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the

American Marine

"Soldier of the Sea"



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The American MARINE, "Soldier of the
SEA."

"END a detachment of Marines!"



It may be a call from almost any part of the world, a summons to turn out for almost any kind of military duty.

Whether it be to take part in a Boxer uprising in China or in a Nicaraguan revolution, to guard the polls during the election in Panama or to guard the American consulate at Valparaiso, Chile, it is the American Marine, the "first aid" man of the country's armed service, who rushes to the front.

About ten days ago 800 Marines sailed from Philadelphia on the Prairie, bound for Pensacola, Fla., which is but a few hundred miles from the Mexican coast.

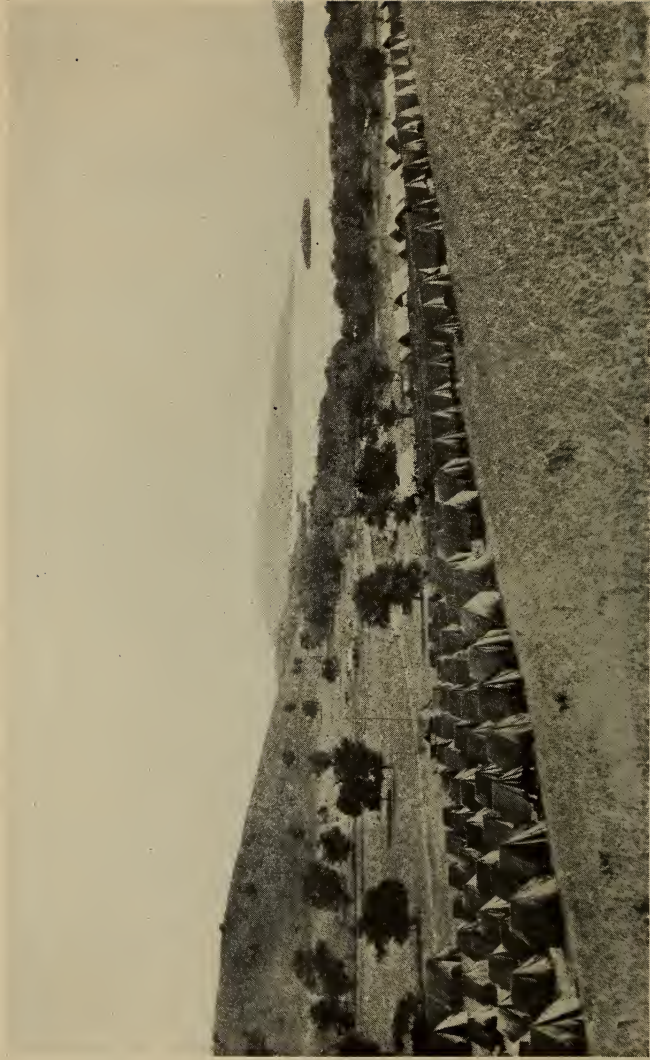
And "rush" is the word, for speed is the element which, above all others, is drilled, hammered and pounded night and day into the constitution of the Marine. On the principle that a fire caught in its early stages will be readily extinguished, the United States Marine Corps is organized to respond to any call at a moment's notice and smother the incipient blaze. In fact, their hurried appearance on the scene has often prevented the outbreak of threatened conflagration.

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"From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli" is the way the song starts which they have made known in every port of the world.

"The Halls of Montezuma?" Yes, the Marines have seen service in Mexico. It was back in the days of 1847 when they were present at the storming of Chapultepec, the strong castle on the fortified hill near Mexico City where the ancient Aztec rulers had held sway.

"To the Shores of Tripoli?" Yes, it was back in 1803 that American Marines marched across the desert of northern Africa for 600 miles, and after capturing the Tripolitan flag hoisted that of the United States, for the first time in the history of the country, on a fortress of the old world.



A MARINE CAMP IN THE WEST INDIES.

