

The Oregon Statesman

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MEMORIAL DAY FACTS

The custom of strewing flowers on the graves of the dead is an age-old one. Greek poets sang of it 500 years before Christ, and every century since has witnessed it. On April 13, 1862, the first anniversary of the fall of Fort Sumpter, certain ladies from Michigan are known to have decorated the graves of Union soldiers buried at Arlington Heights, Va. On May 3, 1863, they did this again, and in May, 1864, they decorated Union graves at Fredericksburg, Va. Indeed, this pious expression of affection for "Father and husband, brother and lover" who had laid down their lives that the nation might live has been practiced from the very beginning of the war.

But what is known as "Memorial Day" has a distinct history. On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R., issued a general order appointing May 30 as a day for this purpose and directed that all G. A. R. posts should observe the service, an order that has been obeyed every year since that date. In 36 northern states May 30 is a legal holiday. In ten southern states "Confederate Memorial Day" is observed, but it falls on April 26 in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida; on May 5 in North Carolina and South Carolina; on May 30 in Virginia and Arkansas; on June 3 in Louisiana, and on the second Friday in May in Tennessee. Texas and New Mexico have no such holiday, but G. A. R. posts observe May 30 in those states, as in all the others. It is hoped that May 30 may become a world holiday, observed by all the allied nations as a mid-year festival of flowers in memory of those who offered life for human freedom in all lands.

What It Stands For.

The G. A. R. has from the first decorated the graves of all known soldiers of the Revolutionary war, the war of 1812, the Mexican war, and the Indian wars from 1790 to 1858. Spanish War men decorate the graves of their own comrades, and now the American Legion men perform a like service for their dead comrades. When the last Civil War men have passed away it is believed that the American Legion will as tenderly care for their graves as they have cared for all their predecessors in their country's service.

Numbers Honored

The U. S. Statistical Abstract, published annually by the Department of Commerce, gives the following official data concerning the number of enlistments in the army and navy in all wars up to 1898, and the number of individual men who served in the wars:

	Enlisted	Served
Revolutionary war (1775-1783)	309,971	184,038
War of 1812-1815	576,622	286,730
Mexican war (1846-1848)	112,230	78,718
Indian wars (1790-1858)	127,718	88,205

Totals before the Civil war	1,126,541	637,691
The Civil war 1861-1865	2,778,304	2,213,365
Spanish war	312,523	312,000
Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902)	140,038	139,438
Boxer Insurrection in China (1900-1901)	6,913	6,713

Total up to 1917.....4,364,319 3,309,207 These figures do not include the regular forces of the army and navy that served in times of peace. So few of those serving before 1858 are now living that we may fairly think of the 637,691 as having passed away.

According to official estimates there were supposed to be 251,727 civil war Union soldiers living on June 30, 1920, a number that was expected to be reduced to 116,073 by June 30, 1925; to 37,073 in 1930, to 6,295 in 1935; 349 in 1940, and to zero in 1945. Making allowance for losses since 1920, there are supposed to be living about 222,013, May 30, 1921.

During the Civil war the Union army suffered losses as follows, according to published official returns:

Killed and mortally wounded	110,070
Died of disease, accidents, etc. (4944 drowned)	250,152
Total deaths while under arms	360,222
Discharged from the service	1,853,130
Died since the war	1,631,130
Total number of Union soldiers and sailors passed away	1,981,352

Total number of U. S. soldiers and sailors in former wars.....637,691 Grand total of soldier dead of wars before 1898.....2,629,352 And this is the number of men that the G. A. R. will hold memorial services for on May 30, 1921.

Mention of the Spanish and World war dead is not made here simply because official statistics as to the number now living are not available and for some time to come will not be possible.

Wherever known graves are accessible flowers will be laid on them; but that none may be forgotten, monuments to the "Unknown Soldiers and Sailors" will be decorated, and flowers will be scattered on rivers, lakes and ocean in memory of those drowned, and those buried at sea.

