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## VETERANS DAY

Charles V. Stanton

Today is Veterans Day. Throughout the nation tribute is being paid to the veterans of all wars.

Following World War I this date was known as Armistice Day, anniversary of the ending of that first great conflict involving all major powers. But now Armistice Day has been changed to Veterans Day, embracing men from all the nation's past wars.

It is, I believe, a commendable change. The men of all wars fought in a common cause. Each of our wars has been but a continuation of the one which went before. We have had brief respites — an opportunity to rest and recover from our wounds. While each war has had its particular initial causes, each has, in its turn, been but one more step in the drive for freedom for all men. Thus our veterans are linked in one bond of comradeship.

But Veterans Day, like too many of our holidays, fails to gain from the general public the sober attention demanded by its original purpose.

When our memory of World War I was sharp and still painful, Armistice Day was observed as a day of sincere tribute and of thankfulness for the successful ending of a horrifying experience. But as time went on, and our pain abated, only a faithful few paused to respect the day. It simply became another holiday, with business as usual.

### War's Romance Gone

World War II failed to arouse the romantic spirit of previous wars. World War I was a war of music. Tin Pan Alley beat out hit tunes, one after another. And grimy doughboys, slogging their way through the never-ending mud of France, Belgium and Germany, composed lyrics, far removed from the words to which the tunes originally were set. Lyrics they have kept very much to themselves, for fear they might be heard by their wives and daughters.

World War I ended with the nations of the world joyfully believing that the last war had been fought; that peace at last had been achieved. The people of the world plainly exhibited their frantic joy in the delirium of their celebration.

But it soon was evident that there was to be no peace. Joy turned to despair. Soon the haunting spectre of war again cast his shadow over the world.

World War II was a serious affair. There were few new songs. There was no romance in the deadly struggle. People bowed their backs to the labors of production. They went grimly about the task of winning the victory on the home front while the soldiers turned back the foe in Europe and battled their way, step by step, across the mighty Pacific.

### Enthusiasm Lacking

People had not forgotten their disappointment following the First World War. Announcements of V-E and V-J days brought forth little spontaneous demonstration. The public was skeptical that lasting peace had been achieved, and their scepticism has been justified by subsequent events.

The glorious dream of that first Armistice Day was dissipated by the awakening to stern reality. World War II brought no rosy dreams. Armistice Day, springing spontaneously from joyful hearts, became an empty shell, except to those few who strove desperately to keep alive the embers of comradeship.

Veterans Day to most people probably will be just another day. The enthusiasm once developed and so rudely shattered cannot be rekindled while wars and rumors of war are abroad in the world.

But the men who have served in common devotion to their country cannot and will not forget. With them Veterans Day will ever remain sacred.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — If on this Veterans Day some aging gaffer starts reminiscing about St. Mihiel or Chateau Thierry, don't offend him by asking:

"What in the world are you talking about?"

Those words are carved deep in his heart—as are other words like "Bellevue Wood" and the "Argonne Forest"—and he finds it saddening that a younger generation remembers so little of names that once stirred all America.

For it was in places like these that he lost part of his youth. The Argonne looms larger in his memory than the Mason-Dixon line, and in his mind the poppies are still blowing in Flanders Fields.

He is a survivor of the 20th century's first great conflict, and he feels that in his own lifetime his own sacrifices are now largely overlooked. And he is not without considerable justification for this viewpoint.

In every war many soldiers feel they are fighting on a forgotten front. The troops in the Pacific islands felt that way in the Second World War. So did the troops in Italy.

Do people back home think the whole war is being fought in Normandy? Was the popular complaint, "Don't they know there's a war going on here, too?"

Time has a way of dimming most wars, but they rarely are forgotten while the men who fought them are still alive. Many veterans of the First World War, however, are gloomily convinced that their war has been forgotten, partly much by everyone except themselves.

The "Retreads"—First World War veterans who also served in the Second World War—look at a heavy verbal beating from their younger comrades, who often told them nothing.

"Pop, never mind telling us about your little war. If you'd done the right kind of a job in your war to end all wars, we wouldn't be here fighting this one. That's why

we're over here—to finish the job you started."

