

NATION QUICK TO ADOPT IDEA OF HONORING DEAD

ABOUT two years after the war between the sections of the country had ended it was observed that a few women of Columbus, Miss., had decorated the graves in that vicinity with the choicest of spring's early blooms. This little act of thoughtfulness included Union as well as Confederate soldiers. A New York newspaper published a notice of this occurrence and made a few remarks commending it.

From that humble beginning has sprung our great holiday of the decoration, which was formally established in 1868. At that time Adjutant General Chipman suggested to Gen. John A. Logan, commander in chief of the G. A. R., that the organization set a regular day on which to decorate the graves of the Union soldiers. May 30 was decided upon by General Logan, who urged the people of the nation to keep the day in every city, village and hamlet churchyard throughout the land. He offered no form of ceremony to be followed, but suggested to his comrades that they carry out such testimonials and services of respect as they deemed fitting and proper. In concluding he set forth the earnest hope that the observance which he inaugurated would be kept up from year to year as long as a survivor of the war remains.

On the first memorial day twenty-seven states joined in the celebration and the heroes' graves were strewn with flowers in 183 burying places. At Arlington on that occasion the services were unusually impressive and James A. Garfield was the speaker of the day. His address will ever be remembered as a foremost exponent of the spirit and significance of the great holiday.

In the following year, 1869, however, more elaborate preparations had been made and the program carried out at the national cemetery was one of the best in all the history of Decoration



Entrance to Arlington.

day. The bodies of thousands and thousands which were gathered from the battlefields of Virginia and Maryland, together with those whose remains were removed from trenches and pits on battle sites, were interred at the beautiful resting place that the government had set aside, and it seemed justly appropriate that unusual ceremonies should take place there.

The decoration of the graves concluded the day's lengthy program. Every mound was ornamented with bouquets, wreaths and flags and several memorials of unique design were erected at various intervals through-

Memorial Day Message.

Three years ago under hot skies a few thousand white-haired old men met on the grass-grown battlefield of Gettysburg to celebrate a peace that had endured for almost fifty years. They were men who had fought each other long and hard for what they believed right; through a time of strife and hatreds that seemed implacable, through fire and blood and death, they had lived to see peace come back to the world. It is a commonplace enough reflection, perhaps, but it comes back with a good deal of force this Memorial day, 1916. Peace comes back to the world; hatreds die.

General Butler's Way.

Probably more stories were told about Butler than of any other man in the war—unless, perhaps, it was Grant. To illustrate his habit of doing things promptly and effectively, an incident is mentioned where a newspaper correspondent called to ask him for something that had to be written. Possibly it was a pass. At all events, there was no place to write, because the only table in the room

out the grounds. A signal gun fired by Dupont's battery announced that the day's work was over and benediction was then pronounced by Rev. B. Swallow, chaplain of the department of the Potomac.

The day was a beautiful one and it is estimated that between 25,000 and 30,000 people attended the services. All the departments of the general and municipal governments, the banks, courts and principal places of business were closed, to give all a chance of participating in the ceremonies. Simple exercises in keeping with the spirit of the day were also held at the Soldiers' Home, Oak Hill, Congressional and Glenwood cemeteries.

The amphitheater at Arlington was built in 1873 for the memorial day ceremonies. It was put up hurriedly after the design of Gen. Montgomery Meigs. Twenty-five carpenters, twelve bricklayers and thirty laborers worked



General Sheridan's Grave.

on it and completed the structure in less than a month. Plans have been made for years to erect a finer building for this purpose, but the present one, while lacking in form and style, still retains a characteristic beauty. The slender piers and the overhanging vines have lent an added attractiveness to the original design.

THE OLD SOLDIERS!

Our ranks are growing thinner, every year,
And death is still a winner, every year,
Yet we still must stick together,
Like the toughest sort of leather,
And in any kind of weather, every year.

Our comrades have departed, every year,
And leave us broken hearted, every year,
But their spirits fondly greet us
And constantly entreat us
To come that they may meet us, every year.

Our steps are growing slower, every year,
Pale death is still a mower, every year,
Yet we faced him in the battle
Amid the muskets' rattle,
Defying showers of metal, every year.

