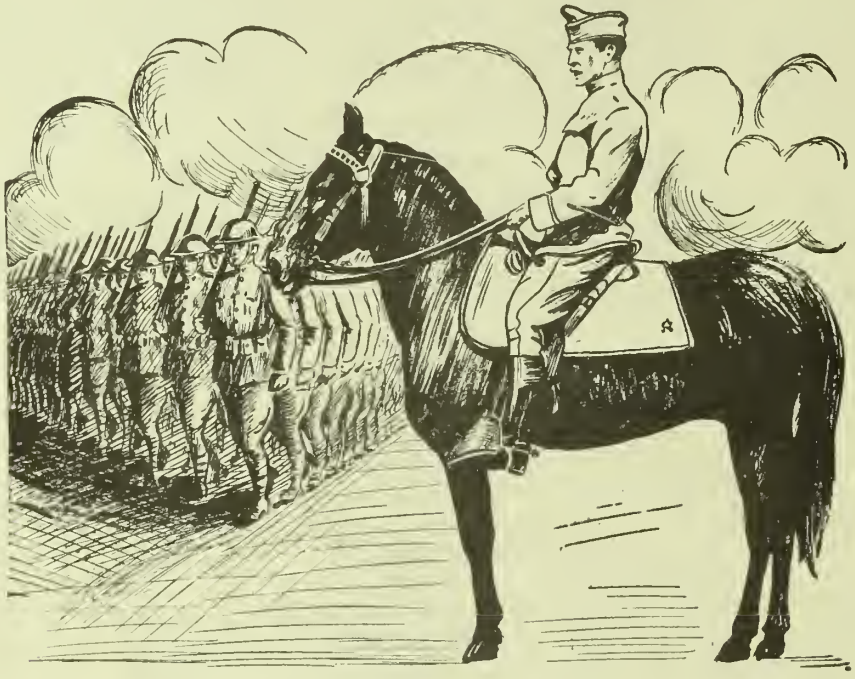
MAY 28, 1926

The AMERICAN LEGION Weekly

COMMANDING
An American Army



By Major-General Hunter Liggett (*U. S. Army; Retired*)

Actual Active Operations of the A. E. F.

GENERAL HUNTER LIGGETT was one of the Commanders of American troops in the field. During the World War he had under him, either in the First Corps or in the First Army, nearly every one of the thirty or more American combat divisions which went to France.

He organized and led the first Army Corps to engage in battle in France under American High Command, first on the Marne, later at Saint Mihiel and in the Meuse-Argonne. It was his Corps that drove the Germans from the Argonne Forest! As commander of the First American Army during the later weeks of the War, he commanded the largest Field Army in the world—over a million men!

HUNTER LIGGETT

Major-General, U. S. A. Retired Commanding FIRST AMERICAN ARMY during the WORLD WAR, formerly commander of First American Army Corps.

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May 28, 1926

The AMERICAN LEGION Weekly

Vol. 8, No. 22

NATIONAL Chaplain William E. Patrick, calling attention to the fact that May thirtieth falls on Sunday and that in most communities the usual Memorial Day ceremonies will be held on Monday, May 31st, urges that Legion posts and Legionnaires observe Memorial Sunday as well as participate in the Memorial Day observance on the following day. "Remember that our Preamble reads: 'For God and Country,'" Mr. Patrick has written. "I would suggest that all Legion men the country over attend church on Memorial Sunday, that the local posts ask the clergy to preach on the importance of consecrating ourselves to devotion to American ideals, that not only American Legion members, but members of all organizations in the communities be invited to these services."

* * *

WON'T you please pass along a little information for the benefit of Reserve officers and others who may be in doubt about the recent Army regulation establishing the roll collar for both officers and enlisted men of the Army," requests Major C. L. Hall, chief of the Press Relations Section of the War Department. Here are the facts: Specifications and blue prints of the new collar have already been distributed to the tailors of the country. All members of the Army are authorized to wear out existing clothing. Officers will be permitted to have the old type of coats and overcoats altered to conform as nearly as possible to the new model and may wear the altered coat or overcoat until it is no longer serviceable. Uncle Sam has also specified that officers and enlisted men may also wear trousers, instead of breeches, at all times when the uniform is worn, except when in formations, under arms, when mounted, or when on duty for which breeches with leggins are especially prescribed.

* * *

THE Kings County Memorial Committee of The American Legion, representing sixty-five posts in and near Brooklyn, New York, is decorating graves of 3,000 service men and on Memorial Day will conduct exercises in Prospect Park, Brooklyn. Seats will be provided for 15,000 people.

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WHAT one post did, we can do, reasoned members of Amesbury (Massachusetts) Post. "After reading an article in a recent issue of the Weekly describing the plan by which the Legion post in Albany, Oregon, provided its town with a public ambulance, Amesbury Post called a special town meeting, attended by every service man in its community, at which the purchase of a $3,000 public ambulance was authorized," writes Walter T. Fuller, Post Commander.

* * *

WHEN Legionnaire Theodore Roosevelt was guest of honor at a dinner given by Syracuse (New York) Post, at which he described his hunting trip to Asia in search of the ovis poli, the menu was: Glacier soup, India olives, Rajah pickles, Prime Ribs of Ovis Poli, Caravan potatoes, Bombay peas, Caspian Sea rolls, Turkestan apple and Zulu salad, Kashmir ice cream, Himalaya cakes and Harem coffee. The cover of the menu contained a drawing of Mr. Roosevelt in his full set of hunting whiskers, the work of Charles P. Morse, chairman of the Program Committee.

* * *

WE THINK The American Legion Weekly is right in urging veterans to take up Government Insurance, and we believe the John Hancock agents would do well to assist in this movement wherever the opportunity occurs, because not again, unless it be in time of war, will the Government go into insurance, and such an opportunity will not present itself again. Hence decency compels us to urge them to take it now before the opportunity is lost forever." Thus the *John Hancock Signature*, commenting on the series of articles on Government Insurance, by Marquis James, in the Weekly recently.

* * *

IN THE mountains near Denver is Chief Hosa Lodge, the Denver Legion's Mountain Home and World War Museum. "Please tell the rest of the Legion that we have a booth for the sale of all sorts of handiwork made by disabled men," writes D. E. Courtney, manager of the museum. "Our address is R. F. D. No. 3, Golden, Colorado."

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Here Reminders Fade, But Memory Lingers

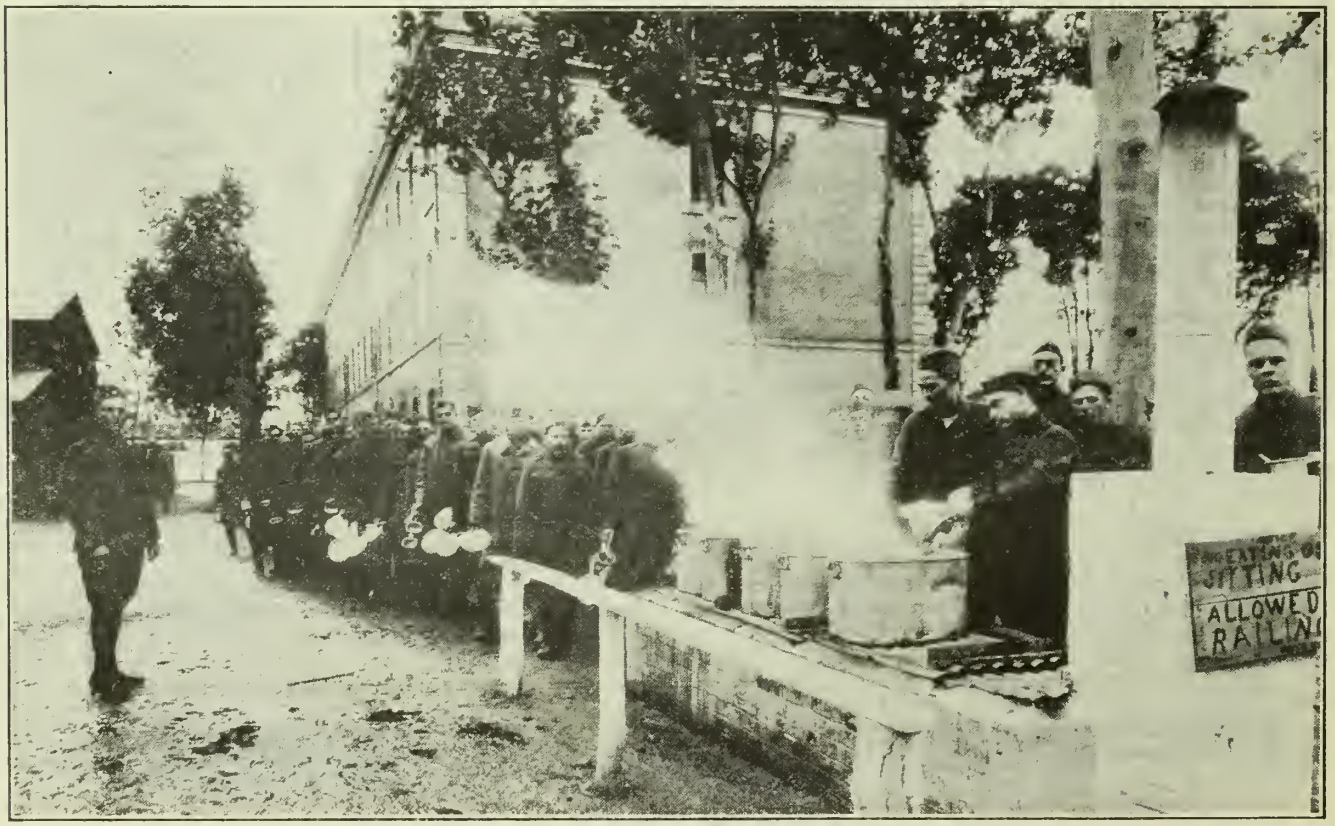
By JOSEPH MILLS HANSON

Le Mans remembers him, the doughboy! He followed nearly sixty generations of fighting men in the historic town on the Sarthe and has left his impress there

IN the days shortly following the Armistice, when that periodical, probably unique in the history of armies, the overseas *Stars and Stripes*, was endeavoring by every means in its power to cheer with assurances of early departure its clientele of two million doughboys, of whom almost every individual was crying plaintively, "I want to go home!" there came suddenly into the headlines the name of a French city which up to that time had been practically unknown and certainly little regarded by the members of the A. E. F. That city was Le Mans; the capital, as we should say, the *chef-lieu*, as the French have it, of the Department of the Sarthe; a city of 66,000 inhabitants, in itself dignified, ancient and of Old World charm, yet one which would have remained outside the knowledge of all except a very few of the soldiers from the other side of the Atlantic had it not been for the circumstance that Le Mans lay on the main line of railway communication between the American army in northeastern France and the ports of Brest and St. Nazaire.