And poor middle-aged Pop had to take it and laugh. The kids had him outnumbered. They still do.

As of a year ago, America's veterans numbered 20 million. Of these some 80 per cent, or 15,424,000, were veterans of the Second World War, and 5,025,000 had served since the start of the Korean campaign in June, 1950.

Pop is slowly being swallowed amid the masses of newer and younger veterans.

Yet it was in no bush league war that Pop won both his scars and his medals.

It was a titanic conflict involving 27 nations and 85,038,810 troops. The total casualties were 37,368,686, of whom 8,328,315 were killed in combat or died.

The American nation put 4,353,000 men under arms. It suffered 364,800 casualties, including 128,000 deaths. Some 17 nations still owe the United States more than \$1 billion dollars from that war.

It was a war in which the submarine, airplane and tank—three decisive weapons of the Second World War—first saw widespread battle use. Three weapons it lacked—"K" rations, the jeep, the atom bomb.

Time is steadily whitening down Pop and his doughboy buddies of the past. A man drafted at 25 in 1917 is 63 years old—only two years short of pension age. An American Legion friend of mine estimated several years ago that

First World War veterans were dying at the rate of 84 a day. They are reaching age levels now where death calls more often.

Pop can be forgiven if now and then he grumbles. "The only guy

## VETERANS' DAY



Bruce Bioassat

Two recent events have served as a pointed and timely reminder that we pick our vice presidents too casually and carelessly for the good of the country.

Former President Harry Truman's memoirs, just published, disclose the peculiar maneuvering by which he was chosen for the Democratic vice presidential nomination in 1944.

And Edward R. Murrow, CBS commentator, recently reviewed in his program, "See It Now," the whole history of the vice presidential office from its beginnings in constitutional discussions to the present time.

What emerges is pretty plain. It was the intent of the Founding Fathers that the nation should select as vice president the second best qualified man in the land. But under the system that has evolved we are lucky if we get the 42nd best.

Men picked originally as vice presidents have ruled over the White House 21 per cent of the time since George Washington's day. In the 50 odd years of the 20th century, three vice presidents have been elevated to the presidency by the death of the White House occupant.

Yet generally the nominees for this office are chosen in less time than it takes your wife to decide

what kind of icebox she wants. Most of the time the national convention delegates merely give a halfhearted voice vote endorsement to a decision taken by the presidential nominee and a few advisers.

The presidential choice can rightly insist that his running mate be in harmony with his general views. But some of the other considerations that have governed the decision hardly seem fitting yardsticks.

Men often have been put on the ticket to balance it geographically, or to lure particular categories of voters. Sometimes they are chosen to pacify factions within a party.

Their qualifications for duty in the White House, where they might easily end up, seldom get attention.

Presidential possibilities find their personalities and records exposed to blinding public glare. Vice presidential candidates at the most are the subject of a few hours' run-through in a hotel room.

This is no way to fill an office which can through one faltering heartbeat be translated into the presidency. Not just America but all the free world is deeply affected by our leadership choices.

The time is long past due when we should set about giving to the vice presidential selection process the party and public attention it properly requires.

Hereafter any party which picks its vice presidential nominee at the last minute out of a well-oiled hand deserves to be penalized at the polls. The frivolous political factors that govern the selection should be discarded. The public should insist that each party choose its second best man.

### Possibility Of Another Korean Conference Looms

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. (AP) — The possibility of another Korean political conference loomed this week as the U. N. Security Council turned to the question of unifying the divided peninsula.

The U. N.'s 60-nation political committee prepared to take up the issue once more amid reports that the Russians and other interested powers would press for a second conference aimed at settling the thorny problem.

Informed sources said the United States would like to find out if advocates of another conference have anything new to offer before stating the American position.

The first political conference between the U. N. allies in Korea and the Communists ended without result at Geneva in the spring of 1954 after weeks of East-West haggling.

### Portland Lions Offer To Pay Blind Insurance

PORTLAND (AP) — The Portland Lions Club this week offered to pay accident insurance premiums to the Oregon Blind Commission's Portland workshop could continue operating.

The shop was closed down Tuesday. Atty. Gen. Robert V. Thornton had ruled earlier that the 21 employees were ineligible for state-paid accident commission insurance. This protection was ended Nov. 1.

