

The Citizen Veteran

BY HARRY B. CRITCHLOW.

THE shelter of the German had been having its effect upon the lines of the Americans advancing in the Argonne. Objectives were being taken, but at a cost of countless lives and wounded. First aid men and stretcher bearers were having more than they could do to care for the casualties.

A bright-eyed lad had been, carried into a dressing station. Over him bent a medical man.

"How do you feel, buddy?" and is there anything I can do?" asked the medic.

"I feel fine except for my legs," replied the wounded lad. "They are cold. Won't you please cover them up for me?"

The medical man reached down and started to fix the blankets. He sought to tuck them under the feet of the wounded boy. There were no feet there. One of the enemy's shells had made the youth a cripple for the remainder of his days.

Today this wounded boy is still fighting the war of 1917-18. He may be in a government hospital or he may be living to earn a living in spite of his handicap, but wherever he may be he is still suffering from the ill-effects of war.

The pulse of the American people no longer beats as it did during the days when the backs of the allies were at the wall and when all depended on the actions of the men in O. D. The war is over and the nation and its citizens have recovered their manly. The night of the war would have brought tears and caresses. Today a glance of curiosity, rather than concern.

Wounded almost beyond repair, many of the soldiers who fell to wall the coming of the stretcher bearers prayed for death. Hands made feeble through the loss of blood often sought the automatic pistol or the rifle for deliverance. There was not strength remaining to pull the trigger. Today these men live. Some are back in the game of life with no lack of vigor, but many of them are scattered throughout the country in government and private hospitals.

Legs that once served them are gone. For many of them all is darkness. But still they live and suffer on and perhaps wonder at times whether America really is appreciative of the work they endured.

Robert W. Service, in his new book, "The Ballads of a Bohemian," has written "The Legless Man." This poem follows:

My mind goes back to Fumlin Wood and how we stuck it out.
Eight days of hunger, thirst and cold,
mowed down by steel and flame;
Waist deep in mud and mud with we,
with dead men's eyes and dead men's feet.
We fought like fiends and waited for relief
that never came, and nights they rolled on us
in battle frenzied mass!
"Debout les morts!" We buried them back.
By God, they did not pass.

They planned two medals on my chest,
a yellow and a brown.
And lovely ladies made me blush,
pretty words they said.
I felt a cheerful man, almost, until my eyes went down.
And then again I drank the cup of sorrow
to the dregs:
Oh, they can keep their medals if they
give me back my legs.

I think of how I used to run and leap and kick the ball.
And ride and dance and climb the hills
and frolic in the sea;
And all the thousand things that now I
never do at all.
Men die there's nothing left in life, it
often seems to me.
As the nurses lift me up and strap me in
my chair.
If they would chloroform me off I feel
I wouldn't care.

Ah, yes! we're "heroes all" today—they
point to us with pride.
Today their heads go out to us, the
tears are in their eyes!
But wait a bit; tomorrow they will blindly
look aside.
No more they'll talk of what they owe,
the dues of sacrifice.
(One hates to be reminded of an everlasting debt)
It's all in human nature. Ah! the world
will soon forget.

My mind goes back to where I lay wounded,
rotted on the plain.
And ate the muddy mangled roots, and
drank the drops of dew,
And dragged myself for miles and miles
when every move was
And over me the cartoon-crows were
retching as they flew.
Oh, ere I closed my eyes and stuck my
rifle in the air
I wish that those who picked me up had
passed and let me there.

"The narrow patriotism that the American Legion stands for is the same narrow patriotism that the German people were taught before the war."

A man who has assumed the dual role of burden carrier for the foreign born and critic of the American Legion has written to the Citizen-Veteran an interesting letter, in which this statement was contained:

He declared that it has become a popular pastime to throw mud at foreigners, and says we have no comeback if we are painted over so black.

The American Legion has no quarrel with the foreign-born. Many of its most loyal members are men who first saw the light in some country of Europe. But the legion does have a quarrel with those who clothe themselves with American citizenship and yet cling to the teachings of and hold allegiance to the rulers of their mother countries.

There is but one standard of Americanism, so far as the legion is concerned. A man either must be all-American or nothing at all. Hyphenated citizenship is a thing of the past. There are no more German-Americans, French-Americans, Swedish-Americans or Irish-Americans. Once the foreign-born man accepts citizenship he ceases to be a German, Frenchman, Swede or an Irishman and becomes an American. If he can not become such he should pack up his belongings and get back to the country whence he came.

