1909-10 published by the "Athletic News" of London and Manchester has been received by the Times. This compact little publication is of great value in this part of Canada as in the maritime provinces only is the English Rugby game played. It contains the complete rules of the great game and also some valuable information of the big English teams, both amateur and professional and the results of the season's play in the league throughout Great Britain; also news of famous players in England. It is a very useful edition.

$3.50 RECEIPT CURES WEAK MEN--FREE

Send Name and Address Today—You Can Have it Free and Be Strong and Vigorous

I have in my possession a prescription for nervous debility, lack of vigor, weakened manhood, failing memory and lame back, brought on by excesses, unnatural drains, or, the follies of youth, that has cured so many worn and nervous men right in their own homes—without any additional help or medicine—that I think every man who wishes to regain his manly power and virility, quickly and quietly, should have a copy. So I have determined to send a copy of the prescription free of charge, in a palin, ordinary sealed envelope to any man who will write for it.

This prescription comes from a physician who has made a special study of men and I am convinced it is the surest-acting combination for the cure of deficient manhood and vigor failure ever put together.

I think I owe it to my fellow men to send them a copy in confidence so that any man anywhere who is weak and discouraged with repeated failures may stop drugging himself with harmful patent medicines, secure what I believe is the quickest-acting restorative, upbuilding, SPOT-TOUCHING remedy ever devised, and so cure himself at home quietly and quickly. Just drop me a line like this: Dr. A. E. Robinson, 4906 Luck Building, Detroit, Mich., and I will send you a copy of this splendid recipe in a plain, ordinary envelope free of charge. A great many doctors would charge $3.00 to $5.00 for merely writing out a prescription like this—but I send it entirely free.

HOW WOMEN EARN MONEY

New Profession That Enables Any Woman to Become Independent For Life

$25 PER WEEK AND MORE

Every Woman Should Earn it—A Free Book That Tells How

Abby Beatrice Knowles of New York City has just completed a book for women and girls that seems destined to bring good cheer and sunshine into the hearts and homes of women, everywhere. She is giving away these books, absolutely free by mail, to women who wish to improve their positions and earn more money. This book is beautifully illustrated and should be the means of placing thousands of women into good positions where they can earn better incomes, have nice clothing and become more attractive in appearance and enjoy life. Thousands of women are eking a bare existence occupying positions that ruin their health and lives, making them ten years older than they really are, when they could be filling positions that are honorable, dignified, fascinating and profitable. If you wish to learn about this new professian; if you wish to increase your income, then send your name to Mrs. A. B. Knowles, Apartment 27B No. 2236 Eighth avenue, New York, N. Y., U. S. A., and you will receive a copy of her "Book for Women and Girls," absolutely free of charge. A postal card will bring it.

FOR THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

(New York Herald.)

The house committee of a New York club recently received this unique complaint: "I have the honor to inform you that I lunched at the club this afternoon and had as my guests three gentlemen, all well known gourmets. Among other things an omelet was served. It contained only three flies. As an old member of the club, jealous of its reputation, I naturally found this very embarrassing, as, in order to make an equitable division of the omelet it was necessary either to divide a fly—a nice bit of carving, as you must concede—or forego a fly myself. I beg to suggest that in the future, when an omelet is served four persons, it should be either with (a) four flies, or (b) no flies at all."

VERY DISAPPOINTING

Percy—I had perfectly awful luck on my bear hunting trip.

eggy—Deah me! Didn't you find any bear?

Percy—Gracious, yes! Wan wight into thwee the first day.

It doesn't take a man long to become used to making a fool of himself.

