

—: THE BLUE BONNET :—

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★ ★ ★
BETTER READING

While there has been a tremendous increase in the output of "literary trash" in recent years, it is probably true that the reading taste of the public has improved in certain respects. The banal insipid stories that once formed the "light reading" of the country have been largely supplanted by a class of writings that make some pretension of literary form; they at least have a plot and structure and they are framed in English that conforms to the accepted rules. There are now so many writers turning out work that even the cheapest magazines and newspapers can insist on style and polish in what they buy, and readers whose demands are by no means exacting have become accustomed to writing that is a far cry from the illiterate nonsense that flourished not so long ago.

Unfortunately, this literary improvement has not been accompanied by an improvement in subject matter. Popular reading material, in fact, has probably become worse, morally; it has deteriorated into a nauseating repetition of a few topics, above which the ordinary writer seems unable to rise, and the effect of which is readily apparent.

There are many readers who will quickly defend authors whose writings are in poor taste, if not clearly indecent, on the score that these writers are "modern." To these people such a book is brilliant, smart and sophisticated, and therefore it must be read. They defend their reading habits by claiming that these authors face facts and describe life just as it is, and that they suffer no injury themselves from this type of literature. To admit that there are many unpleasant types of people in the world does not imply that we should admit them into our

minds, there to parade their indecencies, to defend with clever tongue their ribaldries, to mock with leering countenance all that we hold sacred.

The United States Government spends large amounts of money to provide good reading matter for the men in the Army and Navy and we think the net results justify this investment. We regret however the real evil caused by reading cheap and trashy magazines of many types. One cannot help but be sullied at least in mind from long hours of reading and poring over magazines and pictures of the "true," "saucy," "breezy," "sexy," "arty" type. When you have the time to read, spend it entertainingly and profitably. You will encounter enough that is low and unpleasant in life without looking for it. When the choice is your own, choose that which will encourage and help you to lead a nobler and better life.

LIBRARY HOURS

12:30 to 1:00

When at sea.

RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND

When a person is sworn as a witness before a courtmartial, if it so happens that he is wearing gloves, the one on the right hand, which he holds up, must be removed before the administration of the oath. This is a time honored custom of the Service which has been handed down to us through the years.

The practice of removing the right glove comes from the fact that in the old days persons who had violated the laws and had been convicted were branded in the palm of the right hand. Witnesses wearing gloves were required to remove the one from the right hand in order that it might be determined whether they were qualified to testify.

NEW SHIPS

Eight new light cruisers, two new aircraft carriers, The **Enterprise** and **Yorktown**, and fifty new submarines and destroyers will join the the United States Fleet within the next twenty months. Ten of the destroyers will be of the 1500 ton class. Three new cruisers, the **Quincy**, **Vincennes** and **Wichita** will also be commissioned during this period.

A SAILOR'S VIEW

—:—
The scene is peaceful
With blue above and below
Dotted on the water
Lies the fleet you know

Majestic and bold
Despite their grayish hue
Boldly outlined to sight
Against the horizon blue

I'm proud to serve my country
In the Naval Service here
It's really quite O. K.
Whenever people sneer

I've always had an ambition
To amount to something in life
But I don't care to be a civilian
Just give me that "Naval Strife"

And so in closing
Just pause a moment or two
Are civilians better than sailors?
Both Americans, say I to you

There really is no difference
As far as I can see
One has chosen life ashore
The other, life at sea

PERSONNEL

Transferred

Yates, W. F., Jr. SK3c. to NTS San Diego, Cal., O'Dea, E. A., SF2c. to U. S. S. UTAH, Bennet, J. W., MM2c, Honorably Discharged, Sharp, J. D. MM2c, Honorably Discharged, Reeder, F. K. WT2c. Honorably Discharged, Furr, Oscar H., MM1c, Trans. FNR, Class F-4-C. Lazar, A. J., CEM(PA) Trans. FNR, Class F-4-C. Smith, R. F., EM2c, Honorably Discharged, Himrod,, Fermin, OS2c, Honorably Discharged.

Received

Kelly, J. R., MM1c, from U.S.S. TUSCALOOSA, Simard, D. L., HA1c, from U.S.S. RELIEF, Connors, T. F., MM2c, from U.S.S. NORTHAMPTON Benet, W. E. MM2c, from U.S.S. NORTHAMPTON, Patterson, M. MM2c. from U.S.S. NORTHAMPTON Tennant, W. R., WT1c, from U.S.S. NEW ORLEANS, Mageean, R. F., MM2c, from U.S.S. NEW ORLEANS, Pierce, C. E. EM1c, NavHosp., Mare Island, Cal. Ashlin, W. H., WT2c, from RS San Francisco, California, French, Tyler CSmth2c, from U.S.S. VESTAL Shepherd L. R., CSK(AA) from RS San Diego, California, Mills, R. C., PhM2c, from U.S.S. MACDONOUGH.

Received Yangtze Service Medal
Gowler, O. S., QM3c.

Keep the "E" on the HOUSTON