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IN THIS ISSUE

THE LEGION TO THE NATION

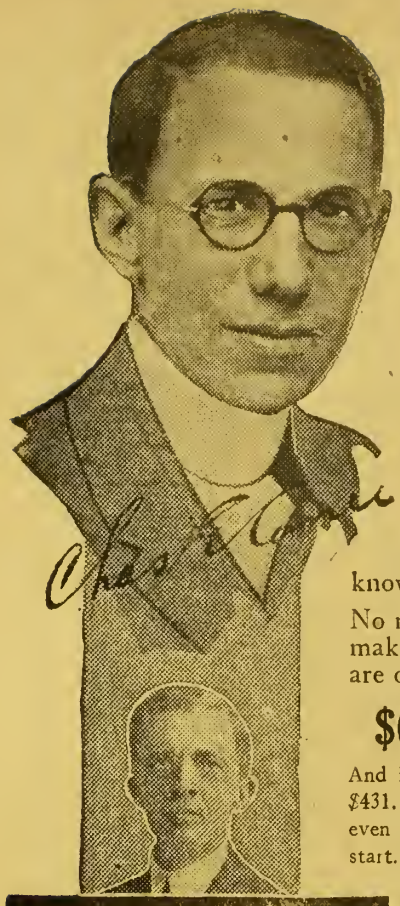
A Memorial Petition Setting Forth the Plight of the Disabled

"KINDLY SEND PHOTO"

Have You a Little Movie Nut on Your Family Tree?

Net Paid Circulation more than Three-quarters of a Million Copies

I Want 500 Legion Men at $100 a Week!



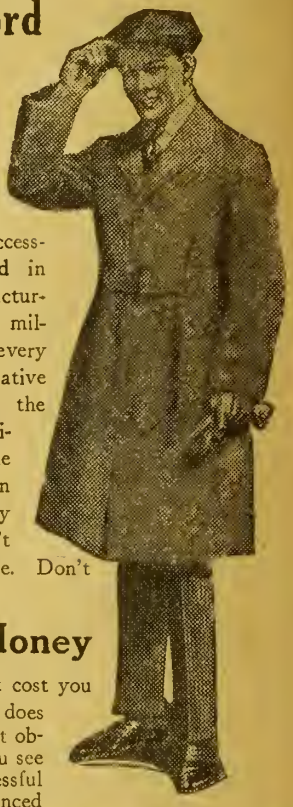
Are you willing to step into a position today—without training—without any investment—where you are absolutely your own boss—work when and where you please—and earn $100 or more a week?

If you are willing, mail me your name and I will tell you how you can do it. I know that there are 500 men in the Legion who can fill these positions and make a great deal more money than they could possibly make in any other way. I have already paid more than $10,000 cash to Legion men, and that's the reason I am spending more than $1,200 in this week's issue of the WEEKLY to reach those 500 others that I know must be just waiting for the proposition that I have to offer.

No matter where you live or what kind of a position you are now holding, I will make you an offer so that you can earn big money right from the start, even if you are only able to devote a few hours a week to my proposition.

$625.00 a Month is Spencer's Record

And in one month McCrary of Georgia earned $565 and J. A. Wilson $431. Barnes' profit in one month was $518. J. R. Watts had never even attempted to sell anything, but he made good right from the start. $4.77 per hour is the record established by Lee Mills of Illinois.



$2,005 CASH

FOR SIX MONTHS PART TIME

That's the record of C. E. Ray, of New York. He only devoted his spare time to this work and he added $13 a day to his income. You can do as well. Write at once for my offer.

$1,060 CASH

FOR THREE MONTHS SPARE TIME

A few hours now and then devoted to this proposition gave Carl Rowe a net profit in three months of over a thousand dollars. I offer you the same proposition.

No Investment Required

I don't want you to invest any money or take any chance whatsoever. I want you to act as my representative in your territory and take orders from my customers for raincoats. I will furnish you with a complete equipment, materials and instructions. No experience is necessary. It makes very little difference whether you have ever had any previous experience of this kind.

You will not have to wait for your profit. I will see that you get it the same day you earn it, and it will be a big profit. In addition to the regular profits, I offer hundreds of dollars each month in bonuses, and I pay these bonuses in spot cash. If you are really interested in an offer that means big money to you, write at once. Remember that I guarantee to pay you at least $100 per week if you only send in four average orders per day. This opportunity is unusual. Don't forget that the offer is being made to you by the largest and most successful business house of its kind in America. That we are manufacturers. That we do more than a million dollars worth of business every year, and that, as our representative you will have the backing and the cooperation not only of a big institution, but you will also have the help of several Legion men in this organization who are deeply interested in your success. Don't wait until the opportunity is gone. Don't let someone else beat you to it.

Don't Send Any Money

I want to repeat that it does not cost you a cent to get my offer and it does not put you under the slightest obligation. I know that when you see how simple it is and how successful other men are you will be convinced that you can do as well. Write your name and address on the coupon below and mail it at once.

MAIL THIS COUPON

THE COMER MFG. CO.
Dept. F-410
DAYTON, OHIO

The Comer Mfg. Co
Dept. F-410, Dayton, Ohio

Please tell me how without investing any money I can become your agent and make from $50 to $100 a week. Also send me, without charge, your offer of a free raincoat for myself.

Name.....

Address.....

P. O.....

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The AMERICAN LEGION Weekly

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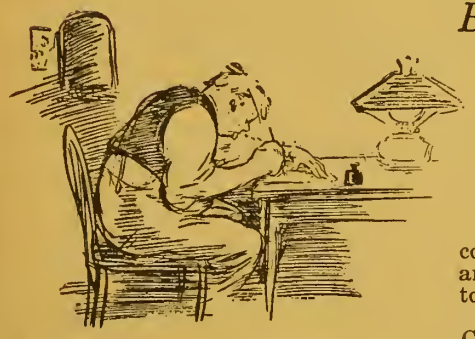
"Kindly Send Photo"

The Movie Hero and Heroine Never Have to Inquire Whether the Postman Has Left Anything

By JOHN A. LEVEL

Illustrations by AUGUST HENKEL



WRITING letters to movie stars has developed into one of the most popular indoor sports. The pleased customers of the film palaces, unable to dog the stage door and greet the heroine with an armful of American Beauties, seek solace perforce in the pen. The bales of suitably inscribed photographs that result from this correspondence serve to adorn cozy corners in the haunts of the wealthy, to drive dull care from the den in the average wigwam, and to block up cracks in the wall in the tepees of the poor. A photo a day keeps the doctor away and brings the mailman.

Every settlement on the sphere big enough to have a dot of its own on the map, from Puallup, Wash., to Pangani, Africa, has at least one movie bug whose spare change goes regularly into postage stamps. The bug may be male or female, seven or seventy. But he or she invariably exists.

The more ambitious fans run up scores of half a hundred autographed photos. I have heard of one romantic young thing whose score is eighty-eight, probably a world's record. But not all the photo hounds are romance smitten. The story is told of a tobacco-chawing homesteader in Western Canada who whiled away the long winter evenings writing to movie stars, and used the stiff-backed pictures for shotgun wadding.

Most of the letters received by movie stars, however, are sincere, born of a deep attachment for the pantomimic performer. If a star perused each epistle and autographed each photograph sent out, a shadow would be cast over his or her life instead of over the screen, which is contrary to the desire of the film magnates. Our own Mary Pickford has half a dozen employes constantly busy at this task of letter answering. On an average she gets 26,000 letters a month. Any star of the first water, or the first blood, if he's a tragedian, gets as many as five hundred letters a day, none of which are written by letter carriers. Even a lesser satellite has to employ a fast penman to autograph photos, console the lovelorn and try to keep the ambitious from buying one-way tickets to Los Angeles.

There's nothing sentimental about Charles Chaplin's feet, but Charles gets lots of letters every day requesting him to do everything from solving the family washing problem to purchasing a tombstone for the late hired hand. The daily visit of the mailmen to Fatty Arbuckle's dugout is a bulky denial of the theory that nobody loves a fat man. If Douglas Fairbanks had asked to have all his mail forwarded when he and his wife sojourned in sunny France, a freighter would have left Hoboken oftener than Babe Ruth is passed to first base.

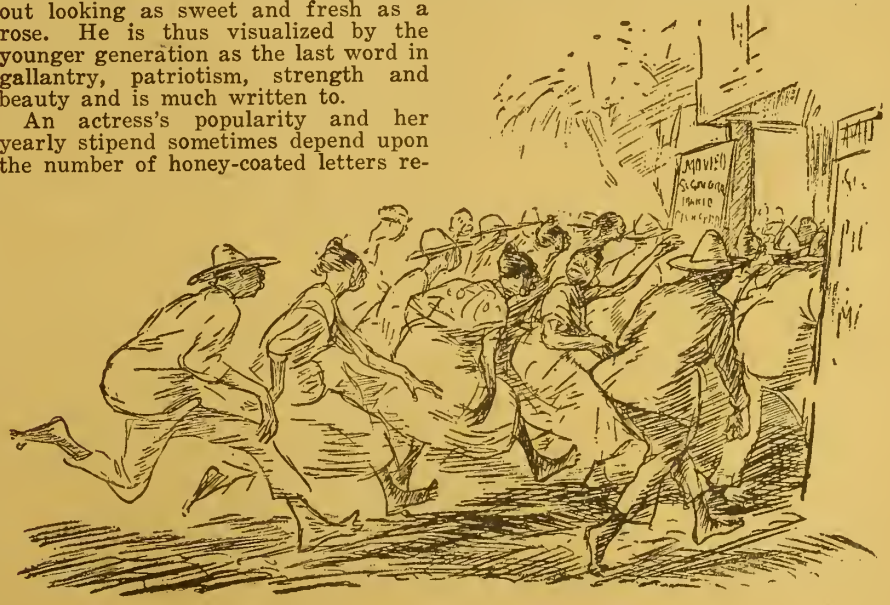
A he-vamp will draw more letters of commendation than a presidential candidate, all because he heaves a cumbersome chest and never goes to the mat with destiny without emerging the victor. In many of the present-day plots the hero can fall into a sewer and come out looking as sweet and fresh as a rose. He is thus visualized by the younger generation as the last word in gallantry, patriotism, strength and beauty and is much written to.

An actress's popularity and her yearly stipend sometimes depend upon the number of honey-coated letters received at headquarters. So long as ten million Americans attend the movies daily, a flock of them are going to take pen in hand and organize a mutual admiration society telling the actress how good they both are. These enthusiastic letters make acting worth while.

Some of the letters are pathetic. If there has been a death in the family and the funds are low, a girl often writes her film favorite for clothing or money, believing that her dream-woman can supply any of the world's goods. Sometimes the girls promise to send one of their own pictures as soon as they can get enough money to have them made. Many invite the movie queens to come to their town and visit them.

Thousands want to break right into the limelight themselves and would fain get the dope on the shortcuts. They write about like this: "I want to be a movie actress, but I don't know how to go about it. I used to take singing lessons and am very good at it. That is why several people on our street think I would do well in the movies."

One little girl throws the burden upon her brother, a movie operator. She writes: "My brother was running your picture and he was glad to run your picture. He was even stuck on you because you're pretty. He told me he wouldn't mind running your picture



"We are in a hurry to go therein to admire"

every day. If you will send me one of your photos I will send you one of my brother's."

Sometimes the flatterers rub the costly fur the wrong way. One girl asks for a picture, "the one where you are a brunette."

Wherever they grapple with the proper use of sit and sat and lie and lay come strange epistles, replete with wicked expressions of felicitation, the writers doing a Houdini with the king's English. If they can't say it in American they parley in their own tongue, taking it for granted that the star, being a person of many parts and more narrow escapes, knows many languages.

There are two or three organizations in Japan that use a printed form. So many photos were requested, it being alleged that they were for fairs, carnivals and exhibitions, that many stars put the writers on their taboo list, and these Japanese have got to worry along through life with only a magazine-clipped photo to spur them on to gigantic undertakings. Cuban, Porto Rican and South American fans are also great seekers after the likenesses of the big Yankee income-tax payers, and write in suave Latin terms for the face that will banish trouble.

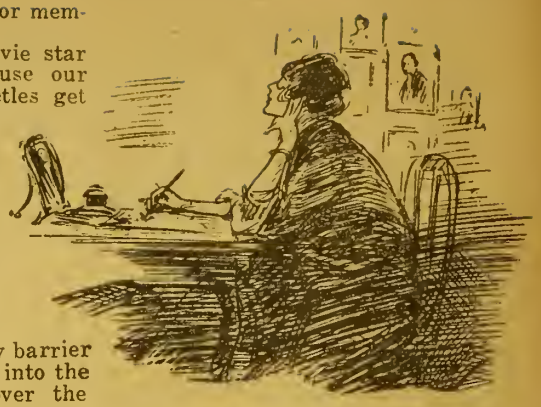
Here is a form letter a Japanese uses for all America's all-stars:

"Your famous name is known all over the country by your motion, and you made a great hit in Japan of late, therefore I beg you to present me with your photographs which you have taken it in various style."

Another son of Nippon says: "Please pardon this hasty writing. I was perfectly charmed by your excellenting acting, which was full of beautiful. I was a gloomy youth. But since I saw your cheerful acting my gloomy heart has become very cheerful like you. Never I had miss scene which you performed. When I found longing for your figures in the scene my heart filled up by the delight." Once again: "Please permit me to write you without any information. I know your light-hearted a sort of Venus art and your graceful figure stood out distinctly against the small island and bright ship, a spike. I wish your beautiful photograph which high-to-ned and a sort of Venus. Therefore please send me your nearest photograph. Anticipating my thanks, I remain."