AMUSEMENTS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

JOHNSON - KETCHEL PICTURE

Monday evening, at 9 o'clock, Nickel Theatre will be emptied of its regular run of patrons and refilled again with those desirous of seeing the truly wonderful reproduction of the Johnson-Ketchel contest at Colma (Cal.) on Oct. 16 last. In view of the special arrangements made for the showing of this highly interesting athletic event, and because the Nickel is taking such elaborate precaution to present the event without undue excitement, a large number of ladies have signified a desire to be present. It is needless to go into the details of the copyrighted film, which depicts the whole event, from the portraits of the men most prominently connected with it down to the last movement of the boxers in the twelfth round. Every detail will be shown, not the least interesting of which will be the thousands of spectators, whose eager faces are in themselves an interesting study. Of course the sporting fraternity will be engrossed in sizing up the dusky-skinned boxer, whose chances against ex-Champion Jeffries at present seem so bright. Tuesday night and Wednesday night the Nickel will be able to show its patrons—and for that matter to show for the first time in all Canada—the "Yankee" Rogers-Hackenschmidt champion wrestling bout of a few weeks ago, which, along with the boxing event, will make a wonderfully strong programme.

NICKEL TODAY

Nickel Theatre patrons have a programme of motion pictures today. Buried Alive, a Nevada mining story introducing some highly educational, scenic pictures incidental to the telling of this film's story, the magnificent colored European picture, The Trappers, truly a masterpiece in color photography, and a distinct novelty in the Tiny Water Dwellers, a micro-photographic reproduction of living atoms which dwell in lake water, ditch water, drinking water, etc. This is not only instructive, but amazing to the casual patrons. By special request the Nickel is reproducing the extremely funny Biograph picture entitled The Little School Teacher, a film full of homely fun, with a dash of romance. Miss Leavitt and Master Packer will sing and there will be a grand holiday of merriment until 10.30 p. m. The evening programmes will start at 6.30. Monday Miss Gertrude LeRoy, concert contralto, will commence a limited engagement at the Nickel in the better class of songs. Her selections will be elaborately orchestrated.

MORNING LOCALS

The St. Stephen's church Sunday school held their annual Xmas entertainment last night with a programme and supper. A large tree was stripped and presents distributed amongst the scholars. The programme was directed by Mrs. Gordon Dickie.

W. H. Parlee of Victoria street, was painfully injured yesterday at Sand Point on the steamer Bengore Head. He was thrown from the gangway to the deck bruising his head and hand quite badly. Dr. Kennedy attended him.

Fred Gosline, a Carleton stevedore had his hand injured while he was at work on the steamer Corsican yesterday.

John Neilson a sailor on the schooner Zeta fell into the harbor last night while going aboard the vessel, but was rescued without much difficulty.

George McCavour, a young fisherman of Lorneville, had a narrow escape from drowning on Thursday near his home. He fell from his dory. He was finally reached by his brother and taken into another boat.

The mortgage on the property belonging to the Natural History Society in Union street, amounting to $3,500, has been discharged, through the bequest made by the late Mrs. Catherine Murchie.

Constipation.

No one need expect to be healthy if the bowels are allowed to become clogged up. A free motion of the bowels daily should be the rule with everyone who aspires to perfect health.

Costiveness or constipation clogs the bowels, chokes up the natural outlet of impure matter, and retains in the system the poisonous effete waste products of nature, causing bad blood, dyspepsia, headache, biliousness, foul humors, pimples, boils, blotches, piles, etc. Burdock Blood Bitters has built up an unrivalled reputation as a cure for constipation and all the diseases which arise from it.

Constipation Cured.

Mr. Burns Woodcock, Nashwaak Bridge, N.S., writes: "For over two years my wife was troubled with constipation. "She tried several physicians, but could get no relief, but after taking three bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters she was completely cured and is to-day in good health. My wife and I cannot speak too highly of Burdock Blood Bitters."

For sale by all dealers.

Manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

BOCCACIO WELL SUNG LAST EVENING

Boccacio, as presented by the Robinson Opera Co. last night in the Opera House, was well staged and excellently sung. It is a good many years since this opera has been heard here, and the addition of it to the Robinson Company's repertoire is welcomed.

The title role was taken by Miss Lucia Nola, with much grace. She was in good voice, and her rendering of the part was very favorably received, she being compelled to respond to several encores. Miss Minna Storm's solo in the first act was well sung, and was so well received that she was given a double encore. Her singing throughout the evening was consistently good.