This circumstance led to Le Mans being chosen as the half-way point between the billeting areas of the interior and those two great American base ports. Barracks formerly used by Belgian troops were taken over and new ones of much greater extent were built, both in and around the city, so that eventually the Embarkation Center of Le Mans, as it was called, came to have a capacity of 230,000 men at one time, billeting accommodations for two complete divisions being made available in the city itself, with barracks or billets for six more divisions in the surrounding country. Here the troops arriving from the interior were made ready in every particular of clothing, equipment and paper work for embarkation for the United States and immediate discharge, and were then held until transports were ready at Brest or St. Nazaire.

It is probable that a great majority of the hundreds of thousands of Americans who sojourned there carried back to their native land uncom-



Dish-washing by the numbers. One, two, three—and the messkit was clean, the way this 83d Division outfit was doing it in Le Mans in October, 1918, when the camera man came along

monly favorable impressions of this venerable city which has existed beside the gently flowing waters of the Sarthe since the days when it was the capital of the Gallic tribes of the Aulerci-Cenomani; which was improved by the Romans, became, under Charlemagne, one of the greatest cities of the Kingdom of the Franks, and then, down through the Middle Ages and times more recent, while it was the metropolis of the Province of Maine, endured more than twenty sieges and battles. Not only has it survived them all but it has prospered in spite of them, even the last and perhaps the most sanguinary experience of all when in January, 1871, it became the center of the series of desperate conflicts known to history as "the week of battles," when the French Second Army of the Loire, under General Chanzy, struggled in vain to sweep aside the Germans under Prince Frederick Charles and to march to the relief of beleaguered Paris.

Mr. Hanson, the writer of the accompanying article, took this photograph in Le Mans a few months ago to show the old house which was D. C. I. headquarters during the war—where Captain Karl W. Detzer found fact and romance for many of the stories he has written for The American Legion Weekly

A notable reminder of "the week of battles" exists in the very center of Le Mans in the statue, familiar probably to every soldier who ever visited the city, of General Chanzy, which stands in the Place de la République, surmounting a pedestal around the base of which are the spirited bronze groups representing Attack and Defense, by the sculptor Croisy. Looking from the window of my room in the Hotel du Saumon on the morning after my arrival in Le Mans, I saw the monument and the broad Place all about it covered with a mantle of snow. Although here the taxicabs and the short, bobbing tram cars of the city gather near its base before starting on their journeys to various outlying quarters, the sight of the statue of General Chanzy recalled another one of this able but unfortunate French officer upon which I had looked, on a day shortly after the Armistice, in the edge of the village of Buzancy, riddled by American shells and bullets during the attack of November 1st and 2nd, 1918, on the Meuse-Argonne battlefield. This was the recumbent figure of white marble lying upon General Chanzy's tomb in the garden of the Chateau of Buzancy, which was his home during his lifetime and which, at the period of the battle of the Meuse-Argonne, was in use as headquarters by the German army commander, General von der Marwitz, until the latter was driven out by the Americans.

An A. E. F. band passing through the Place de La Republique in Le Mans on December 22, 1918, at the head of the procession which preceded the huge meeting held in honor of Lafayette and Wilbur Wright

Le Mans in 1871 learned, as many French cities did during the World War, that German invasion was an unmitigated disaster. Yet its next visitation of armed men, in far greater numbers than the Germans had brought, might almost be described as an unalloyed blessing; at all events the coming of the flood of American troops in 1919 averted from the town the commercial depression immediately following the close of the war and permanently enriched a goodly number of local merchants and hotel and café proprietors. The American doughboy was probably the champion spender of the world while his money lasted and when he, multiplied by hundreds of thousands, found in Le Mans his last chance to dispense his remaining francs for French souvenirs of whatever nature, it was natural that the city should profit thereby.

On the Place de la République itself there existed in 1919 two cafés of generous proportions which were familiar to uncounted numbers of the peaceful invaders. One of these has gone out of business entirely, probably because the proprietor during that golden era acquired sufficient wealth to retire. From the tall glass front of the other, the café of Gruber & Cie., the lights still glow invitingly out across the Place of an evening and are reflected from the windows of the stately Bourse, directly opposite, just as they were when the latter structure was entirely occupied by the headquarters of the American troops in the Le Mans area, under Major General George W. Read, commanding the Embarkation Center. Beside the main entrance of the Bourse an inscription chiseled in the stone recalls in appro-

(Continued on page 16)

Everybody *in* Washington Knows Jack Taylor

By MARQUIS JAMES

John Thomas Taylor, vice-chairman of the Legion's National Legislative Committee since 1919, and expert on legislative measures affecting ex-service men, consulting with Edward McE. Lewis, Secretary of the Committee (standing), about a bill before Congress

A WELL-BUILT blond gentleman, with a pleasant smile, a barber shop shave and a carefully selected necktie sits in front of a disorderly looking desk in the Woodward Building in Washington every morning dictating letters. It is a pleasure to present Mr. John Thomas Taylor. Almost everybody in the capital knows him.

Every veteran who gets sick can obtain free medical attention or hospital care. This convenience is open not only to veterans of the World War, but of any war or expedition since 1897.

Every veteran, except those who served as field officers, is entitled to Adjusted Compensation.

Every veteran who wants employment from Uncle Sam is entitled to preference under the civil service.

Every veteran disabled as a result of his service is entitled to expert medical care and generous compensation, and the Government has facilities at hand whereby he can get it.

The list of things the Government will do for veterans could be strung out to fill this magazine. How have those benefits come about? They have come about by the enactment of laws by Congress. How did Congress happen to enact these laws? . . . It is a pleasure to present Mr. John Thomas Taylor. He knows more about it than anyone else.

Jack Taylor has been the vice-chairman of the National Legislative Committee of The American Legion since that body was created in 1919. He has been through every fight the Legion has waged in the halls of Congress to obtain justice for ex-service men and the enactment of legislation for the benefit of the country as a whole. During that time two hundred and eight national laws have been enacted at the instance of The American Legion. No other organization has so profoundly made its impress on public opinion. The figure two hundred and eight represents laws passed and made effective, not bills introduced. Fifteen thousand bills are introduced, on the average, at every session of Congress. Between three and four hundred of them get through the mill and emerge as laws on the statute books. It is one thing to get a bill introduced. It is quite another thing to get a law passed. But all laws in the stage of incubation have been bills. Perhaps one law represents a consolidation of a hundred bills. I suppose a thousand bills were introduced, at one time or another, on the subject of adjusted compensation. After a five-year contest one law was passed, but it bore the inherited traits of hundreds of bills.

Laws in this or any other republic represent a crystallization of public opinion. The fact that the Legion has placed on the books two hundred and eight national laws is prima facie evidence (as the lawyers say) that the Legion exercises an influence over public opinion which is rather noteworthy. The Legion and the Auxiliary with their million-odd members could not do it in a country of a hundred million people. All of the ex-service men put together could not do it. The Legion has had to go out and convert other people to its way of thinking. To do that it had to possess a great measure of public confidence.

But public confidence and favorable sentiment alone are not responsible for legislation. Organization and hard practical work, often of a highly technical character, are required to give that sentiment the concrete form of law. Work of this character is the explanation why the Legion has been able to obtain the enactment of two hundred and eight national laws by a Congress which enacts one law for every fifty bills which go before it. This practical work is the Legion chore which is allocated to the National Legislative Committee. National conventions pass resolutions. That is the expression of the membership which binds each succeeding National Commander, who is simply the hired man of the membership. Each Commander names a National Legislative Committee. Jack Taylor has been vice-chairman of these committees since 1919. He is its hired man, who stays on the job in Washington day in and day out, and sees things through—he and the committee's secretary, Mr. Edward McE. Lewis, and the permanent staff of the committee's office.

This is an example of how the committee goes about its work.

A National Convention adopts a resolution, which calls for national legislation. That is the expression of the Legion membership on that subject. After the convention that resolution, along with fifty or sixty others, is laid on the doorstep of the Legislative Committee. Taylor and Lewis make a careful study of each resolution. They consider each one separately. The Committee or the National Commander instructs them which measures, if any, are to be made the subject of special effort.