From far-off Brazil a love-weary fan writes: "I am a great and sincere admiratrice of yours artistic talent, and desire very much to obtain yours photography. Trusting you will have the kindness to send me it I thank you before and remain." From the Philippines. "Every time we see our theatres announcing some of your films we are in a hurry to go therein to admire another time as your sympathetic person as the wonderful art and the surprising reality you employ in all your pellicles. Having inquired by one of our magazines your domicile I have written you at once." From Havana a youth writes: "I beg your pardon for disturbing your attention." A girl from Texas asks for five pictures, to be distributed among the five junior members of a large clan.

Of course the American movie star is the most written to, because our films are shown wherever beetles get cross-eyed weeping over the tragic crisis of the poor widow, the old homestead and the overdue mortgage, and laugh at a paperhanger falling into the paste pot from the highest rung of his ladder. The American who flickers on the canned-drama canvas has the field almost to himself, with the high cost of stamps and typewriter ribbons the only barrier to getting his arched eyebrows into the old home album or pasted over the kitchen sink.



The world's fans get the stars' addresses from the film magazines. If they haven't the magazines they just address their letters to Los Angeles, which city is always being connoted at the mention of a dizzy stick or the eternal triangle. The proportion of the world's films originating in Los Angeles is 78 per cent.

I am glad to be able to append a word that comes directly from a man who can tell something about the letter-writers from what the sport writers call the receiving end. He is one of Douglas Fairbanks' publicity men, and this is what he has to say:

"The number of daily letters to Doug received from fans varies. He has a steady stream of stuff coming in every day, but usually after the release of a new production the fan mail takes a great big step upward. However, I think if we say that the approximate number of letters Doug receives from the fans each day is two thousand, that will be a conservative figure.

"Regarding the size of the staff required to handle Mr. Fairbanks' fan mail, it numbers about six. The process is this: The letters are received and turned over to a young lady who has been especially trained to handle this department. She reads carefully each letter, and those which are of a personal nature are turned over to Mr. Fairbanks.

"Those requesting pictures are handled by another young woman, who is equipped with an abundance of gum paper upon which she types the name and address until she has filled this strip, about three feet in length. These strips are turned over to a young man who segregates them and in turn pastes them on a photo mailer. Another young man inserts an autographed picture in a photo mailer, furnishes the required postage, and mails it. Every request that comes into this office for a photograph is granted without any charge. In numerous cases, however, fans inclose stamps for return postage.

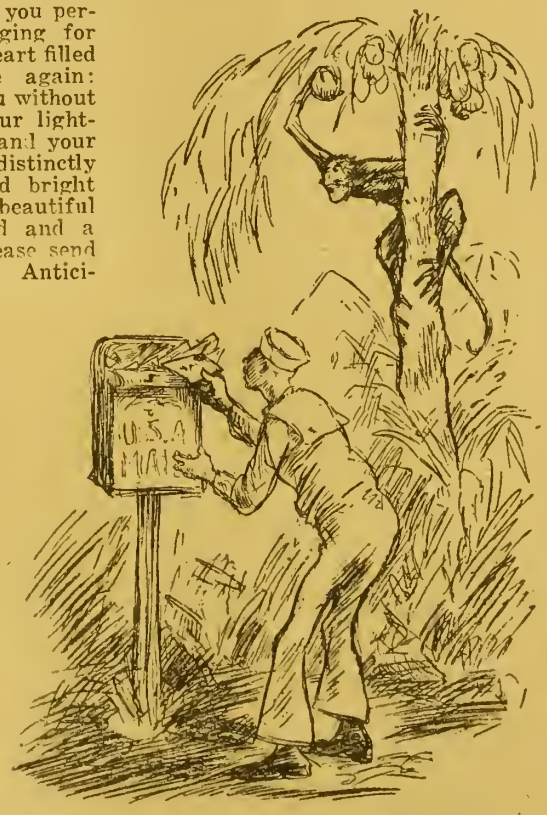
"Purely personal mail goes directly to Mr. Fairbanks, and this he takes home with him and reads. He then turns the letters over to his personal secretary, who answers them, not through a dictated letter from Mr. Fairbanks, but after he has supplied to her in a few words what he cares to say, on which she elaborates. Of course, letters of a very, very, personal nature are answered directly by Mr. Fairbanks.

"I might add that the fan mail is a very important branch of this business, and requires much attention. The cost is very great. An example of this I will furnish by the fact that our photo mailers cost us, in one thousand lots, about four and one-half cents apiece, the stamp two cents and the photograph about seven cents; add to this the labor required and likewise the salaries of those employed in this department, and you can see just how big this apparently small end of the game is."

And Doug the Redoubtable is only one of many.

It is not likely that the Government will ever take steps to suppress the movie business. Apart from the war tax on every ticket of admission, think of the revenue that must accrue to Mr. Burleson's department from these thousands of "Do not fold" packages that radiate from Southern California!

The postman, too, much as these non-collapsible products swell his pouch, probably prefers toting them than he does to carrying Government seeds, dictionaries, or Christmas tree decorations. Perhaps he even sends for one occasionally himself.



If they haven't the film magazines they just address their letters to Los Angeles

Second Battalion, 329th Infantry, leaving Le Mans. Signal Corps Photo No. 26015.

Yankee Yesterdays

By Hudson Hawley

XI. "SQUADS WEST"

One, two, three, four, hear the column tramp!
Finee all the weary days, finee fog and damp!
Packs were never lighter, whistlin' ne'er so free—
Why? The Right Guide's marchin' on Miss Liberty!

Guidin' on the Goddess, there on Bedloe's Isle—
Sight of her's reward enough for many a weary mile!
Memories of shrapnel and of G. I. cans
Certainly seem far off, marchin' through Le Mans!

All forenoon we've hiked it; no grumblin' for a rest
When we're headed hell bent, straightaway for Brest!
Then abroad the *bateau*, fastest of the fleet—
Better have it ready for to sail toot sweet!

Faces to the westward, eyes nor left nor right;
Hear them sirens tootin' down off Ambrose Light!
Hear the brass band brayin' on Hizzoner's tug—
Lord! That fat old Mayor will look good enough to hug!

See them faces beamin', all along the pier—
Pa and Ma'll be there, and Someone just as dear—
Hear the gangplank droppin', and for orders hark:
"Comp'ny, at-ten-SHUN! Prepare to disembark!"

One, two, three, four—everyone in step—
(Save yer breath there, Sargint; this gang'll burst with pep!)
Never was such marchin'; if the C.-in-C.
Could only watch us travel now! Some hike, eh?
Whee!

Romances Repaired While You Wait

It Requires All the Skill of a Judge Advocate to Untangle Some of the Matrimonial Mix-Ups Which the A. E. F. Entered

By GEORGE F. KEARNEY

"NO, I could hardly say that the American soldier was a saint when he was in France," declared Miss Johanne Bojesen, to whose office in Paris all the matrimonial difficulties of the departed A. E. F. have been bequeathed, "but don't believe all these stories you hear nowadays about the 'abandoned French bride.' I know something about these cases, for I interview several of them every day.

"In fact, there is another side to this whole story, and I am very anxious that the boys back home should be told of the organized attempt of several unscrupulous lawyers and matrimonial agents over here to extort large sums from former A. E. F. men to support children who do not exist or who have been borrowed for the occasion."

Miss Bojesen is the Director of the Department of Civilian Relief for the American Red Cross in France. You go down a long corridor in the Red Cross headquarters at 4 due de Chevreuse to a little room stacked high with reports labelled variously "Bigamy," "Desertions," "Claims, Valid or Unsustained" and "Destitution." It is not all so easy as the reader back home may think, for the problem of adjusting the many little personal claims clustering the trails of Yankee soldiers who loved not wisely but too well, requires the most minute investigation.

"Let me tell you about the pleasanter side of my work here first," Miss Bojesen said, "and then you will understand why it is that I still hold so high an opinion of the American soldier. Here, for instance, are four recent requests we have received from soldiers in America who have married French wives asking us to help the wife's family to come over to America. In each case these men are willing to send passage money for the old folks provided we can manage their passports and see them safely aboard the ship.

Here are two requests asking us to send over the children by the first marriage whom the new American husband is willing to take into his own home.

"There is no doubt in my mind that there has been many a happy marriage between the American soldier and the French girl. I know European life fairly well, as I was born a Scandinavian and became a naturalized American, and I have lived in Europe most of my life. So you may believe me when I say that the American husband is a good man and a more devoted lover of his wife, by far, than the European husband.

"There passes through my hands a great array of correspondence which shows the American soldier in a very good light. In some instances the difficulty is trivial. For instance, a little French girl has mistaken the attentions of an American soldier who had merely sought her companionship. There has been nothing wrong but, French-like, this little girl cannot understand why he does not marry her. She has written several terrible letters, threatening to commit suicide, and finally a letter arrives in which he consents to marry her. This shows a big spirit, but in such a case we always try to discourage both the girl and the man, for our experience shows us that these marriages are rarely happy ones.

"Then we deal with a number of cases in which we find that the girl has an unsavory past. She probably holds a letter or an inscribed picture which incriminates this one man. Obviously, it would be a crime to sustain the claims of a girl like this, for she never could make anyone a good wife. We frequently find that she is married already, and this solves the difficulty. If the case is one in which the girl is obviously trying to extort money from an American soldier we enter suit against her, but they never appear in the court.

"YES, there are several lower-world lawyers here in Paris who form combinations with women of the streets to extort money from American soldiers. They seize on some indiscreet letter and press their claim for settlement. I am sure that a number of these cases have not been brought to light, and really very few of them bear investigation.

"You can well understand that the American Red Cross tries to function as the friend of the soldier. In those cases where the man has written, promising marriage, or where there are reliable witnesses to a contract or engagement we withdraw from the case to give the man a full opportunity to make his own amends, and you would be surprised to learn how frequently amends are made and how often these marriages turn out happy ones. Sometimes we are able to convince the girl that it would be unwise to marry a man who professes no love for her, and if she is really sound at heart she sees this point of view.

"We are always forced to bear in mind that the better class of French families make the most rigid examination of the man their daughter marries before they consent. Many of the happy marriages between French girls and American soldiers have been arranged by an exchange of courtesies between the two families. This is an established custom in France. These customs were relaxed a bit during the war, but the older French families are very strict with their daughters.

"We do get rather frequently the case of a soldier who committed bigamy by marrying a girl in France when he had a family at home. Naturally we do not attempt to defend a man who has deceived a girl. But we do try to adjust matters so that no harm will be done and, in each case, we bear in mind that the first wife has the prior claim.

"It is often possible to arrange matters without breaking up the home in America and, in several instances it has been left to the husband's own discretion to inform his wife.

"I cannot say that this is an ideal solution, but we try to make the best of a bad situation, and the American Red Cross never attempts to punish a man. This must be a matter of due process of law, and managed through the American consul.

"I cannot emphasize too strongly that the soldier should not endeavor to stave off a serious situation by idle promises, for these things come back on him. Moreover, I do most certainly urge a man in difficulties to use some reliable agency to investigate the case before he promises to marry a girl who is evidently trying to force him to. I am not advertising for more work, for you see we are swamped with things here, but we are certainly willing to act in a discreet way to save the men from these blackmailing matrimonial bureaus. The French authorities cooperate with us in this. They understand fully that our aim, in each case, is to adjust the differences for the good of all concerned.

"All over France I have heard stories of how the French bride is returning from America in disgust. Things have not always gone well with the little stranger. In some instances the man's family has been disagreeable. In others the girl has chafed under what she considered the Puritanic regime of the American home. Then there is the Volstead Act, which makes life anything but easy for one who has been brought up from early childhood to drink wine with her meals—and greater love hath no woman than this, that giveth up her wine for a mere husband!

"Yes, we are dealing with these cases every day," explained Miss Bojesen. "Sometimes we have been asked by the husband to arrange compensation for the girl who has returned. We have given advice in regard to divorce proceedings. In other cases we are waiting patiently until the girl makes her own decision to return to her husband. We are always glad to help her get back, but only on condition that her husband really wants her."

Here is a typical letter illustrating the sort of a problem that an American ex-soldier, out of a clear sky, will present the American Red Cross for solution. It is postmarked from a little town in the Northwest and shows that it cost its writer many hours to compose:

Dere Red Cross:

My wife Gabrielle which I brung home frum France wid me swiped me pay' enveloop and went back on boat to France. She sed she had a French hussband and he wrot her that he got back frum war o. k. wit a wooden leg.

She cried lots since she come out here for she dont speak American and I cant parley French much. She and Mom didnt get on good and pop did not like her smokin. I loved her bowcoo but things got bad.

She alwas was wild but I thought me marrying her and all wud reform her. I bought her a fur coat and Mom maid her a red dress. She did not like America for nothing. No booze and no bullevards like she wus used to.

The fellows say as how we aint married if she has anuther hussband in Paris and I take my pen in hand to ask you to get me a divors.

I aint going to take her back if she has another fellow. Shes some kid but I want to settle down. Our preacher says its a sin to marry like the strong fellow in the bible from anuther country but that aint wurrying me. We are quits and I am tired of fiting. Pleas get that divors and I will send you the money.

Yours truly

Battery B, — Artillery.

