

The Citizen Veteran

FROM the time he landed on foreign soil during the world war, the romance of adventure played a large part in the life of the American doughboy.

This particular element of the life "over there," however, was not confined to the front-line areas, where the "big ones" were coming over. From the time that the doughboy first tried to order a meal in a French restaurant and discovered to his dismay that ham and eggs no longer followed the American sequence, but were known as eggs and ham, he was meeting with new impressions.

One of the first adventures was that involved in meeting with a new language and attempting to master some of its intricacies. Coupled with this adventure it was the most natural thing in the world for the wearer of olive drab to attempt to talk to the mademoiselles. They were like other girls he had known, but there was this added mystery, that the doughboy couldn't tell what they were talking about, and he wondered.

A French dictionary was the only means of communication between the two, and often the misunderstandings were ludicrous.

A member of a Portland unit had not been in France very long, but in spite of his lack of experience in French he was a "fast worker." He kissed his lady love a lingering good-by.

"Doux, doux, doux," (Sweet, Pronounced do), she murmured. "I'm doing the best I can," reported this modern cavalier, puzzled.

Sometimes it was the adventure into matrimony or the such an adventure which provided the unusual incidents in the life of the soldier overseas.

Charles Rice, cook of Company C, 15th engineers (railway), was not only an expert on the clarinet in "Dixie" Phillips' band but he was also one of the best Romeo's in that outfit. Even the difficulties of getting married in France did not discourage him.

The guests had all arrived, the bells had been rung, the feast had been spread and the reporter, the Spiker, publication of the 15th engineers overseas, was on the job to get the first official account of the wedding of an American soldier to a French demoiselle.

Suddenly Arnold Waelly, interpreter, rushed down the aisle with upraised hand and announced the ceremony. The headquarters of the regiment had suddenly decided that it was not good policy to permit one of the buck privates to get married at that stage of the war. A long-distance telephone conversation with the headquarters of the regiment had resulted in the ceremony being stopped.

"C'est la guerre," said the French quonst. "It's the war," said the Americans.

After the excitement had abated some of the guests, including Earl in Chinan, who had gone over from camp with his "gat" to watch the wedding presents, began to take long looks at the table laden with good things to eat and drink. Then the father of the near-bride said something about "mange," and the table was surrounded by curious feasts was on. Everybody drank a toast to the wedding, which would be consummated "après la guerre."

None of the Amepooled soldiers present missed the chance to kiss the bride in spite of the fact that the marriage had been a "dry" one. "Take it all in," there have been many more unhappy wedding days than this one.

This story would be incomplete if it was not mentioned that "Charlie" Rice and his bride were married after the armistice and a little Franco-American now adorns their home.

Jesse M. Hutson, hard-boiled engineer from Portland, Or., was employed in operating a concrete mixer during the construction of the big American docks at Bassens, near Bordeaux, France. The day's work was ended and he crawled inside the big drum of the mixer to wash it out preliminary to going to camp for meals.

Some amateur engineer at this time suddenly conceived the idea of tuning up the engine which operated the mixer. The rest of the crew started on its revolutions and Hutson was thoroughly mixed with concrete before his cries finally attracted attention and the power was shut off. Except for a few minor bruises, Hutson was not much of a wheel for the experience.

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have its own table, arranged geographically, and will be presided over by a state hostess. It will be held at a private club and covers will be laid for 900 guests and delegates.

Scout Young camp, United Spanish War Veterans, will make an effort to get Spanish war veterans included in the preferred list of service men in the Klamath land opening. D. Mahone was appointed head of a committee to take this matter up immediately.

Ashland post, American Legion, will provide entertainment for the winter for the folks of Ashland and vicinity. The post is sponsoring a lyceum course, consisting of five splendid numbers. A campaign is being launched for the disposal of tickets.

Armistice day will be fittingly observed in Hood River. The Hood River post, in taking hold of the Armistice program, arranged for Judge Lawrence T. Harris of the supreme court to be one of the principal speakers. A dance and athletic committee was appointed, as well as an Armistice day parade committee.

The American Legion posts of The Dalles and Mosier are expected to send big delegations, inasmuch as these two cities will join with Hood River in making this year's Armistice event the biggest ever attempted in Hood River county.