China, Japan, Korea, Egypt, Algiers, Tripoli, Chile, Mexico, Cuba, Sumatra, Formosa, Hawaii, Santo Domingo, Porto Rico, Nicaragua—this is not a geographical list of countries, but the names of some of those in which the American Marines have been called on for service. And they sing:

From the Hell Hole of Cavite
To the Ditch at Panama,
You will find them very needy
Of Marines—that's what we are;
We're the watch dogs of a pile of coal
Or we dig a magazine.
Though our joblots they are manifold,
Who would not be a MARINE?

Ubiquitous they are in field of action. Manifold are their duties. Amphibious creatures they are, fighting by land or sea. They are called "soldiers of the sea." Ready for "fun or frolic," they serve on war vessels and land both in times of peace and war.

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When fighting on the battleships or cruisers, to which they are assigned, they man the six-inch, five-inch and three-inch guns and the six-pounders of the intermediate and secondary batteries. They are trained and fully equipped for instant service as landing parties. When they land they take with them, if needed, ship guns of three, five, and six inch caliber. Part of their training is to mount these pieces in suitable shore positions. They are taught the various methods of slinging and transporting ordnance.

When not fighting they serve aboard the battleships and cruisers as sentinels. They watch over the gangways and over the boats alongside. They give alarm in case of fire. They are to see to it that no smoking or washing of clothes goes on except during the prescribed hours. They allow no enlisted man or boat to leave the ship's side without the authority of the officer of the deck. They act as guards of prisoners and at all times are to maintain discipline and good order. When the fleet is in port, either home or foreign, they constitute the deck guard for purposes



MARINES MOUNTING A FIVE-INCH GUN.

of rendering honors. At cities where they are stationed they usually form part of the guard of honor for military funerals.

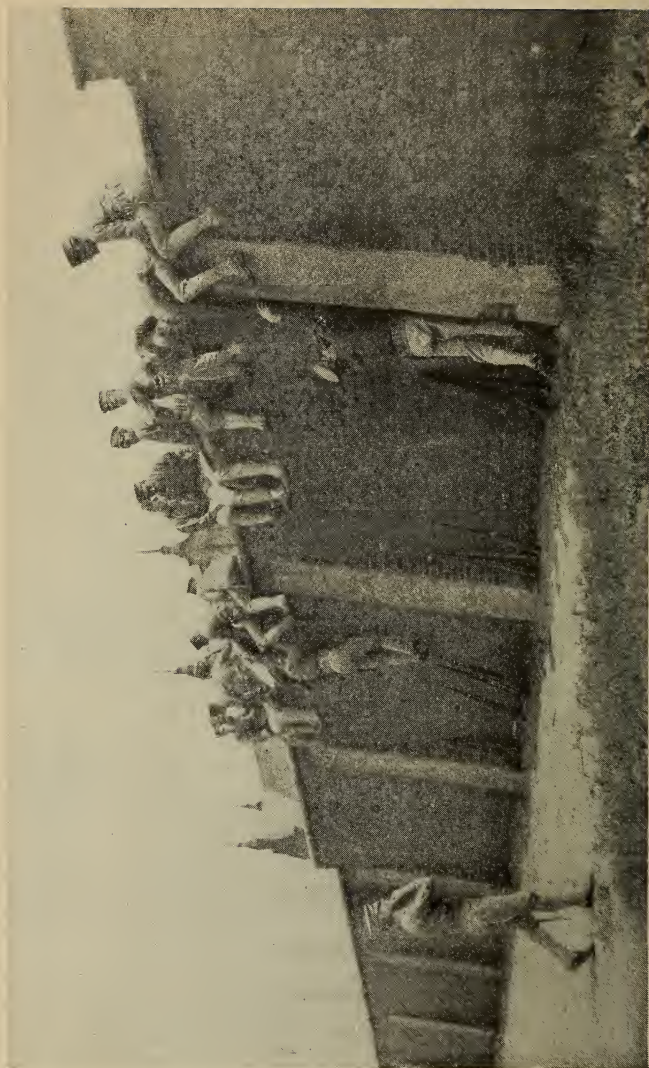
Ashore in foreign countries they fight or discharge peaceful duties, according to need. And when there is any fighting to be done they are generally the men who start the fighting. They open the way for bigger fighting, if such should be necessary. They are the forerunners of both the army and navy. They are the "hurry up, clean 'em up quick and eat 'em alive boys." Except in case of big and important fighting the Marines finish the job alone. As the Marine Corps all told comprises only 10,000 men and 334 officers, it could not fight a war, but for the dozens of smaller calls for military aid it is all sufficient. If either the army or navy, or both, are to come into action later on it is usually the Marines who have taken the first step against the enemy.