Our great country stands today at the height of power and influence in the world with almost inconceivable advances of prosperity opening before it, to which greatness every humble soldier who now sleeps in an unmarked and unknown grave has contributed a life offering, and has done more to bring it about than shiploads of hymning pacifists who never stand between their country and real or threatened danger.

"Then cover them over, yes, cover them over, Father and husband, brother and lover; Enshrine in your hearts those dead comrades of ours, And cover them over with beautiful flowers!"

The Union Army

The Union army was composed of 2050 regiments—1696 of infantry, 272 of cavalry, 78 of artillery, and certain small units aggregating four full regiments of various designations.

There are recorded 2400 battles, and 4400 other engagements of less magnitude and importance, though many of them were as severe in themselves as those of special note.

In a valuable book entitled "Regimental Losses," Colonel W. F. Fox, of New York, has collected a vast amount of interesting and suggestive information about the Civil war, all of his discussions being based on official records. As indicating the severity of the service performed by the army he contrasts the losses of the most noted European troops with those of our service. For example, the famous Light Brigade lost at Balaklava 36.7 per cent of its men, killed and wounded; the 16th regiment of the Prussian infantry lost at Mars la Tour in 1870, 49.4 per cent, which is said to be the heaviest loss in the German army in the Franco-German war. By contrast Fox notes that the First Minnesota lost at Gettysburg 82 per cent of those engaged. He also names three other Union regiments that lost between 70 and 80 per cent, 21 that lost from 60 to 70; 39 that lost from 50 to 60 per cent in a single engagement; in all, 73 Union regiments whose losses were greater than any German regiment. He also notes 53 Confederate regiments that lost above 50 per cent. In brief, here are 126 American regiments that lost more than half of the men engaged in a single battle.

Fox records the fact that 17 Union Major Generals and Brevet Major Generals, and 34 Brigadier Generals were killed while commanding troops on the field, and 23 Brevet Brigadier Generals while on staff duty, making, in all, 74 general officers killed in action. There were 34 Colonels killed while commanding brigades. In addition to these battle losses, 35 general officers died of disease. To put it in another way, there were four corps commanders, 14 division commanders, and 70 brigade commanders who fell on the battle field. Mention is also made of 40 surgeons killed and 73 wounded while attending the wounded on the field, and of a large number of chaplains who lost their lives in the same way, or when fighting in the ranks with the soldiers.

Sedgwick Post

Sedgwick Post No. 10, G. A. R. of Oregon, has now 108 members who come from 16 different States, and represent 75 regiments of infantry, 14 of cavalry, and 11 batteries of artillery. If dates, names of places, and official returns of personal services could be secured it would undoubtedly be found that the members of the post represent not fewer than 200 engagements of different degrees of intensity, and that they saw more dead and wounded men on the battle field than fell in all the wars named above as occurring before 1861.

—ALBERT LOUGHRIDGE, Post Commander.

THE G. A. R. VETERANS

(By Dennis A. McCarthy.)

Every year they're marching slower, Every year they're stooping lower, Every year the lilting music stirs the hearts of older men; Every year the flags above them Seem to bend and bless and love them, As if grieving for the future, when they'll never march again.

Every year that day draws nearer, Every year the truth is clearer, That the men who saved the Nation from the severing Southern sword, Soon must pass away forever From the scene of their endeavor; Soon must answer to the roll call of the angel of the Lord.

Every year with dwindling number, Loyal still to those that slumber, Forth they march to where already many have found peace at last, And they place the fairest blossoms, O'er the silent mould'ring bosoms, Of the valiant friends and comrades of the battles of the past.

Every year grow dimmer, duller, Tattered flag and faded color, Every year the hands that bear them find a harder task to do, And the eyes that only brightened When the blaze of battle lightened, Like the tattered flags they follow are grown dim and faded, too.

Every year we see them massing, Every year we watch them passing, Scarcely pausing in our hurry—after pleasure, after gain. But the battle flags above them Seem to bend and bless and love them, And through all the lilting music sounds an undertone of pain.

The statement is made that Colonel Bryan is about to begin the practice of the law in Washington, D. C. There ought to be a good opening for a bright young man in that town.