Charles Fulton played a good part as the prince, making his best impression in his first act solo. Miss Percie Judah was dainty and won much favorable comment in the handling of her part, and Miss Esther Barton sustained her reputation as an operatic commedienne. Charles Hillman made the most of a minor role.

There is good comedy in this opera, and it was capably attended to by Jack Henderson, Frank Nelson and Arthur Darvo. Their trio in the opening act was very laughable. Mr. Henderson later introduced several comic songs with good effect, and they were greatly enjoyed by the audience.

The chorus was well balanced, strong and effective. The Coopers' chorus, one of the features of Boccacio was handled in good style by Mr. Nelson and the men of the company.

"The Mascot" will be the bill for the matinee today and "H. M. S. Pinafore" at this evening's performance.

The West End fire department were called out last night by an alarm from box 12. The fire was in a building in Duke street owned by Robert Freeze. The blaze was extinguished before much damage was done.

ST. JOHN MAN'S UNIQUE METHOD OF DOING GOOD

Has Collected Hundred Thousand Books and Magazines and Sent Them to Lumber Camps and Missions and Now Starts on Second Hundred Thousand

To Editor Times,

Dear Sir:—I wish to take this opportunity to thank my friends who have been generous in giving me books, magazines and papers, since coming to St. John twenty-three years ago. By their kindness they have enabled me to complete the great feat of collecting and distributing one hundred thousand books, magazines, papers, pictures and cards to the various missions that are to be found in Canada. To the following churches, I extend my sincere thanks: St. David,s, St. Matthew, St. Andrew's St. John's, and Calvin Presbyterian churches; Queen Square, Centenary and Carmarthen St. Methodist churches; Germain Street, Coburg street and Reform Baptist churches, to private individuals, Robert Reid, Robert T. Mayes, Mr. Dailey, Arthur Gilmour, Duncan and Willard Smith, Thomas and Mrs. Bullock, Ernie and Bert Thompson, the Rev. G. M. Campbell, who gave me four hundred books and journals at one time; Miss Foster, Miss Betts, Minnie Thompson, Mrs. Bert and Harry Robertson, Miss Barnes, Alfred McNally, Mrs. Robb, Mrs. Frodsham, Reform Presbyterian church, Miss Gard, Gertie Thomas, Geo. Henderson, Miss Cox, Miss White, Charles Finley, Elisha Cosman, Mr. Gibbs, Mrs. Blizzard, H. H. Pickett, and all others who have been generous in any way. I am especially thankful for the favors of this year, as I wish to make this a record one. I have now completed the task. I set some years ago of collecting 100,000 papers, books, magazines, etc., and am on my second hundred thousand with more than thirteen thousand already. This present year (1909) I had more than twenty-one thousand books, papers, and magazines given me for my work. My friends want to know what I do wnth these gifts of papers and books I will now tell you. I've given or sent them to, seamen's missions, Aberdeen Association, who send them to the settlers in our great North West; also I send to Maine, Nashwaak and Tobique Rivers, and to various places in New Brunswick; also to far away chimes. Books are lighthouses on the sea of life, therefor, you will see thet housands of lights you have lit. Literature to the mind is what food is to the body. It does its duty in raising our fancy to the height of what may be noble and honest in actual life. Therefore, we who distribute books and papers are educaters with the teachers in schools and professors in colleges.

Although I've completed thirty-five years in this work, I've no idea of stopping but am going right on with my friends and help till further progress is impossible (when I'm dead).

I ask my friends, one and all, to serve me, and send to me, not all your surplus old readings, but some. Everybody takes to the Sea Mission and Aberdeen Societies, but I'm the only one who sends to certain places; so I wish to be remembered. I've a letter from one man who has not walked for six years, and he thanks everybody who has enabled me to send papers, so that long days seem brighter.

To all the citizens of St. John, without exception, I wish a bright and happy New Year.