We are growing old and lonely, every year,
We have recollection only, every year,
And we bled for this grand nation
On many a field and station
And with any kind of ration, every year.

Many people may forget us, every year,
And our enemies may fret us, every year,
But while onward we are drifting
Our souls with hopes are lifting
To heavenly scenes still shifting, every year.

The Stars and Stripes grow brighter, every year,
With labor burdens lighter, every year,
By blood of soldier sages
Along the rolling ages
On freemen's holy pages, every year.

In the May time of the flowers, every year,
We have lived in golden hours, every year,
And our deeds be sung in story
Through the future growing hoary
With a blaze of living glory, every year!

Seeks Always to Improve.

Real believers are always thinking they believe not, therefore they are fighting, wrestling, striving and toiling without ceasing, to preserve and increase their faith; just as good and skillful masters of any art are always seeing and observing that something is lacking in their work, whilst bunglers and pretenders persuade themselves that they lack nothing, but that all they make and do is quite perfect. —Sayle.

was piled high with books and a great variety of other articles. Butler, without saying a word, simply tilted the table, cleared it by the simple process of spilling everything on the floor, and sat down to write while a nimble negro servant picked up and removed the debris.

In sending a pilot, who said he knew all about the location of torpedoes of the James river, to Admiral Lee, he dictated a letter in the man's presence, saying: "If he faithfully and truly performs his duty, return him to me at Bermuda Landing. If not, hang him to the yardarm." Then, turning to the pilot, he added: "Now, my good man, go; you have your life in your own hands."

Ill-Feeling Forgotten.

There were many men in '61 who did not believe that the hatreds which engendered the Civil war could ever die. There could be no peace. They lived to see the thing they believed impossible. They lived to see the South risen to new greatness. They saw a nation which by war emerge stronger than it

NEWS ITEMS

Of General Interest

About Oregon

Oregon and California Land Grant Title Is Not Clear

Washington, D. C.—As the Oregon & California land grant bill stands on the house calendar, it will not enable the government of the United States to pass a clear title to any settler or purchaser, in the opinion of Representative Hawley, and he has the supporting opinion of several of the good lawyers of the public lands committee in this opinion.

"The bill," said Mr. Hawley, "makes provision for the payment of back taxes—that is, for taxes that have accrued for the past three years, but I believe it does not provide for the payment of taxes which are now becoming collectable. Moreover, the bill fails to make provision for the payment of interest on back taxes and fails also to provide for the payment of penalties on those accrued taxes. These omissions, in my opinion, render it impossible for the United States to give an absolutely clear title and I will call attention to this shortcoming when the bill is before the house."

"The prime reason for providing in the bill for the payment of back taxes was to enable the government to give a clear title. Unless that section is enlarged and made complete it will fail of its purpose and those who acquire these lands from the government will be liable for interest and for the unpaid penalties and for the taxes that are not paid by the government under the Ferris bill."

Smudging Need Shown in Southern Oregon Fruit District

Medford—In the opinion of local fruit men the year 1916 will mark the final demonstration of the necessity of crude oil smudging in the growing of fine fruit and apples in Southern Oregon.

At the beginning of the season there was a distinct movement against smudging, chiefly because of the annoyance involved and damage to trees from overflowing pots. In fact an injunction against smudging was obtained by one group of orchards shortly before the May freeze.

All this anti-smudge agitation is ended now in the opinion of local growers, for from May 8 to May 14 smudging in Rogue River valley orchards was worth at least \$500,000.

Those orchardists who smudged, and fortunately a large proportion of them did, lost practically nothing from the low temperature, while except on the high hillsides those who did not smudge were wiped out. While the loss has been serious, it is certain according to experts who examined the orchards that the first reports were greatly exaggerated.

100,000 Acres in Willamette Valley Can Be Watered

Salem—Approximately 100,000 acres of land can be feasibly irrigated in the Willamette valley at the present time, results of an investigation just completed by the United States Reclamation Service in co-operation with the state engineer's office show. A joint report of the inquiry into irrigation and power development possibilities of the Willamette valley was issued this week.

The survey extended from Canby at the mouth of the Molalla river to the head of the Willamette river above Cottage Grove and included the area in the immediate vicinity of Portland.

