



Introducing The Springfield Service Rifle

SINCE all you bluejackets will be heading for the rifle range in the next couple of months we may as well introduce you to the rifle you will be required to fire. Some of you are already more or less familiar with the rifle, its operation, and its mechanism while others have not had the opportunity to fire the "blasted mule."

Here is how Chief Gunner J. C. Waldau of the Naval Training Station at Newport, Rhode Island introduces the service rifle to the recruit through that pass under his instruction.

Name—It is officially known as the United States Rifle, caliber .30, model 1903. Commonly called the "Springfield," because it was formerly manufactured at Springfield Arsenal.

It is the best military rifle in the world.

Weight—8.69 pounds without bayonet, which weighs one pound.

Caliber—.30 (thirty hundredths of an inch), the interior diameter of the barrel measured between the lands, or raised parts of the rifling or twist.

Lands—The four raised spaces in the bore between the grooves. These lands grip the bullet as it passes through the bore, and rotate it about its longer axis. This rotation serves to prevent tumbling by keeping the nose of the bullet always to the front, thereby lessening air resistance, affording a greater range and keeping the bullet accurately on its course. This rotation, however, causes the

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Begin With Your Own Newspaper

NAVY men make good writers. If a canvass was made, the number would be astonishing. Newspapers, "pulp," and "slicks" all have a large quota of writers who have been or are connected with the Navy. The Navy seems to give a wealth of experience and a good background from which articles may be written.

It is only natural that a person swells inwardly upon seeing one of his contributions in print. But especially is he glad if his labors have been well thought out and it has taken conscientious work over a period of time to accomplish it. Why not prepare a news article of interest, a humorous idea, something novel, or a poem in any vein? There is no place better than our own ship's paper, the *Blue Bonnet*, in which to satisfy anyone's natural desire to see his work in print.

Maybe you may get the right start by preparing articles for the *Blue Bonnet* or maybe you don't have any aspirations along these lines, but you have some good ideas. Pass them along to the *Blue Bonnet's* staff. It's their job to rehash them, if necessary. Publicity always enhances an idea.

Let's see now if anyone gets a notion.

What? No Ashes!

The U. S. S. Delaware was the world's first oil burning battleship. Completed in 1911 and burning half coal and half oil, she made a shake-down cruise to Southampton, England.

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A Houston Casey Jones

Come all you sailors, if you want to hear,
About the story of a Houston engineer.
Now, Hank Cromwell is the fellow's name,
On number two throttle is where he won his fame.

"How many revolutions?" the officer said;
Hank stood there and scratched his head—
"Come on! Tell me, and tell me quick!
This suspense is making me sick!"

The bridge rang up an increase in speed,
But Hank's brain had gone to seed;
He got excited, did a back flip—
Closed the throttle and stopped the ship!

The O.D. said, "You're making black smoke."
Hank's face burned red, and he nearly choked.
He told the fireroom to watch their air;
The answer he got made him pull his hair.

Hank caught the counter five minutes late,
The scowl on his face would have broken a plate!

The Gang all gave him a big Bronx Cheer—
"Concentrate on the throttle and forget the beer!"

Houston Baseball Team To Play Benicia

This Sunday the ship's baseball team journeys over to the little town of Benicia to take on the town team. This is a good opportunity for us to get behind the team in foreign territory and also to enjoy the rivalry that always rides along with any

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