I ASKED Miss Bojesen if she could estimate how many French brides have returned to France. She smiled:

"I am afraid there are a great number," she explained, "in proportion to the number that went over. Incidently those figures have been greatly exaggerated, for I do not think that more than six thousand French girls married American soldiers. The Army and Y. W. C. A. figures show that only a little more than three thousand girls went to America on army transports. A number of them did not go this way, of course, but there could not have been more than two thousand who traveled to America without army assistance, and not more than one thousand soldiers married and settled in France."

Squelched

By JACK BURROUGHS

JOHN HENRY JONES, I understand,
Made overtures to win the hand
Of one Matilda Mae O'Kay.
He knelt and cried, "Matilda Mae,
This life is one big nothingness,
And so 'twill stay, unless you bless
The loveless state in which I live,
With Cupid's sweet affirmative."

"I'll answer 'yes'", the maid replied,
"But ere you claim me as your bride,
I've one or two requests to make—
Your rowdy friends you'll have to shake,
And you must sweep and sew and cook,
And let me have your pocketbook,
And buy me forty-dollar kicks,
A sealskin coat and new twin six.

"Of course a thousand-dollar ring
Is quite the necessary thing.
A necklace, strung with flawless gems,
A few tiaras, diadems
And other trinkets you must buy—
What say you, Apple of my Eye?"
But Jones had not a word to say,
For he had fainted dead away.

"—And to the People of the United States"

The American Legion Submits a Memorial to the Nation Outlining the Plight of the Disabled Veteran and Suggesting a Remedy

The American Legion, in the interests of the disabled of the World War, asks two things of the present Congress:

1. Coordination and proper financing of the bureaus responsible for the care of the disabled which will make efficiency possible.

2. Money for the building of adequate hospitals.

The urgent necessity for the passage of legislation to realize these ends is set forth in The American Legion's memorial to the President, the President-Elect, Congress and the American people, summarized on this page.

The need of hospitals may be emphasized by the following statistics, which also are embodied in the memorial:

Disabled now in government-owned hospitals operated by Public Health Service	9,510
Disabled in Army, Navy and Dept. of Interior Hospitals and Soldiers' Homes	2,841
Disabled in contract (non-government) beds and hospitals	8,347
Total disabled now hospitalized	20,698
Tubercular disabled among above who should be transferred from present unsatisfactory accommodations	1,500
Mental and nervous disabled among above who should be transferred from present unsatisfactory accommodations	3,000
Additional tubercular disabled in need of immediate hospitalization	6,500
Additional mental and nervous disabled in need of immediate hospitalization	5,000
General medical and surgical disabled in need of adequate hospitalization	900
Total number of disabled for whom proper hospital facilities are lacking	***16,900***
Average monthly increase	***1,500***

[The term "unsatisfactory accommodations" includes institutions in which conditions are inadequate or unsanitary, charity wards, almshouses, insane asylums (including asylums for the criminally insane) and jails. The estimates in the foregoing table are based upon the expert testimony of medical authorities.]

THE American Legion has addressed to the President, the President-Elect, the Congress, and the people of the United States a memorial petition calling for immediate legislative action to remedy the deplorable situation which surrounds the care and rehabilitation of the disabled veterans of the World War.

On Monday, January 10th, the memorial was given to President Wilson at the White House by John Thomas Taylor, vice-chairman of The American Legion's National Legislative Committee.

On the same day the memorial was presented personally to President-Elect Harding at Marion, Ohio, by F. W. Galbraith, Jr., National Commander of The American Legion.

On the same day the memorial was delivered at the office of every United States Senator and every Congressman.

On that day also the memorial was received by 3,000 chosen spokesmen of The American Legion throughout the United States who have accepted the mission of delivering it orally to the people of the nation from public platforms.

The petition recites the fact that a lack of vision and foresight had attended the establishment of the present system for ministering to the needs of the nation's disabled veterans, that there has been a breakdown of that system due to divided responsibility while three separate Government agencies have been working at cross purposes and needlessly duplicating functions.

The petition recites further that due to the shortage of adequate hospital facilities and the lack of definite responsibility for hospitalization, shocking conditions have arisen—disabled veterans have been found in charity wards, almhouses, insane asylums and county jails, while thousands of men needing care and treatment are being neglected and doomed to aggravated suffering and premature deaths.

To end these conditions, the petition outlines a definite remedy—the consolidation of present uncoordinated Government agencies, the appropriation of money to build urgently-needed hospitals.

THE foreword of the petition is as follows:

"The United States has been more liberal than any other nation in its provision for the disabled who gave their health and strength in their country's service in the late war, but through legislative and administrative deficiencies has failed in a large measure to make those provisions available.

"There has been lack of vision and foresight in our preparation which has been without excuse, as before us was the experience of other nations in the recent war and the experience of this nation in previous wars. The situation, which is at our doors today, with the suffering, the neglect and the injustice to the disabled that it entails, would not be there if reasonable foresight had been exercised or if the recommendations of those who did foresee had been heeded.

"A tardy start, with no clear conception of the magnitude of the problem before us, imposed an initial handicap.

"The handicap is continued by an astonishing state of divided responsibility and wasted effort among the Government agencies with which the problem rests. In the rehabilitation of a disabled man there are three needs—medical treatment, vocational training and financial support. The Government has recognized the three needs but overlooks the fact that they are the simultaneous needs of one man, and not of three different men or of one man at three different times. It makes three problems out of what really is one three-part problem.

"Continuing this faulty conception, it has given the problem over to three agencies—the Public Health Service for treatment, the Federal Board for Vocational Education for training, the Bureau of War Risk Insurance for financial support. Each of these agencies is an institution complete in itself. Each is administratively independent of the other two. None is responsible to a common head. All by force of circumstances are exercising functions they were not intended to exercise.

"The result is the suffering of the disabled veteran. Thousands are waiting and have waited for months on compensation for their injuries. Thousands have waited for months for an opportunity to reestablish themselves as self-sustaining members of society by re-education through vocational training. Thousands are in need of hospitalization and the Government has no hospital facilities available. Of the 20,000 now in hospital, 4,500 are quartered in institutions unsuited to the needs of the men quartered there. New hospital cases are developing at the rate of 1,500 a month in excess of the number discharged. Hundreds are the objects of public and private charity.

(*Continued on page* 18)

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 Disabled

ELSEWHERE in this issue is printed a summary of a memorial petition which The American Legion has addressed to the American Government and the American people in the interests of the disabled of the World War.

The petition is not a document devoted to a criticism of mistakes made. It is not a post-mortem over things done and things not done. It is a statement making specific constructive recommendations. It is a statement which deals with facts of today—stern facts which now confront the nation. The recommendations and the facts should be of interest to all citizens. They should be of especial interest to Congress, because it is there that the remedial action necessary must be initiated.

Two years or more ago, when Congress first considered the care of the returning disabled, there were differences of opinion as to what the nation's problem would be and how it should be handled. There were many predictions and estimates. Some experts there were with sufficient foresight to predict accurately the magnitude of the job. Others counseled less wisely. "There will never be many disabled," said some. "The public services already in existence can handle them." "There are enough hospitals now," said others. "We need build none."

Congress did not heed the counsel of the wisest. It afterward developed that the number of disabled greatly exceeded the number for which provision had been made, that the public services upon which had been placed the responsibility for the care of these disabled soldiers could not stand the burden and broke down, that there were not enough hospitals. The result has been chaos, inefficiency, inadequacy, improper care, aggravated suffering.

"We were liberal," some Congressmen may say. "We gave without stint. But if the medical experts themselves could not agree upon the details of a plan we are not solely responsible." If that is an excuse for what has happened in the past it is not an excuse for what is happening now. We no longer have to depend upon estimates of how many disabled there are. We do not have to guess. We *know*. We no longer have to wonder if new hospitals are needed. We *know*. We no longer have to speculate upon the resources of existing government bureaus. We *know*. We know that 17,000 disabled soldiers are without adequate hospitals and that this number is increasing. We know that we must have more hospitals. We know that we must have unified control and responsibility of the three agencies ministering to the disabled which are now functioning independently. With the facts before us, no longer is there room for a difference of opinion.

Nor is the need for economy an excuse for delay in the building of hospitals. However great the need, the savings of the Government cannot be written in the blood of the men who served it. Bills making appropriations for new hospitals have lain for several months in the files of the National Capitol. Recently a House committee slashed by one-third the amount estimated as necessary for the care of the disabled during the coming year, and this in the face of a heavy increase in the number of veterans needing aid. This does not indicate cognizance by the members of this congressional committee, at least, of the extreme urgency of the situation.

It is to be earnestly hoped that the petition of The American Legion will accomplish the purpose intended for it, that it will bring to the Government a realization of the responsibility—and the privilege—of making prompt and adequate provision for the care of the broken men who suffered for it in the war.

Progress Moves a Notch

CONSIDER the street car motorman. Within a generation the job of the man at the controller has developed not exactly into a sinecure, but into a task that in the eyes of an old-timer of the front platform is surrounded by luxuries undreamed of in his day.

Twenty years ago the motorman stood at his work, faced all sorts and conditions of weather on an open-faced platform, prodded switches open and shut with an elongated, hand-operated poker, and stopped his car with the strength of his good right arm—and if he failed to watch his step he might kick the dog on the hand-brake, send it charging around into his elbow and be laid up for weeks.

Today, with certain restrictions in thickly populated stretches, he is generally allowed to sit down. He works in a glass-encased vestibule which, while not so pleasant as the old fireplace at home, still is proof against any kind of weather outside. He operates switches by giving the controller handle a tiny turn. He stops his car with a single fillip of the air valve.

The millennium has not arrived, even for the motorman. None of our millionaires' sons has taken up trolleying as a pastime. But while the reformer may shake his head at the suggestion that the world is getting to be a better place to live in, he cannot deny that it is getting to be a better place to work in.

Here's to crime—short may she wave!

What has become of all the women who used to belong to anti-suffrage societies?

The suggestion for a yearly Balkan conference at which the nations making up that erstwhile thermometer of Europe's passions might pacifically discuss their mutual problems may be met by the cynic with a shrug of the shoulders, but it certainly has several advantages over the 1912, 1913 and 1914 practice of holding a yearly Balkan war.

Unfitness for self-government is charged against the people of the Philippine Islands by a large section of the American press because a recent election riot in Manila resulted in eleven deaths. Our own "unexciting" presidential campaign culminated last November in something more than thirty major casualties. Fitness for self-government should begin at home.

BLUE MONDAY IN 19??

Justice exacts stern penalties from the village rogue, Littleheed Doowrong, found guilty of unseemly conduct in addressing a picture postcard on the Sabbath Day

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.

Peeping Into——

"Hello, Paris. How about that evening gown you were going to send me by dirigible?"

Second Nature

A weary wayfarer, to whose back clung the remains of an O. D. blouse decorated with a rusty red chevron, flopped down under a tree in a tight-fisted farmer's yard and proceeded to go to sleep.

"Git out of there," yelled the farmer, coming to the door with a shotgun in his hand. "Git, now, or I'll shoot."

The wayfarer stirred slightly in his slumbers and a beatific smile spread over his features.

"Shoot," he murmured happily. "You're faded."

Useless Change

A woebegone looking traveler in a small Georgia town approached the ancient colored man who operated the one-oar ferry across a dinky stream, and accosted him with:

"Uncle, I'm broke and I got to get across the river. Will you trust me for it?"

"Fare's only three cents, boss."

"I know it, but I haven't got the three cents."

Uncle Mose placidly resumed his pipe.

"Boss," he decided, "ef yo' ain't got three cents you won't be no better off on dat side de ribber dan yo' is on dis."

Actions Speak Louder

Pat: "An' what did your ould woman say when ye come in at three o'clock this mornin'?"

Mike: "Sure, the darlin' soul never said a worrud. An' I was goin' to have them two front teeth pulled out annyways."

Genders

Francois, new to the English language but desirous of being polite, asked the lady beside him at dinner if he might "cockroach" on her time for a moment. Amid the gale of laughter, a friend explained that the word was "encroach." For a moment Francois was mystified. Then his brow cleared.

"Ah, oui," he exclaimed. "You say 'hencroach' when you address ze lady. 'Cockroach' when you address ze ghentleman. Merely ze matter of gender. Ah, oui."

A Good Job

A convoy of troops was coming back on board the *Baltic*. The endless expanse of water had made them all apathetic, and assignment to the simplest details drew a vast amount of grumbling.

"See here, you," ejaculated the top sergeant disgustedly, eyeing the laziest man in the outfit. "You don't want to do this and you don't want to do that. Is there any job on earth you'd like to have?"

The youth ruminated. Then his eye brightened.

"Yes," he said, eyeing the broad surface of the sea uninterrupted as far as the horizon. "I'd like a job calling out stations on the White Star Line."

Humanity Repaired

In a little tailor shop on Ogden street, Philadelphia, hangs the sign:

Fine Tailor of All Kinds
Ladies & Gents
Steamed and Sponged
Pressed and Altered

The Complete Laborer

A stranger strolled into the office of a small-town paper.

"I wonder if you could put me in touch with the writer of this ad?" he said, handing the clerk a clipping which read:

"Young man, industrious, reliable, wants work as chauffeur, cook, stenographer, painter, carpenter, clerk, night watchman, steamfitter, handy man or laborer. P. O. Box 13."

"Got a job for him?"

"No, but I'm a stranger in this burg and I want to meet up with an ex-Army man."

——the Future

"Oh, yes, New York. The box fell into the ocean. But you'll have it this evening by submarine."

Down on the Farm

"How does Farmer Jones take it now that cider is illegal?"

"Oh, he takes it hard."

Why Not?

"In France they make a brew with prunes and call it prunelle."