The next step is to get bills introduced in Congress. There are many Legionnaires in Congress. Quite a few of them are delegates to Legion conventions every year. It is not hard to

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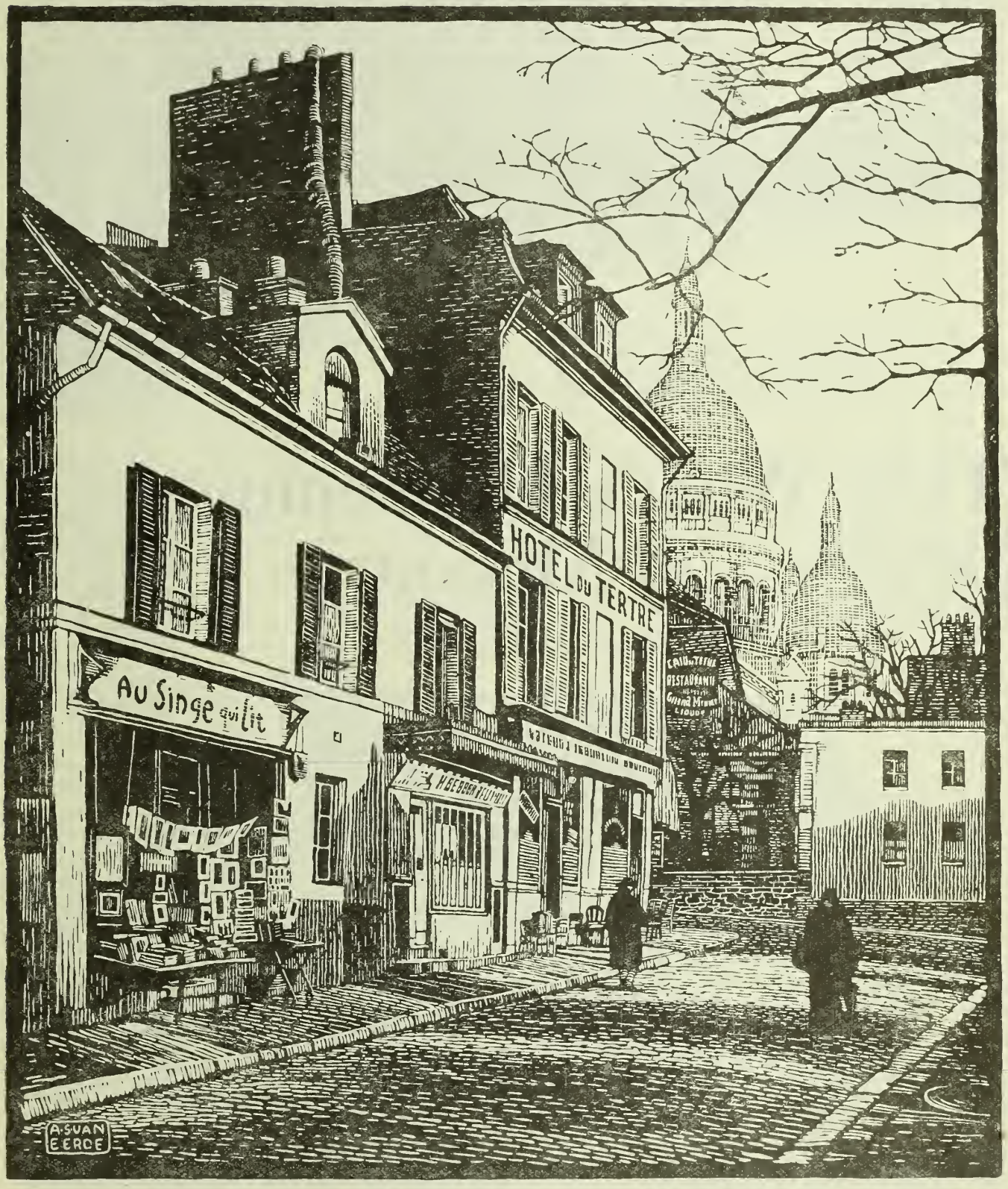
Corners of A. E. F. France

VII. La Place du Tertre, Montmartre, Paris

from a drawing
by A. S. VAN EERDE



MONTMARTRE, because of its towering height, was the military key of Paris and its history is one long series of battles and sieges. In 1589, it was occupied by Henry of Navarre. During the World War, this quarter of the city was most exposed to the German long-range bombardment of Paris, in 1918.

The Basilica of Sacré Coeur, a national votive offering of humiliation following the war of '70-'71, visible from almost every part of Paris, occupies the brow of the hill. In the section to the west of the church are still to be found some of the picturesque streets of Old Montmartre, one of which, the Place du Tertre, is pictured above.

A real Show Me bunch from Missouri, Goad-Ballinger Post of Springfield, which is living up to its record of consistency in member-getting. By the middle of last month the post had more members than in all of 1925. The picture shows the Legionnaires in their Armistice Day parade last year

What's Happening *in* Missouri

By JOHN J. NOLL

THERE is something big going on in Missouri now, just as it is going on in almost every other State in the Union. It is rather hard to understand, or rather to analyze, just what is happening, but as one evidence of it we all know that our old sense of distance is changing. In fact, within any single State, Missouri or any other State, we no longer think of distance as a separating factor. Towns and cities on opposite state frontiers now seem no farther apart than did the eastern and western limits of any fair-sized city in the days when people rode in carriages.

Now we are in the age of the automobile. The Missouri River connects St. Louis and Kansas City, but today the Kansas Citian or the St. Louisan, deciding to hop to the other town, jumps in his automobile and drives over 280 miles of paved highway. The last paved links of that highway were completed only a few months ago, but today that road bears the traffic of a city street. And that road is only the symbol of a general road development in Missouri. Millions of dollars are being spent in the State on highway improvements and towns that were once separated by roads almost impassable in bad weather are now holding hands.

With the different feeling about distance which the roads have brought there is a different feeling about everything. It is this general feeling which E. M. Stayton, Commander of the Missouri Department of The American Legion, is counting on this year to help bring Missouri into line with other departments in the campaign to have one million Legionnaires before the Philadelphia National Convention.

Mr. Stayton lives in Kansas City. He is general counsel for the Kansas City Street Railways company, and he has many other interests. He is a mighty busy man. Naturally, as an expert in street railway problems, he thinks of the Legion's membership problem in his State in terms of transportation—ways and means of bringing people together.

Just as the distant districts of Missouri are knitted together with railways and with paved roads, just so is Commander Stayton knitting together Legion effort in his State. Misunderstandings likely to develop in any organization as large as the Legion had caused difficulties in Missouri. The one man capable of smoothing out those difficulties, of bringing harmony into the state organization was E. M. Stayton, and the fact that he was the unanimous choice for Department Commander for 1926 at the Missouri Legion convention last fall evidences the fact that the "Show Me" Legionnaires are tion just what concerted effort can acout to show the entire Legion organizacomplish.

Goad-Ballinger Post of Springfield, Missouri, has been held up by Jerry Duggan, Department Adjutant of Missouri, as one of the outstanding posts of the department when it comes to consistent member-getting and member-holding. So we asked Post Adjutant H. T. Peak to tell us just how it was done.

The membership record of Goad-Ballinger Post in our estimation belies the statement of Adjutant Peak that "we do not do many flashy things down here."

This statement, we will have to admit, was modified to this extent, "but we do try to give service to our buddies and our community and have a good time along with it. Getting our post's name in the papers at least twice a week and oftentimes every day concerning some activity or other, pays mighty good dividends in membership getting."

That is part of the secret of Goad-Ballinger Post's success in topping its 1925 total of 244 members before April 15th. The big problem, however, which the post has overcome is one which vitally affects stabilization of Legion membership. Had the Legion been able to meet this problem five years ago, intensive membership campaigns during the intervening period would not have been so necessary. Adjutant Peak divulges this principal secret concisely: "Our plan builds for the future rather than for sudden booms and quick bursts. We go after members in a steady fashion and we get steady members. In other words, we believe that a member obtained under the spurt of a membership campaign enthusiasm is very liable to become a poor draggy member when his period of excitement has passed and the following year it is lots harder to get him enthused again. We have signed up many a hard-boiled 'anti' this year by allowing him to see that the Legion is doing things steadily and not by spurts and spells."

The solution of the membership problem which faced Goad-Ballinger Post

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A Landing Field That Didn't Grow *from* Wishing

By ORTON W. WOOD

IT'S a real civic emergency. Therefore it seems to be up to the Legion."

So Cyril C. Thompson, Commander of John Regan Post of Boise, Idaho, sounded assembly for one more of those co-operative efforts which are rapidly making the Legion the main reliance in time of trouble.

No, it wasn't a flood or a fire, a cyclone, an earthquake or a tornado. It was merely a case of a municipal stalemate, which threatened to deprive the city of a place on the new Air Mail route from Elko, Nevada, to Pasco, Washington.

Boise had been named by the Postmaster General as the intermediate stopping place. Consequently Boise had to have a landing field. The mayor appointed a municipal air board, with instructions to select a suitable site and report. The board conferred with representatives of the contractor, with aviators (it included two war-time fliers), and with land owners and made its recommendations.

Then the fun began. The city council took the report under advisement in August, 1925. Air mail service was not to start until April, 1926, so there was "plenty of time." Other matters came up. Meantime the council discovered that the proposed field would cost anywhere from $40,000 to $80,000, a lot of money for a city of 25,000.

