

Railroads of One Hundred Years Ago

Morgan Baker, writing in the Washington "Post," goes back 100 years to survey the railroad situation as of July, 1833. He finds that 380 miles of track were in operation, the mileage being confined to Pennsylvania, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Georgia and South Carolina. Mr. Baker supplies the following interesting picture of the delights of traveling by rail at that time:

"Cinders and even live embers showered all in the rear of the engine. Women readily realized their frilly parasols were too fragile to shield from the fire-belching iron horse. Current newspapers give accounts of trains often being stopped to permit passengers to extinguish flaming baggage and clothing. Schedules existed on paper only.

"Sometimes the crew stopped and cut wood to replenish the fuel supply. Pigs and cattle, placidly contemptuous of the steaming monster, had to be shooed off the track."

The following gives some idea of wages and working conditions:

"Construction, almost entirely done by hand, was an expensive procedure. A report of an engineer of 1833 relates:

"The line of road is first graded as level as possible and free of short curves. A small trench is then dug for each rail. The trench is filled with stone on which is laid blocks of limestone or granite about a foot square and from two to ten feet in length.

"The stones are dressed smoothly. Iron plates are then laid and fastened to the stone with four-inch bolts about every 18 inches. The distance between the two rails is about five feet. Average cost per mile, \$28,000.

"Enginemen receive \$2 a day and firemen \$1.25. Laborers get less."

Spinach or Macaroni, But no Cream Puffs, Would Be Training Table Fare

(Warning: For the author's protection, we exhort you to first read the footnote at the end of the article before perusing the main body of this dissertation.)

Since, in the opinion of the Armour Tech News Sports Reporting department and other serious-minded and illustrious civic leaders, it is deemed necessary to inaugurate an incentive for the rehabilitation and the perfection of man's physical being, be it hereby resolved that a training table, preferably log (get it?), be founded in the aforementioned school in the year 1933 A. D. for the development of bigger, brawnier and less brainier athletes.

(Ed. Note: Please do not be discouraged by the above technical language and if you have read this far and have nothing else to do, you might as well finish the article.)

To the Tech engineers who are lacking a knowledge of the principles and the intricacies of training table procedure we do hereby respectfully submit the following ideas, for their consideration. (Let it be understood that we do not profess to be authorities on training tables but we thought it would be a good idea anyway.)

Athletic Scholarships

Although athletic scholarships in domestic science at other institutions (of higher learning?) are maintained, John Schommer refuses to go modern and give out cooking scholarships so as to attract to Tech the stars of sportscen. For this reason it seems imperative that a training table be established to overcome the deficiency. If a training table is not adopted it is feared that the track stars will have to be supplied with bicycles. In this connection we suggest that J. Lew Roberts follow the

example of his illustrious captain, since the training table may not be forthcoming for some time.

The diet, which does not include cream puffs, will probably meet with the disapproval of "Pug" McDonald and "Grunt" Talaber.

Fish have not been considered for the bill of fare of Ray Pflum and his aggregation, since fish is in the category of brain food. The Student Union will supply ballast in the form of dessicated biscuits to underweight athletes provided their teeth can stand the strain.

Training Table Requirements

Now to continue our analysis of the training table situation from the viewpoint of baseball, golf, and tennis. We feel sure that Coach Krafft would not object to his baseball men having as a regular item on their menu, a bit of that nationally advertised drink, which is guaranteed to do away with afternoon drowsiness. (Since this is not an advertisement we can not use the trade names of products. However, on the receipt of a self-addressed and stamped envelope, we will be glad to divulge the name.)

Captain Larry Davidson of the pill chasers, advocates spinach to strengthen the iron play of the divot diggers. Dickie Armsbury, who was heard loudly advocating the training table until he learned that a nominal fee would be charged, prefers a flexible food like macaroni. However, when interviewed he disclosed the fact that spaghetti would meet the requirements satisfactorily.

Tankers Don't Rate

Statistics garnered from the activities and abilities of Irv Kolve, John Ahern, et. al., in handling a table-de-

Tankmen Get In Trim For Season

Since swimming has become a major sport here at Armour, due largely to the repeatedly good performances shown against the highest calibre tank-teams that the Middle-West can muster, a noticeable enthusiasm has been manifest. An unusually large turnout of about forty students showed up for the first meeting of the Tech swimmers this season.

Among the many freshmen and new students present were Manager Suman, Captain Kolve, J. Ahern, Knaus, Bernstein, Giovan, Reed, Tullafus, Davison, Luce, and Goldberg, all veterans of last year. It can safely be expected from such a turnout that several of the new candidates will be good prospects for the varsity team if not already aquatic stars.

Time Trials to be Held

Captain Kolve requested of the candidates at the meeting to fill out cards, indicating what events they were best in, and in what events they would like to appear. The purpose of time-trials was also explained. The time trials will be held

note make it advisable to omit the swimmers from the training table.