At the recent meeting of Alfred E. Babcock post, American Legion, of Albany, in its community building, plans were discussed for a smoker in the near future. The program will include minstrels, plays, socials with the auxiliary and dancing parties, gymnasium classes and the opening of the bowling alley. This was the first meeting held by the post since adjournment early in the summer.

Plans for the 1923 state convention of the American Legion at Seaside, September 9 and 10, are already maturing. Pat Dillon, past commander of Seaside post, having been made convention chairman. Dillon has appointed chairman of the following committees: Secretary, Fred Otto; general committee, E. W. Crane, O. C. Hagmeier, L. L. Cramer, J. T. Tullinger; sports, Miles Potter; transportation, Thomas Beecher; publicity, A. G. Hardisty; decorations, Howard Altender.

Present plans call for a rifle meet in conjunction with the conventions as well as a state athletic meet.

A party of Oregonian delegates to the national convention of the American Legion to be held at New Orleans October 18 to 29 will leave Portland tomorrow morning at 9:15, going via Spokane and from thence eastward to the Washington delegation. Special cars will take the party to Chicago, where a special train will be provided for delegates.

The party will arrive at Spokane on Monday night at 9:15. It is scheduled to leave Spokane five minutes later and arrive in Chicago at 11:30 A. M. Thursday. The party will leave Chicago for the Illinois Central at 12:30 P. M. of the same day and arrive at New Orleans at 11:15 A. M. Friday.

Included in the legion delegation entraining here will be Dr. Eugene Stocker, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Murphy, Bill Follet, Ward H. Ulrich, Earl Goodwin, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Allen, Lane Goodell, Harry Nelson, Glen Dudley of Astoria, L. M. Holder of Astoria, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Foley of The Dalles, Mr. and Mrs. George K. Wilbur of Hood River.

L. M. Holder of Astoria, member of Clatsop post, American Legion, will attend the national convention of the legion at New Orleans, October 18 to 29.

A monster veterans' reunion, a football game, luncheon for world war veterans, patriotic addresses, a big Armistice day parade and a grand ball at Dreamland rink will be on the program for November 11, decided Clatsop post of the American Legion in meeting last week at Astoria. A committee composed of the following was named to handle the program: Horace Trotter, Dr. E. H. Vinell, Joe Wilson and Frank O'Brien. A committee of which Dr. M. H. Smith is chairman will report to the post at the next meeting on feasibility of constructing an American Legion public auditorium in Astoria.

The community building, being built by the Calapooia post, American Legion, in co-operation with the citizens of Brownsville, is expected to be finished by the end of the year. Excavation for the foundation has been made, but further progress has been delayed by lack of cement. The dimensions of this building will be 30x150 feet on a lot 100x150 feet. If sufficient funds are raised, the building will be built of concrete blocks, otherwise of brick.

The secretary of the interior has announced the opening to homestead entry of 9651 acres of public land in the Klamath irrigation project, Oregon-California. The land is divided into 174 farm units and will be opened on October 27, 1923, by a drawing at 3 o'clock P. M. Under provisions of an act of congress 50 days' preference right is granted to ex-service men of the war with Germany, after

which any lands remaining unentered will be open to filling by persons qualified to make homestead entry in the United States.

The farm units included in the opening have an irrigable area varying from 12 to 50 acres each, the average size being 35 acres. The lands are comparatively smooth, free from brush, trees and stones, and the soil is of sedimentary character composed of sand and silt.

A delegation of women's auxiliary members will leave Roseburg, Or., over the Southern Pacific on Wednesday for the national convention of the American Legion to be held at New Orleans. Included in the delegation will be Mrs. E. B. Stewart of Roseburg, Mrs. Effie Bada Newton of McKinzie, Mrs. R. C. Dillard of Marshfield and Mrs. E. S. Tuttle and Mrs. T. D. Fields of Eugene. Another party of delegates will go by northern route and will include Mrs. W. A. Elvers of Portland, Mrs. George Wilbur of Hood River, Mrs. Paul Bartholme of Astoria and Miss Patsy Elvirs of Portland, who was chosen as a page for the sessions of the convention.

The annual entertainment of Portland Post No. 1, American Legion, this year is to be under the direction of the sunshine order of the legion, the Société des Hommes et Chevaux. The show will be held at the Auditorium Saturday night, December 30, and will be the first public entertainment the legion has given or participated in for a year.