"In America they make their stuff with raisins. Why not call it raisin-'elle?"

Reward of Merit

He was reading some general orders in a non-decootyized French billet.

"Listen," he said. "Remember that lieutenant who was always kowtowing round trying to get in right with the captain? Well, he's just been awarded the Croix de Guerre with two palms. Wonder how he got it. Two palms! Gosh!"

"Handshakin'," replied his companion briefly.

Ridiculous

"Mamma, is Papa going to die and go to Heaven?"

"Of course not, Bobby. Whatever put such an absurd idea into your head?"

Yes, Go On

(*From a Maryland county fire commissioner's report.*)

"The girls of the high school made an especially good showing in coming down the fire escapes during the drill."

A RATTLING GOOD CAR

THE
Ex-Service
REVIEW

A Digest of News of Interest to the Former Soldier and Sailor

ECONOMY AXE TRIMS FUNDS FOR DISABLED

House Committee Recommends Cut of $100,000,000 from 1921 Estimates for Three Bureaus

BASING its action upon the need for governmental economy, the House Committee on Appropriations has sheared $100,000,000 from the total of $323,000,000 which the heads of the three Government bureaus responsible for the care of the disabled—the War Risk Bureau, the Public Health Service and the Federal Board—estimated as necessary to carry on their work for the coming year.

The report of the committee spread consternation in the Government bureaus and brought forth criticism from the National Legislative Committee of The American Legion, which prepared to fight for a reversal of the decision upon the floor of the House and in the Senate. The appropriation recommended is considered entirely inadequate.

Should Congress adopt the committee report it will do so in the light of the paradox of the following figures and in the face of a material increase in the number of disabled requiring aid:

Appropriations made for 1920: Compensation, $125,000,000; hospitalization, $46,000,000; vocational training, $90,000,000.

Estimated requirements for 1921: Compensation, $160,000,000; hospitalization, $85,000,000; vocational training, $78,000,000.

Recommended by Appropriations Committee for 1921: Compensation, $125,000,000; hospitalization, $33,000,000; vocational training, $65,000,000.

Of the amount asked for hospitalization, fifty millions was for the treatment of men in hospitals, and thirty-five millions for the building of new hospitals. The committee recommended thirty-five millions for treatment—nothing for new hospitals. Latest estimates show approximately 17,000 disabled war veterans without adequate hospital facilities.

"It was bad enough to slash the amount asked for compensation from $160,000,000 to $125,000,000," said a statement by the Legion legislative committee, "because that piece of economy represents the difference between a liberal and a miserly interpretation of the compensation law for the next fiscal year, but it was far worse in the mad search for some way to achieve a pretense of economy to reduce the amount allowed for the care of the sick and wounded men disabled in the service by more than a third. This year there has been an average of less than 15,000 men in hospitals, and the sum of $46,000,000 was appropriated for their care and treatment. Next year there will be 30,000 men in hospitals, and the House Appropriation Committee recommends $33,000,000 for their care and treatment—twice as many men for hospital treatment and $13,000,000 less with which to give it to them."

Washington observers attribute the present attitude of many members of Congress to the fact that this is a "lame duck" session—one which will be the last for a large proportion of members. A third of the present membership of Congress was defeated for re-election at the polls last November and will retire in March.

The Wason bill, designed to decentralize the War Risk Insurance Bureau, simplify the payment of insurance premiums, and exempt disabled ex-service men in hospitals from the payment of premiums, is still held up in a Senate sub-committee of three, of which Senator Reed Smoot, an avowed enemy of the War Risk Insurance Bureau, is chairman. A determined effort is certain to be made to defeat it.

LOST VICTORY MEDAL MAY BE REPLACED BY REISSUE

ISSUANCE of duplicate Victory Medals to persons who have lost the originals has been ordered by the War Department. Duplicate clasps also will be furnished. The duplicates will be issued free to men still in service, and upon payment of forty-five cents, cost price, by discharged men. A charge of four cents will be made for each duplicate clasp.

Applicants for reissues must furnish satisfactory evidence that the original medals or clasps were lost, destroyed or rendered unfit for use without fault or neglect on their part. Applications are to be made in letter form and two copies are to be forwarded through military channels to the Adjutant General of the Army, Washington, D. C. They should state the date, place and circumstances attending the loss or destruction of the medals, and the efforts made to recover them.

ADJUTANT GENERAL WON'T SHOW DRAFT DOCUMENTS

TURN out the guard, police up the brig, here comes General Harris!

This may be the cry if the District of Columbia Supreme Court should insist that Peter C. Harris, Adjutant General of the Army, serve a ten-day jail sentence for contempt for his refusal to exhibit certain affidavits filed by an Ohio soldier seeking exemption from the draft.

General Harris is official custodian of all selective service records, and the War Department's policy has been to refuse access to these papers for any purpose. Secretary Baker has declined to make public the records of individuals, even when they had requested them to be given out.

Several weeks ago General Harris was ordered to appear before a notary with affidavits filed by an Ohio man before an exemption board during the war. He was instructed by the court to make a deposition to be sent to the Ohio courts, where a divorce proceeding involving the former soldier is being tried. General Harris declined to obey the court's order. He insisted that President Wilson had promised, in the enactment of the Selective Service Law, that the documents involved would be kept secret forever. To make public any of the records would be against "public policy," he argued. Upon receiving the sentence for contempt, General Harris announced the question would be passed on to the Court of Appeals.

CONGRESS GETS BILL FOR ARMISTICE DAY HOLIDAY

SENATOR BOIES PENROSE, of Pennsylvania, has introduced a bill in Congress to make Armistice Day, November 11, a national holiday. The National Convention of The American Legion at Cleveland adopted a resolution indorsing this proposal.

Senator Penrose also has introduced in the Senate the same bill as Representative Hamilton Fish, Jr., of New York, entered recently in the House of Representatives, providing for the return of the body of an unidentified soldier from France for interment in the amphitheatre of Arlington National Cemetery.

REGULAR OFFICERS BUCK CIVIL LIFE; CROWD BACK

HUNDREDS of Regular Army officers who resigned their commissions after the Armistice to search for $10,000 and $15,000 jobs at the end of the rainbow of their hopes, have quit the chase and are swarming back into the service, according to Major Fitzhugh Lee Minnigerode, U. S. A., retired, who writes in the New York *Evening Post:*

"Where are these many older officers, who, under the whip of demotion and lured on by the fairy tales of easy fortunes in civil life, exerting their talents to-day? Either in the Army or else trying to get back in.

"They have found in many instances that the road to civil success is paved with innumerable snares and delusions. They have succumbed to the old lure of the uniform and the open air. They are homesick for the service, so homesick in fact that they are willing to return to duty at a reduction in their regular rank. They are all trying to come back. . . .

"And what has become of the great multitude of $10,000 and $15,000 a year men who were so anxious to be demobilized and never see a uniform again that they could hardly be restrained from cabling their resignations to Washington immediately the Armistice was signed? I do not know

IN Philadelphia recently patients of the Public Health Service Hospital, who had suffered from shell shock, demonstrated that shattered nerves may be restored, when they conducted a sale of articles they had made. The picture of President elect Harding was painted by one of the patients.

where the great majority of them are, but I do know that a good many thousands of them have recently been at various and sundry camps throughout the country taking an examination to enter the Regular Army. . . .

"An older officer, who was a member of one of these examining boards in Washington, and who had come in contact with a large number of civilian officers both in the United States and in France, remarked one morning upon entering the room where the applicants were waiting to be examined: 'I have never seen such a gathering of $15 000 a year men looking for an appointment at $1,700.'"

JAPAN MAY PRESS FIGHT ON RACE DISCRIMINATION

EARLY hopes that Japanese objection to racial discrimination in this country could be overcome by a substitute bill to prohibit all aliens from holding land may not materialize, according to Senator Phelan of California.

Senator Phelan recently announced that he expects the Japanese Government will request the United States to enact a Federal law for the naturalization of all Japanese residents in this country. Such a request would be resisted to the utmost he said. Senator Hiram W. Johnson has expressed an inclination to stand by the anti-alien land ownership law already enacted, and to oppose extending the provision to all aliens.

The Japanese object particularly to the adoption in referendum by the people of California of a law prohibiting Orientals from holding land in that State.

Legislation to extend the present California law barring Japanese from land holding to include all aliens is expected to come before the biennial session of the California Legislature this month. Washington, Oregon, Texas and other Western States are said to be contemplating land-holding legislation patterned after that in California.

Soldier's Insurance Held Valid—An Ohio Court of Appeals has just denied the right of a private insurance company to refuse payment of life insurance on the ground that an insured man, before he died, had not applied for permission to engage in military service, as required by a clause of the policy. Such refusal, the Ohio court held, would be "not only against public interest, but contrary to the Constitution." The decision was rendered at Newark, O., in favor of the beneficiary of Walter G. Frush, who died of influenza at Camp Sherman.

Wounded Doughboy Excluded—Although he had fought many months in the A. E. F. as a corporal, and had been wounded, Demetrius Robos recently was denied re-admission to America when he failed to pass the literacy test at Ellis Island after returning from a visit to his old home in Albania, where he remained fifteen months after obtaining his discharge in France. He could have re-entered this country without examination if he had returned within six months after his discharge overseas. His case has been appealed to the Secretary of Labor.

Ex-Captain Gets Long Sentence—John A. Willers, charged with desertion and with taking $5,000 of the funds of his command, Company I, 48th Infantry, at Fort Sevier, S. C., has been sentenced to serve five years in Fort Leavenworth prison after conviction by a court-martial. Willers, when arrested, claimed he had been a German spy while in the American uniform, but later confessed he had concocted this story to gain time to prepare a defense against the theft charge.

France Maintains Big Army—Despite considerable opposition by advocates of economy, the French Government has definitely put into effect its new military programme calling for an army establishment of 750,000 men, a force considerably larger than the army in 1914. It is expected that in 1922 the strength will be reduced to 600,000. Two-year compulsory service will continue in effect for twenty-four months. After that men will be drafted for eighteen months. Criticism has been expressed of the great number of officers retained in the French army, but popular sentiment is that these officers are legacies of the war, and are entitled to peculiar consideration.

THE shipwreck heroes of the movies haven't anything on the Marines. Nails were unobtainable when the 113th Company of the Leathernecks built its barracks at Dos Rios, Santo Domingo, so the men used vines and poles tied together to make these buildings, the largest of which is forty by eighty feet.

Lawyer Disbarred as Draft Dodger—Daniel O'Connell, formerly a San Francisco lawyer, who in 1917 was sentenced to serve a seven-year sentence for alleged violation of the Selective Service Act, recently was disbarred by the California Supreme Court.

Punches His Former Captain—Samuel Berman of New York, a traveling salesman, called upon his old captain, B. R. Fink, in Norfolk, Va., recently. Instead of a handshake, Berman gave Fink a blow with his fist that knocked him to the street, according to police. When Berman was arraigned in court on a charge of fighting, he told the judge that he had evened up the score on his Army experiences. He said Fink out of spite had given him extra details and had compelled him to do disagreeable tasks. Berman, who weighs 180 pounds, said he had studied boxing two years before meeting Fink, who weighs 210 pounds. He was fined $10.

Pensions Total $265,500,000—The Pensions Appropriation for 1921 just approved by Congress calls for the distribution of $265,500,000 among veterans of five wars and retired Regular Army soldiers or their survivors. This sum is $14,000,000 less than the 1920 appropriation. The disbursements are apportioned thus: Civil War, $251,612,192; War of 1812, $21,145; Mexican War, $840,439; Indian Wars, $2,168,915; Spanish-American War, $5,844,360; World War, $36,734; Regular Establishment, $4,476,215. During the last year the number of pensioners decreased 32,237. World War veterans who receive pensions are those discharged for disability before enactment of the War Risk Insurance Act in 1917. A Congressional sub-committee estimated that, in addition to the pension disbursements, the Government in 1921 will pay out $309,985,490 in War Risk compensation, maintenance of soldiers' homes, medical and hospital treatment of veterans and vocational training. It also estimated that, counting next year's payments, the Government will have paid out $5,830,815,717 in pensions since 1790.

Indorses Badge for A. of O.—Maj. Gen. Joseph T. Dickman, formerly commander of the Army of Occupation on the Rhine, has indorsed the proposal that a special badge be issued by the War Department to men who served in the occupied area of Germany. In a letter to *The Watch on the Rhine*, Little Rock, Ark., newspaper of the Society of the Third Division, General Dickman says: "The forces now on the Rhine consist largely of men who have had no other service in Europe and who will desire very much to have a badge to show they were engaged on the important duty of occupation of enemy territory."

Pershing To Be Inaugural Marshal—General Pershing has been named grand marshal of the Inauguration Parade and has been asked to accept the chairmanship of the committee arranging the military display for the Presidential pageant. A Mardi Gras of the States is expected to be the feature of the inaugural night. In the inaugural parade it is expected that one of the famous Ohio military organizations will act as the escort for the new President.

UNIDENTIFIED—AT HOME

NOT all the unidentified dead lie in France. In a single day recently the War Department had the task of identifying two American soldiers who had died on their native soil during the war and had lain nameless in spots as remote as the corner of a battlefield north of Verdun. At Mullinville, Kan., a skeleton and a disintegrating O. D. uniform found in a haystack told the story of one doughboy who must have been listed as missing. At Newport News, Va., a skeleton clothed in Army garments was found in the loft of an abandoned barn.

Review Notes

In honor of the 225 Yale men who died during their war service—eighty of them killed in action—memorial tablets were dedicated in Woolsey Hall at New Haven, recently.