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"Advance base" work has now become an important, probably the most important part of their service. This means constant preparation to pack up and be off at a moment's notice. It means that in twenty-four hours or less after a call comes they will have all foodstuffs, personal equipment, guns, ammunition, tents, hospital supplies and everything else that may be needed, either in warm or cold countries, aboard ship and be ready to sail to any part of the world. And off they go, singing:

Our flag's unfurled to every breeze
From dawn to setting sun;
We have fought in every clime and place
Where we could take a gun;
In the snows of far-off northern lands
And in sunny tropic scenes,
You will find us always on the job
THE UNITED STATES MARINES.

There has been only one year since 1900 when the Marines were not called on for duty on some foreign shore, and during that period but twenty-six have been killed. Nineteen of these, one of them an officer, fell during the international relief expedition to protect



WALL SCALING.

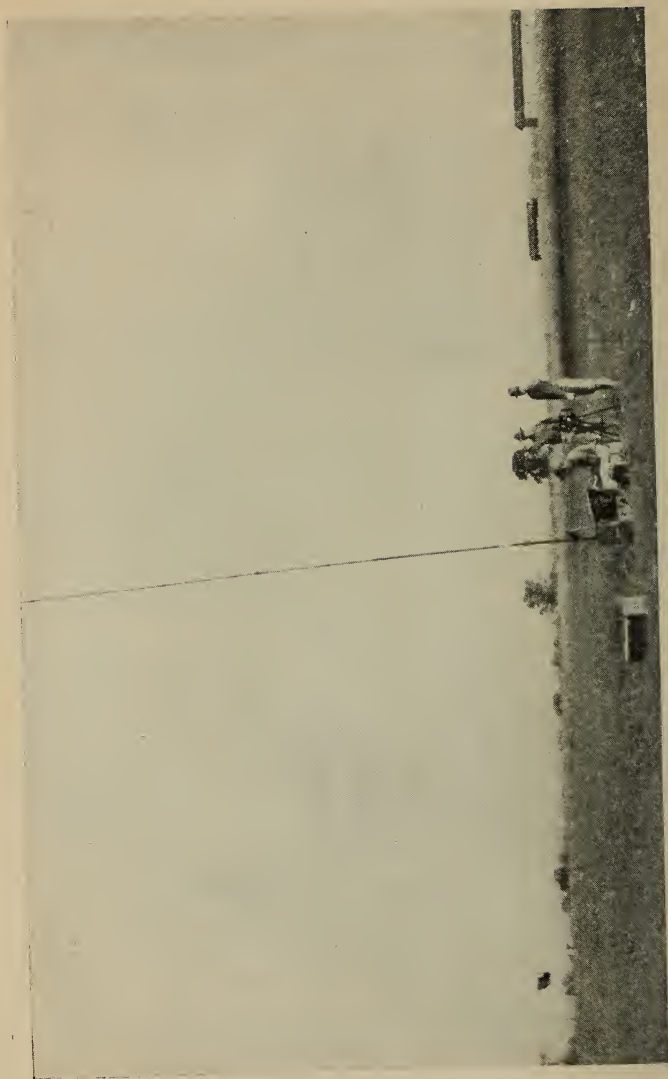
the foreign legations at Peking during the Boxer rebellion in 1900. In the following year two were killed in the Samar campaign in the Philippines. Five were killed in Nicaragua in October, 1912, while fighting against revolutionists. The president of Nicaragua, members of his cabinet and other prominent citizens of the Central American republic attended the funeral services of the four Marines killed in the fight at Barrancas Hill, near Massaya. In addition, as soon as Gen. Emiliano Chamorro, then minister of foreign affairs of Nicaragua, now minister from that country to the United States, learned of the deaths of the Marines he called on American Minister Weitzel and expressed his sympathy and that of his government.