The entire building will be used this time in order to avoid the confusion which existed in the Auditorium last New Year's eve. Activities will take place in the main auditorium, the wings, the upper hall and the basement simultaneously and with this plan it is believed possible to handle 12,000 or 13,000 people during the evening. The show last year was attended by more than 7000, but inasmuch as only the main auditorium and the smaller halls were used, it was impossible to handle the crowd.

The purpose of the show is to raise money with which to pay off indebtedness of the post, there being several thousand dollars in notes which will fall due in 1923 and 1924. It is the purpose to raise funds to care for these as well as the current expenses of the legion and the club rooms. While approximately 14000 was netted last year, the committee of 40 and 8 expects to exceed that amount this year.

Practically every civic club and organization in Portland will participate in assisting the legion to make this one of the greatest civic affairs ever held in Portland. Mayor Baker and the city commissioners have already promised full co-operation and a number of prominent Portland women already are at work.

While details as to the programme have yet to be worked out, it is proposed to convert the basement into a series of boulevards, street carabets and show places, while in another part of the building Monte Carlo, the famous playground of France, will be duplicated. The main auditorium will be used for a vaudeville show so that there will be plenty of entertainment for everyone who visits the auditorium that night. A committee of 40 and 88 spent Friday afternoon looking over the building and making tentative arrangements.

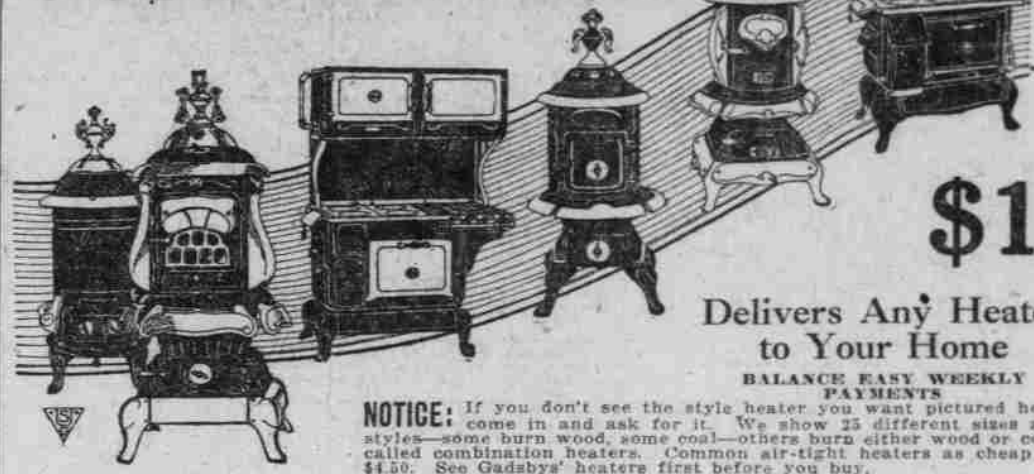
Committees and their chairmen already named are finance, Frank M. Moore; tickets, Rex R. Porellus; publicity, C. M. Bristol; refreshments, J. D. McKay; vaudeville and cabarets, Dr. Archibald Van Cleave; decorations, Oscar, James K. Cooper; concessions, Lane Goodell; patrons and patronesses, Mrs. Pat H. Allen; civic clubs, Stanley Myers; donations, William B. Follet; script money, E. C. Mears; Pat A. Allen is in general charge.

A social was held Wednesday night by members of Reedsport post, American Legion, in the city hall, with a smoker. Following the boules and the other athletic events, refreshments were served.

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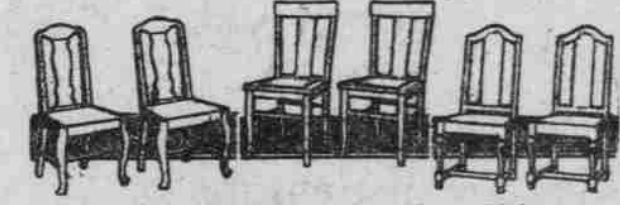
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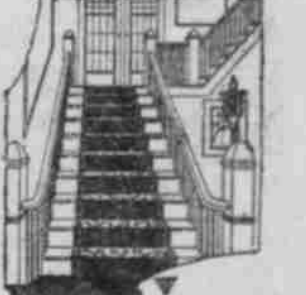
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