The list of Army officers' promotions which the Senate will consider this month contains more than 15,000 names. A blanket confirmation of the list is expected. So far more than 4,570 emergency officers who passed the examinations in July for permanent appointments have accepted their commissions, and it is expected there will be 300 additional appointments as the result of examinations in October.

Eight professorships have been established at Cornell University in memory of students of the university who gave their lives in the Army and Navy during the war. Six of these go to members of the faculty who were in service.

More care with promises made to recruits, especially with regard to the Army's Educational courses, in order that all pre-enlistment promises may be fulfilled, was urged by the Inspector General in his annual report to the Secretary of War.

Calls for Old Buddies

Charleston—Men formerly attached to this ship and now living in or near Boston are asked to send names and addresses to Charles F. Eldridge, 1061 Saratoga street, East Boston, Mass., who has reunion information.

Westgate—Survivors of this ship are asked to correspond with L. C. Matteson, Box 185, Buffalo, Wyo.

57th Inf. Medical Detachment—R. S. Chamberlain, Chamber of Commerce, Columbus, Ohio, would like addresses of former members.

Camp Upton Base Hospital men will hold a reunion late in January. Dr. David Coyne, 89 Washington street, Hoboken, N. J., wants to hear from the 1,000 men and women in and around New York City who are eligible to attend.

52d U. S. Infantry—Vacancies are being held open for former emergency officers and non-coms, who are asked to write to the Regimental Commander, Camp Grant, Ill.

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

1920 REVIEW OF LEGION SHOWS GREAT GROWTH

Number of Posts Increased by 3,417 and Membership Almost Doubled—200,000 in Auxiliary

THE story of the growth of The American Legion and its Women's Auxiliary in 1920, drawn from a comparison of the official report of December 31, 1920 and that of the corresponding date of 1919, reveals an enterprise in progress that has carried the organization and its "big sister" forward with tremendous impetus.

From 6,561 posts as 1920 opened, the Legion has grown until the first of this year saw a total of 9,978 posts, an increase in the twelve months of 3,417 posts, and a membership almost doubled.

Even more rapid was the rise, during 1920, of the Women's Auxiliary. Starting with fifty units and 5,000 members on December 31, 1919, the Auxiliary opened this year with 1,695 units and a membership of approximately 200,000.

Ten New Posts Abroad

Every Department of the Legion in the United States markedly increased its list of posts in 1920. In many cases the number was doubled. Even in the overseas Departments, where the chance for growth ordinarily is scant, there were increases. The formation of new posts in ten hitherto untouched foreign countries strengthened the claim that "the sun never sets on the Legion."

There were, of course, readjustments in the list of the Departments at the top in membership when 1919 ended. Certain Departments in 1919 got away to a flying start and were organized to a high strength by the coming of 1920. Other Departments, slower to start, grew steadily last year as they broadened their activities, and on December 31 stood ahead of Departments which formerly had led them.

New York, at the close of 1920, as in 1919, headed the procession with 934 posts. On December 31, 1919, it had 777 posts. Illinois came up from fourth place at the end of 1919 to second place for 1920, by increasing from 349 to 696 posts.

The six leading Departments of the Legion and their strength in posts on December 31, 1920, were: New York, 934; Illinois, 696; Pennsylvania, 595; Iowa, 538; Ohio, 480; Minnesota, 474.

The six leading Departments and their list of posts on December 31, 1919, were: New York, 777; Pennsylvania, 497; Minnesota, 369; Illinois, 349; Iowa, 345; Ohio, 298.

Massachusetts led in the Auxiliary column at the close of 1920 with 135 units. Then followed Minnesota with 118 units, Illinois with 115, and New York with 101.

Figures by Departments

A detailed review of the Legion's growth by Departments last year follows, the first figure in each case representing the number of posts established by the close of 1919, and the second figure the number on December 31, 1920: Alabama, 34, 67; Arizona, 23, 38; Arkansas, 90, 145; California, 155, 244; Colorado, 62, 131; Connecticut, 77, 92; Delaware, 18, 21; District of Columbia, 21, 26; Florida, 55, 74; Georgia, 78, 129; Idaho, 80, 105; Illinois, 349, 696; Indiana, 203, 318; Iowa, 345, 538; Kansas, 187, 301; Kentucky, 65, 142; Louisiana, 29, 79; Maine, 80, 117; Maryland, 70, 88; Massachusetts, 238, 263; Michigan, 198, 304; Minnesota, 369, 474; Mississippi, 54, 122; Missouri, 220, 343; Montana, 52, 100; Nebraska, 139, 281; Nevada, 18, 23; New Hampshire, 69, 80; New Jersey, 224, 268; New Mexico, 36, 51; New York, 777, 934; North Carolina, 58, 117; North Dakota, 111, 200; Ohio, 298, 480; Oklahoma, 126, 209; Oregon, 72, 91; Pennsylvania, 497, 595; Rhode Island, 30, 34; South Carolina, 47, 84; South Dakota, 123, 201; Tennessee, 61, 101; Texas, 110, 275; Utah, 100, 111; Vermont, 76, 84; Virginia, 101, 130; Washington, 95, 153; West Virginia, 66, 111; Wisconsin, 163, 308; Wyoming, 20, 50; Alaska, 4, 14; Canada, 1, 1; Cuba, 1, 1; England, 1, 1; France, 1, 4; Hawaii, 5, 8; Panama, 1, 2; Philippine Islands, 1, 6; Mexico, 1, 2.

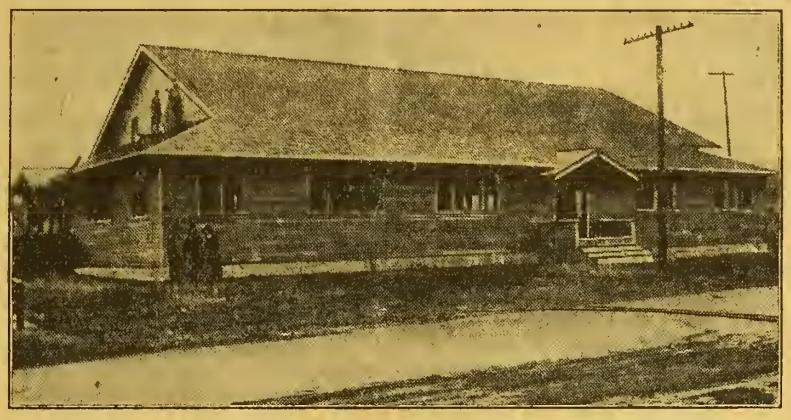
New posts formed in 1920 in the following foreign countries: Argentine Republic, 1; Belgium, 1; Chile, 1; China, 1; Guatemala, 1; Japan, 2; Poland, 2; Samoa, 1; Santo Domingo, 1 Peru, 1.

The Auxiliary List

The list of units of the Women's Auxiliary established in the various Departments on December 31, 1920, is as follows:

Alabama, 2; Arizona, 11; Arkansas, 6; California, 63; Colorado, 29; Connecticut, 11; Delaware, 3; District of Columbia, 3; Florida, 9; Idaho, 21; Illinois, 115; Indiana, 66; Iowa, 71; Kansas, 90; Kentucky, 11; Louisiana, 3; Maine, 35; Massachusetts, 135; Michigan, 84; Minnesota, 118; Mississippi, 1; Missouri, 36; Montana, 28; Nebraska, 43; Nevada, 9; New Hampshire, 16; New Jersey, 67; New Mexico, 2; New York, 101; North Carolina, 6; North Dakota, 48; Ohio, 47; Oklahoma, 26; Oregon, 22; Pennsylvania, 85; Rhode Island, 8; South Carolina, 4; South Dakota, 55; Tennessee, 3; Texas, 30; Utah, 2; Vermont, 21; Virginia, 28; Washington, 62; West Virginia, 11; Wisconsin, 32; Wyoming, 8; Alaska, 2; Hawaii, 3; Panama, 2; Cuba, 1;

Heartening as the review of the year may be, the prospects for 1921 are even more encouraging. With membership drives already on in many States, and a campaign under way to bring the Auxiliary to its fullest strength, it is certain that the close of 1921 will see both organizations still further along on the path of progress.



Clubhouse of Captain Green Post, Prosser, Wash., in construction

I'm the guy who never tries to get a buddy to join the Legion. Why should I? We've got a big Post now. What difference will two or three more guys make? Besides, if the poor simps don't know enough to fall in of their own accord, why should I round 'em up. I ain't a corporal any more. That's me, Joe.

Post Vigilance Committees

THE formation of vigilance committees in the Legion posts of the Department of Missouri is under way to combat crime. The posts have been warned by Edward J. Cahill, Department Adjutant, to make no move until called on by their local authorities but to stand ready to maintain law and order at any time. Five hundred Legionnaires in St. Louis have been helping the police to patrol the city.

Additional evidence of the friendly spirit between The American Legion and labor was furnished by the action of the Central Trades Council of Oklahoma in voting to cooperate with the Legion in meeting the unemployment problem. The council directed the secretaries of various affiliated unions to give preference in employment to union men who are veterans.

"Citation" for Recruits

THE Department of Nebraska hopes to instill "pep" into its 1921 membership drive by giving a "citation" to every post that makes a membership gain in the year.

Legion posts in the Department of Louisiana and *The Pelicannaire*, the official Legion newspaper, now keep in touch with each other by wireless. A radio department has been established in the office of *The Pelicannaire* which is in communication with amateur wireless operators in towns having Legion posts.

Under the title "New England Veterans in the Home Sector" Frank P. Sibley, formerly a war correspondent, is writing for

a Boston newspaper a series of articles on Legion posts in the vicinity. The articles are illustrated with photographs of post officers and clubhouses. Massachusetts Legionnaires are enthusiastic over the articles. Legionnaires from other States intend to suggest a similar series in their leading newspapers.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION PUTS "NEW LIFE IN DEAD"

THERE are many new members of the Legion today, members who will never be active, perhaps, for they lie in hospital cots, but whose comradeship in the organization is nevertheless welcomed by all. They are the men to whom posts in many sections of the country presented a year's membership in the celebration of the Legion Christmas season just passed.

As a Legion landmark the Christmas observance, from reports received to date, ranks high. It was an occasion observed in practically every hospital in the United States housing ex-service men. Presents of fountain pens, toilet articles, books, tobacco, candy, fruit, flowers and many other things showered on disabled buddies. Legion Christmas trees and theatrical performances brightened hundreds of dreary hospital wards.

As one patient in a Lexington, Ky., hospital told the visiting Legionnaires "You've put new life into a dead soldier."

Big Programme in Connecticut

The idea of presenting membership cards to the disabled buddies probably was most thoroughly carried out in the Department of Connecticut, where every ex-service man undergoing treatment was made a Legionnaire. The same plan was followed by the posts of Ulster County, N. Y., the San Bernardino, Cal., Post, and scores of others.

In Clarksburg, W. Va., there was only one ex-soldier in hospital on Christmas Day. For him, according to the physicians, it was his last Christmas. Gifts and attention were fairly heaped on this man by the Legion. Another outstanding incident of the season was the veterans' dinner in Detroit, arranged by a committee from Charles A. Learned Post, to which all ex-service men out of work were admitted on displaying their discharge papers. The Department of Massachusetts, in addition to visiting the hospitals and prisons provided Christmas dinners and cash donations to the families of needy veterans. In Huntington, Va., Christmas baskets also were distributed to the needy.

Flying Squadrons in Wisconsin

Flying squadrons in automobiles and motor trucks covered the hospitals in Milwaukee, and Waukesha, Wis., and the insituations in the rest of the State came in for Legion celebrations. Other high lights in the observance of the day were reported from the Department of Maryland where a continuous show was staged in the hospital at Fort McHenry with trees in every ward.

In the Fox Hills, N. Y., hospital the "Lady Gyrenes" of Semper Fidelis Post presented gifts to 600 patients. Every hospital containing veterans was visited by Legion posts in Louisiana and Christmas trees, vaudeville and motion pictures were provided. The workhouse and jails were visited by Legionnaires at Trenton, N. J., after a tour of the hospitals.

Philadelphia Legionnaires were out early on a Christmas celebration, which was State-wide in Pennsylvania. Camp Logan, Tex., had a big Legion celebration, as did Denver and Pueblo, Colo., Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn., Camp Sevier, S. C., Mobile, Ala., and Palo Alto, Los Angeles and San Francisco, Cal. Mississippi, Wyoming, Vermont and Indiana also reported universal honoring of the disabled. In Canada members of Legion posts visited the hospitals in Montreal and elsewhere.

IN many hundred hospitals where disabled ex-service men are being treated, the dullness and monotony of hospital life was broken by The American Legion during the Christmas season. The photograph shows a ward in a Hartford, Conn., hospital in cheerful Yuletide array, a scene typical to many wards through the country where the patients were too ill to leave their beds.

An election of post officers in San Francisco Post No. 1 is as large an affair as the annual election in the average small city. There are 6,500 members entitled to vote.

Questionnaires were sent to every industrial plant and business firm in Little Rock, Ark., asking for the names of all men who were in the service during the war, when M. M. Eberts Post started an intensive membership drive.

Walter T. Cohee Post of Frankfort, Ind., advances the claim that it has the heaviest pair of officers of any post in the Legion. John Redmon, Post Commander, weighs 283 pounds, and Wood Unger, Post Adjutant, 265 pounds, or a total of 548 pounds. Redmon won the Croix de Guerre in the war.

To bring home to the community the vital issues of Americanism, especially the issue of the education in citizenship of the immigrant, the Schenectady, N. Y., Post conducted an "Americanization Week."