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In 1900 we find American Marines landing in China to assist sailors and marines from other countries in relieving the besieged legations at Peking. In eleven days this was accomplished. In 1901 they landed in Samar, and also were called to Panama and Colon. They were in Panama again in the three following years.

In November, 1903, a company of Marines had the novel experience of riding camels across the deserts of Africa, as they accompanied a representative of the American State Department into the heart of Abyssinia to its capital for a conference with the famous King Menelik. In the same year another company went to Seoul, Korea, to protect the American legation during an insurrection.

Santo Domingo and Panama needed Marines in 1905. In the following year it was in Cuba and Panama that they served; in Panama on account of disturbed conditions incident to the holding of an election; in Cuba as part of the "Army of Cuban Pacification," which succeeded in pacifying the incipient Cuban revolution of 1906, remaining in the field and occupying Cuba for about two years. In this case the Marines were first in the field and the only troops engaged in the disarmament of the insurgent forces.



A MARINE WIRELESS TELEGRAPH PARTY IN THE FIELD.

Panama at election time in June, 1908, saw the Marines again as police at the polls. Threatened destruction of American property in Nicaragua sent the Marines there in December, 1909; and in the following year they saw service in the same revolutionary country. On account of the revolution which resulted in the founding of the republic of China Marines were sent there in 1911 to enlarge the legation guard. Last year they fought in Nicaragua, and this year they went to Santo Domingo, although they were not compelled to go ashore.

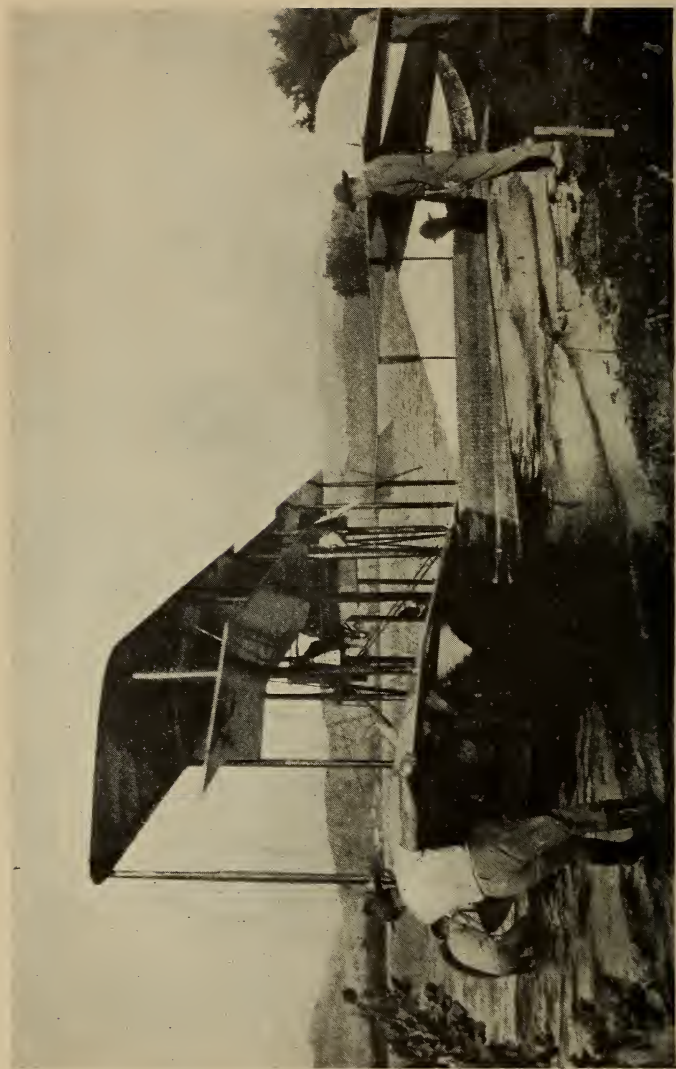
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In 1907, the one year since 1900, when the Marines were not called on for military service, they aided in the humanitarian work of helping the earthquake sufferers of the Island of Jamaica.

