

THE MAN WHO FINDS FAULT WITH THE NAVY

Henry Reuterdaahl, a Swedish Marine Artist Domiciled In America, the Author of a Magazine Article That Has Made a Stir.

WHO is Henry Reuterdaahl? The gentleman is a marine artist— that is his chief reputation until he wrote the sensational magazine article was derived from his ability as a sketcher of marine subjects. That he is a skillful artist in his particular line is not to be doubted, since his work has been used for years in some of the leading periodicals. Mr. Reuterdaahl is widely known among artists and illustrators for his wonderfully effective and accurate drawings of sea craft, notably of those built for war. He has depicted scenes in the sea fighting forces of many nations.

The first man was not visibly impressed. In fact, he looked slightly bored.

"And who," he asked quietly—"who is Upton Sinclair?"

When the party of the second part recovered sufficiently from the shock he took his commercial friend aside and kindly but firmly explained that Upton Sinclair is the young man who exposed the "rottenness" of the beef packing business and caused the famous presidential inquiry as to beef trust products. Then he explained that Henry Reuterdaahl is the young man who wrote the current magazine article on "The Needs of Our Navy," which seems to be stirring up the naval bureau and possibly may result in a thorough overhauling of the navy department.

Mr. Sinclair's startling revelations are believed to have given us safer beef for eating. Mr. Reuterdaahl's less startling revelations or asseverations may give us safer boats for fighting; hence the parallel indicated by the New Yorker.

At any rate, Mr. Reuterdaahl just now is in the public eye either as a mote or a beam. He is the first and thus far the only person in America who has dared to beard the bureau lion in his den and try to smoke him out. He is the first and only person to declare publicly and conspicuously and emphatically that our much vaunted battleships, which we recently started up on a cruise around the tip end of South America with a wild hurrah of admiration and confidence, are not exactly what they ought to be as to construction for fighting other war vessels and for taking care of themselves in a fight or a frolic.

Who, then, is Henry Reuterdaahl? The gentleman is a marine artist—that is his chief reputation until he wrote the sensational magazine article was derived from his ability as a sketcher of marine subjects. That he is a skillful artist in his particular line is not to be doubted, since his work has been used for years in some of the leading periodicals. Mr. Reuterdaahl is widely known among artists and illustrators for his wonderfully effective and accurate drawings of sea craft, notably of those built for war. He has depicted scenes in the sea fighting forces of many nations.

The Man Who Dared.

Henry Reuterdaahl is an American by transposition, but he did the transposing himself because he liked the United States. He is a native of Sweden, born in 1871 at Malmo. He yearned to be an artist, a real artist like the old masters who daubed canvas and won enduring place in the Louvre and the Metropolitan Museum of Art and other salons of art products. But the parents of the young Swede were practical people. They sought to discourage Henry's ambitions. They told him that true high art was excellent, but not filling. He might become famous after his death, but he would require food while living, and at last they induced him to become a scenic artist, that branch of art promising more food.

That branch also was high art sometimes, for young Reuterdaahl was engaged to gild oriental domes at exhibitions. It was not long, however, until the underlying art ambition in the young man's makeup effected a compromise between oil painting and scenic painting by accepting "the black and white." Reuterdaahl became the youngest illustrator in Sweden and, it is said, one of the best. One of his early assignments was to come to America and illustrate the World's Fair at Chicago in 1894.

The United States, with its thousands of handsome periodicals requiring illustrations, its thousands of new books each year adding to the opportunities in his profession, looked so good to young Henry Reuterdaahl that he determined to remain. Accordingly he established his home in this country and became a citizen, but his work carried him to the four corners

of the sphere, chiefly aboard vessels of war. He made a complete tour of European navies for an American periodical, illustrating the various phases of life aboard ship. This was quite to his liking, for Henry Reuterdaahl as a youth spent much time aboard the coasting vessels and other merchantmen of the Baltic. It is said that for awhile he was a sailor. At any rate, he is credited with a thorough technical knowledge of things marine.