Ask Veteran's Release

A DETERMINED movement is on foot among Iowa Legionnaires, led by the I. M. Eno Post of Havelock, to obtain the pardon of Alfred King, gassed and wounded war hero, now serving a ten-year sentence in the State penitentiary for the theft of a pair of shoes. Ill and forced to work for small wages on account of inability to stand the strain of long hours, when his wife and baby were stricken with smallpox and he had to meet bills for medicine, physicians, rent and groceries, it is asserted King entered a store and took the shoes. King, who served with the 168th Infantry of the Rainbow Division, recently received in jail his Victory Medal with five battle clasps.

The clubrooms of Roy Bent Post of Wilton, N. H., which are open to the public, are proving a daily boon during the present slack days of business, as they provide a place for men out of employment to wait in comfort. The post has a 100 percent membership in a town of 1,400.

Needy Veterans Helped

LEGIONNAIRES in Spokane, Wash., are aiding veterans and their families who are unemployed and in want. A Legion committee already has supplied many families of ex-service men with food and other necessities. Veterans also have been helped in getting transportation to places of employment.

The Women's Auxiliary of the Nashville, Tenn., Post boasts one of the largest and oldest units of the Auxiliary in the South. It has a paid membership of 1,500 and is active in Nashville and vicinity in hospital and welfare work among disabled veterans.

The first theatrical venture of the Morristown, N. J., Post, "The Legion Follies of 1920," was a success with two nights to capacity houses and $500 in profits. The post recently opened its new clubrooms in celebration of its second year as an organization. The furnishings include a stand of colors presented by the local chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

When the management of a factory in Utica, N. Y., advertised for help, stating that Hollanders and Germans were preferred, the Legionnaires of Charles Miller Post, of Canastota, promptly expressed themselves in a resolution published in the local press. This resolution deplored the action of the concern and protested "against the giving of preference in employment to any of our enemies in the late war."

The overseas grave of the war hero for whom Kneil Post, of Akron, Ohio, was named was decorated recently with a wreath. Overseas representatives of the concern, from the employes of which the post is formed, carried flowers from Paris to the cemetery at Letanne, Ardennes, at the request of the Akron Legionnaires.

Holds Essay Contest

TWO prizes were awarded by Dever Edwards Post, of Pearsall, Tex., for the best essay written by high school students on "Americanism." The essay which won first prize was read by the writer

Continued on page 22)

ALTHOUGH blinded in the war, George Duby, of Saginaw, Mich., is by no means out of the running. Through the assistance of the Phillips-Elliot-Hodges Post and the Red Cross in whose Institute for the Blind he had received training in store-keeping, a grocery store and stock were obtained for him. Duby invested his compensation and savings together with a loan of $1,000 from the Red Cross in his store and is now doing a good business.

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Books Received

BATTERY B THROUGH THE FIRES OF FRANCE. *Battery B, Second Battalion, Anti-Aircraft Artillery, C. A. C. By Ernest Stone. Printed by the Wayside Press, 311 East Fourth Street, Los Angeles, Cal. Copies may be obtained from Ernest Stone, 2572 Glen Green, Hollywood, Cal.*

HISTORY OF BATTERY C, 308TH FIELD ARTILLERY. *By Raymond S. Binder, Hackensack, N. J.*

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 310TH INFANTRY. *By Harold D. Dyke, Travelers' Insurance Co., 1622 Healy Building, Atlanta, Ga.*

HISTORY OF THE 360TH INFANTRY. *By Victor F. Barnett, 2d Lieut. Hdqts. Co. Printed in Zeltigen, Germany. Obtainable through Hall Etter, 508 Stewart Building, Houston, Texas.*

HISTORY OF THE 310TH INFANTRY. *By Raymond L. Thompson. Published by Association of the 310th Infantry, New York City. Obtainable from A. C. Judd, 2760 Woolworth Building, New York City.*

HISTORY OF COMPANY A 309TH MACHINE GUN BATTALION. *Compiled by Roberts B. Thomas, 11 Broadway, New York City.*

COMPANY E, 312TH INFANTRY. *By G. R. Morgan, Capt. Co. E, 312th Infantry. Printed by A. K. Magill, Greenville, S. C.*

THE LOST SQUADRON. *Being the Swan Song of the 839th Aero Outfit. By Sergeant Alvin E. Kauffman. Obtainable through Harvey T. Warren, 99 Warren Street, New York City.*

THE COMPANY FUND. *Company D, Fifteenth Engineers. Edited by Oliver Wilkins. Obtainable through Gerald J. Coffey, 193-14th Street, Wheeling, W. Va.*

FATHER DUFFY'S STORY. *By Francis P. Duffy, Chaplain, 165th Infantry. George H. Doran Company, New York.*

Unexpected benefits in the life of an artilleryman—From "C Battery Book" (306th F. A., Seventy-Seventh Division)

Officers and Other Officers

THERE was once a colonel at G. H. Q., A. E. F., who was accustomed to swear loud and long—happily the Frenchwoman who put the coal in the stove couldn't understand a word of it—every time he picked up a General Order containing the phrase "officers and soldiers."

"Damn it!" he would exclaim. "I'm a soldier even if I am a colonel!"

Unfortunately there were colonels—not to mention majors, captains, *et al.*— who did not care particularly whether they were soldiers so long as they were colonels or majors. It is this type of commissioned personnel that the enlisted Army historians, no longer tongue-tied by the dire provisions of the Articles of War, are dealing with in outspoken fashion.

The author of "Who Won the War?" starts in on his very first page. He is Edwin James Tippett, Jr., formerly corporal, 112th Military Police, Thirty-Seventh Division. Proceeding to his mobilization camp on the State fair grounds at Columbus, O., in July, 1917, he came upon "two thousand civilians, most of them not knowing 'squads right' from 'right dress,' on the hands of a few officers, only a few of whom knew much more—even on military subjects."

This is only the first of many swings of the billy. A certain lieutenant colonel, we learn a few pages later, "suggested that he had been the original for the old-time cartoons of 'A Trust'; and his manners were in charming harmony. I once heard Col. S—— give this typical bully the lie direct, and he swallowed it, digesting the insult with his white liver."

The outfit moves to Camp Sheridan, whence, in a letter home, comes this blanket condemnation:

"It is a common remark in our company that a man must be drunk to be made a first-class private; go to the guard-house to be made a corporal; or be subject to court-martial to be made a sergeant. What he must do to be commissioned I hesitate to imagine; but it is in relative proportion, I presume."

Yet, in inventorying the officers of his company, Corporal Tippett lists a first lieutenant, an ex-traffic officer, who is a "real soldier; democratic, yet has fine authority," and also "Second Lieutenant Rieck—older, fatter, jollier; gold teeth, bass voice; full of good stories, well told; warm-hearted; well-liked and obeyed. Also traffic cop in civil life."

The moral seems to be that in the next war Plattsburg should be abolished and every traffic cop in the country commissioned for the sake of the Army's morale.

The prize lemon in the corporal's basket seems to have been plucked on the boat that carried the 112th M. P.'s across the English Channel to Le Havre. Other units were with them, he writes, "and one of their N. A. captains was put in charge, as Officer of the Day. The memory of that damned ruffian will make any of us see red. He was a rough-neck and low-brow—and proud of it."

NO less pointed, if somewhat more adroitly managed, are the characterizations of certain officers in "Doings of Battery B, 328th F. A." (Eighty-Fifth Division). A major who shall go unnamed is pictured as follows:

"He accompanied his information with very abusive language and, being a commanding officer, we were wholly without recourse, but we could form opinions, and we did. Colonel Blank was acquainted with his methods but entirely approved the way of instilling a psychology of fear, whose consort everywhere in life is hate. Even taking into consideration that he had been saturated in militarism as a profession, there are American standards for the treatment of soldiers, which he violated.

"His duty was, in part, to inspect the First Battalion Batteries. This gave him the opportunity to perform a miracle in Sergeant Belbeck's kitchen one Saturday morning. Looking at a small oval object on the floor, he demanded of the sergeant, 'Why are potatoes on the floor?' The sergeant replied, 'Sir, that is not a potato, it's a stone.' The major, raising his voice, 'I say it is a potato.' According to Army regulations the sergeant replied, 'Sir, it is a potato.'

"At Pont-a-Mousson he celebrated his promotion to major by lining up the noncoms and introducing himself to them in the following inspiring and elevating manner: 'I suppose you all know who I am. If you don't—start something, and you'll damned soon find out.'

"This was meant to be impressive; it was, but not as designed."

"Doings of Battery B" has, however, plenty of kind words for several of its officers—particularly second lieutenants. In fact, from an exhaustive study of outfit histories the Legion Librarian is moved to the conclusion that the Army kidded the shavetail because it liked him.

Not every unit, however, has been compelled to air suppressed emotions on the officer question. Not, for instance, Battery A, 135th F. A., Thirty-Seventh Division, whose history, "Riding to War With A," carries this announcement:

"To Captain Irving C. Bolton, who never needed his bars to gain the devoted loyalty of his boys, these pages are dedicated."

Book Notes

"Building American Camps" is the title of an illustrated booklet published by Stone & Webster, Inc., describing Camps Travis and McArthur and Kelly Field, all of which this firm built. A limited supply of these booklets is still available, and as long as they hold out copies will be sent free to anyone addressing the Smith Endicott Company, No. 141 Milk street, Boston, Mass.

"The Fourth Division: Its Services and Achievements in the World War" is ready for distribution. Information may be had from the Fourth Division Association, Camp Lewis, Wash.

"The Record of Service of the 147th Field Artillery" will be supplied free to former members of the outfit who write W. A. Hazle, Adjutant General, Aberdeen, S. D.

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Section 10, Americans on the British Front.

Section 11, 12, Italian and Russian Fronts.

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Section 14, Navy.

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Section 16, Women in War.

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Section 19, Combat Division, Histories and Medal of Order of Citation.

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- ARCHITECT
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"—AND TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES"

(*Continued from page 7*)

Afflicted and penniless veterans have been driven to refuge in almshouses and common jails. Many have died, and if immediate relief is not forthcoming, more will die—destitute, without proper medical care, without compensation with which to obtain it, abandoned by the country they served. All this is attributable directly to the manner in which the Government has administered the affairs of the disabled."

THE breakdown of the War Risk Insurance system is largely attributed by the petition to the fact that the burden of proof of disability is placed on the disabled man.

"Due to the centralization of the Bureau's forces in Washington, it is practically impossible under the present law to establish contact with the men entitled to disability compensation," the memorial says. "The disabled man is placed in the position of a man injured in industry who must sue the company."

The fact that the War Risk Bureau does not go into the field and make contact with its charges, but relies upon another Government agency for the performance of this function is cited as a cause for confusion and injustice. The petition, on this point, says:

"The Public Health Service has fourteen regional offices throughout the country and an army of local examiners who make physical examination for the War Risk Bureau. A man must present his claim to the Bureau in Washington and at some later date is ordered to present himself to a local examiner of the Public Health Service. The local examiner does not decide the degree of his disability. The report of his examination is forwarded to Washington. The medical staff of the Bureau—not the Public Health Service—determines by use of an arbitrary standard the percentage of disability and the compensation that should be paid for it. The claim is then certified for payment by another man who has never seen the claimant and to whom the claimant is not a person, but a paper, a 'case.'"

The difficulty does not end with examinations, the petition alleges, for "the Bureau is responsible for hospitalization and medical treatment, but is powerless to enforce its responsibility because it has no facilities by which this care and treatment may be extended."

The petition, to establish proof of further conflict and duplication, cites the relations between the Bureau of War Risk Insurance and the Federal Board for Vocational Rehabilitation. It says:

"The Board is responsible for the training of the disabled to enable them to overcome their vocational handicap. This is a matter of education, the nature of which must depend to a large degree upon the adaptation of educational facilities already existing. As long as the machinery of the Board was centralized in Washington, as the War Risk Bureau now is, the Board was a failure. In eighteen months it approved about 30,000 cases and put into training about 14,000 men. Since it began to decentralize, it has approved 100,000 additional cases and placed 35,000 additional men in training. The Board goes out into the field. It attempts and in part has succeeded in looking up the men, contrary to the general practice of having the men look up the agency."

"The Board will accept the evidence that the Bureau has granted compensation as proof that a man needs vocational training. The Bureau, however, will not accept the evidence that the Board has awarded training as proof that a man is entitled to compensation."

The direct result of such a system is to make difficult the task of thousands of men to obtain rights to which they are entitled, the petition indicates.

Great hardships have been experienced by men passing from the jurisdiction of one agency to that of the other, due to stoppage of pay. The petition explains:

"When a man enters training with training pay, his compensation stops and he is shifted from the payroll of the Bureau to the payroll of the Board. . . . When a man is dropped from training he is supposed to be dropped from the payroll of the Board and be taken up by the Bureau. On both shifts there is delay. The average length of time for a man to be dropped from the Bureau and be taken up on the Board payroll is about three weeks. The average time required for the second shift back to the Bureau payroll is two months. No provision is made for the man's maintenance during these interims. In the majority of cases a man must undergo a new physical examination before the Bureau will receive him back. In other words, he must again prove his claim."

The logical result of this procedure is this, in the words of the petition:

"Divided responsibility causes a man to think twice before he ventures to take up training if he realizes there will be a hiatus of three weeks between the time he leaves the Bureau payroll until he is entered on the Board payroll. And on leaving training, the average no-pay interim is eight weeks. In like manner a man hesitates to enter a hospital before he begins to draw compensation. A recent survey of conditions in a tubercular hospital disclosed that about seventy-five per cent. of the patients had received no compensation and were in a wretched state of anxiety. Some had left the hospital in their weakened condition to try to work and support their families because the Government had failed to do so."

