

HOW THE RAILWAYS RUN DINING CARS

Work of the Commissary One of the Hardest Tasks in the Service.

(Palladium Special)
Pittsburg, March 6.—"Hello—yes, this is the commissary. A second section on number 29? All right. I haven't got a car, but I'll get one. Number 29 just came into Jersey City. Have her sent over. Good bye."

This cryptic telephone conversation was heard recently by a visitor to the dining car commissary of the Pennsylvania railroad at Sunnyside Yard on Long Island. It took place at 12:36 p. m. It meant that by 2:45 a car which had just arrived in Jersey City after a long run must leave the yards to be made up in the eighteen hour train for Chicago prepared to serve a table d'hôte dinner to from 50 to 75 travelers on the trip west as far as Altoona, and luncheon and dinner on the return trip the next day.

It was short notice, but, as was explained by the assistant superintendent of dining cars and restaurants, who is in charge of the commissary, the dining car man is used to short deputes. Immediately the big supply depot was in a hum of preparation.

Until the steward arrived with his car to report the supplies on hand and make a requisition for the new ones needed, the exact amount to prepare could not be known. There was no waiting, however. With long experience as his guide the storekeeper immediately set about estimating what would be called for, and soon porters were hurrying from the huge cold storage rooms with fresh meat, poultry, butter, eggs and all the numerous articles that might be needed to supply the wants of 150 or 200 people.

As soon as the dinner came into the yard a little army of washers fell upon her. Every inch of the steel car inside and out, was thoroughly scrubbed. All the soiled table clothes, napkins, etc., were taken to the linen room and exchanged for clean ones. The foodstuffs on hand were carefully inspected and anything that was not in perfect condition was condemned. The steward turned in his report showing what he had brought back and what new supplies he would need. Together with one of the commissary checkers he examined each article to see that he received everything called for in his requisition. The supplies were then carried to the car on a motor truck and stored away in the compact little kitchen and pantry which were shining from their recent scrubbing.

Promptly at two-forty-five the car pulled out; every table gleaming with shining silver and spotless linen, the white-coated waiters ready to serve the evening meal.

This was merely an incident in the general routine of dining car management; one of the many contingencies which must be met by the men charge. The new Pennsylvania plant at Sunnyside Yard is the largest and best equipped in the world. It is the base of supplies for forty-eight steel cars. In it are stores worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. There are 612 persons engaged in operating the cars and a force of 28 in the commissary.

But the direction of this great plant is only a part of the work entrusted to the superintendent of dining cars and restaurants. His office is in the Pennsylvania station at Thirty-third street and Seventh avenue, New York, has control of 1,120 men. Besides the steel cars at Sunnyside Yard there are ten wooden cars and six station restaurants on the lines east of Pittsburgh.

The management of the restaurant in the recently completed station at New York is a gigantic undertaking in itself. It requires the services of two hundred employees. Instead of the usual railway lunch room, with its hurried service and food spoiled by long "warming," the restaurant situated at the inside end of the arcade is equal in appointments and service to those in the large hotels of New York. These beautiful dining rooms are already beginning to attract crowds other than travelers from the district around the station. The classical simplicity of the rooms themselves is a relief after the tinsel and gilt of the Broadway taverns.

An inspection of the kitchens and pantries shows that the equipment represents the last word in modern culinary apparatus. The labor saving devices for washing dishes, peeling and mashing potatoes, etc., are a constant source of wonder to visitors who are used to seeing things done "as mother used to do them."

Here electric motors do the work. There is an ice cutting machine that resembles a miniature saw mill. All the ice used in the glasses, and there is none used in any other way for the refrigerators are cooled by cold storage system, is cut into little cubes. One man devotes all his time to running this machine.

In the kitchen an army of cooks and helpers in white caps and aprons, busy themselves around twelve glowing fires. Besides these there are four gas and three charcoal broilers, and six gas roasting ovens.

All cupboards, drawers and shelves are of metal and white enamel, which can be easily kept clean. The greasy wood that one expects to see in a kitchen is not to be found.

When the visitor has been led through the vast storerooms and the numerous offices from the kitchen on the top floor to the plant in the cellar where all garbage is frozen into a hard innocuous mass, he has an idea of the way food is cared for and prepared in a restaurant. Then if he considers that in only one of the six restaurants, to say nothing of the fifty-eight dining cars, that are managed by the superintendent—well, he will understand why there is no rest for the dining car man.

FOREIGN OFFICERS WATCHING FOULOIS

On Texas Border to Witness His Methods of Aeroplane Scouting.

(American News Service)

San Antonio, Tex., March 6.—Lieutenant B. D. Foulois of the army signal corps and Phil Parmalee the Wright aviator are at Laredo, Texas, where they take up aerial scouting duty along the border river between Laredo and Eagle Pass.

The machine used is the one presented to the government by Collier. In addition to its capacity to carry two men, a kit of tools for repair work, duplicate parts for both the engine and propeller, it has a gasoline tank holding 25 gallons, fuel sufficient for a continuous flight of 200 miles.

