The AMERICAN LEGION Weekly

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The Tale of the Shirt

Over three-quarters of a million men put on over three-quarters of a million shirts every day in the week—yet not one dress shirt manufacturer seems to think it worth while to sell his product to us through the advertising pages of our Weekly.

Do you wear shirts?

What kind, Buddy?

Tell us about your shirts on the coupon—or write us a letter.

The Tales of Your Shirts—will help us convince these manufacturers that we are too big a market to overlook much longer—

You can help us make them all sit up and take notice—

And you haberdashers—department store buyers—salesmen—who are Legion men—

Particularly do we ask you to write

Tell us why you think bigger sales would result for you if every Legion man in your community read the advertising of the brands you feature, in THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY—

If we can place enough Shirt Tales before these manufacturers with enough dealer's names on the dotted line—

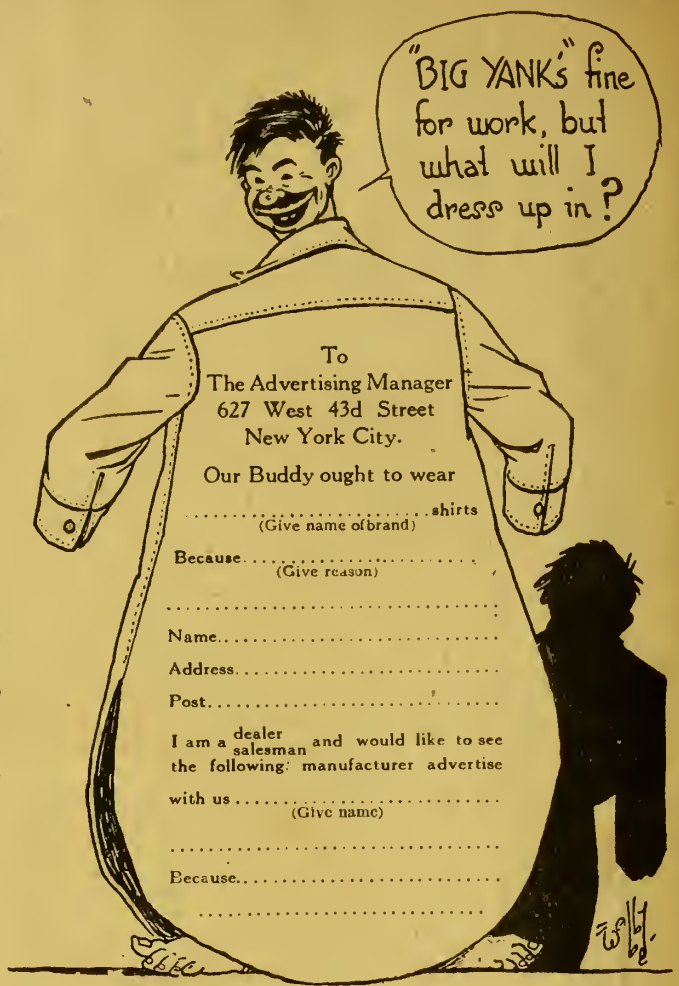
Shirt advertising will shortly appear in the WEEKLY—we promise you.

Get behind us on this drive.

We learned in France how to read shirts—

We'll interpret all the evidence you can give us.

Next week—SOLE MATES.



Our Directory

These Advertisers support us—Let's reciprocate. And tell them so by saying, when you write—"I saw your ad. in AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY." Or tell the same thing to the salesman or dealer from whom you buy their products.

*"BE IT RESOLVED, that with a firm belief in the value of our magazine—*THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY*—as a national advertising medium; with the realization that due to limited subscription price and constantly increasing cost of production, the improvements which we desire to see in it will only be made possible through increased advertising revenue—and that increased advertising revenue depends primarily upon our support of advertisers in the* WEEKLY*—we hereby pledge our support and our patronage, as individuals, and as an organization, to those advertisers who use the columns of our official magazine—*THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY."

Resolution passed unanimously at the Second National Convention of The American Legion.

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We do not knowingly accept false or fraudulent advertising, or any advertising of an objectionable nature. See "Our Platform," issue of February 6, 1920. Readers are requested to report promptly any failure on the part of an advertiser to make good any representation contained in an advertisement in THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY.

Advertising rates: $3.00 per agate line. Smallest copy accepted, 14 lines (1 inch.)

THE ADVERTISING MANAGER, 627 West 43d Street, N. Y. City.

Guaranteed for Life

$1 Brings this Complete 42-Piece ALUMINUM SET

Here without doubt is the greatest bargain ever made in aluminum ware. See for yourself at our risk. Only $1 now and we ship the complete set—42 pieces—and give you 30 days' free trial. Money back if you don't say that this is the most wonderful aluminum set you ever saw and the most sensational bargain. See offer below. Don't miss this. You risk nothing.

You know how quickly good aluminum ware takes up the heat and gets the cooking done. Then also, it actually safeguards health, because there are no chips and no corrosion or rust to get into the food and irritate the stomach as with iron or enamel ware, and it also beautifies your kitchen.

Try This Set 30 Days FREE and You Will Never Part With It

This remarkable 42-piece "Longware" Aluminum Set is made from **heavy gauge pressed steel aluminum. Absolutely seamless. Guaranteed for life. Will not crack, corrode, chip or peel.** Set consists of: Nine-piece combination double roaster with 2 outer shells; inside pudding pan; 5 custard cups with perforated pan holder. (Two outer shells make an excellent roaster for chicken, steaks or other meats. Using perforated inset and small pudding pan, it is a combination cooker and steamer. The 3 pans are also used separately as a cake pan, bake dish, pudding pan, etc.) 7-cup coffee percolator with inset (2 pieces); 6-quart preserving kettle; 2 bread pans; 2 pie plates; 1-qt. and 2-qt. lipped sauce pans; 1 ladle; 2 jelly cake pans with loose bottoms (4 pieces); 1 castor set; salt and pepper shakers; toothpick holder and frame (4 pieces); 1 measuring cup; 1 combination funnel (6 pieces); 3 measuring spoons; 1 strainer; 1 sugar shaker; 1 doughnut cutter; 1 cake turner; 1 lemon juice extractor. Shipped from Chicago warehouse.

Order No. 415CMA19. Complete Set, Pay $1 now. Balance $1.50 monthly. Bargain Price, $14.85

FREE Bargain Catalog Millions of people have furnished their homes elegantly and luxuriously on the Hartman plan without feeling the cost. The great 432-page Catalog shows you how to make any home beautiful and more comfortable and how to save money. It gives you the opportunity to secure the choicest styles and amazing bargains in furniture, rugs, linoleum, stoves, ranges, watches, silverware, dishes, washing machines, sewing machines, aluminum ware, phonographs, gas engines, farm implements and cream separators, etc.—all on our easy monthly payment terms. Get this book with hundreds of articles to select from—30 days' trial on everything. See how conveniently and economically you can buy from Hartman. This bargain catalog is free. Post card or letter brings it. **"Let Hartman Feather YOUR Nest."** Send post card today.

HARTMAN FURNITURE & CARPET CO.
3913 Wentworth Avenue Dept. 3078 Chicago, Illinois

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Send the Coupon NOW

This complete, guaranteed 42-piece Pure Aluminium Set, yours at our bargain price and only $1.00 to send now. Only a few cents a day pays the balance. If you don't find this set everything we claim, send it back after 30 days' use and we will refund your dollar and pay transportation both ways. And remember **we guarantee this set for life.** If at any time it corrodes, cracks or chips, you get all your money back for the asking.

Very Important: Immediate shipment assured upon receipt of your order. No waiting—no delays.

HARTMAN FURNITURE & CARPET CO.
3913 Wentworth Ave. Dept. 3078 Chicago, Ill.

Enclosed is $1.00. Send the 42-piece Aluminum Set No. 415CMA19. I am to have 30 days' trial. If not satisfied, I will ship it back and you will refund my $1.00 and pay transportation both ways. If I keep it I will pay $1.50 per month until price, $14.85, is paid.

Name.....

Address.....

R. F. D.....Box No.....

Town.....State.....

A Personal Offer—to Legion Men Only

$25 to $200 a Week

I know that there are thousands of Legion Men who are interested right now in making more money. They want immediate action—without red tape and without delay, and I am going to make a personal, special offer to Legion Men only that will enable any man to make from $25 to $200 a week, depending on whether he can give me an hour or so of his spare time each day, or six hours each day of real work.

How Much You Can Make

I want a Legion Man in each community to act as my representative—call on my customers and take their orders for raincoats. That's all there is to it. If you take four average orders a day I will pay you $96 a week. If you only take one average order a day you will make about $24 a week. If you will read the records of a few of my representatives—on the left-hand side of this page—you will realize that it is amazingly easy for a man to make from $50 to $200 a week at this proposition.

$876 in One Month

That's the record of C. A. Rowe of New York—and he gives only two or three hours a day to this work.

6 Orders in a Bunch

"Enclosed find the result of first day's efforts. I did not know it was so simple. All I did was to pull out my book and hand it around to men, with the result I got six orders."—J. J. Steish (W. Va.).

Customers Overjoyed

"One night I spent one-half hour in a home in Portland. In that half hour I sold $100 worth of coats. Very easy and simple. September 28th I spent twenty minutes and my profit was $13.50. Customers are overjoyed with their coats."—R. W. Krieger (Conn.).

$625 a Month

Andrew B. Spencer, of Pennsylvania, is an insurance man who sells raincoats in spare time. We paid him $625 for one month's spare time.

$2005 in 6 Months

$2,005 cash for six months' part time is the record of C. E. Ray of New York. He only devoted his spare time to this work and added $13 a day to his income.

3 Hours—$13.80

"Am sending first orders for your splendid raincoats—only three hours' work. My profit $13.80."—Chas. Britt (N. C.).

5 Orders in Two Hours

"Enclosed find five raincoat orders, amounting to $50. Upon my word of honor, I made this profit in one hour and forty-five minutes by my watch. The more Comer coats I sell the easier they are to sell."—T. A. Earle (S. C.).

A Woman's Record

Mrs. Margaret McCoy wrote that she worked half an hour and made $14 profit.

No Trouble

"Enclosed find orders I took this evening. Had no trouble after I showed the samples. In fact two people sent for me to come and see them."—L. W. Roberts (N. Y.).

Without Experience

"Three orders taken in twenty minutes. Rush more order blanks."—R. H. Dorff.

No Experience Is Needed

It is not necessary for you to be a salesman. It is not necessary for you to know anything about raincoats. I will give you all the information you will ever need. There is no trick to taking orders for Comer Raincoats, and the reason is simply this—people are tired of high prices. If they buy coats from stores they have to pay a profit to the merchant, to the jobber, to the clerk—they have to help pay for fine fixtures, and, in most cases, they buy a coat that is from six months to two years old. Either the *price must be high*, or the *value must be low*. We manufacture our own coats and sell them direct to our customers by parcel post. Our representatives simply take orders. The values speak for themselves—and with such values, such styles, such materials as we offer, our representatives often take from two to four orders at a single call.

NOTE

The Comer Manufacturing Company is the largest business of its kind in the world. Any man who becomes a representative is assured of fair, square, honest treatment and will have reason to be proud of his connection with the company.

This Is All You Will Have To Do

All that my representatives do is to take orders—and they get their money immediately. If your profit for one day is $10 you will have that $10 in cash the same day. You don't carry a stock of coats. You don't put up any money. You don't deliver anything, and I do my own collecting through the mails.

This Is My Special Offer

Now—*the important thing is to get started.* I know that you can make at least $50 within one week of today, and have that $50 in *cash.* I know that within a short time you can be making $100 a week—every week. The important thing is to get started and get started *quick.* If you will fill out the coupon with your name and address, I will send you, without any preliminary correspondence and with absolutely no deposit whatever on your part, a complete selling outfit with full instructions, samples of raincoat materials, style book, order blanks and everything that you will need to make money. I will write you a letter that is so complete, clear and concise that after you read it you will know absolutely where to go, what to say and how to make the money.