Opportunity for foreign travel is one of the inducements held out to prospective recruits in the service. From one-half to three-fourths of a Marine's enlistment, it is pointed out, may be served outside of the United States or at sea. And the Marine may travel and see the world without expense to himself. Not only are all his traveling expenses paid, but he receives a salary in addition, and if he has the desire to be economical, it is shown that a Marine can lay by a tidy little sum of money, and that, too, without denying himself a few moderate luxuries. If he remains in the service thirty years he can save more than \$10,000. Then he can retire with all this money to his credit and with a pension in addition of from \$34.50 to \$67.50 a month, according to the rank he held at the time of retirement. During the past twenty-eight years more than 500 Marines have been placed on the retired list.

There is not a single vacancy in the Marine Corps. Its quota of 10,000 men and 334 officers is kept filled, re-enlistments or recruits taking up all vacancies as fast as they occur.

In spite of the attractions which are held out for enlistment in the Marine Corps, foreign travel, great



MARINES LAUNCHING A HYDROAEROPLANE.

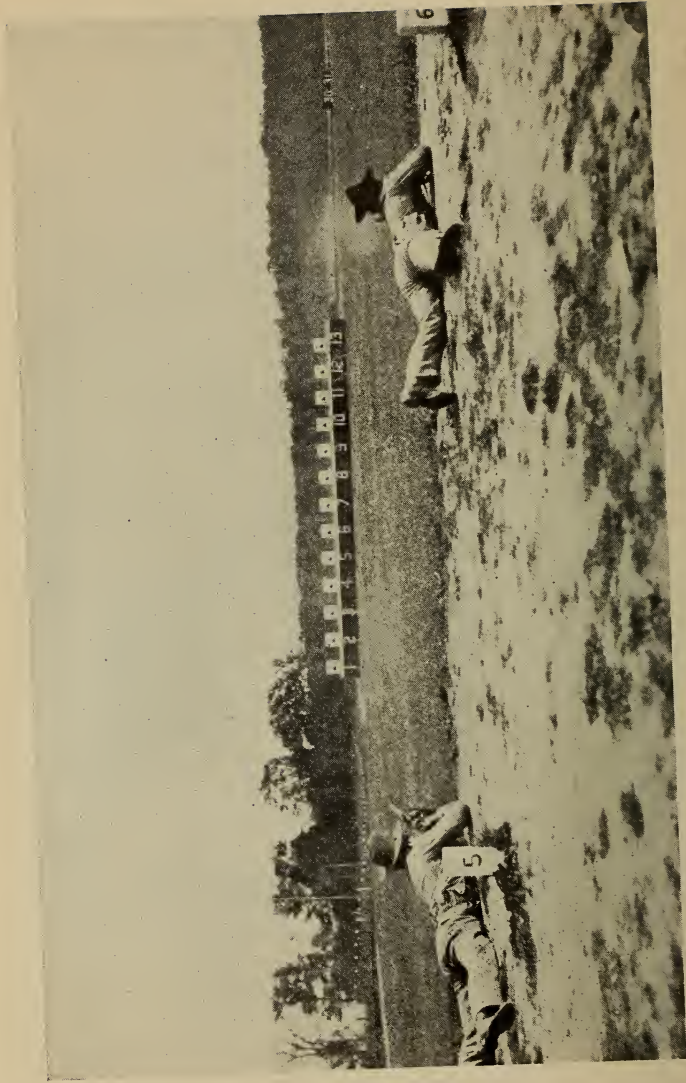
variety of service, comparatively light work much of the time, and so on, it is not a mere matter of application followed by a perfunctory examination which will land a man in this service. The examination is severe. This applies especially to physical fitness, although mental and moral qualifications are considered also.