It is understood that the Mexican government insists that aerial scouting shall be made entirely upon the American side of the stream and will not be responsible for what happens to the men in the event they cross the border. The river being very crooked between Eagle Pass and Laredo furnishes the aviators splendid opportunity to do all kinds of turning stunts in the event they attempt to follow the course of the stream.

The work of Lieutenant Foulois and aviator Parmalee will be watched with keen interest by military men in all parts of the world, since this is the first time in the history of the flying machine that it has been used for scouting purposes where hostilities were actually going on and it became necessary for a neighboring government to enforce neutrality laws.

Lieutenant Foulois will report the result of this investigation between the two points to the officers in command of troops now doing patrol duty along the Rio Grande. Prominent military men from various parts of the country and the attaches from other countries have gone to the Mexican border to note the result of this military effort with the flying machine. Both Foulois and Parmalee have the utmost confidence in their ability with this new Wright machine to perform any duty assigned to them.

CONTRIBUTION TO FUND OF FIREMEN

Grateful Spring Grove Man Sends \$50 to Start the Pension Fund.

In appreciation of the services of the fire department in extinguishing a small blaze at the home of D. L. Woodward, Spring Grove, Saturday afternoon, when a threatening fire was checked before the loss exceeded \$200, Chief Ed Miller received a check for \$50 this morning, as a nucleus for a firemen's pension fund. Twenty-five dollars of the amount was from Mr. Woodward and the other half was contributed by the corporation.

Although not required to do by law the local fire department has several times fought fires in Spring Grove, which would have meant the destruction of the property, had not the local department responded. Spring Grove has a water plug and fire alarm box maintained at its own expense.

Probably an ordinance will be drawn up under state statutes regulating such cases for the assessment of a certain per cent of the salary of each fireman for the pension fund. Chief Miller favors the idea, as do the board of works.

Mayor Opposes Plan.

Regarding a recent law which makes compulsory the creation of firemen's pension funds by taxation, in first and second class cities and making it optional in other class cities Mayor Zimmerman went on record to day as being heartily opposed to any such ordinance in Richmond.

He claims that it would be no more fair for the firemen to have a pension fund than the laborers in any factory. He says the firemen have good jobs and should save their money.

The mayor also made the statement that "a fireman may have recourse from the city for any injury received at a fire." The rest of the board held different opinions on the matter. Clerk Balz Bescher said there ought to be a pension because the firemen never receive damages for injuries received in a fire, whereas in a factory employees can hold the company liable for damage.

The duty of a fireman was said to be similar to that of a soldier. Looking at the matter from this standpoint some officials think the firemen's pension fund, created by taxation, would be just. The amount of the tax would be one-twentieth of one mill on the hundred dollar valuation, according to Attorney Gardner.

**EDUCATIONAL BODY
IS INCORPORATED**

(American News Service)

Harrisburg, Pa., March 6.—The Pennsylvania State Educational association, which for many years has ranked among the largest and most influential state teachers' organizations in the country, today made application to the Dauphin county court for incorporation. The object of the association in incorporating is to give it the necessary legal status in creating and collecting funds to be used in the betterment of the school system of the state. President C. A. Herrick of Girard college and Dr. Nathan C. Schaeffer, state superintendent of public instruction, are among the incorporators.

Have you trouble of any kind arising from a disordered stomach? Go to your druggist and get a No. 8 or 11 bottle of Dr. Caldwell's Green Peppermint, which is positively guaranteed to cure you and keep you well.

TELLS OF FAMINE BLIGHT IN CHINA

American Arrives in Tacoma with a Terrible Tale of Suffering.

(American News Service)

Tacoma, Wash., March 6.—Details of the terrible plight of the natives in the famine districts of China were brought to Tacoma today by Alfred W. Bowman, a resident in the Orient since 1890 and until recently an instructor in the government middle school at Luchowfu, founded by Li Ching Fanz, Chinese minister to England.

"Reports of the famine suffering and the misery and distress on every hand are not overdrawn," said Mr. Bowman. "There are at least 2,000,000 natives in immediate danger of starvation and hundreds are dying daily. In many instances parents are driven to the extremes of selling their own flesh and blood for food."

"Chinese boys are being sold in the provinces south of the famine district for \$1.50 in American money, while not more than 25 cents each is offered for girls. In fact, many of the poor families found it difficult to sell them at any price."

"When I left Luchowfu on January 10 thousands of refugees from the famine district were swarming into Anhui, which is just south of the famine belt. Many with whom I talked told harrowing tales of misery and distress and reported that hundreds were dying daily. I was told that many children, principally boys, were sold."

"The country around Luchowfu, in the province of Anhui, had a good fall crop, but throughout the country to the north, where the crops were destroyed by floods, there is terrible suffering and every indication is that the famine will be fully as disastrous as the last one, when thousands died from hunger."

Mr. Bowman says the missionaries are disbursing relief funds, but are not able to do much because their resources are limited. He added that food principally is required to sustain the people until another crop can be grown and harvested.