Within the past few weeks I have paid Legion Men a net clear profit of about $15,000. And I am willing to make this concession, send the complete outfit, confidential information and instructions at once, because Legion Men are now making good wherever they are acting as my representatives. If you are one of those men who want a *real opportunity* to establish a big, permanent, substantial and profitable business—if you are sincere and in earnest, sign and mail the coupon at once, and in less than a week you will be making more money than you ever thought possible.

C. E. COMER
The Comer Mfg. Co., Dept. F-412, Dayton, Ohio

COUPON FOR LEGION MEN

C. E. Comer, Comer Mfg. Co.,
Dept. F-412, Dayton, Ohio.

I am a Legion Man and want to get started as a Comer representative. I can devote full / spare time to your proposition. Please send me, without expense or obligation to me, complete outfit and instructions.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

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The AMERICAN LEGION Weekly

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The Phantom Bride

"Needles and pins, needles and pins,
When a man marries his trouble begins."

By ROBERT J. CASEY

Illustrations by LEROY BALDRIDGE

BILL KEYES, late sergeant of the 100th Field Artillery, dashed into my office the other day. He narrowly escaped collision with a young woman at the threshold and straightway reached the verge of collapse. He looked as if he had seen a ghost—albeit the young person appeared to be anything but spiritual.

"Know her?" I inquired.

"Never saw her before," he declared. "But I can't stand red hats. Every time I see one I expect to have some cop grab me by the arm and stand me up for a free trip to Leavenworth."

And then he told me the strange story of the phantom bride and the material troubles that followed her acquisition.

WIVES (he asserted) are the cause of ninety-five percent of the world's unhappiness. . . . You may recall the phrase about the wives and wickedness of the devil.

I never told you about this before. I never told anyone about it before. But I know more about married life than any other bachelor in captivity.

I enlisted in a Western unit to make the big hop to France with the Thunder Division, but I had a large list of acquaintances, including some brothers, sisters and parents—and at that time even friends—who lived in New York.

Camp Mills, an hour from Broadway, was like a free vacation to me. I folded my blankets in the approved three-fold fashion, got measured every day for the shoes and uniform that they would have issued to me according to specification if the war had lasted that long. I shoveled a few miles of ditches to make Long Island safe for democracy and I rode into town every night.

Then they got out an order confining all men to camp indefinitely. The task of fooling the Hun spies commenced. It was a simple process. It consisted of taking aimless hikes into the country and back and getting one's feet so well blistered that even the Kaiser's chiropodist would never have recognized them as feet.

All shoes were placed under the cots with the toes pointed toward New York so that the wily investigators would not suspect that the division had any intentions of moving eastward. Tents, under the irritating influence of Sibley stoves, burned down with carefree abandon that must have convinced any Germans within forty miles that the Americans were bent on cremating themselves. Itinerant vendors of hat-cords, ear plugs, badges, suspenders, straw hats and other things forbidden by the uniform regulations were allowed to visit the camp. But obviously it was in the interest of safety that none of the soldiers—who knew nothing of the plans for embarkation—should be allowed to go to New York where they might give important information to bootblacks and other agents of the enemy.

She was a pretty little thing

About this juncture I went AWOL, thereby laying myself open to matrimony.

The check roll-call got me, and for awhile the authorities were undecided whether to have me shot at sunrise or give me a week's K.P. The situation was grave until I used my brains. After that it was graver.

"Lieutenant," I explained to the executive officer, "I was married last week and I told my bride that I was coming over to New York last night. I couldn't break my word even at the risk of an infraction of military rule."

The lieutenant himself had been married two days previously. That was what made the story effective.

"We must have discipline," he told me. But I could see that he was weakening. "You'll cease to be a sergeant and you will peel potatoes as neatly as possible for the next couple of days. After that I'll see what arrangements can be made in your case."

After I had served my term on the potato detail, I was reinstated as a sergeant and given a permanent pass to the big town with the captain's compliments.

There came difficulty Number One. As a mere itinerant bachelor, gaily sauntering forth to see the white lights blink on Broadway, I was entitled by all the usages of camp life to return on the midnight train for some four or five hours' sleep. As a benedict whose bride must be counting the moments that lay between present happiness and future parting, it was obvious that suspicion would be directed against me if I should appear in camp prior to the first note of assembly at reveille. So I had to pay a genial hotel-keeper in Gotham a bit more than the United States allowed me for a day of drill for shelter between the hours when my relatives closed their flats and the time set for the departure of the early morning train for Long Island.

That was bad enough, but it was only the starting of trouble.

SOME genius in division headquarters developed a wild desire to know all about whether each soldat had his complete equipment of shoes, field, pairs, one; shoestrings, O. D., pairs, one; and blankets, O. D., one. Strict orders were issued that no one would be allowed to leave camp until the show-down inspection had been completed.

The lieutenant was all cut up about it. He had just spent ten dollars on long distance telephonic tears when I met him and he appreciated how my bride must feel about the order.

"You had better get your wife to come out and see you Sunday," he suggested. "I can get you and your squad passed as far as Hempstead or Garden City, but I can't do any better."

I guess I looked shocked. The lieutenant thought that it was because I couldn't see my wife on Saturday, whereas it was really due to the fact that I would have to produce a wife on Sunday.

On Friday I hunted up a pretty cousin. I told her the whole story and demanded that she get me a wife.

"They're hard to get," she said. "But I think Betty would take the job just for a joke. She's crazy to do her bit toward winning the war, even to the fearful sacrifice of marrying you."

And Betty agreed. She was romantic enough to see adventure in the role—all the excitement of being a bride with none of the restrictions or demands of matrimony. The automatic divorce that was to be hers as soon as she had passed in review at Camp Mills was an extra incentive.

EVEN in the Army we found kindly souls who went about making trouble while attempting to do good—like friendly Newfoundland pups with muddy feet. My squad, most of whom were married, volunteered to escort me to Hempstead to meet the bride. I welcomed their company in the belief that once they had seen her the alibi would be complete and she could go home.

I hoped that she would recognize me when she got off the train. I had only seen her once, and you can imagine how disconcerting it would be for one's bride to step up to a total stranger and inquire: "Is this Mr. Husband?"

But that was the chance I had to take. I believed that the whole affair would be neatly disposed of in a few minutes with one short, affectionate greeting in front of the willing witnesses, who would presently blab to such skeptical souls in the outfit as happened to doubt the published reports of the marriage.

But Destiny never works according to a set program. There intervened a new nuisance in the shape of a prominent citizen of Garden City with a big heart and a ditto automobile. He, too, was waiting for the train, and, during the wait, engaged in conversation the simple soldats lingering about the platform.

"I SUPPOSE that some of you men are waiting for relatives," he observed.

"Oh, yes," admitted the heroes in unison.

"Then I shall be glad to place my car at your disposal to take you anywhere you may please to go."

There was nothing in that proposition that should have involved me in misfortune. But I'm one of those fellows who attract trouble like lightning rods. One of the squad started to orate.

"All of us are fixed up, thank you," he said, "except Corporal Hunter and Sergeant Keyes. The wives of the rest of us live in Hempstead."

"Good," declared the patriotic citizen. "Corporal Hunter and Sergeant Keyes shall be my guests today. There hasn't been anything doing out at our place since the war started, and the wife will welcome a few new faces."

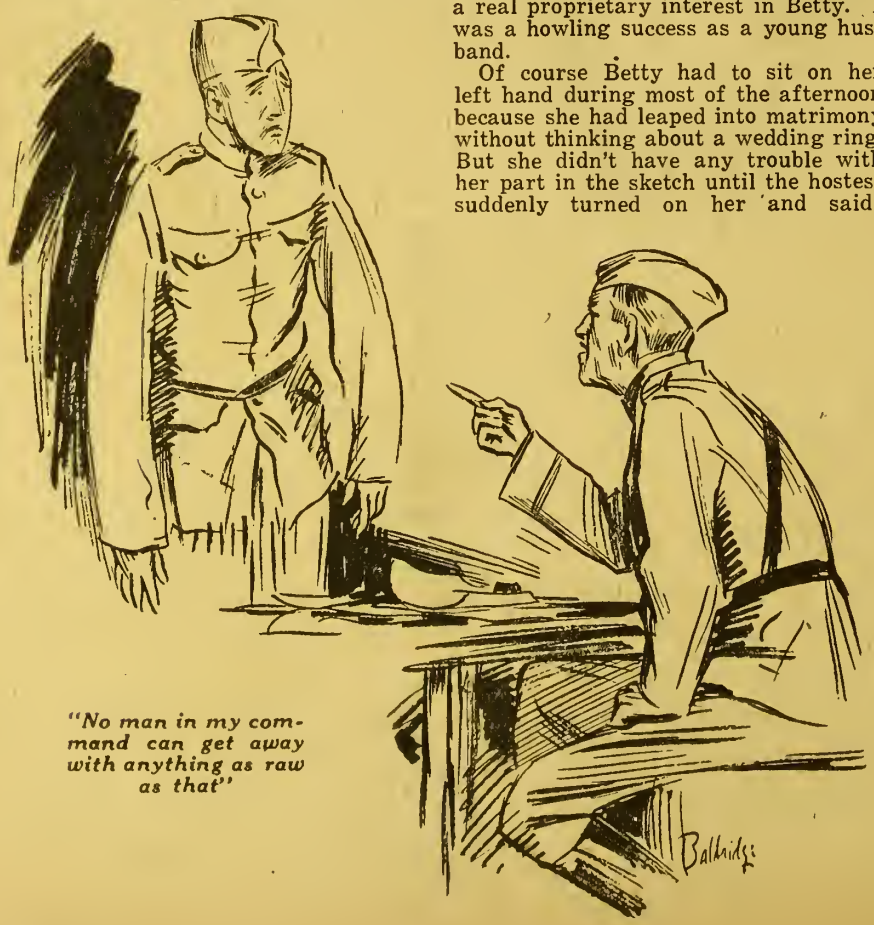
There were a hundred ways in which I might have escaped gracefully, but to save my life I couldn't think of them. It began to look as if somebody had drawn my number. So I thanked him and tried to look cheerful.

Luckily I recognized Betty when she stepped from the train.

She greeted me with a pretty little show of restrained affection. That part of the affair was fine. Then we let this patriotic citizen person take us in tow.

The party wasn't half bad at the beginning. It went off so smoothly during the afternoon that I began to feel a real proprietary interest in Betty. I was a howling success as a young husband.

Of course Betty had to sit on her left hand during most of the afternoon because she had leaped into matrimony without thinking about a wedding ring. But she didn't have any trouble with her part in the sketch until the hostess suddenly turned on her and said:



"No man in my command can get away with anything as raw as that"

"I have been trying to place you all afternoon. Weren't you Elizabeth Ellis?"

I looked toward the door and decided that I could reach it just about one jump ahead of the Patriotic Citizen if I had to, so I sat up stiffly and waited for the finish.

But Betty was a woman and therefore inquisitive.

"I was Elizabeth Ellis," said she, "and I know that I have met you somewhere. But I am so forgetful of circumstances."

Mrs. Patriotic Citizen smiled sweetly.

"I met you at the Rogers' housewarming a year ago," she explained, and Betty signalled to me that the danger was over. The Rogers family were distant relatives of Betty's, and their friends were not hers.

One narrow squeak was enough of that sort of experience for me. I looked for an early chance to get away.

ABOUT ten o'clock I gave Betty a wink.

"I think we'd better start to look for a hotel, dear," I said. "If we can find a suitable place you may be able to stay here while we are in camp."

"I think so, too," she agreed.

Mr. and Mrs. Patriotic Citizen wouldn't hear of it. Then the practical Corporal Hunter contributed his share to the festivities.