And it will be recalled that Bill McAdoo was smart enough to get out of the railroad situation before it was all gummed up. He showed the same cleverness at the San Francisco convention.

The population of Nevada has so increased that it is now about the size of Wichita, Kansas, or Harrisburg, Pa. And it elects two senators and a congressman. In some respects we are yet a government of square miles instead of people.

Can you recall a time when the country, in the opinion of competent observers, was not going to the dogs; when the farmer was satisfied with the prices he was getting for his products or admitted that he was making money?

FUTURE DATES

May 26, 27 and 28—Bashall, Williams vs. Whitman, at Walla Walla. May 28, Saturday—Track meet, Salem high school and James Johns high school of Portland, on Salem field. May 29, Sunday—Memorial Sunday service. May 30, Monday—Memorial day. June 3, Friday—Annual senior play by June 17, Tuesday—Auction sale of blooded Jerseys at state fair grounds. June 14, Tuesday—Elks annual flag day program. June 15 to 29—Oregon National guard encampments at Camp Lewis and Fort Stevens. June 16, Thursday—Oregon Pioneer association meeting in Portland. June 17, Friday—High school graduation exercises. High School. June 18, Friday—Annual Iowa picnic, State fair grounds. June 20, Monday—School election. July 23, Saturday—Marion county Sunday school picnic, state fair grounds.

county superintendent, the superintendent of the county school district assumes most of the opportunities and responsibilities of the former office of county superintendent.

The Oregon law seems to be as satisfactory as any so far devised.

It is a budget system in school finance. It is expert supervision. It prevents all scrapping between cities and towns, and between either or both against the county. There must be good schools, good teachers, good supervision, good school buildings and grounds, and adequate financing when the new law gets in good working order.

Oregon also now has a first-class consolidated school law. The legislature appropriated \$300,000 for a state training school for boys. The chief object is educational and reformatory, and the buildings and the plan of instruction will be along the lines of most modern and scientific thought for the purpose of vocational as well as academic training, and leading, as nearly as possible, to the complete reformation and rehabilitation of the inmates to fit them for useful and honorable citizenship.

There will be kindergartens in every city with 20,000 children of school age. The only limitation is that not more than five kindergartens shall be established in any city the first five years and that the total cost shall not be more than \$10,000 per year the first five years or more than \$20,000 a year the second five years.

Provision is made for an elementary teachers' training course. Until January 1, 1923, it will be an intensified continuous course of twelve weeks. From January 1, 1923, to January 1, 1925, it shall be 36 weeks, and after January 1, 1925, it shall equal 72 weeks. The term of the state superintendent is to be four years and the salary \$4000.

Owing to the apparent appalling turbulency of the world's chaotic political and social condition, particularly in the bolshevik and soviet countries of eastern Europe, and the probability of such contagion extending over and permeating our own American government, provision is made for home teachers to work in the homes of the pupils, instructing children and adults in matters relating to school attendance and preparation therefor; also in sanitation, in the English language, in household duties, such as purchase, preparation and use of food and of clothing and in the fundamental principles of the American system of government and the rights and duties of citizenship.

Because many influences are at work to destroy and discredit the purposes and authority of our government and to scatter seeds of dissension and disloyalty among those who are to be the custodians of our free institutions it is of the utmost importance that nothing derogatory to our ideals of government be taught in our state schools, and that the principles of Americanism be maintained at all times. Most stringent provision is made for protecting the schools from all injurious influences and for eliminating all teachers whose ardent Americanism is questioned.

REALTY ASSOCIATIONS.

Ira E. High, president of the Interstate Realty association, in an article published in the Idaho Homestead, gives an interesting account of what the realty association stands for and what it means to the public in general. He says:

"The purpose of the realty board is to elevate the real estate profession to its proper place among the world's leading professions, and to systematize this important and hitherto more or less neglected field. The real estate profession is as closely related to the public as law or medicine, a profession that goes hand and glove with all the large constructive forces.