I remain yours sincerely,

A. T. B. HOWARD

CONGO AND CUSTOMS

Right of Women to Throne — Strange Beliefs and Superstitions

E. Torday described to the Royal Anthropological Society recently the results of a recent ethnological expedition to the Congo Free State. After dealing with the racial divisions, he explained the institutions, government and religion of the people of the Congo State,

The head of the tribe was the chief, but in certain questions his mother seemed to take precedence of him. His power was nominally absolute, but in reality very slight. There were six great officers and a host of smaller officials. The right to the throne descended in the female line, but a woman only came to the throne if the male stock failed. The chief having the power to disinherit any likely claimant virtually had the power of nominating his successor.

The Bu-Shong believed in an all powerful creator, but paid no worship to him; though magic was largely practised. Spiratually man was believed to consist of three elements—soul, double and shadow. The soul was thought only to leave the body at death, the double at both death and sleep and the shadow only at death. The belief that a corpse could not cast a shadow was currently held.

Mr. Terday reported the nearest approach to true totemism as yet discovered in Africa. For among the western Bu-Shong, he said, each person inherited from his father an ikina, a plant or animal, which he might not eat. The ikina had no connection with tribal names, and the division into ikina cut across the division into tribes and villages. Persons possessing the same ikina might not marry.—London Evening Standard.

THE NEW OCEAN GIANTS

(From the Scientific American)

The new steamers Olympic and Titantic will be equipped with glass screens on the promenade deck, so that an unobstructed view seaward can be obtained by the passengers in all weathers. Passengers suffer much discomfort by the heavy canvas screens which are strung into place when rain or spray drives on board. The new glass screens will not interfere with the view of the boisterous sea, and will also do away with the stuffy feeling engendered by the canvas. The Rotterdam is thus equipped, and the novelty has met with much favor. The windows are of heavy plate glass, carefully balanced, and slide up or down in the steel fittings which complete the seaward side.

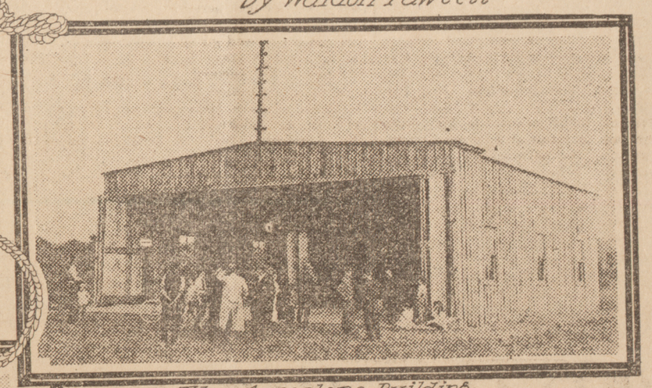
TEACHING THE ARMY TO FLY

(The New U.S. Government Aviation Field at College Park)

by Waldon Fawcett



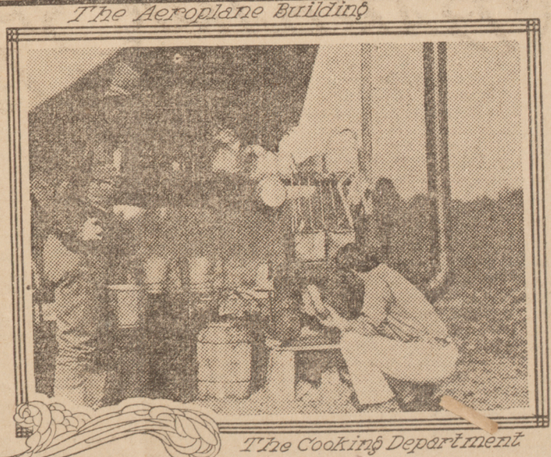
Wright Aeroplane Just before Flight College Park, Md.



The Aeroplane Building



Lieut. Lahm and Lieut. Humphries



The Cooking Department



The First Aeroplane Squad of the U.S. Army

Located between Washington and Baltimore, directly on the line of railroad connecting these two cities, is a tract of land which is just now in the public eye and is likely to have even greater prominence in the future. This level expanse is the new aviation field of the United States government and it is here that Wilbur Wright—best known of the two famous brothers who first conquered the air—recently instructed the first of the young American army officers who are to be entrusted with the flying machine which Uncle Sam purchased from the Wrights, at a cost of about $30,000.