For additional literature and data concerning the subject of this article, apply to the Armour Tech Training Table Association, O. Pigeon, West Tower, Mission.

FOOT NOTE

The author takes this opportunity to make public the fact that the names mentioned in the preceding paragraphs are mentioned with a smile (in fact a laugh). In other words—we didn't mean it.

Schommer Talks at Meeting of Honor A

An interesting talk was given by Professor Schommer before members of the Honor A society last Wednesday evening. The subject of his talk was "The Value of Athletics in College," and the reasons why the college student needed this particular subject as a part of his daily program.

In his talk he pointed out the fact that if the average college student expected to become a success in later life, athletics undoubtedly would give him the initiative to meet these problems in the proper manner. Many a man who might have been a success merely lacked the fight that athletics imparts to the athlete. Athletics create a spirit in the average individual that can not be obtained in any other form or manner.

On Wednesday, November 1, a meeting will be held in the Theta Xi house for the pledging of new members. Professor Schommer will speak as well as another speaker, whose identity is not known at present.

Schedule Tentative As Yet

There is ample time for the veterans and prospective candidates to practice and get into condition. The University of Chicago swimming pool can be procured for practice on several designated days each week. Captain Kolve announced that he doubted whether any matches would be scheduled before December. Two home and home meets have been tentatively scheduled with the Northwestern "B" team and Michigan State College. A schedule will be presented in the near future.

Techawks Compile Good Record

Against opposition such as Crane, Illinois Wesleyan, Northwestern "B", Morton, Michigan State, Milwaukee State Teachers, Loyola, Wisconsin, and Chicago Normal, the Techawk tank men have compiled a total of 9 wins and 11 losses. Many of these losses were by heartbreaking point margins. This is a considerable achievement considering the status of the opponents. Now is the time for Armour men who like swimming to come and practice for the Tech team.