An Artistic Lookout.

Right out amid the jutting rocks of a Hudson river bluff or palisade at Weehawken, N. J., Mr. Reuterdaahl has built his studio. Scarcely could there be a fitter spot for a marine artist's workshop. Weehawken being directly across the river from New York city,

there is a constant panorama of appropriate subjects before the artist's eyes. The Hudson, or North river, as it is called along there, bears upon its bosom all manner of vessels. Now and then great battleships sweep past the studio outlook. Huge ocean liners docking at Hoboken, just below, are visible from the eye of the artist. Other greyhounds of the deep, docking across the river, are likewise in full



HENRY REUTERDAHL, ARTIST AND CRITIC.

His Telling Criticism of the Present American Navy May Result In a Thorough Overhauling and Betterment of the System.

view. In fact, Mr. Reuterdaahl from his studio on the Weehawken heights can see far up the river and far down the bay and even across and over Manhattan Island's skyscraping skyline to the Brooklyn navy yard. The wisdom of such a selection for a marine illustrator's studio is evident.

A Marine Expert.

In his studio Mr. Reuterdaahl has models of every kind of sea craft. His specialty, as indicated, is the naval side of marine matters. From long experience aboard the ships of various navies he has become familiar with naval construction and is accounted an expert in that respect. Mr. Reuterdaahl has studied the construction of fighting ships not only from the artist's standpoint, but from the standpoint of the technical builder. He is American editor of the European publication called the World's Fighting Ships and is an associate of the United States Naval Institute.

These connections serve in part to explain why an influential American magazine has given the place of honor to Mr. Reuterdaahl's article severely criticizing our navy, both as to its ships and as to its internal administration under the bureau system at Washington. In brief, as most of us know by this time, Mr. Reuterdaahl urges a complete reorganization of naval administration, with elimination of the bureaucracy, and a considerable alteration in the pattern of war vessels to be built hereafter, particularly as to the placing of the magazines, the guns and the protective armor.

Popular as a Teacher.

For several years Mr. Reuterdaahl was an instructor in the Art Students' league in New York. He was quite popular with the students notwithstanding the fact that he was a severe critic of their work. When he had anything to say regarding a student's efforts he went at it hammer and tongs. His language, according to one of his former students, was quite as explosive as are the rapid fire guns aboard our vessels.

"Mr. Reuterdaahl," says this student, "smokes cigarettes most of the time. He rolls his own cigarettes and usually works with one of the pellets in his mouth. We used to call him 'Teuty' at the league, but not to his face. In

spite of his cigarettes and his spouting style of talk he possesses a considerable measure of dignity."

According to this authority, Henry Reuterdaahl never attempts to draw the woman form divine. Whether he is unable to depict feminine loveliness or whether he simply prefers masculine ugliness is not stated. In any event, one might search far without finding a female figure in the Reuterdaahl drawings.

Devoted to Detail.

"All artists of note have their peculiarities. Henry Reuterdaahl's lies in an immense ability for subdued detail. This is one of the special charms of his naval pictures. Everything is there to satisfy the lovers of technical accuracy, while nothing obtrudes to offend the purely artistic. . . . It is in his wonderful ability to 'manage' detail that Henry Reuterdaahl is so conspicuous a success; his pictures 'look right.' He carries this to extremes. The writer, who is captious of naval details, examining one of his pictures with a glass, once discovered some bags of coal placed along the side of a German torpedo boat to increase protection in action against the Chinese. Inspection revealed that these bags were just as full—no more and no less—as naval coal bags always are. It is the extraordinary ability to grasp infinitesimal details such as this that goes to make genius and to make pictures living facts. Each of these coal bags went to make up the grand total. Not one in a million might be conscious of them, but there they were, and with a thousand similar trifles, they contributed their might to the harmonious whole."

While there may be many who do not believe in the accuracy of the Reuterdaahl criticism of our battleship construction, it may be taken for granted that the emphatic observations of a man who puts microscopic details into a picture of a ship are worth considering, at any rate.