"There aren't any rooms at the hotels," he said. "You said that yourself when we started to come here."

"You'll have to stay all night," declared the dear hostess.

"That'll be lovely," I agreed.

The beautiful bride blushed, started to say something and decided that she'd better not.

The conversation lagged after that. The corporal kept up a monologue about a very intelligent horse named Pete and I couldn't help thinking that the horse must have been a great contrast to the corporal. I was about ready to jump out of the window when Hunter and his wife decided to go.

Then I got up and went with them. I explained that I had some work to do in camp and promised to be back the next day. I didn't get away immediately, however, because just about that time Betty fainted.

I was in a peck of trouble. I didn't dare go back to the tent. If I did, Corporal Hunter would know of it and he'd realize that there was something wrong with my excuse about extra work.

All the hotels in Hempstead and Garden City were jammed and shelter was quite a problem. I finally went to a Garden City place where an infantry captain, a schoolmate of mine, had quarters. He was out for the night, so I climbed up a fire escape and borrowed his room. I stayed there until daylight and thus ruined forever any alibi for my matrimonial status.

I saw Betty once or twice after that. She felt it necessary to pay another visit to Mrs. Patriotic Citizen just to display a wedding ring, borrowed for the occasion from a married sister. Then she used to bring me odds and ends of home cooking, prepared by her own loving hands. She was a pretty little thing—always wore a gray coat and furs and a red turban. I wasn't exactly glad to see her. In one week I had traveled the complete route that

(*Continued on page* 22)

Is the World Safer for Democracy?

Popular Government Has Made Great Gains Since Napoleon and William II, but the Road Is Still Beset with Portentous Perils

By JOHN SPENCER BASSETT

Decorations by R. A. CAMERON

WAS the war worth fighting? Did it accomplish what it set out to do? Has the cause of democracy progressed as a result of the defeat of Prussian autocracy and militarism, or has it lost ground in the face of the twin evils of war-made wealth and war-born communism? These are some of the questions which Dr. Bassett answers in this article.

THAT'S what we said when America sailed away for France, two millions strong: "Let us make the world safe for democracy." By democracy we meant the right of a people to govern themselves, each man with a vote and no man with any other power over his fellows than his natural ability enabled him to exercise. Lovers of democracy, we knew it could not live side by side with its enemies, autocracy and militarism, and we proposed to die fighting for democracy in order that it might be made safer.

There was high need for our efforts; for the fate of self-government hung in the balances. If Germany won the war there would be no peaceful living in the world with her. Through having defied the united might of her enemies for two and a half years, her people had come to think they were invincible. They always fought on the inside lines, and they had the benefit of a start at the time that suited them most. If they carried on until they forced France, Britain and Italy to bite the dust they would consider themselves the strongest nation in the world, able to dictate their form of government to the rest of humanity.

There was every reason to believe that a victorious Germany would consider herself an enemy of democracies wherever they existed. It is the nature of autocracy to war on democracy. The two cannot live peacefully side by side. The greatest peril to the autocrat is that the people over whom he rules will come to repudiate his rule. If they see democracy in successful operation around them, they will ever threaten the overthrow of the autocrat. He must know it, and he must feel the essential necessity from his point of view for finding grounds for quarrel and war with the nations in which the seat of power is the will of the people.

THUS it is a law of nature that when these forms of government confront one another, one of them will fall before the other. They have always fought when in contact, they always will, and if we may interpret the future by the past the victory will always lie with the democratic nation.

Suppose the submarine had done its deadly work effectively and the Allied fleet had been unable to get the German fleet out of the harbors at Kiel and in the Baltic, and suppose there had been no United States troops at hand to turn the tide in July, 1918, when the desertion of Russia had left the Allies at the mercy of the German hammering, what would have been the result? Well, Germany would have offered them some kind of terms which would have left her unbeaten and they would have been forced to accept them. Germany would have kept her old territory and France and Britain would have got out of their debts as well as they could. With no chance of reparation from their enemies, they would have been crippled for fifty years.

BUT to Germany there would have been one sure means of recuperation—the wealth of the United States. Her navy was intact, stronger than when the war began. Our navy was weaker than hers, and our trade and our seaboard were exposed.

For all that, I do not think the United States would have tamely submitted to Germany. In the war that would have followed, our navy might have been defeated at first, and our commerce might have been swept from the ocean. But the spirit of the United States is to get ready for war after it begins, and to fight on until the war is won. That is probably what we should have done if we had been so foolish as to think in 1917 that we could afford to stay out of the war altogether. The final result would have been that we should have got a navy built at last and defeated Germany on the sea, or forced her into her ports. We should have escaped defeat at great expense of life and money.

In fighting the war for the overthrow of autocracy, we were really fighting in behalf of the great mass of German people, though that was not in our minds at the time. The German militarists were a well-united class, ruling their people by fear and by an ably devised system of rewards for those who obeyed. He who sought to break their hold on the people's throat received no mercy. He who toadied sufficiently was rewarded.

No common man or woman was safe in Germany from the petty insults of a German officer. These official lordlings knew no restraint—the Kaiser himself urged them to maintain their superiority in the face of his own people.

WHEN we broke down the war, we broke down the war party. We made, we and those who fought with us, the German people free from their domestic tyrants. The day will come when Germany will realize, as the South has come to realize since the Civil War, that it was a blessing that she did not win the victory in her long and disastrous struggle.

When the war was over the world was so full of joy at the coming of peace that we forgot to pay much attention to that which had given us most anxiety before the victory, the fate of democracy. Before we had recovered from the era of rejoicing we had the long and difficult problem to solve of the peace conditions, and then came the threatened wave of disorder in Europe. The result was that we were plunged into new and dark foreboding about the future of democracy before we had time to ask ourselves what it had really gained in the struggle.

At this time we have progressed far enough to see that the dangers of the past two years are receding. But two perils still hang over us. One is the vast power that has come to wealth through war profiteering, and the other is the threat of the non-property-owning people to unite and set up a communistic government with violence and terror.

Herein lie the two greatest dangers

to democracy in the future. It is safe to assume that with Germany transformed into a republic and tsarism wiped away in Russia, the world will not come again under a system of one-man rule, or of the rule of a small class. In its broader aspects democracy is safe. Its future perils will arise from influences that may warp it into something that is not self-government, but enough like it to masquerade as democracy.

Government by wealth is not democratic any more than government by poverty is democratic. In fact, when we have government by classes we have not democracy. Probably the scholars will let me coin a word and call it "classocracy." Democracy is a government by citizens, not a government by groups. Classes act for class interests. When the rich control government they rule for the interests of the rich. The manufacturers want things done for the interests of the manufacturers, the farmers want things done for the interests of the farmers, the mine owners for the interests of the mine owners.

MANY of them, most of them, in fact, believe that it is for the real interest of all that their own particular interests are promoted. They are as bad as the proletariat in their philosophy, who think also that the interests of all would be promoted if their own special forms of government were substituted for that which now exists. They first begin by reducing everybody to poverty, and then they say that all should be equally happy alike. But it is about one, equally happy or equally unhappy.

It is the mass of citizens who bear the burdens of government, not the classes. When there is a war they have to fight it through. They have to pay the taxes that support the government. It is they who ought to act together, not in behalf of their classes, but in behalf of their citizenship, in conducting the processes of government. They ought to vote as citizens, not as rich men or as poor men, not as manufacturers, or as laborers, but as citizens of the great commonwealth.

The influence of the classes in government is becoming a very powerful thing. The large number of men and women who are not organized into such groups are about to be forced to the necessity of organizing merely to have themselves represented in government. We organize by our occupations, by our religious creeds, by our race origins, and by various other interests we may have.

Sometimes a man is a member of two or more of these classes, and in that case he has a divided interest; for he may be a laboring man and as such bound up with one class, a Hungarian and as such bound up with another group, and he may hold a certain kind of religious belief that has interests at stake in the political arena. In this case we see government by classes in a state of conflict within itself. One of the dangers of democracy today is this tendency to substitute what I wish to call "classocracy" for democracy.

Another danger is the spirit of communism that is abroad. It is established in Russia, where there was no democracy to face it in its incipiency and prevent its seizure of a sprawling, leaderless people. Tsarism was gone, no efficient government remained in its place. The bolshevists seized power and have carried it on to this day.

To the great mass of Russians it is bolshevism or tsarism, and when that choice has to be made they prefer the former. If they could have a real choice between bolshevism and democracy, they would in all probability take democracy. But who can develop democracy in Russia in the face of the bolshevist terror? When we know what is to be the fate of communism in Russia we shall know how much it endangers the existence of democracy in the rest of the world.

If worst comes to worst and a communistic struggle is precipitated in the rest of the world, it will probably be the severest test of democracy since the French Revolution. Not that it is likely that communism could be established permanently in the United States, or in any of the countries of Western Europe. Theoretically communism rests upon the spirit of altruism in an extreme form but the preachers of bolshevism, or communism, are not organizing their forces in the spirit of actual altruism. They are promising their followers the spoils of the enemy. The followers—if they ever came to put communism into operation—would go about it in anything but the spirit of altruism. They would have in themselves the spirit of greed, which they attribute to their opponents.

Several times in this country communism has been attempted by religious

organizations, on small scales. The Plymouth Colony began as a communistic community; that is, all the property was owned in common, but it was soon seen that the people would not work if they were not to have for their own the fruits of their labors.

PRIVATE ownership of what one works for is as fundamental in the minds of men as life itself. If by any means it happened that a self-governing society like ours adopted the common ownership of property, taking away from our people the prospect of getting on in the world through their own efforts, there would begin almost immediately a process of new building up on the old lines.

Communism would be rejected as soon as its nature was understood, and eventually we should return to private ownership. But the experiment would cost us a vast deal of misery. It would mean the overthrow of all who now have a competency. Reduced to the equal poverty of all, many of them would never escape from sore distress in the day of restoration, and many others would die under the misfortunes of the change.

For example, Russia will probably escape from communism some time and build up again a property-owning class. It will not be the same old class, nor will it have, in all probability, the same old gross inequalities of great nobles and very poor people. Let us hope not, at least. But it will take many generations to polish the new society until it equals the old in culture, intellectual life, and the standards of living. The change has been obtained by the submersion of a whole upper class, without regard to the justice awarded to individuals.

SOME of us seem to tire of democracy because we have had it so long. Is it not time we sought something new? Gentlemen of vivid imaginations are abroad in the land. They speak well, they write even better. It is a new time, they offer us a new doctrine. Under such circumstances who would champion the old? And so the spirit of change whispers to them to make the experiment. Give up democracy and commit yourselves to some new idea.

Well, before we follow them let us be certain we know whither they lead. It would be a great calamity if, after saving the world from the menace of German military autocracy, we allowed it to fall before the menace of communism.

I do not believe there is any real danger that this country is going to throw over democracy on any such ground. But it is clear that many excellent people have serious fears on the subject. The thing that is held up for adoption is so unpleasant to them that they become unduly nervous over the mere proposal to adopt it.

The communists, however, are so unlike everything we associate with Americanism that it hardly seems possible that they will ever have enough supporters to become a serious menace to the democracy of the country. What they will do will be to furnish the occasion for frightening some excellent people into hasty expressions of alarm; but if there is a serious attempt to establish communism in this country the forces of individualism are too strong to be carried away.

Emerson's saying that "America means opportunity" is still true. Perhaps it was never before so true as today. The newspapers contained a story the other day in complete illustration of this fact, when they stated that two hundred immigrants were just sailing from an American port, returning to their native land after a few years in the United States, and that they carried with them a total sum of $100,000. For these people there had been a great opportunity here.