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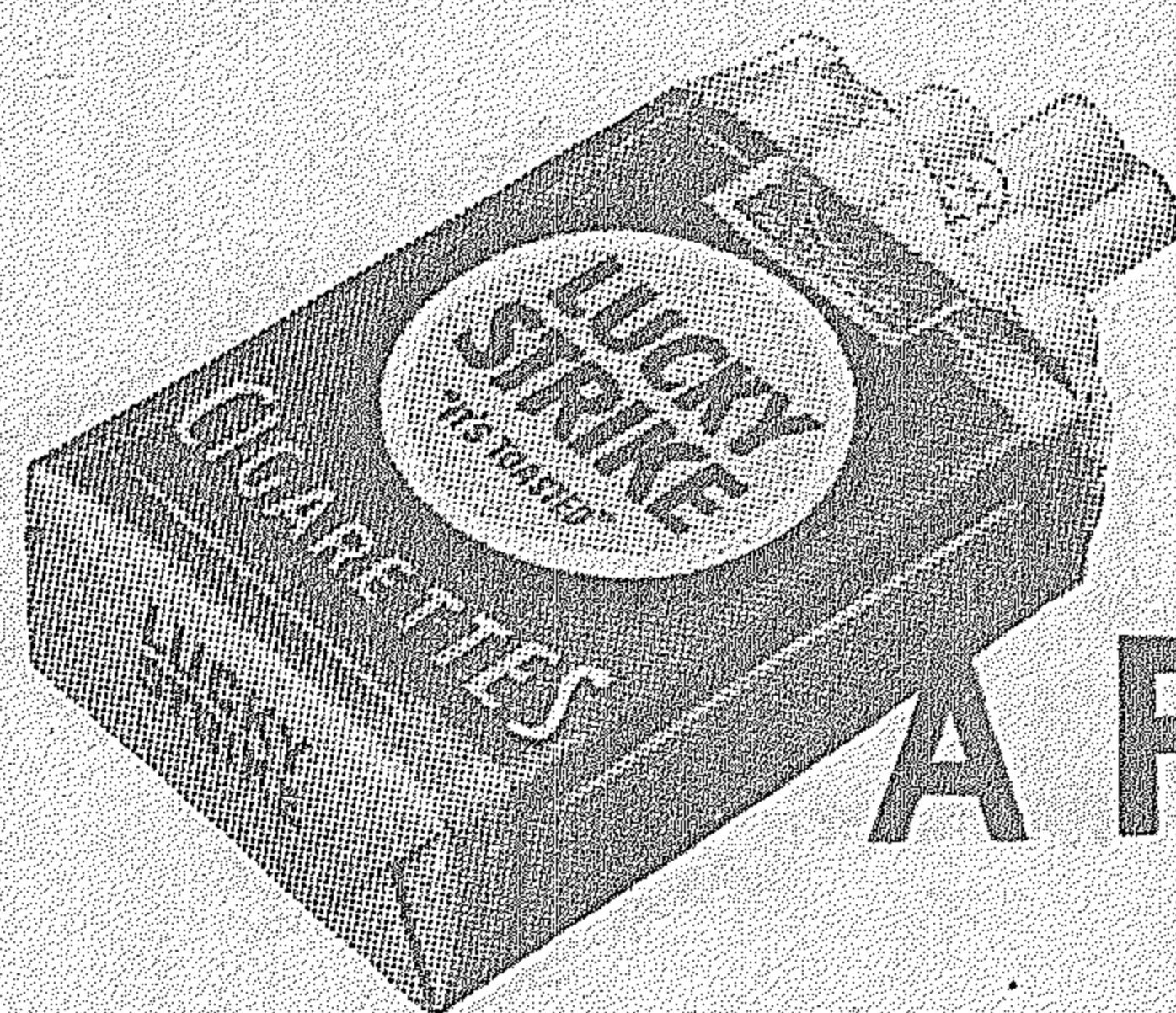
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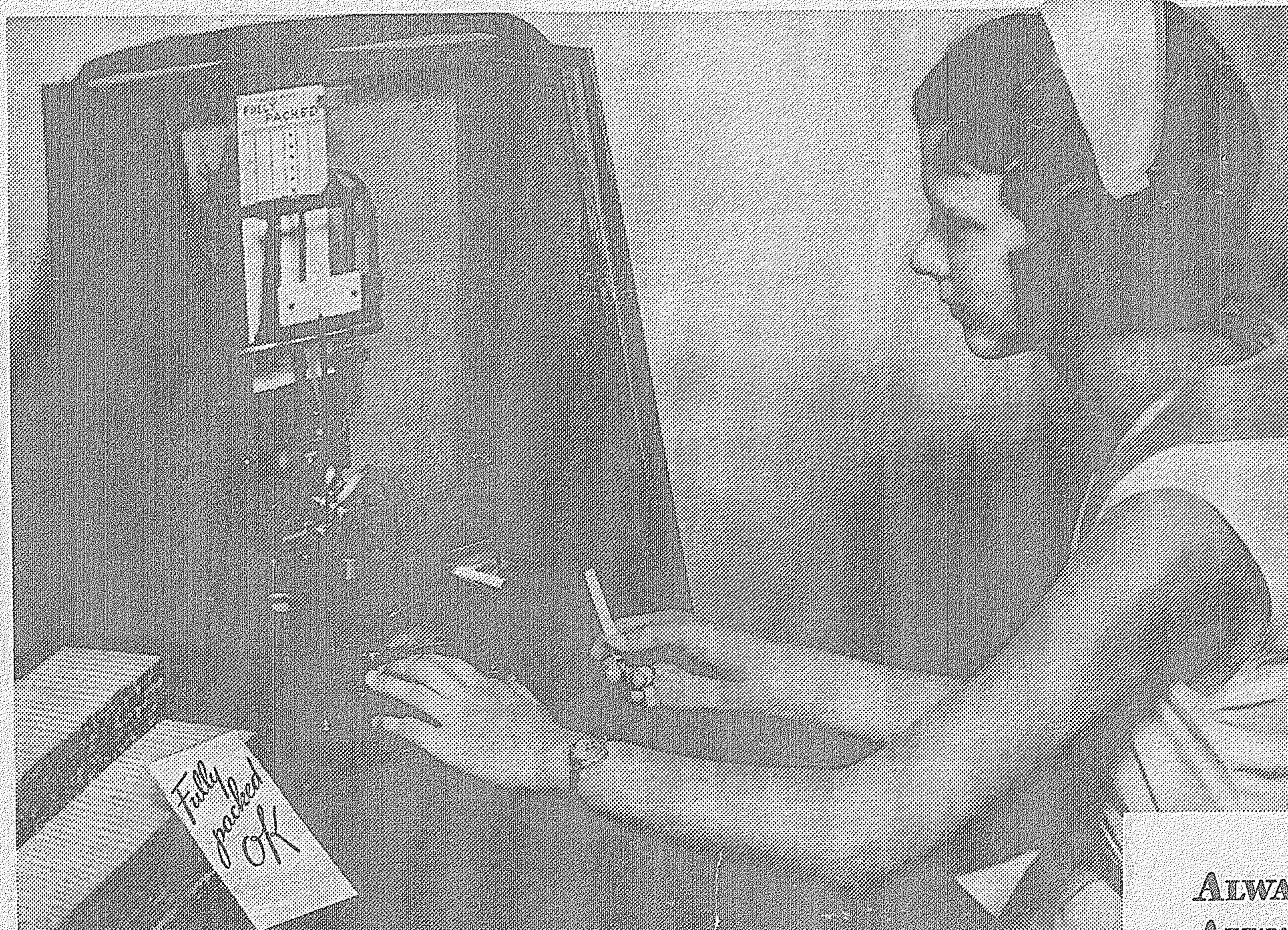
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