



**This page is devoted to articles written for THE LEATHERNECK by prominent men**

## S P A R E   T I M E

I note that another name for correspondence study is "Spare-time Study." How many of us really understand the true significance of the term "Spare Time?" Often it is a misnomer. What we sometimes allude to as spare time is not such at all, but is time which should be applied to useful endeavor, either on actual work in hand, or in preparation for the future. There is no time for loafing. By that I do not mean recreation, for clean, wholesome recreation is the spice of life, and there should be some time on the daily schedule of every person for a few hours. But when the time for recreation is past, the attention again should be turned to the constructive problem in hand, that of making ourselves useful agents for the betterment of ourselves as individuals, and for the advancement of mankind as a whole.

The world does not stand still, as has been often quoted to us all. It must move forward or backward. By scanning the pages of history, even superficially, it is easy to note that we have gone forward step by step. This is attributable to some cause. And credit is due to none other than those men whose lives and deeds illuminate the pages of history. Men were not content to wander listlessly down the road of life without doing something to make the journey easier for themselves and for the countless millions who were to follow. Those monuments to their lives were not constructed through chance, but were the results of lives definitely planned and carefully executed. The success of every great man lies in his ability to organize his energies so they are distributed properly and systematically through their respective functions. To these men there is no such thing as spare time, for there is something to be done with all of it.

We of the Marines, of course, understand the term as relating to that part of our time which is not taken up with official duties. What should be done with that time depends upon the men themselves. Recreation? Surely. Athletics? By all means. But what about those many hours which are void of any definite occupation, which could be turned into useful and constructive channels? The Marine Corps Institute offers an attractive assortment of courses containing information along any line in which a man might be interested. There are also courses designed for men whose fundamental education is deficient, such as Good English, Mathematics, Geography, a knowledge of which is essential no matter where a man may be placed. Many Marines are forsaking this opportunity to better themselves, preferring to drift with the current rather than put forth a little effort. But a large per cent are grasping it eagerly. Why not all?

Brigadier-General, U. S. M. C.,  
American High Commissioner to Haiti.

### FALSE PRIDE

Any man who is ashamed to admit being backward is suffering from *false pride*. Self-respect demands that he correct this condition at once by MAILING THIS SLIP.

MARINE CORPS INSTITUTE,  
Washington, D. C.

I wish to avail myself of the government's free course in \_\_\_\_\_.

Rank and Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Place \_\_\_\_\_