As I write I look out of my window over a broad section of the Connecticut Valley in which are the farms of many Poles worth from $25,000 to $50,000 each. Fifteen years ago the owners of most of them were laborers. These men cannot be socialists or communists when they realize what the words mean. They came over here to own property;

(*Continued on page 22*)

Colonial Press Service Photo

The Palisades of Maligne Lake, Canadian Rockies

Baiting Our Northern Neighbor

Single-Handed Movie Captures of Large Bodies of Boche Troops Fail to Impress the Four-Years-in-the-War Canadian

By STEWART H. HOLBROOK

CANADA is bounded on the North by God knows what, on the East by the Atlantic, on the West by the Pacific and on the South by the United States.

The average American who has never been in Canada has rather hazy ideas of that country. They have been formed—naturally—by what he has read and, if he has read Robert W. Service, he pictures a land of intense cold, snow, mounted police and gold. On the other hand, the Yank from the East is prone to regard all Canada as the habitant-speaking, Jean Batisse country made famous by the poems of Drummond. In these conceptions he is both right and wrong. Canada still has plenty of snow, gold and mounted police, and in one province Jean Batisse is very prevalent. But these things are a long way short of being all of Canada.

The Yank crossing the line for the first time will at once be impressed by the fact that he is no longer in the United States. The buildings look the same, the street cars are very similar and the stores are like those he has seen at home, but here the familiarity ends. The language he hears is much different. It is English-English and Scotch-English, and some of it he will find very difficult to understand.

To be a regular John Henry he must learn that lieutenant is leftenant, opportunity is oppochunity, Z is zed and good night means good evening.

Also, he will note just now a distinct antipathy toward things American. There are a number of reasons which have brought this about, and chief among them is the flag-waving vaudeville act from the southern side of the line. Practically all of Canada's vaudeville comes from the States, and since we entered and left the war there have been hundreds of these acts which in song, word and action have glorified the A. E. F. and the Stars and Stripes. In addition, there have been many photo-dramas depicting scenes in which two or at most three Yankee soldiers (moving picture type) killed or captured one full regiment of the Prussian Guard, doing the job nonchalantly under the caption, "All in the Day's Work."

These acts and pictures were fine stuff in the States. But in Canada they were, at the best, in poor taste.

An exception to these unthinking vaudeville acts was that of Will Cressy and his wife Blanche Dayne. Many of the A. E. F. will remember them as two of the few entertainers who showed all along the real front. The writer had the pleasure of seeing them in Toul in 1918 and again in Winnipeg this winter.

Mr. Cressy had been using a set of slides in his act, showing life on the American front as he had seen it. When the writer found Mr. Cressy in his dressing-room at the Winnipeg Orpheum, he was carefully sorting these slides, putting away some of them which might savor of "too much Yank." Also, Mr. Cressy said he was obliged to change about half his act for the Canadian side of the line. Mr. Cressy is a diplomat and a showman.

On the other hand, there was a Canadian divisional show touring Canada the past summer which passed a number of remarks in regard to *our* part in the war. One of the actors impersonated a Yank. "What outfit were you in?" asked the Canadian.

"In the Rainbow Division," replied the Yank.

"Oh," remarked the comedian. "You came over after the storm." (Big applause.)

Canadian: "What does this A. E. F. mean?"

Near-Yank: "American Expeditionary Forces."

Canadian: "I thought it meant After Everything's Finished."

Voice from Gallery (Chicago accent): "You're wrong, buddy—it means After England Failed."

This line of patter will scarcely lead to war, but it can breed ill feelings.

Let the Canada-bound Yank, without hiding his nationality under a bushel, refrain from ill-advised flag-waving and glory-shouting and he will do his bit toward fostering the good relations which have always characterized our dealings with Canada in the past. This the American veteran himself is pretty sure to do. More to be feared than the man who went to war is the man who did not—particularly the American civilian with many war-made dollars to spend at present depreciated exchange rates. A Yank and a Canadian, both vets, are far more apt to swap yarns than blows. Let both Canada and America remember that the war movie is generally a civilian enterprise.

EDITORIAL

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent. Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the Great War; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.—Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion.

The New Jump-Off Line

THE AMERICAN LEGION, on behalf of the ex-service men of the United States, went before the recent session of Congress with certain specific requests.

First, it asked appropriations for the building of adequate hospitals to lessen the suffering and save the lives of the disabled veterans of the World War, and for legislation co-ordinating, broadening and making efficient and more useful the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, the Federal Board for Vocational Education and the Public Health Service. Second, it asked for adjusted compensation, in cash and otherwise, for all veterans—government assistance in enabling them to overcome the financial and economic handicaps they suffered as a result of their military service.

The recent session was a short one. It was dominated by the members of one political faith, while the executive and administrative departments of the Government were controlled by those of another. It was the final session before a change in national administration. It was a Congress confronted with an appalling number of problems and difficulties. It was a Congress which passed very little legislation of any sort and from which it probably would not have been reasonable to expect calm and adequate consideration of all measures which came before it and equitable and fair action.

In the legislative swirl which marked the concluding hours of the session, appropriation was made of $18,600,000 for hospitals, and the Wason Bill, broadening the effectiveness of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, was passed, only to die later by the pocket veto of President Wilson. In the same last-minute swirl, passage of the adjusted compensation measure was blocked by one man, Senator Thomas of Colorado. Other measures, of which the Rogers-Capper Consolidation Bill was the most important, failed in committee.

The last-minute defeat of the compensation bill was not of high significance. When Senator Thomas seized the opportunity of blocking it (at a time when a single senator could have prevented the passage of any measure) he defeated merely a specific legislative bill. He did not defeat the idea of compensation—the idea that those who patriotically served in the late war should not be penalized for that service while those who did not serve should be rewarded. The measure had previously passed the House of Representatives by an overwhelming vote and had been reported by the Senate Finance Committee with an endorsement which substantiated all of The American Legion's claims.

Had it passed at the present session, however, it would have done so minus the provisions necessary to raise the money to meet the expenditure it authorized. There would have been delay in any event and, assuming the eventual passage of the measure—an assumption made even by its enemies—it is not likely that Senator Thomas has extended that delay.

But while Congress has, in effect, admitted the validity and justice of The American Legion's claim and given virtual assurance of the eventual enactment of adjusted compensation, that admission is not an extension of practical assistance to the ex-service man. It does not enable him to gain a home or a farm or re-establish himself or overcome the handicaps imposed by his service. The Government of the United States still is in the position of neglecting and showing ingratitude toward the men who fought to preserve it.

This neglect and ingratitude is, however, much more conspicuous in the case of the disabled. The appropriation of $18,600,000 for hospitals, a direct result of the earnest fight made by the Legion, is gratifying. But the amount is insufficient, and the failure of the other bills proposed by The American Legion means a continuation of virtually the same deplorable situation which has surrounded the disabled since the termination of hostilities.

The present legislative situation means but one thing—renewed and redoubled activity on the part of The American Legion. The needs of the ex-service man must be pressed more firmly than ever.

At the outset of this effort the Legion has cause for satisfaction: What is true of compensation is true also of the measures pertaining to the disabled—specific legislative measures were defeated, not ideas. The differences of opinion were over details. The debate was not over the underlying principle. Congress and the country know of the existence of the disabled man and the ex-service man in need. The Legion has made out its case. Already the Legion has won much ground. Now it must consolidate its gains preparatory to making the new jump off which will carry its program to accomplishment.

Perhaps it was a mild winter, but nobody seems to be objecting to the fact that this is the last week of it.

Our Congressionally reduced Army of 156,000 men is to have 15,000 officers. Now we need statistics on the number of corporals who are going to be out of luck for squads.

There are now six marshals of France, as against three a few weeks ago, and the probability that most American newspapers will refer to every one of them as a field marshal is thereby doubled.

At last reports impoverished Germany was still paying the former Kaiser a bonus amounting to considerably more than the annual pay of one American infantry company, including the high-salaried top kick.

"Oh, well, what I do won't make any difference a hundred years from now" has become such an important philosophic morsel that a popular song has been written around it. But where would we be if Robert Fulton had whistled to that tune a little more than a century ago?

CARRYING ON

News of the American Legion in the Nation, Departments and Posts

What is your Post doing? News and photographs for this department are welcomed from all Legion and Women's Auxiliary members

ALASKA LEGION WANTS LAND GRANT FOR VETS

THE Department of Alaska has definitely decided to ask that qualified Alaska ex-service men and women be given grants of one hundred and sixty acres from the unappropriated public lands of the Territory. This decision was arrived at after putting the question to a vote of the posts, which decided by a large majority in favor of land grants as against a cash bonus based on length of service.

A cash bonus of $15 a month, based on an average enlistment period of ten months' service, it was argued, would require a sum equal to the approximate total income of the Territory for one year, which, the records indicate, barely pays the running expenses of the territorial government. To raise the money by a bond issue would require an Act of Congress authorizing the issue.

The area of Alaska is 590,884 square miles, which is equal to about two and one-half times the area of the State of Texas, or one-sixth of the United States proper. Of this vast area the amount of desirable land is small compared to the whole, but under existing laws not over one hundred and fifty homesteads have been patented up to the present, although it is admitted that settlement of more of the desirable and available land is one of the Territory's most urgent needs.

The view of Alaska Department headquarters is thus expressed by John P. Walker, Department Commander: "We stand a better chance to get something that does exist, and that would cost the Government and the Territory nothing, than we do to get something that does not exist and would have to be created."

"BUSINESS is good," says Fred W. Martin, proprietor of The Dugout Shining Parlor and adjutant of Loveland (Col.) Post, who wears O. D. and tin hat during business hours and has attired his youthful assistant in the same rig. "Duck and enter" is his appeal to customers.

LEGION SHELTERS BUDDY DRIVEN TO SLEEP IN PARK

"LOOKS like a buddy out of luck," a member of Harry W. Congdon Post of Bridgeport, Conn., remarked to a couple of fellow Legionnaires some nights ago as they passed a limping, shabby figure on the street. The three Legionnaires stopped the man and, although he was reluctant to talk, drew his story from him and found that the guess was correct. He was a former doughboy of the Twenty-Sixth Division, who had been wounded five times and who now, thrown out of work and too proud to beg, was wandering the streets and for three wintry nights had been sleeping on a bench in the park.

An hour later the Yankee Division buddy, after his first square meal in days, was resting in a warm bed at Legion headquarters. His troubles were at an end. The next morning he was provided with railroad fare and a week's living expenses and sent on to Springfield, Mass., where a job was awaiting him which he had hitherto been unable to take.

AUXILIARY AT 2,150 MARK; IOWA SCORES TWO FIRSTS

WATCH the Auxiliary. It's going like a Kansas cyclone, judging from progress reports issued from National Headquarters. In the two weeks ending February 26, 141 new units of the Women's Auxiliary were created, raising the national total to 2,150 units. The banner week of all those so far recorded was that of February 26, when seventy-three new units came into being. Iowa led the Auxiliary in new organizations for the two weeks with twenty-two additional units, thirteen of which were formed the second week. Minnesota, with seventeen new units in the fortnight, entrenched itself more firmly in first place nationally with 166 units. New York, by a determined spurt that brought in thirteen more units, went into second place with 141 units and Massachusetts with 137 was third. Illinois and Iowa were neck and neck for fourth place with 129 units apiece. Kansas shot over the 100 mark by four units.

The Legion, in the same period, maintained its uniformly steady growth. Thirty-five new posts were added the first week

(*Continued on page* 16)

STARTING with nothing in its treasury, York (Pa.) Post within a year was the owner of a $45,000 home. One of the reasons for the post's financial success was the Annual American Legion Revue. Here is the full cast of the second edition of the revue, which recently cleared $3,500 and had 'em standing up to see it.

BURSTS and DUDS

Payment is made for original material suitable for this department. Unavailable manuscript will be returned only when accompanied by stamped, self-addressed envelope. Address Editor Bursts and Duds.