Several months ago when the draft evader started to feel more comfortable than he had for several years, a young lawyer of Portland was one day approached in his office.

"I saw your name in the telephone book and you are one of my people," declared the visitor, who had a strong German accent. "Possibly you can help me out. I want to get my draft record straightened out so I can become a citizen."

By this time the young lawyer had risen from his chair.

"My people were born in Germany and I have a German name," he declared as he walked toward the visitor. "But I'm an American and I spent a year on the other side killing off such men as you. Now get out of here."

A well-directed kick took the German amidships, and he "got out."

The American Legion is composed of many such men as he who delivered the kick. It has no time for the other kind.



George H. Wilbur of Hood River, active member of the state executive committee of the American Legion.

the Mexican colonelcy, reporting that Smith was in Ohio last month.

The success of the American Legion's "Night in Paris" show held last night in the municipal auditorium is not in small measure due to the untiring efforts of Claude Bristol, the retiring adjutant of Portland post. Bristol was one of the leaders who made successful the Admittance day parade. During the last two weeks he devoted practically all his time to the plans for the New Year eve celebration.

Pekingese dogs wearing expensive coats while ex-soldiers sit shivering on park benches around the fire of Rev. S. Parker Cadman, Congressional minister of Brooklyn, during the American Legion's attempt to get overcoats for needy ex-soldiers. Rev. Mr. Cadman advocated taking the coats coats off "these over-dressed promenadees with people dogs on a string and wrapping them around the half frozen backs of our boys."

Many sick and wounded ex-soldiers who traveled far to obtain treatment in the army and navy hospital at Hot Springs, Ark., in desperate circumstances after they have been refused admission to the hospital. Only the surgeon-general of the army or the United States veterans' bureau can admit men to treatment there.

There is a class of men in the ranks of the millions of veterans of the world war who have not been given the credit they, in truth, deserve. They are the men who answered the call of the Red Cross in 1916-17—before we had declared war—and joined up as ambulance and truck drivers.

From the colleges of this country went hundreds of these men. First they were eager for excitement, but they also had a great desire to see the allies triumph over the Germans.

Their lot was not one of ease. They received the same pay as the Frenchmen with whom they served—a few pence a day. Many of them paid their own transportation to the other side of the ocean, for no fund was supplied by the allied nations to pay transportation.

They went into the hottest sectors of the French battle line and night and day with their "road lions" ambulances carried the wounded back from the front. They were issued the French ration and suffered the same hardships as those borne by the men with whom they chose to serve.

When America declared war many of the old drivers for the Red Cross went into training camps and emerged with commissions. Others chose to remain ambulance drivers, and the Red Cross companies were transferred to the medical department of our army intact.

Having long been in the service with the French, most of them had no desire to serve with the American army. With their foreign comrades they had been treated as benefactors and were subject to few regulations. When placed in an American command, rules became more stringent and life less pleasant.

Many of the original ambulance men who went to France in 1916-17 did not return. Large numbers were decorated for their heroic work. As a unit they were men seeking adventure, and being such they lightly took the hardships that came with it.

Fate many times during the days of the war played favorites in taking its toll of lives. A regiment of Yanks was far advanced in the Argonne. One soldier had placed himself in a "funk hole" and was in safety from the machine gun fire which swept the field.

It became necessary for him to withdraw from his place of shelter for a moment. A comrade, seeing the hole vacated, rushed up and took possession. The original owner returned in due time and demanded that he, by right of first possession, retain the hole. The two quarreled and the argument and sought other protection. The man who had annexed the shelter immediately fell asleep. A few minutes later a high explosive shell came over. It burst above the hole and the sleeping man was instantly killed.

Colonel William Jordan and Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Bradbury of the 5th Infantry attended the first day luncheon of the first division association in the Washington-street Hazelwood last Friday. Both are veterans of the Port of Spain.

Jordan received his colonelcy just before the organization left for France and was transferred. Bradbury served with the 32d Infantry.

There is no excuse for any veteran not being a member of the American Legion, according to James W. Morris. Recently Morris was in the market for a new automobile. He visited the agency which sells the car he had in mind and a young man was making him a selling talk.

"By the way," interrupted Jim, "are you a veteran of the war?"

The man replied that he was.

"Are you a member of the American Legion?" asked Morris.

hospitals and institutions will receive adequate clothing and equipment under a bill favorably reported by the house military affairs committee. The bill authorizes the secretary of war to co-operate with the surgeon-general of the United States public health service in distributing army clothing to government patients. Thousands of dollars' worth of this surplus war material is now stored away in warehouses.