"The realtors individually and as a body, are today the guiding hand in the growth and development of our cities and countries. The city of today and the future

will not be allowed to 'just come up' like Topsy, but its additions as they are laid out will be, and are being developed with the common good of the community in mind. The realty board cannot succeed and cannot accomplish many big things in its program without your support. There are in the real estate profession, as in any other, all classes of men—men of vision, high ideals and real initiative, and I am sorry to admit, many whose ideas of ethics and principles are anything but immaculate. With your cooperation this fly-by-night unethical element can be eradicated.

"The future growth and prosperity of our city, in fact the whole country is influenced to a great extent by the real estate profession. With this truth in mind the real estate boards of the nation were organized; not only our local board which is but a spoke in the wheel, but the state and national organization as well.

"The day has gone by when any body of men in any walk of life can organize for a selfish purpose and prosper, and I might say the day is arriving when the men and women in any profession must organize to protect the public, for in protecting the public they are not performing any act of charity, but on the contrary, their business or professional life depends upon them protecting the public from unreliable or unethical persons engaged in their particular line of endeavor.

"There is no limit to the amount of good a properly supported real estate board can do for the community. It can and will influence industry to locate; it can and will get back of the transportation problems, keep at and after them until a satisfactory agreement is reached. These and many things too numerous to mention will be done if you will give the realtors your support. I know you will keep in mind the truth that the board was organized for the benefit and protection of the public, and is not a real estate trust, as many unscrupulous operators would have you think."

BITS FOR BREAKFAST

"Fair and warmer."

Next week, from May 30 to June 4, will be soldiers' loan week in Salem.

During this time the American Legion boys and their friends will attempt to show all the people of this section that the success of the soldiers' loan amendment at the election on June 7 would be a good thing for Oregon, to say nothing of doing partial justice to the 24,500 men of this state who staked their lives for the safety of civilization.

It now appears that there will be at least 500 acres of broccoli in the Salem district for the harvest of next February and March.

There is perhaps enough seed in sight to make it 600 acres, and there is time enough for this, within the next week or so. It should be done; and that will mean, if all goes well with the crop, about 15 cars a day going forward for the better part of two months, bringing some \$200,000 cash at a time when it will be mighty handy. Pretty good showing, do you not agree, for a movement started only a few short weeks ago, with the idea of getting at least 20 acres planted, so that there might be a car shipment every other day.

It was a fair, fine day for starting the putting down of the cement on the Pacific highway this side of Jefferson, and coming this way—yesterday.

Burrows—Sorry, old chap, but I am looking for a little financial sucker again. Bangs—You'll have to hunt further. I am not the little financial sucker I used to be.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

GEORGE BEBAN
Is Not Italian as You Supposed
He was born in San Francisco of Scotch-Irish Parentage
He will be seen at THE OREGON Saturday

Maxwell Prices Reduced—Now \$845

New Organization, Taking Full Control, Turns Prices Back Three Years

The last step in the Maxwell reorganization was the sale of the Maxwell properties to the new and powerful organization, May 12. The first step of the new organization was to raise the value of the good Maxwell still higher, by restoring prices to the former low level of 1918. The reduction is \$150 on each of the four models, effective at once. This is the second price revision made by the new organization; and the total reduction from the high level, since Sept. 28, 1920, has been \$310 on open cars and \$350 on closed cars. What this latest action means, literally, is turning back Maxwell prices to the basis of 1918. The truth is that the good Maxwell today is a better car than it was three years ago. It has been given a new goodness, by lowering costs, by increasing plant efficiency, and by greatly improving the manufacturing practices. The new organization now owns the great Maxwell plants outright. Its way is clear to carry out in full its larger plans and policies. It pledges itself never to stop working for the further betterment of the good Maxwell, and for the greater satisfaction of present and future owners of this good car.

New Price List			
Touring Car \$845	Roadster \$845	Coupe \$1445	Sedan \$1545
F. O. B. factory, war tax to be added			

OSCAR B. GINGRICH MOTOR AND TIRE CO. 371 Court Street SALEM, OREGON Phone 635

The Good MAXWELL