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In physique the Marine must be about perfect. Slight defect in either eye will bar him, for marksmanship is essential to good service. If anything is found wrong with either foot, such as flat foot or hammer toe, the applicant is rejected, for the Marine must make long marches, and the man without perfect feet will weaken. He must be normal in height, not less than five feet five nor more than six feet one. In weight he must be between 128 and 233 pounds. If the recruiting officer suspects that the applicant is addicted to drink or drugs, immediate rejection will be made.

Applicants at recruiting stations are rejected for many reasons. Men are not wanted who are morally unfit any more than those who cannot meet the desired physical requirements. The Marine Corps desires to maintain a high standard and will not accept men, who, in the opinion of the recruiting officer examining them mentally, are likely to prove deserters, cowards or weaklings in any way, or those who may have a bad influence on the other men.

Adventurous spirits are wanted. They make good members of the service, for they are unusually ready to meet any emergency that presents itself; and meeting emergencies half way is half of the game. Therefore, those who declare that they are looking for adventure, as well as those who say that they have been attracted to the service because of the informing travel connected therewith, are received with open arms. Many men not having the means to travel and see the world at their own expense are willing to serve their country for the privilege it gives them.



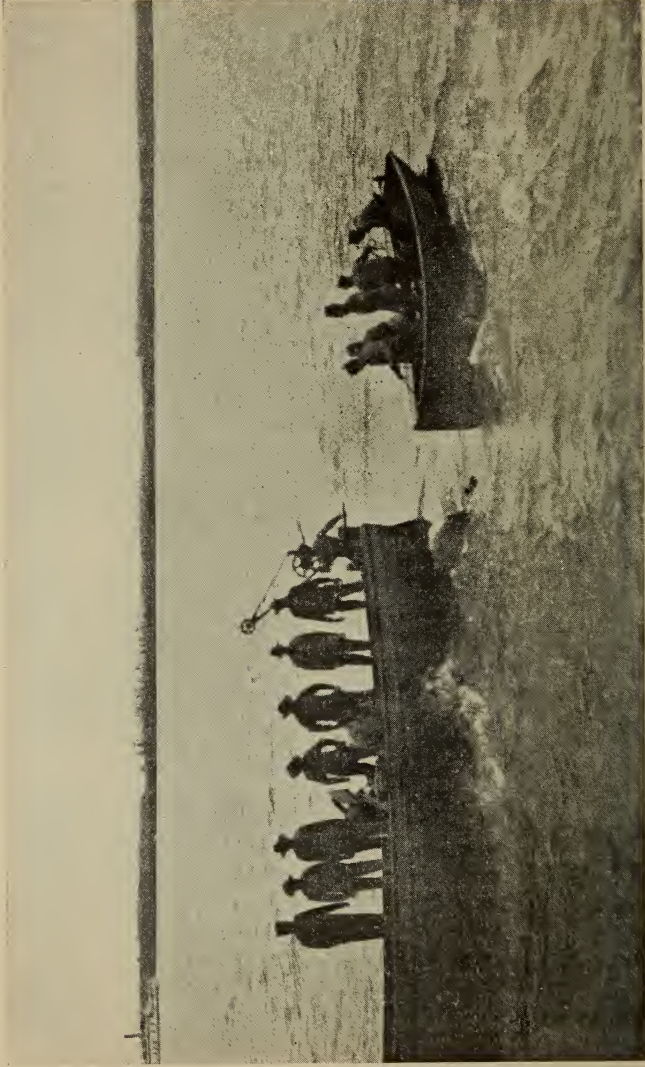
MARINES AT RIFLE PRACTICE.

Recruiting officers are alert in efforts to prevent the enlistment of any men who try to get into the service as a means of escaping from the results of wrong doing. Such men, it is always feared, will try deserting when opportunity offers. When a man is recruited his Bertillon record is promptly forwarded to Washington, where records are searched to see if he has ever before been enlisted in any branch of the service and discharged for cause. As the recruits are not sworn in for four or five days, this gives time to catch them if they have tried to get in wrongfully. Criminals are sometimes caught in this way when trying to escape by enlisting in the government service, for Washington has other Bertillon records besides those made in the recruiting office.