September, October, November, December and part of January drifted by. Then someone woke up to the fact that not quite sixty days remained before the first mail flight, and less than that before the contractor would make his test flights, and every civic organization in Boise began prodding the council.

"Let's have action," they pleaded.

The council argued and fought. It couldn't afford to spend so much money, just like that, for aviation. Difference of opinion about the desirability of the original site cropped out.

Then Commander Thompson and his aides cleared the decks for action.

A committee was named to get ground, make estimates and plan for a temporary field "until the council could do something." The Legion committee waited on the council and told that body its intentions.

A compromise was agreed on. The city offered to furnish some vacant land, being held for park purposes, and the Legion agreed to put it in shape.

Contractors and engineers, former service men, offered their own services and their equipment. The city sent a caterpillar truck. Work was started to drag down trees, clear away brush and level the fairways.

Then, on Friday, February 19th, Commander Thompson sounded fatigue call. Business houses closed. The Forty and Eight band, loaded into a truck, patrolled the streets to drum up enthusiasm. Clerks and cashiers, lawyers, doctors, ministers, journalists, insurance men forgot their staid everyday habits, donned blue denim and overseas caps, and went to the field. Members of the high school R. O. T. C. joined in the work.

The grounds were "policed up" in the good old army way, all the loose brush and trees were hauled to a proper spot for burning, and everything that required the strong back and weak mind of army days was done.

At noon the field kitchen of Battery B, 148th Field Artillery, served coffee, doughnuts, sandwiches and other chow to the workers.

In the afternoon a slow drizzle, not chilly but rather wet, started to fall. Workers forgot it was eight years since they had done fatigue in the rain, and when Jupe Pluvius saw he couldn't discourage them he disappeared, leaving the field to the sun.

At night Boise had an aviation field, which Boise Legionnaires presented to the city. The total cost, exclusive of land, did not exceed $5,000 to the city, compared with the $40,000 originally estimated. The people of Boise give the Legion credit for having put their town on the air map.

Working against time, these Legionnaires of Boise, Idaho, swung picks and pushed shovels to insure their town's having a landing field for the United States Air Mail. The City Council had delayed appropriating the money and with only sixty days to go it looked as if the whole project would go into the discard. Under Legion direction citizens turned out and one day did the work that made the landing field an actuality. Boise is now the Air Mail's intermediate point between Elko, Nevada, and Pasco, Washington

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 percent 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 Constitution of The American Legion.

The Humility That Is Ours

MEMORIAL DAY is no day for the glorification of victory. No swelling note of triumph sounds in the cemeteries of this country on this day at the end of May when the survivors of the World War and other wars come to render their tributes of flowers and oral homage to those whose graves are marked by the crosses of sacrifice.

Despite the blessings which the last seven and one-half years of peace have brought to us—the most amazing prosperity which has ever come to any land—there still lives in this country of ours the humility that is born of recollection. And this year while Americans recall gratefully the sacrifices of those who died, they may properly feel an overwhelming gratitude that their country has stood untouched and unimpaired in the aftermath of the war that has blighted other nations, victors and vanquished alike.

Humble indeed must be the man with his country's welfare at heart who beholds her on this Memorial Day, preserved from all perils past and unthreatened by imminent menace. To him the solemn beating of the drums, the requiems of the band, the poignant echoing of taps recall the tragedy of this last war which was almost universal but left this nation unscathed and unscarred.

History has its warnings for the nation which God seems to favor. Too often has material prosperity been the road to decadence. A feeling of invincibility has more than once coarsened the national fibre of a nation and calloused its soul.

In the presence of our war dead on Memorial Day, all that wealth and power implies is overshadowed by the consciousness of our most noble national characteristics. Memorial Day is the confessional of the national soul and the reconsecration of our national virtues.

Common Sense on Defense

IN ITS efforts to convince its fellow citizens of this country's need for an adequate Navy and a sizable and efficient Army, The American Legion exposes itself to criticism from two widely differing groups of critics, among others.

The one group is composed of sincere pacifists, men and women who believe the world has outgrown war, who feel that nations which think about war and guard against it bring upon themselves the very evil they seek to avoid. Upon the postulate that Europe learned its lesson from the World War and is now striving anxiously to make future wars impossible, the members of this group would have the United States not only abandon its own facilities for defense but also display to the world a disarmament of national spirit. Extremists of this group, sincere it may be conceded but also pathetically ignorant of the realities of life, try to induce the youth of the country to pledge itself not to bear arms in any future war. This impetuous, reckless and foolhardy spirit, fortunately, makes little impression in a country which in one hundred and fifty years of history has many times demonstrated its unhesitating willingness to go to war to end evils that are worse than war.

The other group is composed of hard-headed men who, under no delusions that the rest of the world has become pacifistic, feel that the Army and Navy constitute an unnecessarily heavy expense to the country in peacetime and can safely be whittled down periodically to reduce expenditures and cut taxes. They will concede the need of a reasonably strong and efficient Army and Navy, but they have failed to grasp the truth that an Army and Navy which are not maintained fully, with opportunity to keep abreast of all industrial and scientific development, will in time become undependable instruments for national defense.

Fortunately for the country, Congress so far has shown that it will make unjustified concessions neither to the apostles of extreme economy nor to extreme pacifism. But as the memories of the World War recede the importunities of those who would, wittingly or unwittingly, weaken our system of national defense may be expected to increase. The American Legion, therefore, knowing somewhat more about our problems of national defense than other groups whose interest in it is only incidental, finds that it can continue to render an important service to the country. It can keep up the continuous study of Army and Navy problems which it has been carrying on since the World War ended. Without exposing itself to any just accusation of militarism, it can fearlessly advocate whatever changes or innovations are needed to maintain an adequate preparedness. It can, by its honesty and disinterestedness, retain public confidence in its recommendations.

In its function as an advisory expert on the problems of the country's defense, the Legion finds one of its strongest claims for the whole-hearted support of the American people.

What Next?

IT WAS Alexander the Great, wasn't it, who sighed because there were no more worlds to conquer. Having a little larger perspective than the Macedonian leader, because newer worlds conquered by a succession of Alexander's spiritual descendants have been brought within our ken, we are not so sure about the last bit of terrain having been charted just because a couple of ships of the air have flown over the North Pole and confirmed the findings of Admiral Peary made some seventeen years ago. They tell us there are millions of square miles in that region as yet unexplored and which may be land capable of sustaining life, and we are ready to believe them. For that matter, there must be just as much territory in the vicinity of the South Pole that Amundsen and his men failed to check up on when they reached their goal. And of course Mt. Everest, that Himalayan crest that has brought death to those seeking to conquer it, remains to baffle us.

The airplane and radio, both in their infancy when Peary set out on his expedition, combined to make these latter-day journeys to the top of the world mere easy jaunts that were chronicled in the press of the world almost as soon as they were accomplished. Peary was out of communication with the great world for month upon month. Byrd set out early one morning and was back fifteen hours later. Amundsen sent a wireless message as soon as his dirigible passed the Pole.

Of course there is little economic advantage in all this. Possibly we shall have gained a fueling station in the Arctic Circle that will be used by the dirigibles which one day will make the journey between the western world and Europe by way of the Pole. But probably little else. "It's there; it's a challenge" is still enough to draw intrepid souls away from easy fireplaces to do what Nature tells us can't be done.

✣ ✣ ✣

No other national question has quite the magnitude of "What's the down-payment?"

✣ ✣ ✣

A Michigan man has recently installed a perfect fireless cooker in his home. She uses a can-opener exclusively.

✣ ✣ ✣

When mother puts her foot down she certainly makes things go—sometimes as much as sixty miles an hour.

A PERSONAL PAGE *by* Frederick Palmer

All in Four Lines

It took deep hold on me when I first saw it, this little poem, "Epitaph Upon a Young Soldier" by S. Foster Damon in *Harper's*. Yesterday, it came to me enclosed in a letter from one who "knew", from "an ex-doughboy." He said it recalled "a fair-haired eighteen-year-old Corporal blown to shreds at St. Mihiel." That made the hold deeper as like memories of my own became stark and vivid.

"He gave us all he never had,
Wife, children, comrades myriad;
And all we have we cannot give
To make those unborn pleasures live."

This for Memorial Day. Is there anything that expresses more briefly, fully and truly the thought of all who "knew"?

Not Just Camping Here

Words fit to the occasion. Guiseppe Faecioli said: "I want to be a real American citizen, not just to camp here." The occasion was the welcoming reception—a very inspiration in receptions—which the Schenectady (New York) Post gave to the two hundred new citizens of the city. American or foreign born, not just to camp here, not to be squatter citizens.

The Page Bombarded

In face of high explosive, gas and shrapnel shells, bombs and bullets coming in my direction, let me say again that this is a Personal Page. It would illumine public questions, stir up thought in that free discussion which is the basis of free institutions. The writer sits in council with his fellow Legionnaires as citizen. This week many voices are raised in council. The Page that in all good faith, if mistakenly, was given over to trying to throw some light on the Prohibition question has drawn a bombardment of letters. They represent free discussion, they are illuminating and their special value is that they come from all sections of the country from men who served the common country.

J. M., ex-naval reserve officer, of California, says: "Mr. Palmer uses lots of words and no meat. He commits himself to nothing. He is a side-stepper and dodger of principles." J. M. thinks the Page is no good, anyway. I like the candor of his letter; but I cannot tell whether he is for or against the Volstead Act.