To the Dealer the Spoils

"About the best game of poker I ever saw was back in the West in the '50's," related the old timer. The cards were dealt and the pot opened for $5. Carson and Devlin and I stayed, each man taking one card. Then the betting started. The amount was tilted back and forth a few times until there was $10,000 in the center of the table. Devlin was betting hog wild and wound the pot up by boosting it $2,500 with both Carson and me calling."

"And did Devlin win?" asked one of the interested listeners.

"No," chuckled the old man. "Devlin wasn't dealing."

The Coming Bribe

Jones: "Here's a politician who says tobacco manufacturers ought to label the percentage of real tobacco in their product."

Smith: "Huh! That's just a bid for women's votes."

He Came Clean

Mother: "Now, Bobby, was it you who ate all the white meat off the chicken?"

Bobby: "Well, mother, to make a clean breast of it, I did."

Bughouse

Keeper: "A sad case this. He was once an Army bugler."

Visitor: "I see you allow him to keep a bugle."

Keeper: "Yes, he has to play church call every five minutes. You see he was on duty when the Blue Law first went into effect in the Army."

Sight Unseen

"Did Bill get that job he was after?"

"No."

"Why, I thought he told them he could demonstrate anything and sell it."

"He did, but that firm was manufacturing bathtubs."

Line Forms on the Right

Just before the service the minister was called into the vestibule by a young couple who asked that he marry them. He answered he had not time then but that if they would wait until after the sermon he would be glad to accommodate them. Accordingly, just before the benediction, he announced:

"Will those who wish to be married today please come forward?"

Thirteen women and one man stepped up.

Modified

The windjammer of the company was talking—as usual.

"I dreamed last night," he stated, "that I talked back to the skipper and died and went down below and got the third griddle from the right as you go in."

"And was it hot?"

"Hot? I'll say it was hotter than—hotter than—well, anyway, it was as hot as hell."

"How lookest thou on life now?"
"Oh, I can't kick."

Two of a Kind

"They say Atlas held up the heavens."

"They're used to it, then. It won't be such a shock to them when our landlord gets there."

Who, Then?

Private Michaelson had occupied his time in the monotonous watch on the Rhine in training a cootie to do tricks and had achieved such success that he was asked to exhibit him at a dinner at which the burgomaster and other local celebrities would be present.

Just as the stunt was to be pulled, the private announced that Adolph, the one and peerless Adolph, had disappeared. There was a frantic search. Finally the burgomaster discovered something under the lapel of his broadcloth collar.

"Mein young friend," he proclaimed proudly and with dignity, holding his catch aloft, "I, der burgomaster himself, have him gefound."

The private looked him over and sadly shook his head.

"No," he said, "no. That isn't Adolph."

Patronize Home Markets

Mother: "John must be enjoying his European trip. He says in his letter he is very enthusiastic about the fjords of Norway."

Dad: "Oh, they're all right enough. But if he stayed right here in Detroit he'd see more of them and learn how to spell them better."

The Limit

"Henry," ejaculated Mrs. Smith. "I see in the paper that William Simpson just got married!"

"*Just* got married?" retorted Smith, making ready for a swift exit. "Ain't that enough?"

Leggo!

Ex-Private Schnapps: "If a flask carrier's wife picks his pocket what does a bootlegger's wife do?"

Ex-Private Cognac: "Pulls his leg, of course."

Sea-Shell Shock

Merman: "What's the matter, Goldie? Your scales are all standing on end."

Mermaid: "Oh, George, I just thought I saw a man under our oyster bed!"

"Ten Days on the Woodpile"

Private Bings drove to camp in a big twin-six car.

"Saluting's all rot," so he passed a two-bar.

You wouldn't expect that he got very far.

He didn't.

Plenty of Trees

Rastus and George, caught by a sudden shower, had been forced to seek shelter under a tree.

"De rain's beginnin' to come through dis heah tree," complained George.

"Makes no difference," Rastus informed him. "When dis one's wet clean through we'll get another one."

Just Some Ads

"J. Baker wishes to announce he will make up capes, jackets, etcetera, for ladies out of their own skins."

"Respectable widow wants washing."

"Bulldog for sale. Will eat anything. Very fond of children."

"Boy wanted who can open oysters with references."

Numerically Speaking

Pat, lately over, was put to work in a railroad freight yard, but was later transferred to the telephone switchboard. The buzzer buzzed and he approached the instrument cautiously.

"Hello," he vouchsafed.

"Hello," answered a voice. "Is this eight six-four-eight?"

"I am not," retorted Pat wrathfully. "'Tis in the yards ye'll find the box cars."

Otherwise Not

Optim: "Why do fairy tales end with 'and they all lived happily ever after'?"

Pessim: "Because they're fairy tales."

Receipe for Wealth

"How did Dubbs become a millionaire so quickly?"

"He's an importer."

"From Europe?"

"Nope, from Canada."

NEW HOSPITALS ASSURED; COMPENSATION ENDORSED

What happened to The American Legion's bills in the final hours of the recent session of Congress and the present situation of the legislation sought by the Legion is told below. One important measure to which the Legion had been devoting persevering attention passed—a bill authorizing an appropriation for hospitals for the disabled. Other legislation of importance to the ex-service man, including the adjusted compensation bill, failed of passage. The Wason bill passed, but was killed by President Wilson's pocket veto.

Justice of Compensation Principle Admitted

THE Adjusted Compensation Bill was put to sleep painlessly in the Senate during the last hours of the Sixty-sixth Congress. By a familiar legislative trick, a vote on the measure was blocked. Senators were spared the embarrassment of recording by a yes or no vote their willingness or unwillingness to do justice to America's 4,800,000 ex-service men. But before the legislative anesthetic was applied, the Adjusted Compensation Bill had been rendered immortal. Congress had indelibly recorded its recognition of the justice of the claim and had recognized that the payment of the claim will not place an undue burden on the nation's finances. And so there is the positive assurance that the question of adjusted compensation will come to life when Congress meets again.

Senator Thomas of Colorado, who after the Armistice had opposed the granting of the $60 discharge bonus, took upon his shoulders the burden of the denial of consideration of the veterans' claims in the Senate's final hours. After the bill had been favorably reported by the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Thomas served notice that he would employ parliamentary obstruction to prevent a vote as long as his voice held out. In submitting a minority report of the same committee arguing against the passage of the bill, he had employed all the sophistry that has been clothed around the phrase of "putting a price on patriotism." Two quotations afford the index to his arguments.

"It is not true that the Government of the United States is under any obligation whatever to the citizen who in the performance of his duty has worn the uniform of his country and returned to public life unscathed and uninjured," he said. "Patriotism, devotion to free institutions, and a decent regard for the obligation of free citizenship are degraded and disgraced whenever the citizen soldier becomes a mercenary and either expects or demands that his Government should measure his services in terms of money."

Senator Thomas recognized, however, that in blocking action on the compensation bill he represented a minority of hardshell conservatism whose opposition to the principle of compensation must be futile. For he said in his report:

"This legislation, unjust, expensive, burdensome and unprecedented, is nevertheless advocated by an unquestioned majority of the Congress, without regard to party, and will in all probability be enacted into law by the next Congress either in its present or some equally obnoxious form."

In another part of his report, he delivered a eulogy on the happy lot of the American soldier in the World War, with his liberal pay of $30 a month, the ample arrangements for his well being and entertainment and the service rendered him by volunteer organizations, richly endowed with unlimited contributions, devoted to his moral, spiritual and physical welfare.

It was Senator Thomas's action, not his words, which prevailed. He took full advantage of technical procedure to obstruct the Senate adoption of the adjusted compensation bill as recommended by the majority report of the Senate Finance Com-

(*Continued on page* 14)

$18,600,000 for Hospitals; Wason Bill Vetoed

A RESOLUTION appropriating $18,600,000 for hospital construction was adopted by the last Congress almost in the closing minutes of the session. Congress also passed the Wason bill, providing for the decentralization of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance by the establishment of fourteen regional offices throughout the country, relieving disabled men from the payment of War Risk premiums, and permitting payment of premiums by others at any post-office. This measure was killed, however, by pocket veto of President Wilson, presumably on the advice of Secretary Houston of the Treasury and R. G. Cholmeley-Jones, director of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, who had sought amendments to the measure but were refused hearings. The bill is, therefore, dead. It is safe to prophesy, however, that it will be revived early in the Sixty-seventh Congress, and that, with the alterations, it will be passed.

Congress neglected to pass three other important measures, the Rogers-Capper, Stevenson and Kenyon bills. The first two of these were designed primarily to benefit the disabled and their dependents, and they failed of passage only because agreement could not be reached on minor details. The last-named measure provided for the consolidation of the three government bureaus responsible for the care of the disabled. It did not pass because it was considered inadvisable to reconcile its detailed provisions with legislation contemplated by the new administration, and Congressional leaders decided to postpone action on it until the next session of Congress.

The adoption of the hospital construction appropriation was a direct result of the long, hard fight which the representatives of The American Legion have made for legislation in the interests of the disabled. It is a distinct victory, but the amount is not regarded as sufficient for the purpose intended and the effort for adequate hospitals must be renewed when the next Congress convenes. The Legion had hoped that the appropriation would be at least $29,530,000, the amount asked in the France bill, introduced in the Senate some months ago.

Coincident with the introduction of the France bill in the Senate the Langley bill was introduced in the House. The measures were identical in purpose, but the latter provided only $10,000,000 for hospitals. The Langley bill was eventually raised to $18,600,000, however, and included in the Sundry Civil Bill. When this measure was hanging in the balance on the eve of adjournment the provisions for new hospitals were withdrawn and made a separate resolution which on March 3 was introduced in the House by Representative Good of Iowa and in the Senate by Senator Warren of Wyoming. It passed both unanimously. Out of compliment to the author of the bill which it replaced it was called the Langley bill.

Immediately after the hospital appropriation resolution was adopted by the Senate, Senator Frelinghuysen of New Jersey said he thought it was the proper time to consider the Wason bill, which had been recommended for adoption by the Senate Finance Committee but had not been formally reported out by Senator Smoot, chairman of that committee. Senator Smoot immediately reported the bill with the recommendation that it be adopted immediately. It was passed unanimously. The bill had been passed unanimously by the House at the early session last year.

The death by inattention of the Rogers bill, the Stevenson bill and the Kenyon bill was not in any sense a rejection of the principles embodied in these bills. The failure to enact them into laws meant only that Congress had not carried through within the time limit the mechanical legislative processes necessary. There was every evidence that Congress approved the purpose of each bill. There is every reason for believing that each of the bills will be put through rapidly when the new Congress convenes in special session in April.

It had been apparent for several weeks that the Rogers-Capper bill for the consolidation of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, the Federal Board for Vocational Training and the Public Health Service could not be passed by this Congress in a satisfactory form. The measure called for such far-reaching changes that it was considered almost certain that some of its provisions would be nullified by and would conflict with the budget plans of the new administration, the Smoot-Reavis reorganization bill and other measures contemplated for early action. The National Legislative Committee of The American Legion has the assurance of Congressional leaders that it will be given early consideration at the forthcoming session.

The vital provisions of the Rogers bill were embodied in a new bill introduced in the House by Representative Sweet, and this bill is expected to be enacted at the next session of Congress. The bill provides for a new bureau under the Treasury Department, to be known as the Bureau of Soldier Rehabilitation and War Risk Insurance and to be headed by an assistant secretary of the Treasury. Its adoption would insure that if a veteran had claims under War Risk Insurance, vocational education and the Public Health Service, he need not go through the devious formalities of all three agencies, but might obtain adjustment of all his claims by a single procedure. It would also liberalize the regulations governing the hospital and dental services available to veterans.