Under the heading, "The Remedy," the petition outlines the plan The American Legion hopes will be authorized by bills pending in Congress. It says:

"From a scientific standpoint the functions of training, treatment and compensation must be combined. From an administrative standpoint the functions of the three agencies must be coordinated, their machinery decentralized and all three placed under a common control. The disabled man has a right to deal with one agency, which

shall take care of his physical, vocational and financial restoration. To do this, there must be a new law which shall physically consolidate and coordinate the activities of the Federal Board for Vocational Education, the Bureau of War Risk Insurance and the Public Health Service, and place the unified organization under a single administrative head. The whole must be decentralized."

The legislation which The American Legion believes will accomplish these aims is embodied in the Rogers Bill, now before the House of Representatives, and the Capper Bill, now before the Senate.

The petition also urges that a bill be passed immediately to provide the money needed for the construction of new hospitals.

In conclusion, the petition says:

"The American Legion leaves with confidence to the Congress and the Executive branch of the Government the task of correcting before the adjournment of the present Congress the system which has caused so much suffering and injustice to those who gave their health in the nation's service."

IN THE CASUALTY LIST

HOSPITAL DEATHS — Relatives of the folowing men who died in B. H. No. 83 can get authoritative information about their entrance to hospital, diagnosis, date and hour of death, burial, etc., from H. M. Shannon, 6358 Woodbine ave., Philadelphia: De Hart, Elmer H., Co. M, 164th Inf.; James, Co. C, 3d Am. Tr.; Dilley, Leslie J., Co. F, 333d Inf.; Edmundson, Clarence R., Co. F, 126th Inf.; Dunn, David, Co. D, 333d Inf.; Egr, Charles J., Co. C, 335th Inf.; Elders, Robert, Bty. 119, F. A.; Engle, Walter A., Co. A, 335th Inf.; Enties, Herman, Co. L, 115th Inf.; Evans, Lewis L., Co. F, 116th Inf.; Flitcraft, Elwood, Photo Sec. 221st A. S.; Feldner, Martin, Co. C, 336th Inf.; Finn, Daniel J., Co. A, 7th Inf.; Fischer, Clifford H., Co. D., 8th M. G. B.; Foley, James W., Bty. B, 121st F. A.; Cofrances, Antonio, Co. 21, 333d Inf.; Gerhart, Arthur F., Co. B, 113th Inf.; Gervais, Charles P., Bty. B, 121st F. A.; Gill, Frank L.; Gurney, Harry S., Co. G., 363d Inf.; Hammond, Stisl, Co. I, 333d Inf.; Harper, Albert M., H Co., 333d Inf.; Harwood, Hugh, Co. C, 27th Engrs.; Hogue. Paul, 91st Div. Repl.; Houel, George, Inf.; Hedges, Harry, Capt.; 134th F. A.; Hesser, Jos. B.

Also Hill, Dudley, Co. A, 361st Inf.; Huisman, Wm., Co. A, 118th Inf.; Helmar, Ralph V., Hdqrs, 39th Inf.; Hintz, Chas., Co. A, 316th Inf.; Iskow, Edward, Miscl. Det., 40th Div.; James, Charles L., Co. K, 162d Inf.; Jozwick, Walter H., 162d Inf.; Keesnter, Wm., Co. E., 335th Inf.; Kiegan, Matthew; Kile, Lloyd M., Co. B, 118th Engrs.; Kohn, Wm. H., Co. C, 336th Inf.; Knudson, Jacob, Co. M., 306th Inf.; Laird, John, M. G., 112th Inf.; Lanahan, Edward D., Sgt., Co. A, 5th Am. Tr.; Lasseson, Edward E., Co. G, 333d Inf.; Lawrence, Charles H., 6th A. S.; Levengood, Lewis H., Co. H, 316th Inf.; Liberman, Wm., Co. G, 328th Inf.; Lohf, Carl, Major, C. A. C., R. A. R. Staff; Glen, E. Loftus, Bat. C, 120th F. A.; Loving, Ethelbert T., Mgr. Supply, 317th F. A.; Lutz, Geo., 91st Div. Repl.; McArdle, Alex., Co. F., 333d Inf.; McBuds, James A., Lt., 9th A. S.; McCoy, Joe (Col.) Co. A, 334th Tabar Bat.; McGavock, Leon R., Sgt., Co. B, 312th M. G. Bat.; McGinnis, Fred; McKunzie, Alexander; Maher, John J., Co. 4, Hamors; Martin, Owen, 336th Inf.; Martin, Omar, 366th Inf.; Meglio, Jos., Co. C, 314th Inf.; Merrill, H. W., Lt., 9th A. S.; Miller, Douglas (Cpl.), 22d Anti-Aircraft; Morgan, Ernest, Supply, 120th F. A.; Morgen, David R., Co. C, 336th Inf.; Mowery, Carl C., Co. A, 336th Inf.; Myrant, Harry G., Co. D, 165th Inf.; Nelson, Theodore M, Co. D, 336th Inf.; Nielson, Carl E., Co. D, 336th Inf.; Nelson, Morris, 336th Inf.; Pasont, Joseph, Co. G, 114th Inf.; Perrigo, Harold K., Bat. F, 100th F. A.; Peterson, John, Co. H, 105th Inf.; Picton, Benj. J., 91st Div. Repl.; Pollock, Ralph M., Field Hospital No. 1; Porter, Lynn T., 333d Inf. Repl.; Quigg, Charles, Sgt., Bat. C, 120th F. A.; Quinlin, Benj., Bat. F, 119th F. A.; Radabaugh, Vernon, Co. D, 336th Inf.; Read, Joseph D., Bat. C, 119th F. A.; Reef, Charles, Co. E, 334th Inf.; Riley, Percy, Co. C, 167th Inf.; Ringhiser, Clarence, 91st Div. Repl.

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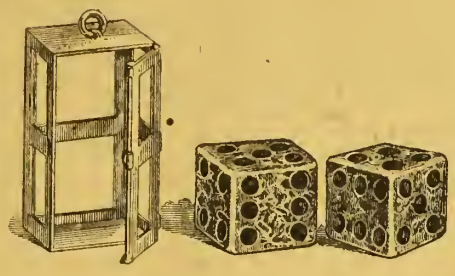

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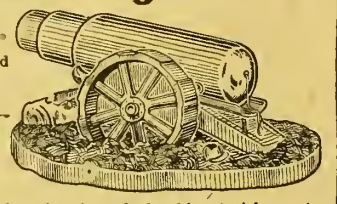

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Bondholders First?

To the Editor: I note that Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin has introduced a bill providing that holders of U. S. Liberty bonds be enabled to exchange them for U. S. notes bearing interest at six percent.

The granting of such a handsome reward to those who invested money at interest for humanity would come with poor grace from a Government of such abject poverty that its officials cry "Kamerad" to a plea for decent compensation for its ex-soldiers.

I sincerely trust that the Legislative Committee of The American Legion will see that service men are compensated before bondholders are rewarded for heroism in investing.

HARNEY B. STOVER
Milwaukee, Wis.

To the Forgetful

To the Editor: For the benefit of those people who believe that patriotism should only be a wartime virtue and that the soldiers who were once cheered and flattered should now be given the raspberry and the horse-laugh when they seek justice, since the firing has died away, let me quote a few paragraphs from an editorial in the Sioux Falls (S. D.) *Press:*

"The Greeks not only rewarded the soldiers who fought in battle or rendered public service, but the dumb brutes as well. Plutarch tells us that those mules that were observed to draw most willingly the stone to build the Acropolis were by a public vote turned loose to feed on the village green and kept and cared for as a public charge.

"Rome gave all honors and all positions in private life to the soldiers who won their spurs on the field of battle. Cato earned the detestation of the centuries because he advised the Romans to sell their old worn-out soldiers to save expenses.

"Shall America forget? Shall we sell our heroes at public auction? Shall America say to her young men, by her votes in Congress, 'Do not fight for the honor and glory of the Republic because the Republic will forget you and prefer others before you in civil life'? Americans will not do this. Let us imitate the gratitude and decency of other peoples and give our money, our honors and our positions in times of peace to those who preserve the honor of the hearthstone and the glory of the republic in times of war."

CARL HARRIS
Worthing, S. D.

The Man Without a State

To the Editor: Is the New York State bonus to soldiers granted out of appreciation for the services rendered, or has it been reluctantly granted as "hush money"? My regard for American ideals makes me hesitate to believe the latter, but will somebody please explain to me how in the name of justice there was inserted in that law the fifth clause, which states that an applicant for the bonus must have been a resident of the State at the time the law was adopted, November 2, 1920?

I was reared in New York and enlisted there in April, 1917. Two months before I returned from overseas my family moved to another State, and since my discharge I, too, have lived outside of New York because of vocational opportunities. Must such unavoidable circumstances deny me eligibility to a bonus?

Eventually every State in the Union will grant soldiers a bonus. No State could be expected to grant the bonus to soldiers from other States. Nevertheless, we former New York fellows will be required, through taxation, to pay for the other fellows' bonuses, yet by reason of this unjust clause we will receive none. So far no other State in the Union has inserted such a selfish clause in its bonus bill, yet these States are paying bonuses to their previous soldier residents who are now living in New York and paying taxes there.

JERRY R. HOGE
Ex. 7th Eng., 5th Div.
Dayton, O.

Aboard the George Washington

To the Editor: What do Edward Polsen and M. G. Seaver, ex-yeomen, know about discipline, anyway? They should have served on the *George Washington* when she had President Wilson aboard. Oh, boy! Did Polsen and Seaver ever scrub down in dress blues? Dress blues for chow, mess cook's inspection in whites—clean ones, you can bet—every man in full uniform at all times, night and day. Then we had the Marine Guard—shave using your buttons for a mirror, finger nails cleaned like a debutante's, foot inspection twice a week—and then, that rifle! President Wilson's orderlies shaved twice a day. And those weren't the only regulations on the *G. W.*

R. M. F.
Cozaddale, O.

He Gets by This Time

To the Editor: May not we members of the Legion know the true reason why Hard-Boiled Smith is at liberty? Until the Legion steps in to demand the crushing of the system which encourages atrocities against our own men, I shall never feel that we have fulfilled our mission.

After writing the above I note that all letters in the Voice of the Legion are "subject to abridgement," so already I have a vivid picture of the Editor with a gleam in his eye and a huge pair of scissors in his hands, carefully pruning the essence out of this communication.

From this you will gather that it would not be a new experience for me. It won't. It is only after I have been worn raw and had salt rubbed into the wound that I can no longer restrain myself from bursting into print in the letter columns. Whereupon I have often discovered the futility of trying to get by the relentless shears of the editor. With Anthony Comstockian virtue they seem to feel themselves morally obligated to emasculate each and every communication to fit their own fastidious tastes, regardless of its interests to the majority.

Now, you will certainly recognize the justice of my question regarding Hard-Boiled Smith. Will you please let this one by?

JUDSON DE GRAFF
Ex. 10th Co., 4th Reg., A. S. M.
Harrisville, N. Y.

Converted Insurance Cheaper

To the Editor: In a recent issue, Harold G. Manning inquires whether it would be advisable for his friend to convert his $10,000 term insurance policy, on which his premiums for the next five years would be $420. He states that if his friend should today convert to the straight insurance form, his yearly premium would be $164.20, while if he waits five years the yearly premium would be $183.10. His friend also argues that if he should convert now, his premiums in five years would total $821, or $401 more than he would have to pay by continuing his term insurance.

Evidently Mr. Manning's friend does not take into consideration the cash surrender value his ordinary converted life policy would have at the end of five years. He could obtain $464.50 for it at the end of

five years. Considering this surrender value, the converted policy, therefore, would cost $63.50 less than the term insurance policy for the five years. The term insurance has no surrender value. The converted policy has a cash surrender value after the first year. It really is an excellent savings account.

Another increase in the expense of converting the policy five years hence would be the $18.90 increased yearly premium, which, in twenty years figured at compound interest at 6 percent per annum, would amount to something more than $900.

O. K. HINK

San Jose, Cal.

A California Voice

To the Editor: As a follower of the letters published in the Voice of the Legion, I have noticed that the Legionnaires here in the West do not seem to have the same amount of writer's pep as the Legion men in the East. I have counted up the number of letters appearing from the various States and have found that in thirty-two weeks only sixteen buddies from California have voiced their opinions in the magazine. Buddies in California, show 'em some Western zip.

W. T. JOHNSON

Martinez, Cal.

Bystanders

To the Editor: The position now occupied by the men who were in the service of the American Red Cross during the war reminds me of Kipling's description of the English Marine:

"He isn't one of the regulars and he isn't one of the crew.

"'E's a kind of bloomin' harumfrodite, soldier and sailor too."

The stay-at-home civilian regards us as having been in the Army and asks: "Why don't you join the Legion?" The soldier says: "Nay, nay!" And we have to explain that though we were with the Army, we were not of it—innocent bystanders, so to speak.

The American Red Cross was and is a distinctive and recognized Government agency, and it seems to me some provision might be made by the Legion for its recognition.

Anyway, if this should fall under the eye of any of the men whom I was privileged to serve at Camp Pike or Fort Sill from January, 1918, to April, 1919, I should be pleased to hear from them.

G. A. KENDERDINE

Iowa City, Ia.