It is pointed out that the water supply for the proposed irrigation of the valley lands in many cases may be obtained from wells by pumping. The report declares that the average economic duty of water which seems to be indicated for the valley as a whole is eight inches delivered to the land, varying with local conditions of soil and crops.

Those employed in the survey investigated the water power development possibilities on the north fork of the Santiam river with storage at Marion lake; the upper reaches of the McKinzie river and the middle fork of the Willamette river.

On the McKinzie river there are two existing plants and at least two new developments proposed, one at Vida and the other between the outlet of Clear lake and the mouth of Smith river, involving the use of Clear lake for regulation of flow.

Oregon Grange Elects.

Grants Pass—The Oregon State Grange elected officers at its annual convention in progress here, as follows: Master, C. E. Spencer, Oregon City; overseer, C. D. Huffman, La Grande; lecturer, Mrs. H. E. Bond, Eugene; treasurer, H. H. Hirshberg, Independence; secretary, Mary S. Howard; legislative committee, M. M. Burtner, Dufur; James Stewart, Fossil; executive committee, B. G. Leedy, Corvallis.

MOTHER GUILTY OF CONTRIBUTING TO DELINQUENCY OF HER CHILD

Portland—After deliberating but 30 minutes a jury in Judge Morrow's court late Tuesday found Mrs. Hodge, 114 East Twenty-sixth street, guilty of contributing to the delinquency of her 15-year-old daughter, Frances, in that she permitted her to frequent public dances and all-night restaurants, associating with men of doubtful character.

The jury returned but two ballots to come to an agreement. The first stood 11 for conviction to one for acquittal and the second was unanimous.

The case is said to be the first ever tried in Oregon in which an attempt was made to fix the responsibility of a parent for a child's downfall. The decision is, in the opinion of attorneys, an important one, in that it will affect the status of all parents with regard to their responsibility before the law for their children's actions.

Deputy District Attorney Robison, who handled the case for the state, declared that the effect of the decision would be far-reaching, in that it would no doubt act as a preventive in a large percentage of the cases customarily ending in the Juvenile court as the result of the delinquency of parents.

Fury of Extensive Austrian Attack Increases on Italian Battle Front

Rome, via Paris—Austrian artillery of all sizes and all ranges, with the monster 305-millimeter gun predominating, has transformed the battle front between the Adige and Brenta rivers into an inferno.

Notwithstanding the snow-capped mountain barriers, the Austrian infantry is being launched in waves which military observers say break against the formidable resistance of the Italians.

The Italian troops have now formed their lines of offense and are holding firmly all the passes and peaks, from which Italian officers say the forward movement of the Austrians has not only been successfully arrested, but the Austrians have been dislodged from several strategic positions taken in the first rush of the offensive.

There are several indications to confirm the statement that the design of the present strenuous campaign of the Austrians on the Trentino front is to prevent Italy participating with her troops in the struggle on the French front and also to paralyze any action aiming at the joining of the Avlona and Saloniki forces for a simultaneous effort.

Congress Gets No Information to Aid in Settling Land Grant Case

Washington, D. C.—Congress will be compelled to legislate for the dispositions of the Oregon & California land grant without knowing more than it knows now as to the meaning of the decision of the United States Supreme court in the case.

Tuesday the Supreme court received from the United States Circuit court at San Francisco a certificate of seven questions on which that court wishes enlightenment before passing on the railroad company's appeal from Judge Wolverton's last decree. The case has not yet been docketed, but in any event cannot be heard by the Supreme court this term, and no answer to the questions propounded will be made before the October term. This means not only that congress will get from the Supreme court no interpretation of its decision of last June, but that the appeal of the railroad company is halted.

Secret Note Is Rumored.

New York—Joseph C. Grew, secretary of the American embassy at Berlin, was a passenger on the Danish steamer Frederick VIII, which arrived at quarantine Tuesday from Copenhagen and Christiania. Mr. Grew refused to discuss his mission to this country, which dispatches from Europe have intimated was in connection with a peace move, and that he bore documents including a note from Emperor William to President Wilson.

Peace Move Is Rumored.