The Stevenson bill, establishing the same privilege of retirement for disabled emergency officers as is now enjoyed by officers of the Regular Army, simply got lost in the last hour shuffle of legislation, after The American Legion had ascertained that sentiment in the Senate indicated that the upper house was ready to pass the measure,

RETURNED A. E. F. MAN OUTDOES ENOCH ARDEN

NEWSPAPER dispatches recently revealed the strange story of Fred Williams of Lafayette, Ga., who went away to war in 1917 and returned to this country last month to find his "body" buried here, his War Risk Insurance paid and his bride the wife of another man.

The first intimation that Williams was alive came when his wife, now Mrs. Grace Roberts, received a brief telegram from New York signed by her first husband saying he had landed and was coming home as soon as possible. There was no explanation of his long silence. According to the War Department, Mrs. Roberts says, her husband died in a hospital at Brest, France, in October, 1918.

The records of both the Adjutant General's office and the Graves Registration Service show that Fred Williams died in the Naval Base Hospital at Brest, France, October 3, 1918, of lobar pneumonia; that both of his identification tags were buried with the body; that the burial certificate was duly signed by the officer in charge; and that a letter telling of the circumstances of Williams' death was written by Mrs. Edith J. Davis, a representative of the American Red Cross, to the wife in Georgia.

The case is so unusual that the War Department has decided to investigate it.

and the Kenyon bill, passed unanimously by the Senate, failed to become a law because Congressman Fess, who introduced the same bill in the House, was unsuccessful in his efforts to have the House pass it under a unanimous consent agreement. The bill's chances went glimmering when the House committee, in reporting back the bill, amended it to exclude the provision which would have enabled widows and orphans of veterans to obtain vocational education. With the remaining time inadequate to permit a conference for the adjustment of the House and Senate viewpoints, the bill simply lanquished and died with the Congress. The Kenyon bill would practically double the number of persons receiving training under the Federal Board for Vocational Education. Its merits are such as, in the opinion of Washington observers, practically to assure its passage at the next session.

The Civil Sundry bill, which passed after hope for it had almost been abandoned, carried appropriations of $125,000,000 for the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, $33,000,000 for the care of disabled in hospitals and $65,000,000 for the Federal Board for Vocational Education.

BODY OF UNKNOWN TO BE RETURNED

THE bill to provide for the return of an unidentified American soldier from a French battlefield for reinterment in Arlington National Cemetery with appropriate ceremonies became a law just before Congress adjourned. A resolution also was adopted authorizing the conferring of the Congressional Medal of Honor upon the unidentified British soldier buried in Westminster Abbey and the unidentified French soldier buried beneath the Arch of Triumph in Paris.

(c) Fox Film Corp.

Bergdoll, in Germany, smiles—but is he sure that he has the last laugh, which is always the best?

RULING AFFECTS BOARD TRAINEES

THE Federal Board for Vocational Education has ruled that after April 1 disabled veterans in training under the Board and at the same time working in the Civil Service may not continue to draw full pay from both the Board and the department in which they work. The board has ruled that only such monthly allowance will be made to a trainee working for the Government under the Civil Service as will bring his total income from government sources up to $2,240 a year. If, in other words, he is already getting $2,240 from his Civil Service job, he would receive no monthly allowance from the board. Uel Lamkin, for the Board, says trainees who insist upon receiving training and working for the Government at the same time under the Civil Service not only retard their rehabilitation but keep other ex-service men out of jobs. Many of the men affected, on the other hand are fighting to have the ruling repealed. The action of the Board is passed upon a law forbidding any Civil Service employe of the Government when receiving pay from more than one department to be paid more than $2,240.

Nine former German warships will be sunk by aerial bombs and two obsolete American battleships will be subjected to attack with dummy air bombs by Army flyers in a series of experimental maneuvers off Cape Hatteras between June 1 and July 15.

CONGRESS ADMITS JUSTICE OF COMPENSATION MEASURE

(*Continued from page* 13)

mittee, filed by Senator McCumber of North Dakota. That majority report recognized unequivocally the justice of the claim for adjusted compensation as presented by The American Legion, and it stated conclusively that the payment of the claim would not prove an undue strain on national finances. It recommended that the Senate pass the bill which already had been adopted in the House by an overwhelming vote, amending it only to leave the means of payment to the next Congress, which will be called upon to make comprehensive revenue provisions. Senator McCumber showed that, as one possibility, the entire sum needed for adjusted compensation could be obtained from the interest on the ten billion dollars owed America by the nations associated with her in the war.

The majority report of the Senate Finance Committee was a full victory for the principle which has been championed by The American Legion. It recognized without qualification the justice of the claim. This conceded, the spokesmen of the Legion had said, the means of payment would confidently be left to Congress itself. The majority report will be the foundation upon which the Legion will base its case for adjusted compensation in presenting it to the next Congress.

The next Congress must hearken to the following quotations from Senator McCumber's report:

"The committee, recognizing the rights of the veterans to this adjusted compensation, feel sure that these veterans will in turn recognize the condition of our national finances and, with the same patriotism which impelled them to war, cheerfully acquiesce in the extension of the time for the beginning of the installment period."

"The general assumption that the enactment of this bill into law will immediately load upon the backs of an already excessively tax burdened public an immense sum of money i not warranted."

"Leaving out of the equation every ves tige of sentiment, every element of grat tude, and applying only the rigid rule c mathematical calculation, we can not den that, by allowing the man who fough for his country, who placed his life i pawn for his country, the increase i his compensation provided by thi bill, we are still giving him for hi service, with all its risks and hard ships, a compensation much belo that which the common laborer in th United States received during his ab sence. Can a grateful country do le than this?"

"The American appreciation for hero service will not die with this Congress n with the ensuing scores of years. Thoug often forced to delay, the America people have never failed ultimatel to do full justice to the men wh fought their battles."

The majority report pointed out that payment would have been required un 1923, giving ample opportunity to adju the Treasury affairs to meet the added li bility without any increase in taxation, a that the distribution of payments ov twenty years would equalize the burden that it would be comparatively negligib It also explained how the interest on t proposed long-term bonds representing t $10,000,000,000 owed by other nations fr war loans would furnish the money need

The report also recited how the nati has paid its debt to the soldiers of oth wars, mentioning the large bounties p soldiers in the closing days of the Ci War, and presented statistics showing th Italy, France, Great Britain and Cana already have recognized the justice of t principle of compensation by substant payments. It said most veterans wo prefer adjusted service certificates to ca

1,427,325,000 SERVICE DAYS

SENATOR McCUMBER, in presenting the majority report of the Senate Finance Committee recommending passage of the adjusted compensation bill, stated that his estimates of the maximum cost of $5,251,364,907 and the minimum cost of $1,547,904,395 was based on figures showing that the total number of men in the wartime Army was 4,262,105, and in the Navy, 551,736. Other figures he cited were:

Total man-days service from April 5, 1917, to July 1, 1919, 1,427,325,000.

Average days' service per man, 334.

Total number of men overseas, 2,022,635.

Total man-days, service overseas, 709,740,000.

Number exclusively in home service, 2,239,470.

Total man-days, home service, 717,585,000.

Deaths in service overseas, 80,635.

Deaths in home service, 34,617.

Total deaths, 115,252.

Estimated number of Army men entitled to benefit, January 1, 1923 (date bill was to become effective), 4,014,767.

Estimated number of Navy men entitled to benefit, January 1, 1923, 531,921.

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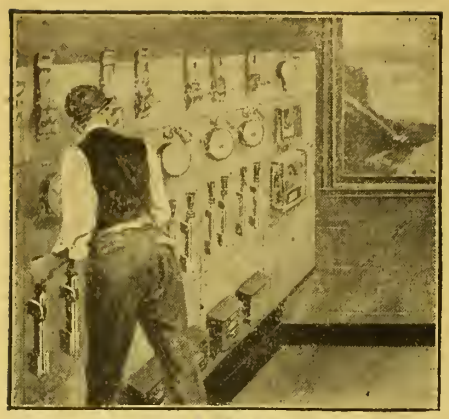

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CARRYING ON

(*Continued from page* 11)

and twenty-two the second, making a total of 10,200 posts. Iowa led the Legion also in organizing, with seven posts formed in the fortnight. Kansas and Ohio tied with five new posts each. Twenty-one Departments formed new posts.

An appeal to National Headquarters for all Legionnaires to apply immediately for their Victory Medals has been made by Major General P. C. Harris, Adjutant General of the Army. It will take five years to complete the work of distribution if requests come in as slowly as heretofore, it is estimated.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION NOW APPEARS BRIGHTER

THE unemployment situation, as it affects the ex-service man, gave indications early this month of having grown easier, according to the latest reports reaching THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY in its survey of national conditions. Whereas, when the year opened, it is estimated that more than half a million veterans were jobless, the first of this month the reports show, saw a reduction of the number of unemployed ex-service men to roughly 400,000 with every indication of further improvement.

Especially in the textile districts of New England, where many factories and mills have reopened, and in the agricultural Middle West, where a movement "back to the farm" is noticeable, the condition of the unemployed veteran is looked upon as more hopeful. Improvement also has been reported in the big automobile cities and in the industrial centers of Pennsylvania. As a result, the belief that the peak of the veteran unemployment situation has been passed is approaching conviction in a number of Departments.

The survey of THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY has brought out further the fact that ex-service men have suffered more in proportion to their numbers than other workers, due to the seniority rules and efficiency standards maintained in the majority of business houses and industrial plants. Handicapped by loss of experience while in the service and by "war restlessness," veterans have been cut from payrolls in great numbers while men of the same age who stayed at home remained in their jobs.

The united front which the Legion has presented to employers in demanding that the veteran be not made the victim in the operation of these regulations has bettered the situation, however, and this phase of veteran unemployment is now being satisfactorily adjusted in many localities.

The Middle West and the South, it is indicated, are now the sections of the country in which the veteran is least touched by the unemployment crisis.

The South, to a great extent, now has been relieved of the winter influx of jobless veterans.

Reprint of Memorial Summary

SINCE publication of the article on the present condition of the disabled, in the January 21 issue of THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY, a number of requests for reprints have been received. This article was based on the Legion Memorial on the disabled which was presented to former President Wilson, President Harding, members of Congress and State legislators all over the country. If a sufficient number of requests for the article are received reprints will be made and sold to Legion posts for distribution to members at cost. Posts desiring to obtain reprints of the article should write the Director of the American Legion News Service, 627 West 43d Street, New York City, stating how many copies of the reprint are wanted.

Kansas State Bonus Poll

A STATE-WIDE poll of Legion posts was undertaken recently by Department Headquarters in Kansas in an effort to determine the attitude of the member-

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ship toward the question of a State bonus, a bill for which had been introduced into the legislature, as neither of the two Legion State conventions had laid down any instructions to be followed. The first gathering at Wichita left the bonus issue "to our representatives in state and national legislative bodies." At the Pittsburgh convention the question of a State bonus did not come up, but the Legion's four-fold national compensation measure was whole-heartedly endorsed.

The result of the poll on the bonus was "very successful," according to Department Adjutant Frank E. Samuel, who announced, two weeks after the referendum letter had been submitted to the posts, that the sentiment of the 160 posts then on record in Department Headquarters showed they were "practically unanimous for a State bonus." Not a single post voted against the measure, Mr. Samuel reported at that time.

Illinois Has Real Clean-Up

AS an example of the achievements of Legion Departments in rounding up outstanding cases of compensation in the national clean-up census, there stands the record of the Department of Illinois. More than 24,000 new claims of veterans for compensation and other government assistance had been filed by the middle of February in a service contest among the posts which started last Armistice Day under the auspices of a Chicago newspaper and for which prizes were offered. House-to-house canvasses by posts brought immediate results, and 5,000 new claims were filed in November, 6,000 in December and 7,000 in January. It was expected that 10,000 claims would be sent in during February. Montana, North Dakota and many other Legion Departments are now engaged in pressing similar clean-up campaigns for the benefit of the veterans in their territories.

In order to perfect organization for Legion work, Department Headquarters in Connecticut has divided the State into seven districts. A chairman has been appointed for each district.