During the four or five days the raw recruit is being held subject to final acceptance he is given opportunity either at the Norfolk or Mare Island training stations, to one of which he has been sent, to withdraw, if he can give good reason. Nostalgia, or homesickness, is recognized as a malady which will free him.

At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war the Marine Corps numbered 2,500 men. It has since been increased to 10,000. Secretary of War Garrison who recently, while on a visit to the Canal Zone, saw the Marines in service there, praised them very highly, and he declared that some features of the Marine Corps organization might be adopted with profit by the Army.

Enlistment in the Marine Corps is for four years. Last year those who had been in the service liked it so well that 40 per cent. of those whose terms expired enlisted for another four year period. The training is systematic and careful, developing the best that is in a man. There are special exercises for the strengthening of weak parts of the body, which enable the Marines to stand the rigors of the hardest campaigns with a minimum of physical fatigue. The pay for the newly enlisted man is \$15 a month and keep, which includes food, allowance for clothing, and so forth. In addition there is extra pay for men who win marks-



MARINES PLANTING SUBMARINE MINES.

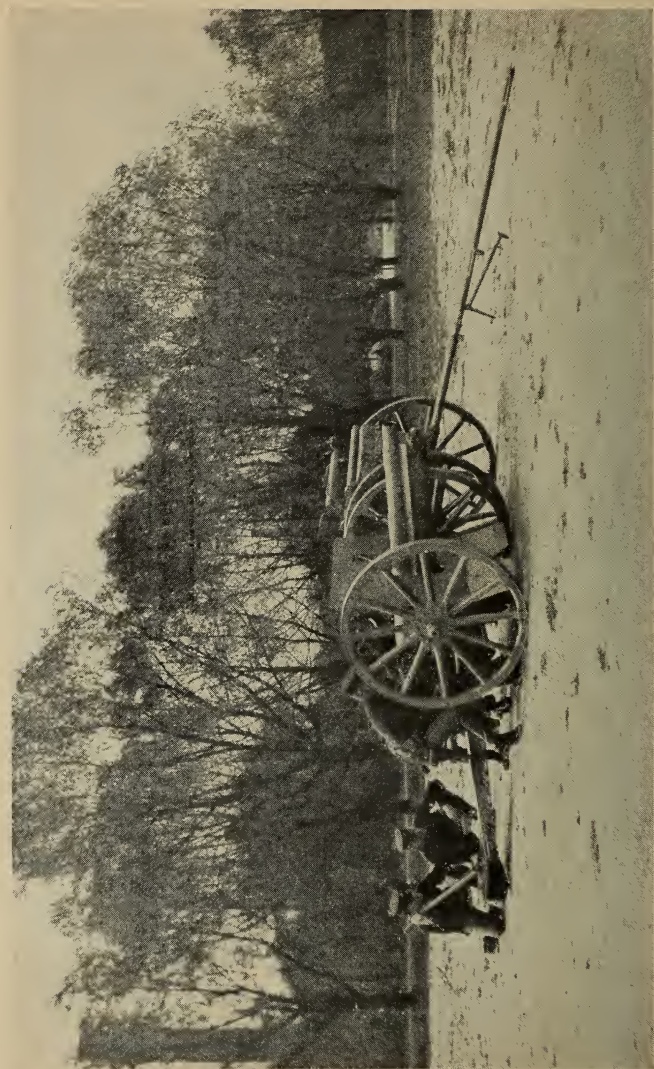
manship medals, who receive good conduct medals and who are proficient in various lines of work.

Kipling sings of him:

An' after I met 'im all over the world, a-doin' all kinds of things
Like landin' 'isself with a Gatlin' gun to talk to them 'eathen kings;
'E sleeps in an 'ammack instead of a cot, an' 'e drills with the deck on a slew;
There isn't a job on top of the earth the beggar don't know or do.
You can leave 'im at night on a bald man's 'ead to paddle 'is own canoe;
'E's a sort of a blooming cosmopolouse—soldier and sailor, too.

The American Marine, "Soldier of the Sea," known all over the world from Gibraltar to Yokohama, has been a strong factor in helping to maintain the prestige of the United States, to fight its battles and stand guard on many foreign shores. This influence is not likely to be lessened with the passing years. "The Marines have landed and have the situation well in hand" will continue to be the report about them.