House leaders have demanded a special rule for consideration of the measure. Statements were made on the floor that if congress could rush through a bill for \$20,000,000 for starving Russians, it ought to be able to pass through one for cold ex-service men.

Amounts received as compensation, family allotments and allowances under the war risk insurance and vocational rehabilitation acts, or as pensions from the government for military or naval service in time of war may be exempted from income tax returns of ex-service men. The exemptions were obtained following an appeal made by the American Legion's legislative committee. The tax exemption also extends to "contribution of gifts for the use of posts of the legion or the women's auxiliary units thereof."

As a part of the Christmas program, the American Legion of Omaha, Neb., sent Mrs. Marie Anderson, 60 years old, to Leavenworth, Kan., to visit her son. The boy is serving a sentence for an offense committed after he was 16 years old to the army. He served during the world war.

"Hardboiled" Lieutenant Frank H. Smith, probably the most cordially disliked man in the American expeditionary forces because of his treatment of American prisoners at prison farm No. 2, France, is now a colonel in President Obregon's army in Mexico.

When the state of finance of the ordinary member of the allied army had reached the point that bordered insolvency, the near-bankrupt resorted to many ends to obtain the where-with-all to purchase food and refreshments. The near-bankrupt resorted to many ends to obtain the where-with-all to purchase food and refreshments. The near-bankrupt resorted to many ends to obtain the where-with-all to purchase food and refreshments.

In Murray's outfit was a big Englishman in a dark coat and a thick mustache. These false molar were not only the pride of the soldier, but also the pride of the woman who was a member. In the candle light his teeth flashed fire.

This point had arrived where the Englishman was suffering from a state of financial depression and intoxication. He was thirsty and he needed funds with which to purchase refreshments. No credit could be obtained at any French cafe. Some one suggested that the Englishman pawn his false teeth.

He parted with his famous molars for the sum of 50 francs and the party of all of them were eager for excitement, but they also had a great desire to see the allies triumph over the Germans.

A state-wide drive for an increased membership in the American Legion will be made during the week of January 16-21, according to an announcement made by State Commander Goodell. All posts have received official notification regarding plans for the campaign, and in all probability Governor Obregon will issue a proclamation giving sanction to the drive.

An effort will be made to bring 10,000 veterans into the legion. There are now 11,000 paid up members in the state.

For the last year the national headquarters of the legion has been boosting an increased membership through the "Every Member Get a Member" plan and great results have been gained.

Under the plans for the drive in Oregon each member of the legion will be called upon to bring in a veteran who has not affiliated with the organization.

Plans for the formation of an auxiliary are being made by Harry K. Larson post of the American Legion at Imbler. The members also are boosting for a new building which can be used as a community house and also as Legion headquarters. A smoker will be held tomorrow night, with boxing bouts as the main features.

Gladwin Smith will lead the Grants Pass post of the American Legion during the coming year. This was decided at the last meeting when he was elected commander by unanimous vote. The new officers of the post are determined to add 100 new members during 1922.

The clubhouse at Toledo, built by the spruce production division and since used by the American Legion, has been exchanged for a quantity of lumber and some money, and a new building will be erected to meet the needs of the veterans.

Medford members of the Legion are boosting for a new home. The matter of a building was discussed at the recent meeting, when the annual installation of officers was held.

With Emil Woolley, vice-commander in charge, members of the Tillamook post of the American Legion recently invaded Beaver where they held meeting and received a large number of applications for membership. Meetings of a similar character will be held in Nehalem, Wheeler and Cloverdale and an effort will be made to bring veterans into the legion in these communities.

Garet H. ("Doc") Stetsel, who used to be a sergeant in base hospital No. 46, and was elected first president of the association of ex-enlisted men in this outfit, took into himself a wife at San Francisco December 2, according to announcement from Mr. and Mrs. Stetsel received by friends in this city several weeks after the wedding. The bride was Miss Sara Josephine Brant. The newlyweds are now at home at 1120 Hyde street, San Francisco.

Doc Stetsel will be remembered as the boy who always carried his canteen to the mess hall and always made speeches on behalf of the bucks whenever the officers and enlisted men got together on special occasions to tell each other how glad they were that they had each other to depend upon.