Wisconsin Looks Toward 50,000

"STAND by the disabled buddy" was the slogan of the recent conference of Department post commanders and adjutants at Marshfield, Wis., where the dominating topic was the relief of the veterans now in hospital. Efforts will be made to boost the Departmental membership to 50,000 by July 1. Claudius G. Pendill, National Vice Commander and Department Commander, and Federal Judge Kenesaw M. Landis addressed the gathering.

New York Bonus Plans

ADDITIONAL information concerning the plan of the Department of New York to have ex-service men only employed as clerks in the distribution of the State bonus corrects a published report to the effect that 3,000 clerks would be hired. The latest information is that not more than 100 clerks will be needed. The distribution, it is expected, will begin the latter part of May.

Ten Ways to Kill a Post

WIDE circulation has been given to a set of rules entitled "Ten Ways to Kill a Post," which now is appearing in scores of Legion publications. The "ten ways" are as follows:

Don't go to the meetings.

If you do go, go late.

If the weather doesn't suit you, don't think of going.

If you do attend a meeting, find fault with the work of the officers and members.

Never accept office as it is easier to criticize than to do things.

Get sore if you are not appointed on a committee, but if you are, do not attend committee meetings.

If asked by the chairman to give your opinion on some matter tell him you have nothing to say. After the meeting tell everyone how things should be done.

Do nothing more than absolutely necessary.

(*Continued on page 20*)

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THE VOICE *of the* LEGION

Responsibility is disclaimed for facts stated or opinions expressed in this department, which is open to all readers for discussion of subjects of general interest. Because of space demands, all letters are subject to abridgement.

An Echo from the Deck

To the Editor: I want to agree with the ex-doughboy whose letter in a recent issue opposes the arguments of the Congressman who thinks we ought to have an all-men Navy.

The Navy makes men out of boys. I was in the Navy for twelve years, and would have stayed in if I had not lost one of my ear drums. I have been on quite a few ships, have been a gun pointer and a gun captain in charge of a gun's crew. I had the youngest men in my crew, ages from 17 to 20, and, believe me, we took ship's prizes more than once. Look up the records of the after turret of the U. S. S. *Tennessee* in 1908, for instance.

A boy is willing to learn and he learns fast. A man thinks he knows it all and is slow to learn. Whenever I was told to pick out a gun's crew, I always picked young men. They were there with the speed and they paid attention to what they were told. I believe I am safe in saying that in the Navy in the World War there were seven boys to every three men.

Congressman Kelly says one man is worth two boys. I think that is a little strong. What do all you Ex-B. M.'s say? Hit the deck, boys, and get your morning Java!—Ex-C. B. M., *U. S. Navy, La Crosse, Kans.*

His Own Recruiting Sergeant

To the Editor: I believe it might benefit a lot of old timers if THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY should run a column to assist ex-service men to obtain employment. Just now I am looking for a man, single, of good character, who knows farming, one who will not have to be broken in, one who will not be scared to death every time he takes a team out. I want a man with dignity enough to become one of my household with apologies to no one, a man who will appreciate consideration from the boss, a good home, a clean bed and good chow, with reasonable hours. If any ex-service man wants to sign in my outfit, there is forty round ones per month and found.—MILT THOMAS, *Douglassville, Pa.*

Misrepresenting America

To the Editor: In The American Legion's effort to curb the perilous new German propaganda which is using the negro as a means of stirring up sentiment in this country, I wish to call your attention to accounts of speeches being made in Germany by a woman, Ray Beveridge, in which she advises the Germans to use lynching against the colored troops on the Rhine.

This woman has told Europeans that America has established lynch law for negroes in this country. Our Government has not indorsed lynch law, even though it has been too busy to give it any consideration.

We negroes do not indorse the criminals of our race in any crime they may commit, but we wish them handled to the full extent of the law, the same as criminals of other colors are handled, and we think that this woman misrepresents American sentiment when she advocates lynching abroad on the ground that it is a recognized remedy here.—L. T., *Dayton, O.*

Income Tax Exemption

To the Editor: In a recent number J. A. S. of Troy, N. Y., hits the wrong trail, I believe, in advocating exemption of ex-service men from paying taxes on incomes of less than $3,000. The income tax is intended to be levied impartially upon all American citizens, and for that reason not even a war veteran should ask to be exempted from the taxes which his fellow citizens must pay. As an ex-service man I am in favor of special legislation to help veterans, particularly the wounded, but where laws which concern the whole citizenship are concerned I believe that even disabled veterans should not claim special privileges.—EX-SERVICE, *Grenola, Kans.*

A Texan's Philosophy

To the Editor: Why does it take longer to get a peace treaty fixed up by a few stiff shirt guys who never heard the roar of a cannon than it took to train an army and send it 3,000 miles across the sea to win the war? Didn't they tell us to put some pep in it? And didn't we do it?

I get a little sore over the way things are going now. It seems to me sometimes that we need at the head of governmental affairs some men like those who did the big job in getting the Army on a winning basis, men who can do things without taking months to think it over.

That was a sweet song the mossbacks sang when we were going over to France. The refrain ran something like this: "There won't be anything too good for the boys when they get back." I have got many good things since I came home, if you can call twelve and eighteen hours hard labor every day good, and if giving my farm produce away is good.

What is becoming of all the farm produce that we have to sell for nothing? Is the public paying lower prices? No! They are getting a fraction of the reductions that they should get on the basis of what the farmer is receiving. Somewhere between the farm and the market basket the thieves and robbers have their fingers in. I'm betting that no ex-soldier is buying the stuff and holding it for a big profit. They are doing the same as I am doing, trying to earn bread honestly. All I want is for somebody to hold the dogs off until I can twist the rabbit out of the log.—ALGIE SMITH, *Big Spring, Tex.*

Federal Tax on Land

To the Editor: In connection with the general problem of raising funds to carry out governmental obligations from the war and meet debt requirements, I should like to call attention to the possibilities of Federal revenue production from the millions of dollars' worth of land held in this country for investment purposes. The Federal Government receives no taxes from these vast land holdings, and the imposition of a government tax on them might cause them to be converted from idle properties into productive ones—G. A. B., *Knoxville, Tenn.*

Where Duty Begins

To the Editor: At this time when a generous people are asked to assist starving Europe, perhaps this little episode, which has recently come to my attention, might prove that charity begins at home.

Despite the fact that the war is some two years past and forgotten, with the exception of those who have lost relatives and those who are receiving medical attention, in New York City is a band of public spirited men and women who still maintain a service club in the heart of the city.

One Sunday last month, when New York was experiencing the severest storm in twenty-one years, a man entered this club and sank exhausted to a chair. He had no overcoat, no gloves, and was soaked to the skin. His face was an ashen gray, his lips purple. It was apparent that he had not eaten for some time. When he had gained sufficient strength he related that he was an ex-soldier, and had been gassed, which left his lungs so weak that tuberculosis developed. After having been treated at a hospital, his story continued, he sought

employment, but his diseased frame could not endure the strain, so he was forced to resign.

Sunday, driven by hunger and in a final effort, he joined the army of street cleaners to help remove the snow from Fifth Avenue (Victory Avenue, as a grateful people would have it.) He lasted only an hour. Then, half frozen and wet to the marrow, he entered the service club in 46th Street.

Further investigation revealed that this former soldier, one of the nation's heroes, had no sox, not even undergarments! And out in a snow storm shovelling snow!

This happened in the wealthiest city in the wealthiest country in the world.

This man, however, was adequately taken care of by those who operate the club.

By the free manner in which the American people have contributed toward the destitute of Europe, I firmly believe that a Mr. Hoover would have little difficulty in raising sufficient funds so that our disabled buddies would not have to shovel snow.—LOUIS R. ELDER, *New York City.*

Compree?

Monsieur le Redacteur: Je reponds à la lettre écrite par cette Mme. Asquith qui explique combien elle a souffert à se créer un foyer, tourmentée par l'absence de son mari. Cette lettre m'a beaucoup frappée lorsque je l'ai lue, et la lecture me fait prendre part a toute cette lutte et souffrance, autant physique que morale, dont je plaint de toute coeur de ce dure temps passé.

Mais lorsque j'arrive à la fin de cette lettre, combien je fus blessée de lire, "I dislike that French war bride." Don't! J'en suis une! Mais je ne puis m'expliquer pourquoi tant d'américaines ladies hate the French bride.

Je me suis mariée en France en 1919, le 22 juillet, à un sergent, un très bon garçon. Je suis arrivée en Amérique le 10 septembre, 1919, et depuis je m'ai faite beaucoup d'amies, et mon bonheur serait parfait si certaines américaines voulaient bein traiter chacun selon son mérité.—M. E., *Ill.*

The Passing Cortege

To the Editor: I regret the lack of respect shown by the average person while a military funeral is passing him. I composed the following after returning from a funeral of one of my former buddies recently:

Pardon, stranger, as you stand there,
Won't you uncover—leave your head bare?
It's only respect, for a soldier goes by.
You didn't know him? Neither did I.
But he fought for Old Glory, for you and for me,
That we might still live in a land that is free.
What need we know of his rank or his name,
Or whether he won particular fame?
His casket is clothed in the flag, my friend,
Proof he was soldier true to the end.
Listen, stranger, and can't you hear
The tread of feet as they disappear?
A firing squad, a bugler and all,
Last tribute to one who has answered "last call"?

—J. B. G., *106th Inf. Post, Brooklyn, N. Y.*

How Come?

To the Editor: A man in vocational training gets $100 a month for himself, and, if he is married, $20 for his wife, with added sums for any other dependents. This man can do other work and thereby make a fair living. He deserves what he gets.

But a man rated as a total permanent disability gets $100, with no added allowances for any dependents. Can anyone figure this out?

I am down and out myself, and have been bedridden most of the time since September, 1918. I have borrowed about all I can from my friends. Will other T. B. disabled buddies let me know if there are any means of getting more pay?—S. R. JOHNSON, *1408 Adams St., Dencer, Colo.*

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CARRYING ON

(*Continued from page 17*)

hut when members use their ability to help matters along, howl that the post is run by a clique.

Hold back your dues or don't pay at all.

Don't bother about getting new members. "Let George do it."

With the borough of Brooklyn, N. Y., divided into four zones, and with posters, banners and motion picture slides advertising the Legion, the posts of Kings County have been conducting a drive for new members. An inter-post membership contest in which each post has been given a quota of recruits to obtain has stimulated interest in the drive. The standing of the posts has been announced on the bulletin board at county headquarters. Fifteen posts of Kings County also are engaged in a Legion bowling tournament.

Discoverer or Defender?

OPPOSITION of Port Chester (N. Y.) Post to the proposal of a group of local Italian-Americans to erect a statue of Columbus in the public square where a temporary monument to the hero dead of the war now stands will, it is expected, result in the town Board of Trustees revoking the permission which they gave for the erection of the statue. The Legion Post, in a letter to the trustees, pointed out that the square in quesion was the natural place in the village for a monument in tribute to the dead and that eventually such a permanent memorial would be erected, as preliminary plans for it already had been made. The trustees, after considering the Legion's letter, admitted that if any permanent monument were to be erected in the square it should be one in memory of the town's hero dead.

Legion Finds Meanest Father

THE meanest father in the world was discovered a while ago by the service department of Craig Post, of Rockford, Ill. A disabled veteran, formerly of Chicago, asked the aid of Craig Post in obtaining his arrears of compensation. On investigation the service department found that the service man's father, back in Chicago, had been opening his son's mail, forging his name to the compensation checks and cashing them. The War Risk Insurance Bureau made good the checks for the disabled man and it is expected that the father who preyed on his wounded son, and even mocked him in a letter as "an easy mark," will go to jail.