J. L. D. of Missouri, ex-Captain of the Medical Corps, does not think me a side-stepper. He charges me with "lining up with the booze soaks, wine bibbers and beer guzzlers of the old-time saloon days." But I doubt if I have a single friend or if there is a single person who has campaigned with me that would recognize me in that disguise.

Several letters make the point that, as a Legionnaire, I am disloyal to the Constitution of the U. S., which includes the 18th Amendment, and which I am sworn to support. That would be true if I had advocated breaking the law. I am for enforcing it, as I have frequently said. The light I was throwing was on the lack of enforcement and the movement for modification and repeal. In answer to the frequent statement that "the law did not end drinking" J. O. of Oklahoma is cogent in asking "if the law ever did end anything." He wants to know if we should repeal the laws against theft and murder because they are broken.

With reference to the statement of District Attorney Buckner that it would take $75,000,000 to enforce the law in New York, he says: "If the country were made up of such alien rabble as this celebrated sinkhole of corruption, it could not be even governed as a nation but would break out all over with the spirit of anarchy."

Many of that alien rabble fought in the war and also sit in our council, many do not drink, many want the law enforced. And they want their children kept away from hard liquor. So do I.

A. D. of Arizona mentions a brewer friend who wants the country Wet because he "could sell more beer." He refers to a Colonel on the Border who let his men cross to Mexico where the sale was free, thinking they would drink less than if they got bootlegged stuff. They drank more. Food for thought in that.

"You know, of course," says H. F. of Wisconsin, "that the light wine and beer gag is only a bum subterfuge to be used as an opening wedge." That, too, tells much.

R. D. of California asks if I have ever seen the home of a pre-Volstead drunkard? I have. And I say again that I never want to see the saloon back; never again to witness the sights that I saw slouching out of the swing doors. We want no more swing doors, or worse stuff from "speak easies" than from over the bars.

"There is a remedy," says R. D., "and that is to obey the law, and then, if it is irksome, change the law by the political and legal methods open to us." Precisely. The majority rule. And let us be fully informed so we shall know how to vote.

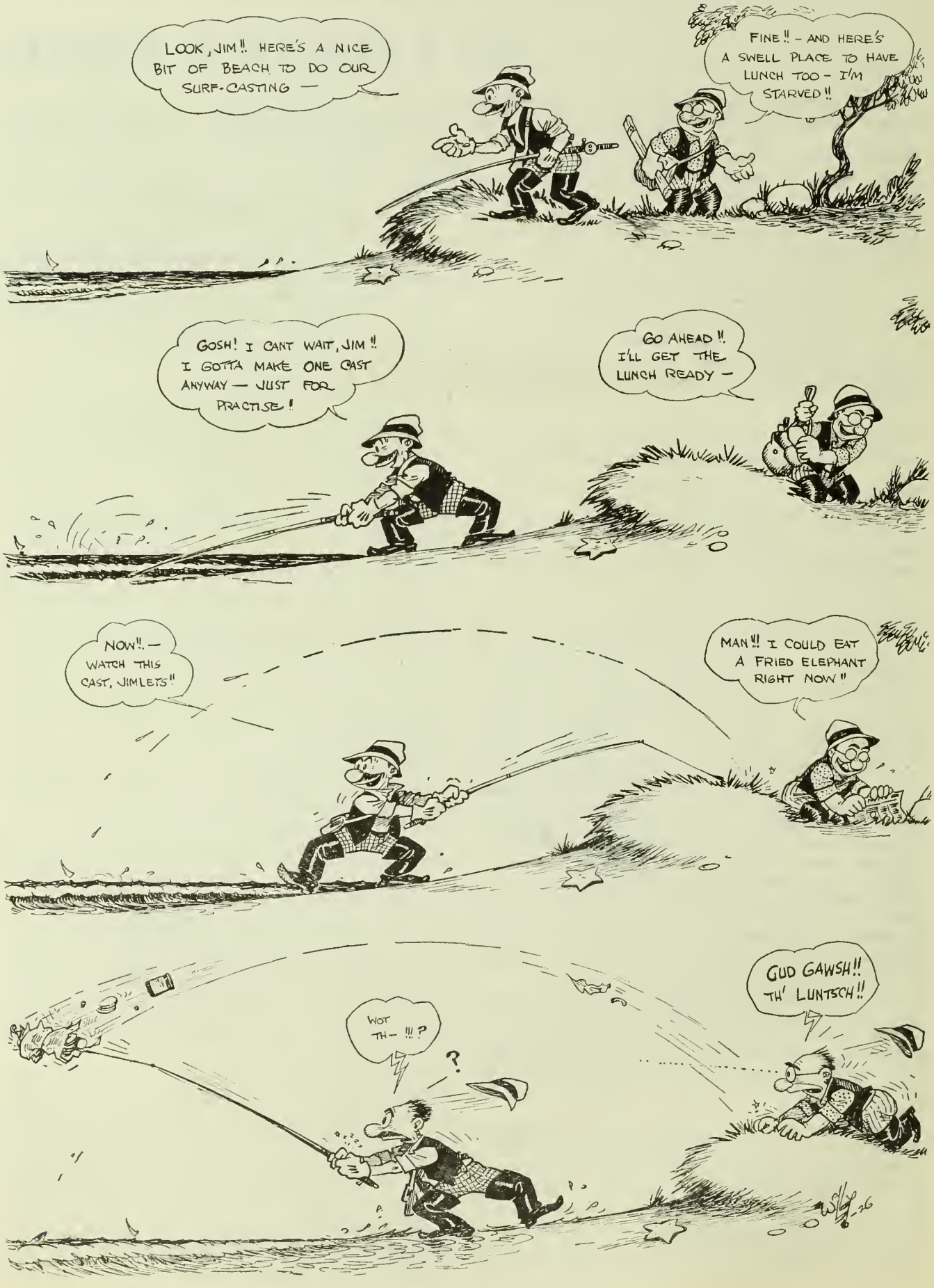
A Senatorial investigation of the results of Prohibition was held. Much evidence was offered that the law was not being, and could not be, enforced and that private stills, bootlegging and lawlessness were on the increase. The question was up; there was talk of a national referendum; we wanted light upon the question, and the mail has brought us some.

The proposition of the Wets is legalized light wines and beers. I stated that, although we had drunk beer, we were not a wine drinking country. And the burden of all I said pointed the emphatic inquiry which I then made. Would light wines and beers end the production, bootlegging and consumption of hard liquor? Would it bring back the saloon? To this inquiry I have had no reply from advocates of repeal. It is still to be answered with the swing doors in mind.

And I regret that none of the letters mentioned the importance of keeping up temperance education. For youth must be taught that the evil of the bootlegged stuff is as great as of that sold over the bars in the old days. And Congress has not appropriated enough money, the experts say, to enforce the law. Temperance teaching will help enforce it. The less demand the less market. The best piece of temperance news and enforcement news I have heard lately is that the Captain of the Atlantic liner *Mauretania* reports that there is far less drinking by Americans aboard than there was ten years ago.

The Castaway

By Wallgren



What's Happening *in* Missouri

(Continued from page 8)

and which faces many posts was not an overnight inspiration. It was arrived at after bitter experience. In the Fall of 1923 Legion conditions appeared hopeless in Springfield. One post meeting brought out two members and seldom was a quorum present. The surrender of the post charter was seriously discussed. In January, 1924, the few remaining regulars decided to make one more effort to keep the post alive.

The usual rejoinder of veterans when invited to join the post was "What is the Legion good for?—it never does anything." The regulars decided to start activities which would answer this query. A Washington Birthday celebration led the schedule, the post took advantage of the payment of state adjusted compensation to render service to all veterans, a dance series followed, then a Flying Circus which brought out an attendance of 5,000 people. The Memorial Day poppy sale wiped out a $350 debt and left the post with $750 in the bank, which balance was increased by the sale of standards and flags to merchants for uniform decoration of streets on holidays. A delegation from the post invited the Missouri Legionnaires to hold the 1925 convention in Springfield, and returned with that prize. In October, 1924, sixty merchants exhibited at a Fashion Show engineered by the post. A monument was dedicated on Armistice Day, and an Armistice Ball was given.

One reason for Goad-Ballinger Post's success is its interest in community affairs. Here are some of the girls who took part in a bathing beauty contest the post ran last year

Goad-Ballinger Post was doing things with a vengeance, it was getting columns of good publicity, and when 1925 rolled around refusals to invitations to join the post were much less frequent. Activities continued. Americanization pamphlets and the flag rule pamphlets were distributed in schools. Another Flying Circus brought more publicity and more funds. Then came the organization of a post Drum and Bugle Corps and the climax of all the renewed life of the post came with the Department Convention in August, 1925. The entire city co-operated in entertaining the visitors—baseball games, theaters, amusement parks and the use of street cars were free to Legionnaires and Auxiliary women. A bathing beauty contest at Grant Beach brought more publicity. And activities of this nature were continued and are being continued.

With the support of all the Springfield citizens, with the post established as a live, going organization, Legion membership getters do not have to advance many additional arguments to get signatures to applications. The post is using the personal solicitation plan to help Go-Get-'Em McQuigg get 'em this year in Springfield. Monthly prizes are offered to the members who bring in the most new members. An honor roll is posted on which appear the names of members who obtain five or more applications; ten new members places a star after the name of the go-getter, with an additional star for each additional ten applications secured. Some of the members are already credited with more than forty new Legion men. Goad-Ballinger Post is already in the honor roll of Missouri posts which have exceeded their last year's total membership, and it's still going strong. Last year it won the cup offered by the Forty and Eight to the post which showed the greatest percentage of membership increase over the previous year and it hopes to duplicate this feat, and also to beat Joplin and Sedalia in a membership contest now being waged.