The present prominence of the government's new aviation field arose first from the fact that the wizard Wright, while primarily devoting his time and energies to teaching two chosen army officers how to fly, incidentally carried on interesting experiments in several lines and has broken enough world's records to last the average aviator a lifetime. Wilbur Wright and his pupils have on several different occasions driven the sky craft at greater speed than has been attained by any other aeronaut in the history of the world; have made turns with the machine in smaller circles than were heretofore dreamed possible; have to their credit new exploits in starting flights without the use of the usual starting mechanism, and have successfully raced the cloud clipper against express trains on the railroad adjoining the aviation ground and indulged in other novel experiments.

So much for the events that have focused attention upon the slice of farmland that has suddenly put the hamlet of College Park, Maryland, "on the map" for the newspaper readers of two hemispheres. Equally significant are the prospective happenings that are likely to give this locality even greater prominence in future. It is proposed that the government aviation field, and such adjoining property as may be necessary, shall be made the scene of the great international aviation meeting which will be held in the United States next year—probably in [illegible]. When, at the first great aerial free-for-all, recently held in France, Mr. Clem Curtis, an American, captured first honors in the most important races he, in effect took away to America the great aeronautic trophy. When European aviators take advantage next year of the earliest opportunity to attempt to recover the coveted prize they must, perforce, come to the present title-holder's country to try for the blue ribbon of the air. This means that the contest will be held at some point in the United States, and it seems probable that College Park will be selected.

Uncle Sam has every reason to be proud of his latest acquisition, for the aviation field at College Park is the first specially designed aeronautic rendezvois provided by any government in the world. This is all the more remarkable when it is taken into consideration that for more than half a decade past some of the leading European powers, and notably France and Germany, have been giving vastly more attention to all branches of aeronautics than has this government. However, until the War Department recently took steps to provide a special aviation field, no nation had thought it necessary to provide a specially prepared practice ground for its aerial scouts. One and all they did just as Uncle Sam did until recently—made use of a military parade ground in some convenient location.

When United States Army aeroplane No. 1 was first delivered to the War Department, the unofficial tests were all conducted at Fort Meyer, Virginia, where the tryouts of the army's dirigible balloon No. 1 had previously been carried on. Fort Myer, which is located just across the Potomac River from Washington, D. C., is very convenient to the seat of government and this is an important requisite in a government aviation field, for the powers that be at Miss Columbia's capital wish to keep in very close touch with all that is done in military aeronautics. That, however, was almost its only recommendation. The country around Fort Myer is rough and broken; there are many trees and more buildings than are welcomed by a nervous aviator seeking a place to alight. The Wright brothers registered objections to the locality when they were putting the new machine through its paces to prove that it met government requirements, and when the authorities decided to accept the machine at $30,000 provided the Wrights would teach two army officers how to operate it, they advocated some more suitable scene for the schooling.

After canvassing various sites the officers of the Signal Corps, who have the matter in charge, finally selected the one at College Park. Here the government has a level field of several hundred acres, under lease until next spring and can purchase the property, if it should be deemed desirable. Similarly adjoining property can be obtained if it is desired to expand the aviation field. Climatic conditions and the wind records of this locality are such as to indicates that experiments in flying can be carried on during the greater part of the year. There is much work ahead if the military authorities carry out their present programme with reference to aeronautics. The instruction of the two premier army aeronauts—Lieutenant Lahm and Lieutenant Humphries—by Wilbur Wright was but a beginning. These two officers in turn are to teach their brother officers of the Signal Corps how to manage aeroplanes aloft, and when a number of the officers have qualified as aeroplanists there will be entered upon an important series of experiments designed to develop and improve the standard type or aeroplane with special reference to military uses.