First Aid to Fire-Stricken

WITHIN twenty-four hours after fire had destroyed the blacksmith shop of a Legionnaire in Columbus, Wis., the members of Lange-Ostrander Post had met and voted unanimously to help their buddy rebuild it. For three days Legion doctors, dentists, lawyers, merchants and business men deserted their offices and, under the supervision of the professional carpenters and workmen of the Post, labored with hammer and saw until a building was completed that was even larger than the one that had been destroyed. Twice daily a local bakery supplied the toiling and hungry Legionnaires with lunches.

Hospitality in Arizona

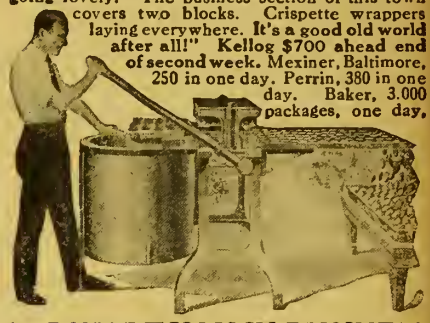
THE average Legionnaire got enough hiking in the service but not so Van W. Bishop of Los Angeles Post and C. G. Allison of San Francisco Post. These two California Legionnaires at last reports were nearing the border on a 1,500-mile stroll from Los Angeles to Mexico City with the oldtime doughboy pack on the back. Legion hospitality has been theirs all along the route, according to a letter received by the adjutant of Los Angeles Post.

"The posts of The American Legion in the towns where we have stopped have treated us royally," says the letter, written from Douglas, Ariz. "Legion members

$365.75 ONE DAY!

Ira Shook of Flint Did That Amount of Business in One Day

Making and Selling Popcorn Crispettes with this machine. Profits $269.00. Mullen of East Liberty bought two outfits recently, and is ready for third. Iwata, Calif. purchased outfit Feb. 1920. Since, has bought 10 more—his profits enormous. J. R. Bert, Ala., wrote; "Only thing I ever bought equaled advertisement." J. M. Pattilo, Ocala, wrote: "Enclosed find money order to pay all my notes. Getting along fine. Crispette business all you claim and then some." John W. Culp, So. Carolina, writes: Everything going lovely. The business section of this town covers two blocks. Crispette wrappers laying everywhere. It's a good old world after all!" Kellog $700 ahead end of second week. Mexiner, Baltimore, 250 in one day. Perrin, 380 in one day. Baker, 3.000 packages, one day.



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Is Your Address Correct?

A number of postoffices have notified the Circulation Department of THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY that, in certain cases, it is impossible to deliver the magazine to members because of incorrect address. The magazine is being mailed to the addresses given on the latest lists from the posts. If a member changes his address, after giving his post adjutant one address, that member probably will fail to receive his WEEKLY unless he notifies the Circulation Department of such change.

Any member **who has paid** his 1921 dues and fails to receive his WEEKLY within a reasonable time should write to the Circulation Department giving in their order all his former addresses and his present address, so that the magazine will reach him. Every time a change of address is made from now on the Circulation Department should be notified as far in advance as possible.

The last date on which the member's dues were paid should also be given.

Letters should be addressed to the Circulation Department,

American Legion Weekly
627 West 43d Street
New York City, N. Y.

at Yuma, Ariz., treated us fine. We were at the Tucson Post two days. They fixed us up in a room fitted with bunks for the accommodation of a few fellows who come in and want a place to stay.

"Our next stop was at Bisbee for three days. They have a regular home with several rooms and a sleeping porch. A number of the fellows make their home at the club. We arrived in time to attend the funeral of one of the boys brought back from over there. At Douglas Legion Post officers obtained quarters for us."

The town's service flag hung as a canopy over the table at a banquet of Montrose (Ia.) Post. The table was decorated with rifles, helmets and gas masks.

Lester March Post of Johnstown, Colo., one of the smallest posts in the Department, held its second annual military ball with all members turning out in uniform. The Legion hall was decorated with war relics.

Reville Post of Brooklyn, N. Y., is one of the many Legion outfits with long distance members. The Post has members in Maine, Oregon, Texas, California, Washington, Canada, Mexico and Constantinople, Turkey.

Two Towns Honor Dead

IN two towns of Pennsylvania recently all stores were closed and business was suspended by proclamation of the mayors while the Legion bore to the grave the bodies of comrades with full military honors. In Oil City members of James M. Henderson Post conducted a military funeral for their late post commander, George H. Bradley. In Dubois, Montgomery Post laid to rest the body of Pvt. John Goodford, returned from France.

Soldiers from Fort Sill were guests at a banquet and entertainment of Lowry Post of Lawton, Okla. Boxing and vaudeville were on the program. Many of the O. D. visitors signed up for the Legion after the show.

Panama Canal Post and the Spanish-American War Veterans have fitted up the second floor of a large government building overlooking the city of Panama as a luxurious post headquarters.

Every member of Henry J. Leclair Post of Greenville, N. H., has been appointed to the publicity committee for the Post's coming fair and, as a result, the entire vicinity is already talking about it. The Post has a 100 percent membership.

Post Picks —Est Men

BY war of jazzing up a recent meeting, the members of George N. Bourque Post of Waterville, Me., conducted a voting contest of their own. Ballots were taken for the handsomest man in the Post, homliest man, noisiest man, quietest man, best Legionnaire, worst Legionnaire, best all-round sport, best K. P., biggest kicker, sweetest singer, biggest booze fighter, worst liar, most honest man, best ladies' man, laziest man and best worker.

The entire community of Goff, Kans., assembled in the local theater to give Heald-Thieme Post a royal send-off when it was recently organized.

To obtain jobs for out of work veterans Rahway (N. J.) Post has published in a local newspaper an open letter to the merchants and industrial owners of Rahway, asking that the ex-service men be given employment.

Kemmerer (Wyo.) Post has been augmenting its finances by a crack basketball team which has been drawing large crowds.

A pool table is being added to the furnishings of Bennetsville (S. C.) Post.

Gold star mothers and relatives were the guests of honor at the first annual banquet of Harry A. Felter Post, of Garnett, Kans.

Willard A. Balcom Post, of New York City, gives away prizes in contests at each meeting to stimulate attendance.

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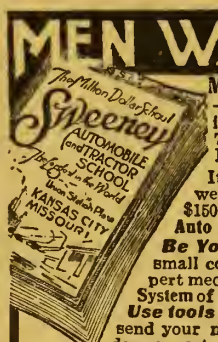

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THE PHANTOM BRIDE

(*Continued from page* 6)

lies between the "I do" and the bill for divorce.

I began to recover my good humor when the ship was four days at sea. Once more I was a roving bachelor, free from the holy bonds of wedlock, accountable only to a couple of dozen officers who didn't count. Then fell the climacteric blow. The executive officer sent for me.

"Sergeant Keyes," he began, "I notice that your insurance papers are irregular and that you have made no allotment."

I saw the point and gasped as respectfully as possible.

"I don't understand, sir," I lied.

"I think *I* understand," he told me. "We have had other cases in this regiment where soldiers have forgotten their duty to the trusting women whom they have left behind. I have called you in here to change the beneficiary of your life insurance and to make out a compulsory allotment to your wife."

"My wife doesn't need any allotment," I protested. I realized that the Government might not object to presenting the phantom bride with the required extract from my wages, but that it would most certainly cause some unpleasantness if any irregularity were discovered in the payment of the additional fifteen dollars that was to come out of the United States Treasury.

It also seemed highly improbable that my volunteer wife would agree to the compounding of a felony by accepting the allotment should I make one.

But my attitude aroused the ire of the newly married lieutenant.

"I'd hate to tell you what I think about you, sergeant," he declared virtuously. "You have left that poor little girl back there in the States, hoping in you, trusting in you, praying for you, and your only thought is of the few dirty dollars that you can save for your own selfish use by depriving her of her allotment."

I was moved almost to tears.

"You're going to pay," he told me. "No man in my command can get away with anything as raw as that."

That looey was a sterling cuss.

KEYES paused as another crimson chapeau flashed past the window.

"How did it come out?" I asked.

"Oh, I killed the wife. With these two hands I murdered her. I looked very sad and said, 'I forgot to tell you, sir, that my wife doesn't need any allotment because she is dead. She died the day before we sailed.'"

"He didn't know whether to dump me overboard or not for that. But he had to take my word for it. . . . Ho, hum! I got busted after that and they jimmed up the payroll so that I worked for nothing most of the time. . . . And that's all there is . . . They ain't no more."

(*Mr. Casey vouches for the truth of this narrative. Names of persons and numbers of units have, of course, been altered.*—EDITOR'S NOTE.)

IS THE WORLD SAFER FOR DEMOCRACY?

(*Continued from page* 8)

they have achieved their desires; to give up their property now would be against all their instincts.

If those who go back are so firmly rooted in individualism, how much more firmly are those fixed in it who become citizens of the United States and remain here. The man who was poor last year and is well-to-do this year has no reason to wish to change his system. The man who, while poor now, wishes to become well-to-do next year cannot become a communist. It is only those who have no hope of becoming other than dependents that come to believe in the communistic system. I say nothing about those so-called "parlor socialists" who advocate communistic ownership without putting it into practice so far as their own wealth goes.

The danger to democracy that lies in this quarter is, therefore, more apparent than real. We say a great deal about it in the newspapers and on the platform. It is so revolutionary that it alarms us more than any other danger that threatens. As to the danger that may come through the inordinate increase of the power of wealth, that is something that has to be met by the law. It is a vast power, but it can be controlled by the state. It ought to be kept under control, not with the purpose of destroying it, but to prevent its misuse of power.

The trend of events is a ruling force in history. He is a rash man who runs against it. And the trend of events is all for democracy.

A hundred years ago the only formal democracies in the world were the United States, the newly revolted Spanish-American states and Switzerland. The rest of the world was monarchial or ruled by a parliament who recognized the authority of some kind of a sovereign.

Today only two important states, Japan and Turkey, are governed in the old monarchial way, both of them outside the sphere of European ideals. As for the great number of states that have relinquished this form of government, a large number have changed directly to democracy, as Germany and Austria; many others have retained their monarchs formally, as England, Belgium, Sweden, and Italy, but have developed parliaments that are democratic for all practical purposes.

In this short period of a century, therefore, essential monarchy has been so generally condemned that it is today relegated to those nations that are incapable of self-government in their present stage of progress. For it is certain that Japan is incapable of democracy through the inbred militarism of the people, while Turkey cannot operate a democracy because her people do not know the first lesson in government. As to Russia, only time will tell in how much the events that have occurred in that country tend to operate for the safety or the peril of democracy. And in reflecting upon the strides which democracy has made in the last few years no American soldier of the World War ought to forget the part he and his comrades took in wiping monarchial government from the map of the world.

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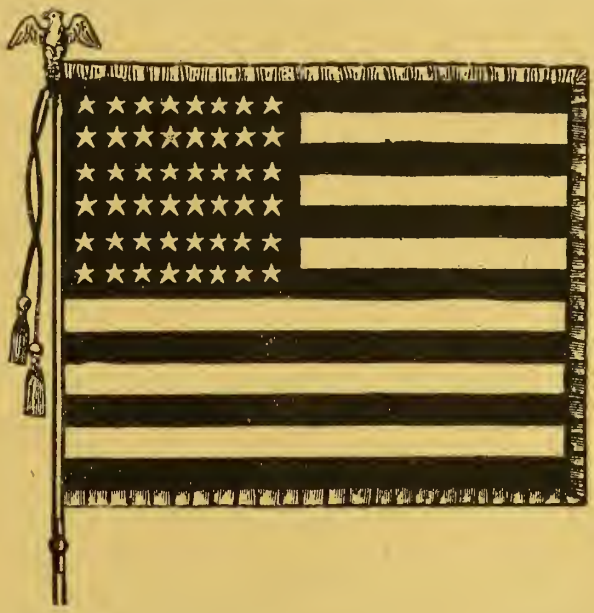

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