Routine business of the Board of Works this morning was as follows: Confirmation of resolution to place cement sidewalks, six feet in width, on South Fifteenth street, from Main to South E street, with cement curb and gutter on the west side from Main to South E and on the East side from A to E streets. Confirmation of resolution to build a cement alley from Seventh to Eighth street, the first north of North A street. Plans adopted for widening of North D street, taking a portion from lot of William Dorman, on the south side of the street. Modification of a resolution to improve West Fifth street, from National Avenue to the Pennsylvania railroad, with cement side walk, curb, gutter and macadam roadway, the resolution in present form to read, improvement from National to Richmond avenue. Confirmation of resolution to construct cement alley between South Twentieth and Twenty-first street, the first north of South A streets.

**ROUTINE BUSINESS
BEFORE THE BOARD**

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**CAMBRIDGE HORSE
SALE ON TUESDAY**

The Cambridge City horse sale, conducted by John S. Lackey of that place will open on Tuesday and promises to be equally as large and result in as good sales as any of the some twenty odd sales conducted by him previously.

Over two hundred head have been consigned to be placed on the block.

Including blooded young stock.

Buyers from all over the country began to arrive on Sunday, hotel accommodations in this city being secured by many.

AN OUTLAW HUNT IN INDIANA ENDS

Man Who Killed Alexandria Policeman Surrenders to a Posse Today.

(American News Service)

Elwood, Ind., March 6.—Jim Walker, one of the bandits who killed Police Officer Kirkman and perhaps fatally wounded Chief of Police Ellis of Alexandria, Ind., surrendered early today to a posse which surrounded him in the Monticello school house in the hills near here. Walker's ammunition was exhausted. He was taken to Alexandria where his companion, Rufus Warren, is already imprisoned.

Late Saturday night when Mrs. J. C. Brattain and some friends were passing the pawnshop of W. W. Miller at Alexandria they saw two men, one on the sidewalk and one in the shop.

The latter's face was covered with a handkerchief and he was pointing a revolver at Miller.

Women Notify the Police.

The women went to the hotel opposite and telephoned the police. Patrolmen Kirkman and Stokes responded. When the robber in the shop saw the police he began shooting. Several of the bullets hit Kirkman. The men then fled with Stokes in pursuit firing his revolver.

Police from surrounding cities and the sheriff and a posse with the Alexandria officers, chased the robbers to the river bottoms. Rufus Warren one of the robbers was captured. When it became known that young Kirkman who was only 23, and had been a policeman only a short time, had died, the anger of the Alexandria citizens increased. In order to protect Warren, he was hurried to the county jail at Anderson.

The other robber, Jim Walker, fled to the western part of town, where he barricaded himself in an empty house.

Shots were exchanged for some time when Walker escaped through a back window—not however, before he had shot Chief of Police Ellis through the stomach. Walker was wounded. Bloodhounds from Indianapolis were then secured from Indianapolis to hunt the robber.

Walker sent word from a barn in the country near Orestes that he would surrender if promised immunity from violence, but when the police arrived there he had flown. Early on Sunday he appeared at the office of a doctor in Orestes to have his wounds dressed, but was refused attention.

Miller, the pawnbroker, gave the robber \$30 at the point of his revolver, and if the officers had not arrived probably would have lost all his diamonds.

CONVERSE ESTATE

P. J. Freeman, administrator of the estate of the late attorney W. C. Converse has filed petition in the probate court, which has been approved by the court, to settle the estate as insolvent.

SIX ARE FATALLY INJURED IN FIRE

Terrible Tragedy in Cleveland Today as Result of Tenement Blaze.

(American News Service)

Cleveland, March 6.—Six persons were fatally hurt and twenty others badly injured in a fire that destroyed a tenement house here early today. One man is missing and it is believed that he lost his life. The flames spread so rapidly through the building which was occupied by foreigners, many of whom did not understand what was being said to them continued to fight and struggle. The firemen placed ladders against the walls and carried down some of the women and children, but despite this work of rescue, the panic reigned.

Men, women and children fought to get to the windows as the exit by the stairway was cut off by the flames. Despite the shouted warnings of the police and firemen, the frenzied foreigners, many of whom did not understand what was being said to them continued to fight and struggle. The firemen placed ladders against the walls and carried down some of the women and children, but despite this work of rescue, the panic reigned.

For a time it looked as though the flames would spread to the adjoining buildings and persons in the neighboring structures fled to the streets.

However, after desperate efforts the firemen got the blaze under control. Search of the ruins was at once begun.

TO TAKE A VACATION

Beveridge Does Not Intend to Work Now.

(American News Service)

Washington, March 6.—Senator Beveridge leaves for Indianapolis Wednesday. He will make a brief visit and then return East for an extended stay.

He will keep his law offices open in Cleveland, with an exhibit of the mechanical devices used in growing and packing of the fruit for shipment.

The California Citrus Growers' association will hold its convention during the week.

FIRST ORANGE SHOW ON IN CALIFORNIA

(American News Service)

San Bernardino, Cal., March 6.—San Bernardino expects to entertain hundreds of visitors this week on the occasion of the National Orange Show, which was informally opened today. The exhibition, which is the first large affair of its kind in the United States consists of gorgeous displays of the finest citrus crops of Southern California, together with an exhibit of the mechanical devices used in growing and packing of the fruit for shipment. The California Citrus Growers' association will hold its convention during the week.



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