The government's new aviation field is not calculated to greatly impress visitors. There are no grandstands or refreshment boths for the spectators, no vendors of programs or field glasses and none of the other incidentals that might be looked for at the scene of a history-making spectacle. A sign, erected by the management of a trolley line, and bearing the inscription "To the Airship" is the only indication that anything out of the ordinary is afoot in a humdrum litle community. All this is quite in accord with the wishes of those in charge of the aviation field. None of the "stars" of Uncle Sam's school of applied aeronautics desire to have visitors. They receive courteously the callers who do make their way to the aerial outpost—and many distinguished men make pilgrimages to the aeroplane station—but they would be just as well satisfied if they could be left to conduct their ticklish experiments in solitude. The vast throngs that attended the official aeroplane flight at Fort Myer were always a source of uneasiness to the Wrights, who are ever nervous lest someone be hurt during their flights, and the likelihood of immunity from crowds was one of the chief arguments in favor of the selection of the present aviation field.

As for the aviation field itself, it is simply a good-sized tract of very level ground from which the small trees and underbrush have been removed. The blasting of stumps went on even after the aeroplane flights had commenced. There are no large trees on the field and there are few buildings anywhere in the vicinity. The field has not the soft turf of the average well-kept lawn; indeed, its grassy coverlet is not equal to that of the ordinary pasture, but this is not a handicap, for the aeroplane is equipped with runners and when the machine alights these slide over the ground, unimpeded by small stones or other minor obstacles. At one side of the field is the starting tower of the aeroplane with a starting rail which can be laid in any desired direction from the tower, according to the direction of the wind. When a flight is to be made the aeroplane is placed on this rail, supported on either side by wheeled rests. Ordinarily, it is made to shoot down the rail—that is, given its initial impetus by the release of a weight of several hundred pounds which has previously been hoisted to the top of the skeleton-like starting tower. During the flights at College Park, however, the army aviators have several times dispensed with the use of this weight and have sent the flyer along the rail and thence into the air merely by means of the swiftly revolving propellers at the rear of the flying machine.

The only building thus far erected by the government at its new aviation field is the frame structure which serves at once as a shelter for the aeroplane and a temporary barracks for the enlisted soldiers comprising the Aeroplane Squad, whose duty it is to look after this precious machine.

The officer aviators have found boarding places in the village, near the aviation field, so as to be close to the scene of activities at all times. This is wellnigh essential, for even the experienced aeroplanist cannot predict in advance with any certainty when a flight can or cannot be made. A delicate apparatus mounted on the aeroplane shed registers the velocity of the wind at all times and a sudden shifting of the breezes may result in flights at short notice or the equally sudden postponement of planned ascensions. Many of the instruction flights at the College Park field are made early in the morning or at sundown and this circumstance makes it convenient for the aviators to be domiciled near the aviation headquarters.

The aeroplane squad, or aeroplane detachment, as it is officially designated, is alike to this governmental aviation field, the first of its kind in the world and the present little squad of a corporal and 10 privates will, it is expected, prove the nucleus of an organization that will ultimately number hundreds of men if Uncle Sam acquires a whole flock of aeroplanes for use in time of war. The Aeroplane Detachment represents one branch of the newest and most interesting section of the United States Signal Corps, namely the aeronautical division. The other arm of this service, known as the balloon detachment, was created something like two years ago, for, be it known, Uncle Sam has been experimenting with spherical and dirigible balloons for a longer period than has been covered by the investigation of the practical side of aeroplaning. The aeroplane detachment was organized only a few months ago, when it was decided that the war department would purchase one or more of the Wright machines and include them, henceforth, among our standard utensils of warfare.

The young men of the aeroplane detachment do not make flights in the newly acquired machine. That exciting duty is reserved for commissioned officers of the Signal Corps. However, the enlisted men of the squad do everything imaginable with the aeroplane except to fly it. They keep it in repair; bring it out of the shed when a flight is scheduled; start the motor, and finally move the mechanical bird back into its house after a flight has been concluded. As has been said, these soldier specialists make their home on the aviation field. They have sleeping quarters in the aeroplane building and in the rear are tents, where the special cook of the squad cooks and serves meals to the boys. Incidentally these young men are all practicing telegraphy, for it is planned that once the United States Army officers have thoroughly mastered aerial navigation they will inaugurate a series of highly important experiments in wireless telegraphy via war balloons and airships.