The efforts of the Springfield post to build for the future, to obtain members who can be depended upon to remain members is right in line with the fixed policy of Department Commander Stayton, whose main program for 1926 is stabilization of Legion membership. Commander Stayton said: "We are not conducting a membership campaign along revival meeting lines, we are not stressing emotional enthusiasm which may be dissipated when the time for paying 1927 dues comes around, but we are succeeding in selling the Legion to the veterans and to all of the citizens of our State. National Commander McQuigg's visit to our department in February has been of untold value. His appearances before Chambers of Commerce and other civic bodies have done more to interest substantial business men in the work of the Legion than any other one thing."

Missouri is attacking with particular zeal the big city membership problem. St. Louis and Kansas City, as is true with other large cities throughout the country, have not had the Legion membership which they should have. With the co-operation of the Chambers of Commerce and of the Forty and Eight, a thorough canvass of all of the factories, large business houses and offices is being made with a view to establishing new Legion posts wherein the members will have some mutual interest. This plan has already met with some success in the organization of posts in the Kansas City Stock Yards and in the Montgomery-Ward branch in Kansas City. These new posts are being built around a nucleus of Legion members from other posts in the cities.

William R. Nelson Post of Kansas City is an outstanding example of this type of Legion post. Its membership is drawn exclusively from among the employes of the Kansas City *Star* and due to its fortunate situation, to its clubrooms in the Star building and to its regular monthly dinner meetings and programs of entertainment, Post Commander George Mansfield admitted that it had no membership problem to meet. In 1925 the membership of the post totaled 80. The 1926 membership quota assigned to it by department headquarters was 100 members, but on April first this number had already been exceeded by nineteen members without a special membership campaign being conducted. Although only employes of the Star are accepted as members in William R. Nelson Post, its membership activities extend beyond that limit. Thus far in 1926, members of the post have recruited fifty new members who have been assigned to membership in other posts of the city. Radio broadcasting station WDAF, owned and operated by the *Star*, is available to the post and has been used by numerous Missouri and Kansas posts through the courtesy of William R. Nelson Post.

Another outstanding example of unselfish membership work in Missouri is that of Jackson Johnson, Jr., Post of St. Louis. Jackson Johnson, Jr., Post has no restrictive membership qualifications but as in every large city certain groups or neighborhoods are considered logical sources for potential members. The post has already doubled its last year's total membership. It was due to the Legion interest of Dr. G. O. Wilhite, post adjutant, that a fertile Legion field thus far uncultivated was found. The Fairmount Park-Blue Ridge section of St. Louis is inhabited almost exclusively by Italian-Americans. Dr. Wilhite, whose offices are in the heart of this section, learned with astonishment that there was but one of the three hundred veterans living in this vicinity who wore

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the Legion emblem, and that the Legion was practically unknown. This fact was made known to Jackson Johnson, Jr., Post at one of its regular meetings and the suggestion was offered that the post sponsor a new Legion post in the section. The idea met with hearty approval and immediate response.

Enlisting the co-operation of Harry W. Castlen, National Executive Committeeman, Lloyd Kain, State Organizer for the Legion in Missouri, Eugene Goldoni, the one Legionnaire and a leader in the district, and ten active members of the post, an organization meeting was held in the Fairmount clubhouse. The veterans turned out in force to hear about the aims and purposes of the Legion, at the initial meeting. Within a week a second meeting was held and a charter application for Emilio Rollo Post was signed. Enthusiasm is high in the neighborhood and it is expected that most of the three hundred veterans who for the past seven years knew little or nothing about the Legion will sign on the dotted line.

"It isn't every man who will admit his mistakes and shortcomings, much less get up in open meeting and tell about them," prefaced National Executive Committeeman Harry W. Castlen, in telling of the come-back of one of Missouri's posts which due to internal troubles had had tough sledding during the past several years. "We won't mention any names," he continued, "because the hatchet has been buried, but it is an example of putting aside petty factionalism for Legion solidarity and comradeship that is worth telling."

"This particular post, located in a town of 7,000, was one of the best in our department several years ago. Then one of the members with a commendable ambition to become post commander but an erroneous conception of how to obtain that honor, split away from the home post, taking with him his particular group of supporters, and organized a new post. He became commander, but things didn't go so well under the new arrangement. The old post suffered and the new post made no headway. The community which could support one Legion post well, presumably couldn't support two at all."

"A new group of officers took hold of the old post just before the first of 1926 and realized that something vital had to be done to keep the Legion alive in its town. Only ten men reported at the meeting held to discuss a membership campaign. Nothing daunted, the commander appointed two teams, being careful to select as captains two members of the post who didn't like to play second fiddle to anyone, and, after a three weeks' campaign, a check-up meeting was held. The teams were tied for the honors, but there was one outstanding feature to that meeting. The erstwhile member of the post who caused the split, now past commander of a defunct post, was present. He was not only present, but when the entertainers who had been engaged for the occasion were purposely delayed in arriving, he voluntarily got up on his feet and made one of the best talks the post members had ever heard.

"He admitted his fault, he apologized to the post for the schism he had caused, he told of the good that just one

post of the Legion in his town could accomplish—and, furthermore, he paid his dues for 1926. That was the signal for the greatest volunteer dues-paying bee the post had ever witnessed. Twenty-two men came forward and handed their dues to the finance officer and twenty more signed membership applications, the dues to be paid later. That post is now twenty-five percent over its last year's total membership and still going strong. Most of the old members have returned to the fold."

Dropping down into the Ozark Mountain region in Southwest Missouri, where distances are great and roads as yet none too good, we find a post which has tripled its 1925 membership and all in the space of three months. Howard S. Keeling Post of Bolivar, county seat of Polk County, finished last year with a total of twenty-nine members. When James O. Koon was elected adjutant of the post last fall, he was determined to be adjutant of a good post, and a good post meant members. On his own, he decided to start the new year with at least as many members as the post had in 1925. Writing letters to the men scattered about the county and in town failed to bring results, so he followed the personal solicitation plan, which has been stressed by National Commander McQuigg and the National Membership Division. The job took two months, but on December 29th he had the twenty-nine men he went after.

That successful personal endeavor is what fired the enthusiasm of the rest of the post members. Two teams of fourteen men each were chosen, with a big feed coming to the winners. It's an old plan, but it brings results. With a territory twenty miles square, the area of the county, to work in, one team took the south half and the other the north. Of the 125 potential members in that district, eighty-one had been signed up within three weeks and the teams were so nearly tied that both sides furnished the victory banquet.

The evening of the second day of a three-day membership drive found Lawrence E. Green Post of Excelsior Springs over the top of its total 1925 membership, but the thing that counted in the campaign was the full week of preliminary work. Dr. Neal Williams is the guiding spirit of the Legion in that western part of Missouri and after getting a line-up on membership plans from the Membership Division of National Headquarters, through Lloyd Kain, State Organizer, he decided that the plan outlined in detail in the membership campaign manual couldn't be improved upon. The post went to work along the lines indicated and divided the city into sections, to each of which was assigned a captain with his crew of workers. Just two days were allowed each captain to obtain and submit a complete list of prospects in his section. Then a school of instruction was held, blanks issued to teams, an automobile arranged for each team, and the actual three-day campaign started.

All team members were required to report to their captains at four p. m., on each day of the campaign and work continued until six o'clock, or later if necessary. At the end of each day's work, the teams gathered for conference, individual prospects were discussed and arguments prepared to meet any objections offered by the hold-outs.

Everybody *in* Washington Knows Jack Taylor

(Continued from page 6)

find men to introduce the bills. The drafting of the bills is important, and frequently this is done by Taylor and Lewis themselves. The bills are introduced, but the Legion's interest in legislation is by no means confined to the bills which are presented as a result of the action of national conventions. A great many other bills are always before Congress in which the Legion is interested. Sometimes it is for them. Sometimes it is against them. There are about twelve thousand bills before Congress at this writing and the Legion is interested one way or another in about four hundred of them. It is watching and recording every parliamentary move that is made from day to day on these four hundred bills.

The Legion battles for the disabled have taken more of the Legislative Committee's time than anything else. Sixty-eight laws have been enacted for the disabled. Upon the basis of this fundamental legislation the Veterans Bureau and all its works has been erected.

Comrade Taylor is a lawyer. He comes from Philadelphia and was educated at the University of Pennsylvania. He got his early training in the ins and outs of Congress years ago when he served as secretary to the late Senator Boies Penrose. Eddie Lewis is a native of St. Louis. He was graduated at Yale and ran a ranch in Texas for four years before he became a newspaperman in St. Louis. He became the Washington representative of the Weekly in 1922 and the next year was promoted to the Legislative Committee.

OUTFIT REUNIONS

Announcements for this department must be received three weeks in advance of the events with which they are concerned.

First Div.—Cantigny dinner of District of Columbia branch at Arlington Hotel, Washington, D. C., 7:30 p. m., May 28. Address Secretary, 393 State, War and Navy Bldg., Washington.

Co. F, 332d Inf.—Seventh annual reunion at Brady's Lake, near Kent, O., May 29-30. Address Phil Marion, 817 Kenmore Blvd., Kenmore, O.

2d Div.—Eighth annual reunion at La Salle Hotel, Chicago, Ill., June 3-5. Each regiment of division will maintain headquarters at the La Salle, and each will have special reunion during the three days. Address 2d Div. Reunion Headquarters, La Salle Hotel, Chicago.