ROBERTUS LOVE

SECRETARY TAFT VERY POPULAR

Geniality of Head of War Department Makes Him Many Friends.

AN EXHIBIT FOR TOKYO FAIR.

Negro National Exposition to be Held At Mobile Next Fall—Congress Asked for Money.

Special Correspondence.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15.—Secy. Taft goes to the capitol several times a week to appear before committees which want to hear from him on matters affecting the army, the Philippines and the Panama canal, to say nothing of what is going on down in turbulent Haiti, Cuba. In spite of his large weight, the genial secretary moves rapidly when going from one point to another in the big building. Visitors from a distance quickly recognize him from the pictures that appear in the newspapers and magazines, and it is a temptation for many to stop him and shake his hand. Quite a number happen to know him, and they invariably try to engage him in conversation. He is jolly and genial at all times, and it is a case of unusual hurry if Judge Taft does not stop a second or two to exchange greetings. Now that he is an avowed candidate for the presidential nomination and is credited with nat-

ing the backing of the Roosevelt administration, Secy. Taft is being literally swamped with invitations to go to this or that city to deliver addresses.

APPARENTLY HAS CLEAR FIELD.

The last visit of William Jennings Bryan to Washington has effectually quieted the widespread report that he was coming here because many of the most prominent Democrats in Congress wished to have a conference with him to suggest that he drop out of the presidential race and permit the nomination of Judge Gray of Delaware, Senator Culberson of Texas or Governor Johnson of Minnesota. An alleged poll of the house Democrats was made by certain newspapers, which claimed there was much opposition to the Nebraskaan. Mr. Bryan's stay in Washington demonstrated that so far as the Democrats in Congress are concerned he practically has a clear field. With but few exceptions they look for his nomination by acclamation at the Denver convention, and nearly all Democrats will tell you that he is the choice of the rank and file of his party in their states. In his conversation with his friends and supporters Mr. Bryan has made it known that he thinks Taft, Hughes and Cannon are absurd in the Republican race in the order named. The fact that ex-Atty. Gen. Harlan of Ohio has been traveling around the country so much with Mr. Bryan causes talk of the possibility of the latter being nominated for vice-president on the ticket with Bryan.

GOVERNMENT EXHIBIT FOR TOKYO.

An international exposition is going to be held at Tokyo, Japan, in 1912. Senator Cullom, who is chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, is pushing a bill to have our government take a leading part at the Japanese capital, for he proposes that the United States shall expend \$350,000 to make a creditable exhibit. He wants a commissioner general at \$5,000 a year, an assistant at \$5,000 and a secretary at \$4,000 appointed to manage the matter for Uncle Sam and expenses of these officials to be paid when traveling. The chances are the appropriations will be made, even though Congress is beginning to sour on voting money for exhibitions in such rapid succession.

A negro national fair is to be held at Mobile next fall, and efforts are being made to have Congress vote \$250,000 in aid of that show. In a few days a hearing will be given to its promoters by the house exposition committee, of which Representative Gardner of Massachusetts is chairman. Mr. Gardner is personally opposed to expositions in general and fought appropriations for the Jamestown exposition.

WOODRUFF AND EVANS BEING CONSIDERED.

Talk in Republican circles is that the friends of Timothy Woodruff are counting on quite a boom for that former lieutenant governor of New York for vice president on the Republican ticket in the event Governor Hughes fails to capture the nomination for president at the Chicago convention and the head of the Republican ticket happens to be William Howard Taft. Work is being done in the interest of H. Clay Evans of Tennessee for the vice presidency. He was a candidate at St. Louis in 1896 and received over a hundred votes in the convention that nominated McKinley for president, but the late Mark Hanna swooped down on things and nominated Hobart of New Jersey before the other fellows could get their breath.