Disabled veterans of the war in Portland were entertained by their comrades on Christmas day. The local chapter of the Disabled Veterans distributed 90 Christmas packages. A Christmas tree party was held at the armory and gifts were dispensed from The Disabled Veterans' auxiliary and the Campfire Girls aided.

Halvor Rasch and Arthur Murphy have an idea which they believe, if put in operation, will "pop up" the United States more than anything has in many years and also settle a great many international problems.

"France is asking for the United States to cancel her debt," said Mur-

phy last Friday. "My idea is not to cancel it, but pay it in cognac."

"The soldiers are wanting a bonus and why not pay them with the cognac we receive from France?" added Rasch. "A case for each man and all the attention would be cheerful and pepped up."

"It would surely settle the unemployment problem in France by starting the distilleries all over the country," declared Murphy.

"We might have to increase our police forces all over the country after the bonus had been paid, but that would solve unemployment problems here," Rasch went on.

"It would sure make the junk men and the home brewers happy to have that many bottles come into this country to be emptied for their benefit," added Murphy.

Rasch and Murphy are figuring on writing a letter to President Harding in which they will outline their idea.

George P. Tucker of Fresno, Cal., who was one of the original members of old troop A, cavalry, which later became part of the 148th field artillery, is in Portland. Mr. Tucker is a graduate of the University of Oregon and has many friends here.

Fred Kiddle, one of the members of the state executive committee of the American Legion, was in Portland yesterday and attended the "Night in Paris" show in the auditorium last night. He says the American Legion in eastern Oregon is growing stronger and more important all the time. Kiddle was one of the first commanders of the American Legion in La Grande.

The Third Hole, "the unitary journal for D company, 4th U. S. engineers," has been issued by Lloyd C. Gibson of Mexico City, Mexico, and Edward B. Waller of Walla Walla, Wash., and will be sent throughout the United States to veterans of the organization. The journal was first issued in Garmen, Germany, in January, 1919.

The magazine was revived again in this country for the purpose of keeping the veterans of the old organization in touch with each other. Among the Portland men who were members of D company, 4th engineers, are Walter B. Nagel, Van L. Nash, William L. Rasmussen, Ernest W. Rasch, John Wiley, James J. Thomas, Cecil B. Walker and Walter Swickard.

TOMBSTONE OFFER IRKS
Bavarian Tries to Sell Monuments for Soldiers to French.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—(By special cable.)—It has been said that your typical Bavarian is not equipped with the imaginative understanding that helps people to appreciate it. It is not other and different people. A number of French dealers in statuary, monuments and the like are fairly holding their respective heads between their respective pairs of hands in almost incredulous astonishment at the curious psychology of a Bavarian dealer in marble.

He sent—and is still sending—circular letters to prospective French purchasers of monuments. He sends out some of our sample headstones and monuments, which, because of the present rate of exchange, can be set down at the border at extraordinary low prices. Assuring you in advance of their pleasure your orders would give me, I present to you, Monsieur, the assurance of my perfect esteem.

A great part of the present monument business in France is being done on orders from those wishing to honor the memory of some one of the million and a half Frenchmen killed during the war. The firm has so far made no sales on this side of the border.

MUSICAL MENU ARRANGED
London Physician Tells What Tunes to Listen To at Meals.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—(By Special Cable.)—Promoted by recent discussions of "musical malar," Sir James Dundas-Grant, prominent surgeon, has arranged a musical menu programme in the belief that to be a real aid to digestion music must be appropriate.

"My idea," says the surgeon, "is that the dinner should start with something light and 'fanciful and gay, such as a two-step with the 'Hors d'oeuvre. The soup should be taken with something happy and frolicsome, the fish with a soothing, penitential air, which should be followed by the entrée stage with a return to the sprightly mood, for which the diners are warming up to the meal and becoming comfortable and at ease. An amorous tune should go with the joint.

Game should always be accompanied by some beautiful waltz, the sweets with something dainty and delicate, and the savory with a bright and decided air. The main course, however, there is one adjunct to a man's dinner, he is enjoined to be enjoyed in quietude, "in a short space for reflection and ease, meditation and memory," the clinch.

HOTEL RATES CLASSIFIED
Commercial Travelers Recommend Standardized Charges.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 31.—Standard hotel and restaurant rates were recommended at Friday's session of the Spokane Commercial Travelers. Three classes of hotel rooms were classified as follows: Unheated rooms, \$1; heated rooms with running water, \$1.50; rooms with bath, \$2.