Btty. A, 311th F. A.—Third reunion at Hotel Kittatinny, Delaware Water Gap, Pa., June 5-6. Address Herbert S. Keat, Secretary, Pen Argyl, Pa.

U. S. S. *ZEELANDIA*—Former officers and crew of this vessel interested in reunion, address S. F. Fliess, 63 Park Row, New York City.

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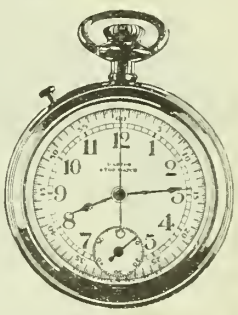

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Where Memory Lingers

(Continued from page 5)

priate wording the fact of the American occupation. This is highly commendable. Yet it would be expressive of a sentiment perhaps as widely held if the front of Gruber & Cie's café could bear a similar testimonial to the high opinion of its beverages entertained by the ephemeral host of doughboys which once frequented its tables and the leather-cushioned divans which occupy every nook of its generous wall spaces.

In a city so agreeable as Le Mans, it would be surprising not to find at least a slight permanent increment of population derived from the large proportion of the A. E. F. which passed through it. Such an increment it has, in fact, claimed. At least three former members of our overseas army, and perhaps more, are living there and I was fortunate in finding one of them at home. It is no humble apology for a home, either, which is occupied by Monsieur H. Bashirian, formerly of Framingham, Mass., his wife, a Le Mans girl, and their little son. From Framingham he enlisted in the summer of 1917 in the 104th Infantry and came over with the 26th Division when it arrived in France. He went through all the battles of his outfit, from its first taste of snow and ice and trench raiding on the Chemin des Dames front in February, 1918, to the Meuse-Argonne, where in October he got a dose of mustard gas which makes itself subtly felt to the present day. After the Armistice he was detailed to the Division of Criminal Investigation and came under the command of Captain Karl Detzer, in Le Mans; of which, more anon.

I found Legionnaire Bashirian, for he is an interested member of Paris Post No. 1, even though obliged by distance to enjoy most of the meetings through absent treatment, by making my way to his home some distance out along the Avenue Léon Bollée, called until recently the Avenue de Paris. Terraced up above the street, with pine trees and shrubbery and a formal garden surrounding it, the house looks out across the highway to the automobile factory which, until very lately when it was acquired by English interests, bore the name of its founder, Léon Bollée. It was thus known in 1919, when the big shop building, with its saw tooth roofs, was utilized in its entirety as an A. E. F. bakery.

Mr. Bashirian was genuinely glad of the unexpected visit of an American comrade of war days, for not many of them come that way now, and while he got ready to accompany me downtown and show me other spots with A. E. F. associations, I crossed the street and looked over the Léon Bollée plant and the old Norman farmhouse with low pasture land behind it which around the factory is familiarly termed "the farm." I spent a pleasant fifteen minutes in the place.

One of the places which I particularly wanted to see and the first to which Legionnaire Bashirian and I went when we started out, was the house occupied as headquarters by Cap-

tain Detzer and his force of about four officers and forty enlisted men during the months when these exceedingly active members of the Division of Criminal Investigation were making things uncomfortable for the lawless elements of the A. E. F. and some French malefactors as well. The house about which centered so many thrilling and mystifying episodes is an old-fashioned, two-story stone dwelling standing modestly back from the street on the narrow Rue Bollée, with a garden beside it concealed behind a stone wall.

It is no great distance from the locality just mentioned to the Rue du Mail, giving upon the broad Place des Jacobins below the Cathedral; perhaps in the time of the Embarkation Center the most conspicuous focus of activity in Le Mans. In a good many ways the Place and the Promenade des Jacobins, adjoining it, are changed. But the changes are those brought about by the removal of the emergency structures of the war; its permanent features are little altered. The splendid mass of the Cathedral of St. Julien, with its single mighty tower, as big in girth as many ordinary churches, still dominates the scene and in the ancient, narrow streets close by it still flourish the richly sculptured "house of Queen Berengaria," and Hotel du Grabatoire and other relics of the Middle Ages.

But although the striking Tunnel, carrying one important street beneath several others on its way to the curious X-shaped bridge across the Sarthe, and the Municipal Theatre and the venerable Mairie, are all as formerly, there is no vestige remaining of the Quartermaster stores which once functioned in the buildings directly at the foot of the Mairie walls. Far on the other side of the Place, back of the Theatre, in the esplanade where gladiators once contended in a great Roman amphitheatre, a still more notable alteration in the scene is observable. Here the ground has become as bare as it was before the war where the huge Y hut, with its 15,000 square feet of floor space, was built by the men of the Yankee Division during their six weeks' stay in the Le Mans area in February and March, 1919. This well-known building, which was called the "York Harbor YD Hut" because the money for it was subscribed by the people of York Harbor, Maine, was designed and decorated to resemble as nearly as possible a real New England home and though the Yankee Division itself left the area for home so soon after its completion that they derived little benefit from it themselves, other divisions which came later, such as the 28th and the 80th, found it no small factor in adding to the comforts of camp life. Such a frame structure could naturally have no lasting utility after the troops were gone and although it was dedicated by the 26th Division to the people of Le Mans as "a token of cordial friendship," it had eventually to be removed.

Not so, however, the "Kiosk de Musique" on the southern edge of the esplanade in the Promenade des Jacobins, from which American army bands used to dispense music to throngs of the civil and military population on appropriate occasions. The slender structure of ornamental metal work is still quite as it used to be and is still used for its destined purpose by military bands.

While so many features of the Place des Jacobins having American associations have disappeared, there is a very prominent one there now which has come into existence since the war. It is the remarkable memorial to Wilbur Wright, the pioneer American aviator, who some time before the war made one of his first successful flights at Le Mans. The monument, which faces the Place in a parked space between the cathedral and the entrance to the Tunnel, consists of a tall pedestal surmounted by a kneeling male figure, with face uplifted and arms extended toward the sky, aspiring to attain those blue depths. It is a most novel and striking conception not easily to be forgotten, and while not directly connected with the A. E. F., is a powerful reminder of America in this old French city.

It was with not a little interest that I learned from my companion of the fact that in the city cemetery of Le Mans there still lies the grave of one American soldier; a member, as it happens, of Mr. Bashirian's own division and regiment. By tram car we went out to the cemetery and found, well toward its center, the simple American white wooden cross which marks, as it briefly states, the last resting place of "Nick Bernard, Pvt., Co. A, 104th Inf." The grave is neatly kept, with little American and French flags in the ground at the foot of the cross and two others at its head, the dead soldier's aluminum identification disc fastened to the wood between them.

It would have been interesting, though, as it developed, not particularly profitable, to have visited the sites of some of the former camps in the neighborhood of Le Mans; places such as Spurs Camp, Camp Armage and Ecommoy, south of town, and Camp d'Auvours, east of it, beyond Yvre, as well as some of the old billet villages in these sections, like Pontvallain and Requeil, Cerans-Foulletourte and Parigne-le-Polin; places no doubt vividly remembered by hundreds and thousands of veterans. But time was too limited to admit of seeing all the places one would have liked to see, besides which my friend once of Framingham assured me that not a vestige remains of the old American camps—and he is intimately enough acquainted with Le Mans and its environs to know.

ON THE AIR

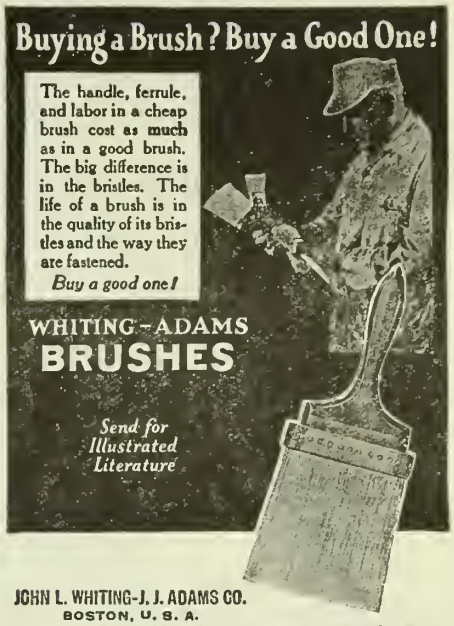
Brief announcements of radio programs to be broadcast by Legion posts will be published in this department. Notices of proposed programs should be sent to the Weekly at least four weeks in advance of date of broadcasting. Be sure to give the wave length.

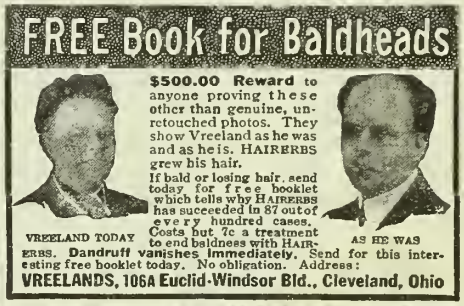
ATLANTIC CITY POST will broadcast a Legion program from WPG (300 meters) on the evening of May 28.

CLAIR HARKEY POST, Fort Scott, Kansas, will broadcast program of popular music from Station WDAF (365.6 meters), May 28, from 8 to 10 p. m., Central Time.

CASTLE WILLIAMS POST, Decatur, Illinois, will broadcast a program from Station WJBL (270 meters), May 31, from 9:30 to 11 p. m., Central Time.

CHARLES PRATT POST, Valparaiso, Indiana, will broadcast a Memorial Day program from Station WRBC (278 meters), Monday evening, May 31.