Congress has been in session only two months, and yet the Congressional Record, in spite of the fact that there has been so little in the way of legislation, contains over 1,400 pages set to date. At this rate it will break all precedents, and unless something is done to cut down the amount of matter loaded into its columns the bound, permanent volumes will at the end of this Congress be frightfully to wade through if one wishes to refer to a bill or debate in years to come. Probably to a greater extent than ever before members of both the senate and house have filled the pages of the Record with what might be called extraneous matter.

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WAR HERO AND SCHOOLGIRLS.

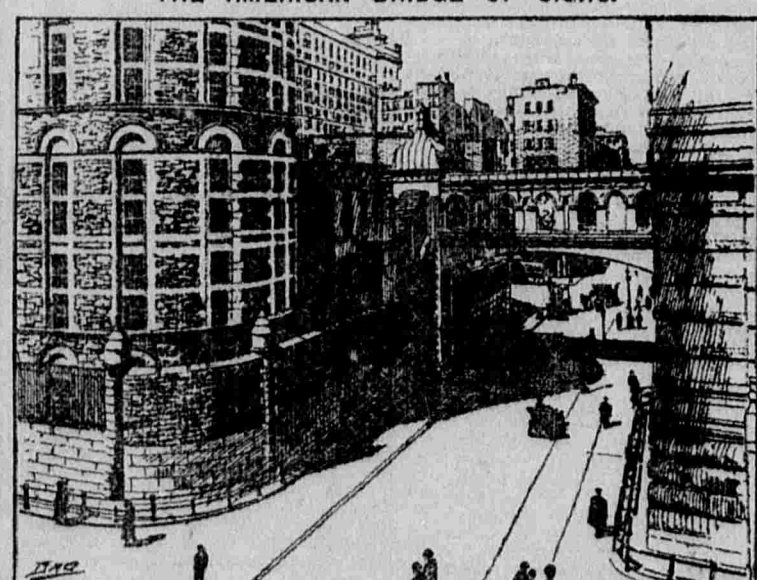
General Nogi, of Port Arthur fame, is in the unenviable position of being pitted against the sharp tongue and bellicose tactics of a lady, and Tokio is smiling broadly behind his newspaper.

Miss Shinoda, a very talented lady, is the principal of the Peersess' College, of which institution General Nogi is president. The principal is in favor of pupils dressing as ladies their rank; the general insists that a plain dark costume is more in keeping with study. The bright colors so dear to the hearts of the Japanese girls, must be eschewed, he said, and the girls in obedience to him, came forth in dull garments. Miss Shinoda gave the general to understand that the school was not a battle field and the girls were far removed from soldiers. The general refused to surrender. The principal changed her tactics and resigned. The general is not sure whether he or the principal had won the battle, and is not pleased with the public's merriment.

OWNERS OF FAMOUS NECKLACES.

The most costly necklace in the world belongs to the Countess Henckle, a lady well known in London and Paris society, the value of which is said to be \$50,000. It is really composed of three necklaces, each of historic interest. One was the property of the ex-queen of Naples, sister of the late Austrian Empress; the second, once the property of a Spanish grandee; while the third was formerly owned by the Empress Eugenie. Not long ago the necklace composed of 412 pearls, in eight rows, the property of the late Duchess of Montrose, was sold for \$11,820. The Empress Frederick of Germany is said to have possessed a necklace of thirty-two pearls worth at least \$40,000; while Lady Rochester's necklace of black pearls is valued at about \$25,000.—The Bits.

THE AMERICAN BRIDGE OF SIGHTS.



The cut shows the bridge which connects the famous Tombs prison in New York city with the criminal court building immediately opposite. Soon after its completion it was christened the Bridge of Sights by a prisoner to whom it suggested the famous Venetian passageway for prisoners of state.

STEEP ASCENT FOR A RAILROAD.



The summit of the Jungfrau, pictured herewith, is about to be scaled by a railroad. The electric road is already in operation as far as Elmer and in time it will be extended to the summit. Now it is proposed to build a railway to the summit of the Matterhorn and to erect a hotel on the very pinnacle of that lofty peak.

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