The following prices were recommended for meals: Club breakfast, 25 to 30 cents; plate luncheon, 50 cents; dinner, 75 cents to \$1. Several Washington, Idaho and Montana towns were with the not serving home products at reasonable rates.

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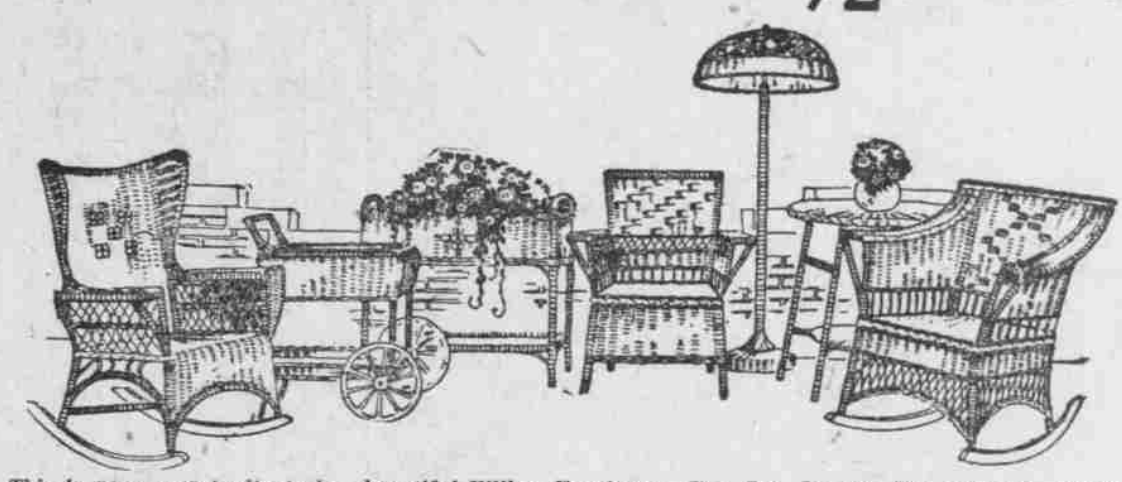
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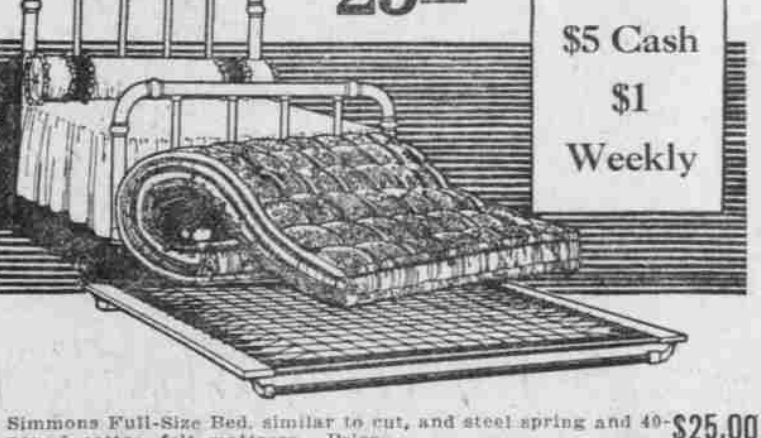
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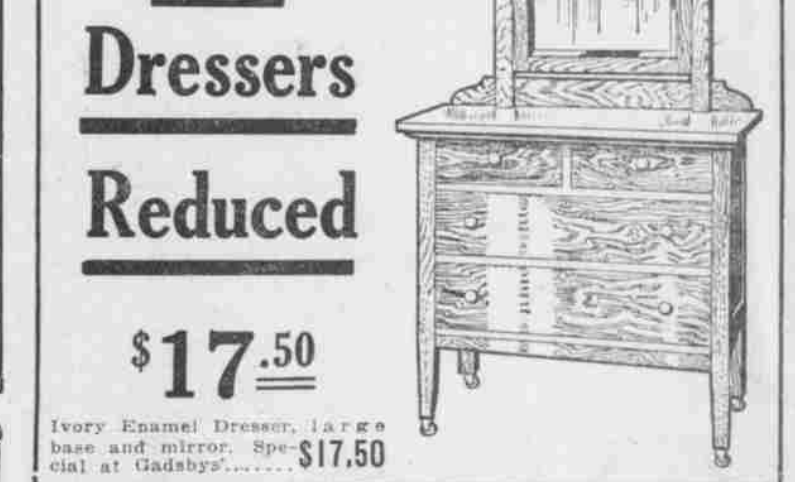
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