The Lions Club, a service organization, offered to pay the insurance premiums for one month while efforts are made to work out a plan to protect employees.

The workshop manufactures brooms and other small household articles which are distributed by salesmen.

### ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW (AP) — Prime Minister Einar Gerhardsen of Norway arrived in Moscow Thursday for a 12-day state visit at the invitation of the Kremlin.

### United Nations Shows Concern Over Boycotts

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. (AP) — Faced with boycotts by two member nations, U. N. diplomats expressed grave concern Thursday over what effect the action may have on the future of the world body.

France and South Africa are both shunning the assembly over issues brought up by the Arab-Asian bloc. Delegates wondered whether further steps on the inflammatory issues might prompt some member to quit the U. N. altogether.

Both France and South Africa walked out in protest over what they claimed was U. N. interference in their internal affairs. Both accused the U. N. of ignoring repeated warnings that they would not tolerate further intervention.

South Africa's walkout, over the special political committee's decision to probe into her racial segregation policies, came amid behind-the-scenes moves to toss out the stormy Algerian independence item which sparked France's boycott.

The South African action places two key U. N. committees in a dilemma. The special political committee has on its agenda another explosive item affecting the union government. It is slated to turn soon to the problem of the treatment of Indians in South Africa. The Union of South Africa has offered to discuss the issue with India and Pakistan, but it refuses to have the talks under the aegis of the U. N.

Wednesday's walkout also brought quick adjournment of the trusteeship committee to consider what to do about the debate on another item—South Africa's refusal to report to the U. N. on the territory of Southwest Africa.

### All Red Apples Goal Of Project At Oregon State

CORVALLIS (AP) — Because Americans have a preference for red apples, Oregon State College horticulturists are working on a project so they can have red apples of almost any variety.

Since 1948, Quentin Zielinski, O.S.C. horticulturist, has developed 40 new varieties of red apples from species of other colors.

It's possible because of genetic mutation — which means that nature plays a little joke.

Nature often will fix a limb or part of a limb so that it bears red apples, while the parent variety is yellow, green or striped red.

These red ones are called "bud sports," and scientists can't explain them.

But Zielinski starts new varieties from the bud sports, and they stay red from then on.

Since consumers like red apples, Zielinski thinks he's developing some good news for apple growers. His research is to find out whether the red sports are superior.

At the same time he's developing the sports for their color, he's also trying to find apples that are disease resistant, mature earlier, yield every year, have fine texture, possess good flavor, keep well, and are good for all purposes.

When Zielinski finds a red sport that has all those qualities, he will have good news.

### Ice Cream Maker Readies Bet Payment In Advance

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Martin A. Willinger saw the handwriting on the wall and started making 300 gallons of ice cream. That was four days before Democrat A. B. (Happy) Chandler won election for governor over Republican Edwin R. Denney. Willinger, a creamery executive, bet the ice cream against \$500 a friend put on Chandler. He must personally deliver the ice cream to neighborhood youngsters.

## Architect Heads Home To Russia

NEW YORK (AP) — Alexander V. Vlasov, dismissed as architect of Moscow, headed homeward Thursday with expectations of continuing to work as an architect.

Before boarding the liner Queen Elizabeth, Vlasov conceded his ouster from the government post came as a "surprise."

The government contended he gave ornate skyscrapers priority over public housing.

Vlasov, who has been visiting the United States as a member of a 10-man Russian housing delegation, spoke briefly to newsmen through an interpreter after earlier reluctance to discuss the matter.

Asked what he would do when he returned to Russia, he said: "The same thing as I did before I departed. . . . The dismissal is a surprise and I just know what has been told me."

He did not comment on the reasons given by the Russian government for the dismissal.

Other members of the delegation accompanied him aboard the liner for the return trip.

### COMMEMORATE DEATH

ISTANBUL (AP) — All Turkey stopped work for five minutes Thursday to commemorate the 17th anniversary of the death of Kamal Ataturk, founder of the Turkish Republic.

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### DIDN'T PAY

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Miss Martha H. Major, 36, was fined \$200 for drunken driving. She was tried in Criminal Court on appeal from Police Court — where she had been fined \$100.

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