Amsterdam, via London—The Munich Neueste Nachrichten publishes a wireless dispatch from Madrid, which says that negotiations are in progress there "between King Alfonso and the Pope and President Wilson for the purpose of arranging an armistice among the belligerent nations." The object is to discuss peace terms, the dispatch adds.

570 Fishing Craft Sunk.

London—The number of British fishing vessels destroyed since the beginning of the war by Great Britain's enemies was given as 570 by Francis D. Acland, financial secretary of the treasury in the house of commons Tuesday. The number of lives lost on these vessels was 500. Fishing has gone on as usual, within necessary restrictions.

RUSSIANS SUCCOR BRITISH ON TIGRIS

Cavalry Mysteriously Comes to Forces in Distress.

BOLD, ADVENTUROUS RIDE REPORTED

First News Since Surrender of Gen. Townshend and Fall of Kut-el-Amara Is Joyful Surprise.

London—A force of Russian cavalry has joined the British army on the Tigris, in Mesopotamia. An official communication, issued Monday night concerning the situation along the Tigris, follows:

"General Lake reports that on the 19th the enemy vacated Betahalessi, and advanced position on the right bank of the Tigris. General Goringe, following up the enemy, attacked and carried the Dujailam redoubt. The enemy is still holding the Sannayat position on the left bank of the river.

"A force of Russian cavalry has joined General Goringe after a bold and adventurous ride.

"The first news of the operations on the Tigris since the fall of Kut-el-Amara, sent by Lieutenant General Sir Percy Lake, commander of the British forces in Mesopotamia, although it shows that the Turks are still holding the Sannayat position, on the left bank of the Tigris, where the British check made it impossible to carry out the relief of General Townshend, brings the welcome but astonishing intelligence that a body of Russian cavalry, after an adventurous ride, has succeeded in joining General Goringe's forces on the south bank of the Tigris."

How this important junction was effected is still unknown, and the story will be awaited with intense interest.

Their sudden appearance with General Goringe also has raised the question whether the Russians have already cut the Bagdad railroad at Mosul. In any case, the unexpected appearance of this body of cavalry is as great a surprise as was the first landing of the Russian troops at Marseilles, and is another instance of the swift and stealthy movement of the Russian forces in Asia Minor.

Two Men Marooned 58 Days On Barren Alaskan Island, Rescued

Seward, Alaska—After having been marooned 58 days on one of the barren islands at the mouth of Cook Inlet, Captain Charles Hansen and E. H. Mitchell, formerly of San Francisco, survivors of the wreck of the launch Success, arrived here Monday from Seldovia on the steamer Admiral Farragut.

Thomas Campbell, formerly of Bremerton, Wash., and John Larson, the other two men who were on the launch, were drowned.

Captain Hansen and the other three men, who were propectors, left Seward February 15 to investigate reports of a rich gold strike near Katmai volcano on the Alaskan Peninsula, 250 miles west of Seward. They encountered head winds and zero weather soon after leaving Seward and when they reached the barren islands, 100 miles from here, March 8, they anchored to weather the storm. On March 13 all but Mitchell went ashore in a small boat, and when returning to the launch were capsized. Campbell and Larsen were drowned, but Captain Hansen managed to reach shore, where he found himself in immediate danger of freezing to death.

After trying to float matches ashore in packing cases so Captain Hansen could build a fire, Mitchell cut loose the anchor and permitted the Success to go on the beach, so as to aid Hansen. The launch was wrecked, but Mitchell got ashore and built a fire. Supplies and a tent were saved from the wreck and the two survivors, by eating mussels and occasionally seagulls managed to subsist. On May 9 they left the island in a small boat and rowed 25 miles to Dogfish Bay and then to Seldovia where they were taken aboard the Farragut.

Irish and Teutons Join.

San Francisco—Irish and German societies joined in a parade here Sunday to advertise a German bazaar being held in the exposition auditorium for the relief of German war sufferers. Armed and uniformed, the societies represented in the parade included the Hanover Verein, the Independent Rifles, San Francisco Turner Schuetzen, Pacific Turnbezirk, Irish Volunteers, Hibernia Rifles and Austrian Military and Benevolent association.