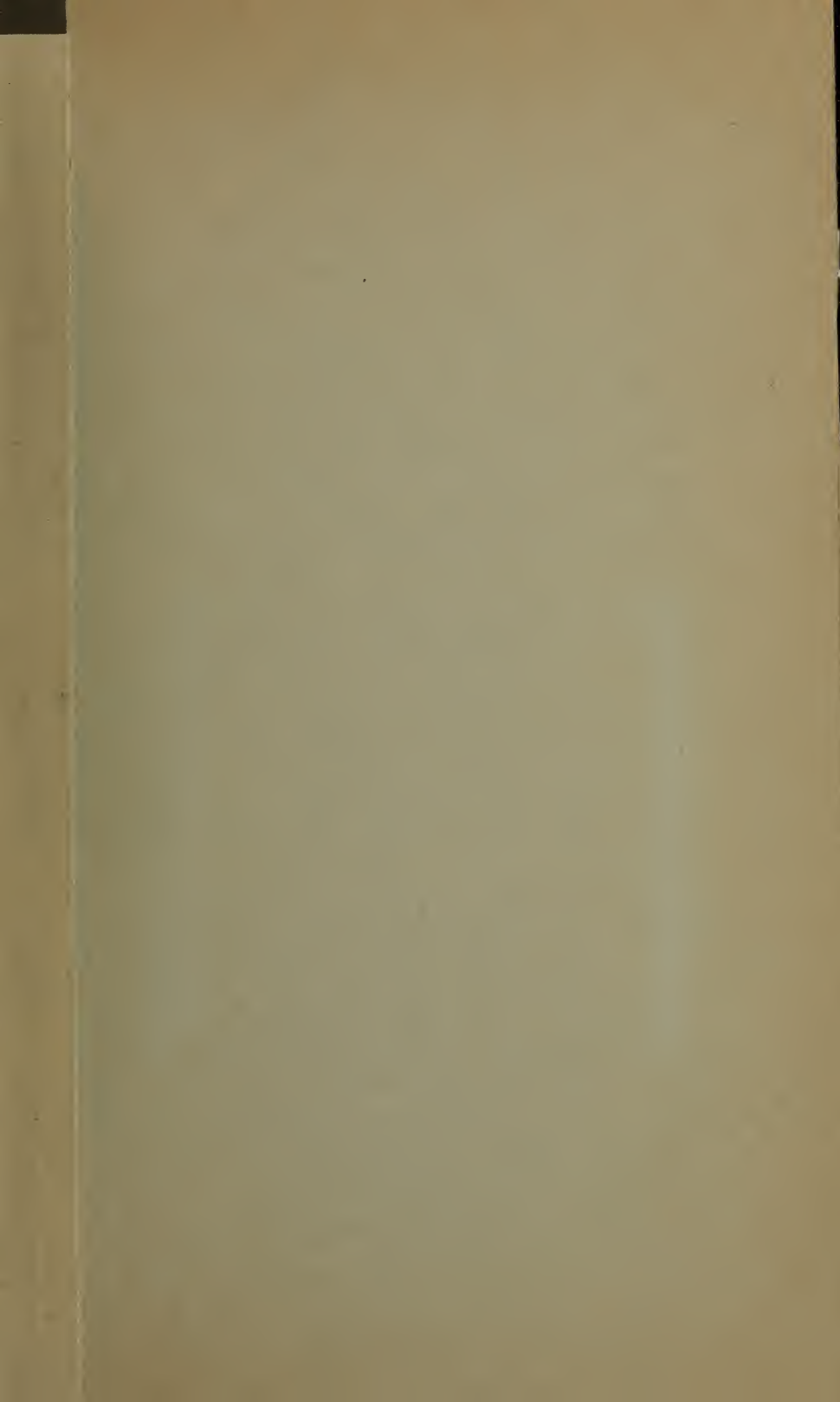
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The American Marine, "Soldier of the Sea"

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