Bursts *and* Duds

Payment is made for material for this department. Unavailable manuscript returned only when accompanied by stamped envelope. Address American Legion Weekly, Indianapolis, Ind.

Courting Danger

"How'd they come to bounce the fire chief?" asked Abe Hinkle, who had been out of town for a couple of days.

"He took too many dad-blamed risks," answered Joe Mudge. "Why, he even wore his celluloid collar to fires."

When the Roll Is Called

"Good bye," said the pedestrian, as he started to cross the street. "Meet you up yonder."

Step on It!

Man wants but little here below;
Swift cars, and gas,
And at each corner—
"GO!" —*W. G. S.*

Justice

"Do you want to be fined for contempt of court?" asked the stern judge.

"No, sir," replied the weary but truthful witness, "but I guess it would be no more than's coming to me."

A Plausible Explanation

"I found this blond hair on your coat sleeve, William," announced the detective's wife sternly. "Explain, please."

"I—er—must have gotten it while combing the city," replied the sleuth.

Astute Child

"Sou," asked the lawyer, "what made you behave so nicely today?"

"Oh, I knew you'd cross-examine me and call in an eyewitness or two," replied the wise kid.

Punishment

There lives an old Negro truck farmer in Alabama who has frequent occasion to reprove his children for their lack of industry.

"Yo' suttinly is a wuthless sou," he declared one day to his oldest. "It's a doggone good thing fo' yo' I ain't rich."

"What yo' talkin' 'bout, pap?" asked the youth. "What yo' think yo' do ef yo' was rich?"

"Ah'd disinherit yo'—dat's what Ah'd do!"

A Model Child

When little Ned was put to bed
He always acted right.
He kissed his Ma and then his Pa,
And said: "Don't fight all night!"
—*J. A. S.*

Jealousy

"Why were you speeding?" demanded the cop.

"I wasn't speediug," answered Mr. Brown humbly. "I was just trying to pass the man who bought my old car."

Sure Proof

"What makes you say these flowers are bachelor buttons?" asked the botany professor.

"Because they're not sewed onto anything," answered the girl who knew.

Minnesota Beauty Contest

[*From Willmar (Minn.) Republican Gazette*]

Boys and girls of the county who have entered their calves in the Calf Club exhibit at the County fair this week will receive prizes in additiou to those offered by the fair . . . The following business firms have offered prizes: . . . P. C. Peterson & Sons, 1 suit Ryan silk underwear to girl showing her calf to best advantage.

For Grandpa

"I know a sure way to get rich."

"Spill it."

"Buy real estate fifty years ago."

Lo, the Poor Indian!

"No wonder the Indians didn't want to fight after smoking the peace pipe," mused Johnny after tackliug his first cigar.

Explained

Girl: "She seems to have the utmost contempt for him, yet he adores her."

Guy: "Yes, she helps him save his money."

Girl: "Quit kidding!"

Guy: "Honest. She breaks all the dates he makes with her."

PRISON PHILOSOPHER

Uplifter: "My good man, you should have made your light shine before men."

No. 174: "No, mum. I'd oughter nsed a dark lantern."

Oh, Not *All* Deaths

[*Editorial Note in Long Island Daily Press*]

Every Birth, Eugagement, Marriage, Death or other event of importance to any resident of Central or Southern Queens is considered good news. Send the facts to the Editor.

Old Stuff

Gerald: "Did you read 'Alice in Wonderland' and 'Through the Looking Glass'?"

Geraldine: "She was old fashioned. If she'd been a modern girl she would have gone through a windshield."

Limerix

I would not use a blunderbuss
Should some one try to plunderuss
For I maintain,
And not in vain,
That this would make the blunderwuss.
—*E. K. S.*

Congratulations

A youug man who had been wandering about the City Hall for half an hour was getting despondent.

"I can't seem to find the marriage license clerk's office," he said aloud.

"You're very fortunate, I must say," commented a lounger.

Dare Him To!

"I made a bet with Harold that I'd kiss the first girl I came to," declared Clarence, the professional sheik.

"Hmf!" said Betty grimly. "If you try it on me it'll be a long time before you come to!"

A Noble Trait

Betty: "Is George a true geutleman?"

Jane: "Is he? Why, when he takes a girl motoring he walks home with her!"

A Litter

Murphy had just been preseuted with triplets and was so elated over the eveut that he called iu everybody to see them. Among the visitors was Hogau.

"An' what do ye think o' that?" demanded the proud father, pointiug to his row of offsprings.

"Well," replied Hogan judicially, looking the babies over carefully and pointiug to an especially healthy specimeu, "I'd be keepin' that one."

The Slams Were Just Practise

[*From Oakland (Cal.) Tribune*]

Chas. Rogers, 39, aud his wife, Rose, 30, attended a holiday slam bake at Giant, Contra Costa County, yesterday, where, according to police reports, they imbibed freely of liquor, and returned to their home, 2028 Eighth street, last night to stage a kuife duel.

Acquired Art

Bill: "You seem so bashful."

Edna. "I ought to. It took me weeks and weeks and weeks."

Time Will Tell

"Is Mrs. Gunn, the defendant, a pretty woman?"

"I don't know—the jury is still out."

Auto Age

For the first time in his life, Bobby saw a flounder.

"Look, ma," he cried excitedly. "Look at that funuy fish! He's got a flat tire!"

Worthless

The door of the hardware shop in Bloody Gulch swung open and Wild Joe, the worst man in town, entered iu a state of indignatiou.

"I'm bringin' this gun back," he roared. "It ain't what you said it was. You told me it was a six-shooter."

"Why, it is a six-shooter," protested the dealer.

"It ain't. I been shootin' all afternoon with it an' only killed five men!"

A Letter to the Editor

[*From Okarche (Okla.) Times*]
(Continued)

Many things did I do in my life that were not praiseworthy, but never did I sponging as a toadyist, and never will I stoop so low, Deo volente. Of course I have functioned as clerk one term, and as mayor of our nice prominent town three terms. Had I led such an organized band of volunteers as mayor and marshal of our sublime town, I certainly would have felt so ashamed of such an irresolute act, that I would have crawled into the big hole in front of my office, then having the hole pulled in after me, I would remain there like a ground hog for an indefinite length of time. How I would look when I came out, God only knows. The brides are still nervous from the alarming, boisterous music they had to hear. The bridegrooms still have great regards for many of the decent partakers, but excuse us we cannot have them for all.

(The end)

JOHN H. HOEBING.

HONOR
"Old Glory"

FLAG DAY - June 14th

You, as a good Legionnaire, should display "Old Glory" on all patriotic holidays and set an example in patriotism to your fellow citizens. To encourage this spirit of patriotism, we will give you one of

These Flag Outfits Free For *Only One* (Non-Member) Subscription For The American Legion Weekly

Send for YOUR Flag Outfit Today

The American Legion Weekly should be read by every man and woman in your community—by people who are not in The American Legion as well as those who are—for it contains articles and editorials vital to the need of the country.

In order to add these non-members to the vast roll of readers of The American Legion Weekly—in order to make more friends for The American Legion—we are prepared to give you free of any charge, the Flag Outfit shown above—for ONE NON-MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION to The American Legion Weekly.

FOLLOW THESE EASY INSTRUCTIONS

Call on a friend. Sell him (or if you can afford it and prefer to do so, give him) a year's subscription for The American Legion Weekly. The price to a non-member, with this offer, is $1.50 a year (52 issues). Fill out the coupon correctly. Enclose in an envelope with check, postal or express money order for $1.75, in payment of a year's subscription for the magazine and incidental handling and mailing charges, including postage of Flag Outfit. Address and mail to The American Legion Weekly, Indianapolis, Ind. If you want one of these beautiful American Flag Outfits as a free gift, get a subscription now and send for your Flag Outfit at ONCE.

Description

Each outfit comprises a 3x5 foot flag, brass screw jointed hardwood pole, with rope and ball, also holder.

This Flag is made of the best quality, soft cotton bunting—colors fast to sun and rain, double stitched throughout. Double hem, well made, canvas heading and strong grommets. The stars are printed and the stripes are sewed.

The Exclusive Screw joint used in this model cannot come apart, which, with other attractive features, makes this combination one of the most popular innovations on the market.

Every Flag Outfit comes packed in a neat, compact cardboard box, making it very convenient for storing when not in use. *You will be proud to display this flag on all patriotic occasions.*

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An American Legion Auto Decoration on your car will identify you to the hundreds of thousands of your brother Legionnaires who are scattered thruout the length and breadth of the land. And to the general public it will stamp you as a man worth knowing—a loyal patriotic American. Never be without your American Legion emblem! Tone up the old bus now with one of the handsome auto emblems. Put on in a jiffy—and only one dollar!

American Legion Auto Emblems are only one of the great many unusual and practical emblem combinations that are described in the 1926 Emblem Catalog which is free to Legionnaires. Post Caps, Banners, Flags, Grave Markers, Arm Bands, Jewelry, Prize Cups, Trophies and a score of other things too numerous to mention are all described in this interesting booklet. Your copy is ready to mail. Write for it today. It's FREE. Mail that coupon NOW!

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THE AMERICAN LEGION, EMBLEM DIVISION, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Gentlemen: Enclosed herewith is a one dollar bill for which you will send me post paid one American Legion Automobile insigne. It is to be understood if I am not fully satisfied that my dollar will be refunded providing the decoration is returned promptly.

☐ Check here if you want a copy of the 1926 Emblem Catalog.

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