First to Enlist

To the Editor: Alex Samios, cook of Machine Gun Co., 20th Infantry, 10th Division, enlisted at 1:15 P. M., April 6, 1917 at Vernal, Utah, and believes that he was the first man to volunteer after the declaration of war with Germany; but he wants to be sure before he makes formal claim to the distinction.

Shall we give him the concrete bicycle and the fur-lined bathtub or did some other buddy beat him to it?

JOHN HURDLE
Ex-148th F. A.

Fort Collins, Colo.

In Reply to Gibbs

To the Editor: I was rather interested in the article of Sir Philip Gibbs in which he says: "The Irish people sought alliance with the Germans when we were hard pressed and stabbed us in the back when the Germans looked like winning."

It is true to a certain extent that the casual reader of news reports may have been led to believe that there was an effort made at one time to obtain the support of Germany in the interest of an Irish Republic. This was largely through the single-handed effort of Sir Roger Casement.

The charge of a "German Alliance" is denied bitterly and absolutely by the Sinn Fein. Its leaders defy the British Government to produce any credible evidence that a single German dollar or a single German rifle figured in the Dublin revolt or that the Irish Republican movement ever received assistance of any kind from any German source. Roger Casement, his mind turned by ill health and injustice, acted merely as an individual in his dealings with Berlin, and published letters show plainly that the Sinn Fein leaders did not want him in Ireland and spent most of the time trying to keep Casement in the dark as to their plans, fearful always of his erratic and hair-trigger cooperation.

Probably nothing is more significant than the statement of Lord Winbourne, the predecessor of General French as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, that throughout his regime he had discovered nothing of the alleged pro-German plot, and he further asserted his belief that satisfactory evidence of the plot could not be produced.

ANDREW J. SULLIVAN

University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

A Christmas Appreciation

To the Editor: We, the disabled ex-service men of Valmora Industrial Sanatorium, Valmora, New Mexico, wish by this means to express our many thanks to the members and friends of the Leonard Hosking Post No. 24, American Legion of East Las Vegas, N. M., for their kind remembrances on Christmas Day in the way of a timely program of a very interesting entertainment, followed by the handing out of gifts.

We understand the difficulties encountered by the members of this Post in getting together and executing a program as they did. The motive and the spirit behind it all is to us as a silver lining to a very dark cloud.

EX-SERVICE MEN OF VALMORA

Valmora, N. M.

Signal Corps Pictures

To the Editor: The Army is offering one service to veterans which I think is not fully understood or appreciated. I refer to the work of the Photographic Section of the Signal Corps, which has placed in all public libraries a catalogue which indexes and describes the 40,000 photographs taken in the A. E. F. The index runs four ways, by names of people, by locality, by military units and consecutively by official numbers. Under the last classification, a concise description is given of each picture under its number. In regular size these pictures will be furnished at 15 cents each postpaid. Enlargements, 11 by 20 inches, are 40 cents each.

Let us suppose a veteran wants a photograph of Cornay. He will find listed under "Cornay" perhaps fifteen numbers. Looking up each of these numbers in the back of the catalogue, he finally orders 34,708, described as "Hills partly surrounding Cornay, looking northwest through village."

I ordered sixteen photographs, of which fourteen are splendid. I just want to pass the news along.

B. E. W.

Fitzgerald, Ga.

The YD's Claim

To the Editor: I should like to claim for the good old 26th Division the honor of having spent the longest period, as a division, at the front. The YD was the first complete division to arrive in France. After 46 days spent on the Chemin des Dames, the 26th relieved the First Division April 3, 1918 on the Toul Sector. Here we fought the first battles of the A. E. F., at Bois Brule, Seicheprey and Xivray. From its entrance into the lines at Chemin des Dames to the final battles north of Verdun, the YD spent over nine months of active front line service, interrupted only by the travel from one sector to another.

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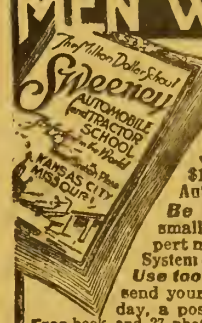

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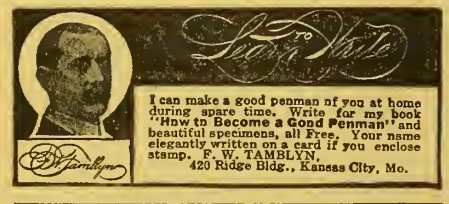

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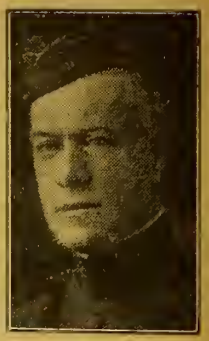

PUTTING IT OVER—Left to Right, George E. Roosevelt, New York City, Chairman, National Oriental Committee; Edward J. Eivers, Adjutant, Department of Oregon; L. R. Gignilliat, Commander, Department of Indiana; Reginald C. Stevenson, Commander, Department of New Hampshire

CARRYING ON

(*Continued from page* 14)

at a mass meeting in the high school auditorium. Both prize-winning compositions were published in the local newspaper.

Maplewood, N. J., Post has a special committee seeking ways of combatting Bolshevism.

Soldiers of the First Division of the regular Army, now stationed at Camp Dix, will be entertained on leaves by the Trenton, N. J., Post, at a recreation center. Once a week there will be a luncheon for the O. D. visitors.

Members of Kensington Post, Philadelphia, Pa., aren't worrying about where to spend next summer. A Philadelphia police lieutenant has offered the use of his bungalow at a nearby bathing beach to the Post.

The Legion is assuring perpetuation of an Indianapolis tradition which has endured for more than fifty years, due to McIlvaine-Kothe Post continuing the custom of a society of Civil War veterans. Salutes will be fired from a Civil War cannon at an Indianapolis cemetery on Memorial Day and in the courthouse yard on Washington's Birthday. The old cannon originally was on board a Confederate flatboat which patrolled the Ohio River and was captured by a Federal gunboat in 1854. The cannon has been in the hands of the Legion Post since last Memorial Day.

The Washington Heights Post, of New York City, celebrated the New Year by taking possession of a three-story clubhouse, formerly occupied by the K. of C. The building was purchased with funds obtained from many entertainments last year. The Legion outbid a number of other organizations in getting the property.

When members of the Legion in Louisville, Ky., noticed among the "want ads" of a local newspaper an advertisement of a lecture on "The Soviet System of Government, or Everlasting Slavery for the Working Class," they notified the chief of police. Officers were posted at the door of the hall to see that no inflammatory meetings were held.

More Legion Romances

FREDERICK PHILLIPS POST, of Council Grove, Kan., got two new married members when Roy E. Patrick and Miss Estelle Agans, both charter members of the post, were married recently. The officiating minister also was a charter member of the post.

The Roxbury, Mass., Post has a woman, Miss Mary T. Whittaker, for its insurance officer. The post's hospital work fund recently was swelled by a contribution of $25 from a traveling salesman who was not a veteran. The salesman also went out and collected $110 more from his friends for the fund.

Members of the U. S. S. Tampa Post, of Tampa, Fla., are prepared to help seize draft dodgers who are reported to be about to return from Cuba and other southern islands. As soon as the fugitives arrive in Tampa the Federal authorities will be notified. The post has asked the county commissioners to turn over a part of the proposed new county courthouse to the Legion for its headquarters.

Three more French war orphans have been added to the list of post mascots. The Pasadena, Cal., Post, James Walter Costigan Post, of Newport, Ky., and the Shreveport, La., Post are the latest Legion outfits to become *parrains*.

Due to a live entertainment committee, the Danbury, Conn., Post raised the money for furnishing their clubrooms, consisting of an office, lounge, billiard rooms and meeting hall. A military ball, which netted $1,000, did the trick and was such a success that the town has demanded that it be held every year. The post keeps a duty roster of members to provide Legion escorts at the funerals of returned soldier dead.

Cut Cost of Homes

EXPENSES have been cut down materially in the construction of many Legion homes by members who do much of the work themselves. The Legionnaires of Sergeant James Mason Post, Jersey City, N. J., will do the pipe fitting and electrical work in their new clubhouse.

The hearty cooperation between the Legionnaires of Montgomery Post and the citizens of Dubois, Pa., is shown by the fact that the city pays four-fifths of the rent on the post's clubrooms. The post borrowed $2,000 to furnish the rooms and to pay off the debt and had a home talent musical comedy.

The Rochester, Minn., Post has arranged for a physical examination of all ex-service men in the city, whether Legion members or not, to get early treatment for ailments. The service will be free and the examinations will be conducted by ex-service physicians. The examination will be made an annual event.

The second annual "Follies" of Red River County Post of Clarksville, Tex., was presented recently before a crowded house. The properties were loaned by a local furniture company.

Posts which arrange minstrel shows and other theatrical entertainments for a night or so are continually finding that they have to put on extra performances to satisfy the crowds that flock to see them. The Elyria, O., Post counted on two nights of its minstrel show but had to give it a third time to meet the demand. An average of $500 a night was cleared. The profits will be used to aid disabled buddies and to equip clubrooms.

A welcome climax to a recent Legion celebration in Goodland, Kan., came when the chairman of the Sherman County Red Cross Chapter presented to the Goodland Post the deed to the Goodland Union Hall together with a gift of $500. The post now is meeting in the new home.

INSIDE *or* OUTSIDE?

The Difference Your Dues Make

As a paid-up member of the Legion for 1921—one of the regulars—there's a welcome waiting for you at your post headquarters. You are doing your part in supporting your post. You are contributing your share toward the big things the Legion is undertaking in your community, in your state, and in the nation.

But if you don't pay your dues for 1921, don't be surprised if you find the door closed some day. The man who neglects to pay his dues promptly is not doing his part in supporting his post and the Legion, and he cannot be continued as a member.

Regulations of The American Legion impose an annual per capita tax, or national dues, of one dollar upon every member. This tax supports National Headquarters and pays the subscription cost of THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY. It is payable upon January 1 of every year. The tax is not remitted directly by the individual member but is paid from his post's treasury. It is a part of each member's post dues and its payment is a transaction between the post and its department headquarters. The finance officer of every post of the Legion, as soon after January 1 as possible, must forward, through Department Headquarters, one dollar for every paid-up member of his post. Thereafter he must also forward to National Headquarters a list of those members of his post for whom the national tax has not been remitted. The members whose names are on this list will be considered delinquent and will be dropped from the membership rolls and the mailing list of THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY.

All posts of the Legion prescribe the amount and time of payment of dues at their own discretion. But all posts of the Legion, without exception, must pay the national tax on the first of every year.

Your post finance officer can remit your national tax only if you are up to date in the payment of your post dues of which the national tax is a part. If you are not up to date, get square at once. DON'T LOSE A MINUTE

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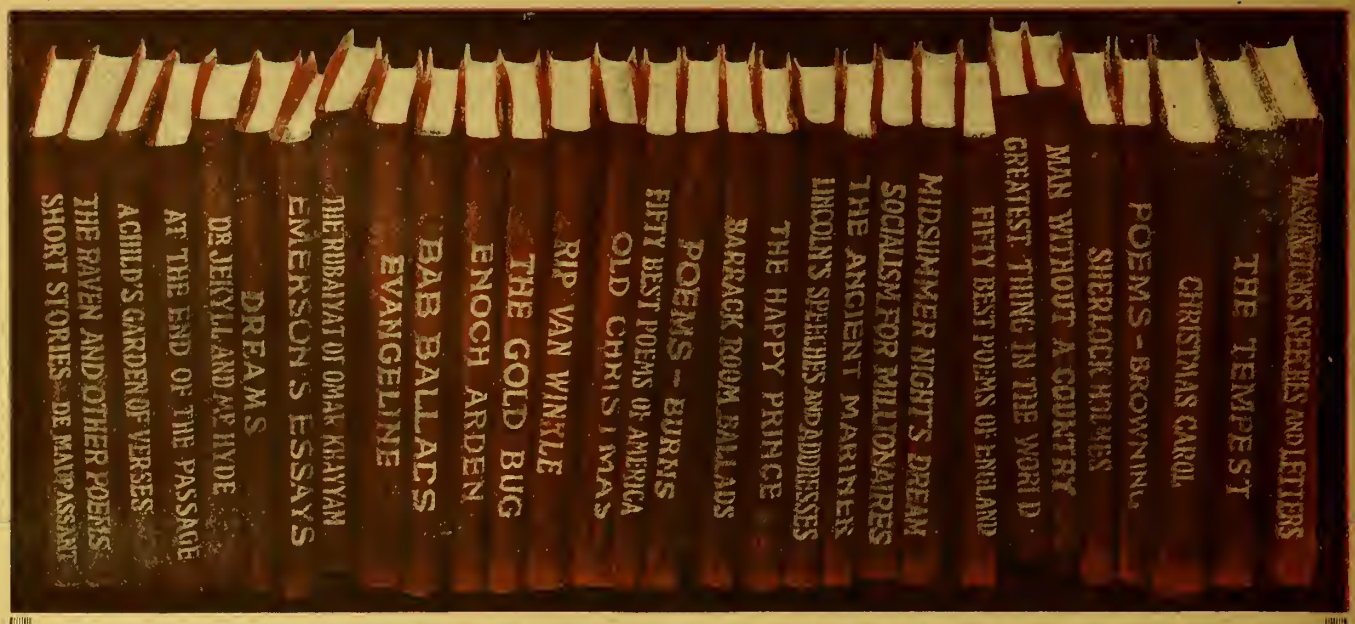

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