

THE EUGENE DAILY GUARD.

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Charles H. Fisher.

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THURSDAY, MAY 30

MEMORIAL DAY.

This is Memorial Day and all over our big country it has been observed by a grateful people who feel that every honor is due the nation's heroes, living and dead. Flowers have been piled high over lowly graves and costly mausoleum alike, and business suspended and heads uncovered as the rapidly depleting ranks of survivors marched to the cemetery with their beautiful tokens of love for comrades gone before.

The setting apart of Memorial Day was a beautiful thought and its observance from year to year is more universal, as one day of all the busy year when the mind is turned to things higher than earthly cares, and purer thoughts and tender memories have precedence in every mind. Not only are the graves of the fallen veterans decorated with tributes of affectionate remembrance, but relatives and friends of all who sleep in the silent cities of the land cover the sacred earth above them with a profusion of beautiful flowers, emblematic of the love that will bloom perennially as long as life shall last.

BEST KIND OF PAVING.

The Warren Construction Company, which will pave Willamette street in this city, evidently does only first class work. The following is from the Daily East Oregonian, of Pendleton, and is evidence that the company is conscientious in the carrying out of its contracts:

"The bitulithic pavement laid on Pendleton streets by the Warren Construction Company is better than the specifications. The specifications called for but two inches of surface while the surface in places is over four inches thick and as hard as iron."

"The pavement has been opened in five places on Main street for the purpose of repairing water mains, and it required workmen from three to five hours to cut out a section a few feet in extent. It is almost impossible to cut it with ordinary tools, and there is every evidence that it will last even longer than the contract calls for with slight repairs."

"Those who have witnessed the work of cutting through it are satisfied that the city has made no mistake in having the bitulithic paving."

Rev. W. J. Long, a naturalist, whose claims have been ridiculed by President Roosevelt, has had the temerity to speak of his distinguished critic as "a man named Roosevelt," and to refer to a magazine article reviewed by him as a fake, which "its literary style makes it fit for the waste basket." He has also addressed an open letter to the president demanding an apology for the latter's personal observations. Somebody is likely to be making long steps for the tall timber, to escape the Ananias branding iron.

A Kentuckian swore out a warrant against his wife for holding him up with a pistol and compelling him to give her a check to buy what he considered an extravagant lot of clothes. And the world has been taught that blue grass men were all dead game sports and always galling.

Things were so quiet on one of the streets of Philadelphia the other day that an eagle swooped down and attempted to carry off a calf. But the strangest part of the yarn is that the calf was killed with a gun. Didn't know they had such things in the City of Brotherly Love.

An Independence, Or., dispatch states that the railroad assessment of Polk county has been increased 50

per cent this year, raising the total valuation not less than \$200,000. There is an excellent suggestion in this news item for the namesake of Lane county.

"The son of an exiled nobleman" continues to pull off periodical profitable crooked stunts. His latest was to disappear with jewels belonging to confiding dealers and women, valued at \$750,000. Oh, no! Americans do not love the glamor of a European title!

A Connecticut man wagered a dollar that he could drink ten glasses of whiskey and a schooner of beer in fifteen minutes, and won. But he never spent the dollar—he died too quick.

In bringing suit for \$81,000,000 against Uncle Sam, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad may have intended to call public attention to the existence of grievances other than those against the railroads.

The "woman in blue" who obtained notoriety at Oyster Bay last summer by trying to annoy the Roosevelts, turned up in Washington the other day "in brown," and rehearsing her old tactics wound up in a cell.

There'll be no dry Sundays in Windberg-by-the-Lake, as Mayor Busse has refused to order the saloons closed on that day, on the ground that the people wish them kept open.

As matrimonial comedians have the call, here's a little one: If a Kentucky couple consumed twenty-five years in getting to marriage how long will it take them to get to the divorce court?

Congratulations would seem to be due those who pulled off the thirteenth annual Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration without any personal scrapping.

It was probably because of the conviction that most of the visitors would need additional money that a bank has been opened at the Jim town show.

For Grandpa's Sake.

By BERTRAM WELLS.

MY grandpa went to war long ago. I never saw him, but they told me so. And how, after a battle, sad news came. Among the missing was my grandpa's name.

THEY never heard of him again, they said. And so we know that grandpa must be dead. And when I think of him, so good and brave. I wish I knew where he had found a grave.



IF THERE SOME FLOWERS SHE'D LAY.

WHEN Decoration day comes every year. I feel so sad and sometimes shed a tear. To see the soldiers' graves all spread with flowers. While grandpa cannot have one rose of ours.

SO if some little southern girl should know. A nameless grave where blossoms never grow. I'd love her so if there some flowers she'd lay. For grandpa's sake, this Decoration day.

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It costs no more to apply good paint—therefore use New Era. Sold only at the Berger-Boon Hardware Company.

Put new paper on your dining room from Preston & Hales' stock and see the difference it makes to the table.

The Medal of Honor.

AMERICA'S BADGE OF COURAGE.

By ROBERTUS LOVE.

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AMERICA'S badge of courage is the medal of honor. This is the medal that is conferred by congress upon soldiers and sailors for conspicuous deeds of bravery in actual fighting. In all the world there is but one other medal conferred for just the same sort of gallantry and for no other kind of service. That is the Victoria Cross of Great Britain. France's Cross of the Legion of Honor, Germany's Iron Cross and Russia's Cross of St. George are usually conferred for distinguished gallantry in actual battle, but not always. The American medal of honor can be earned in no other way.

In this country, as a rule, we do not make much ado over the medal of honor. When the Victoria Cross is conferred, there is much glitter and gold lace, ceremony and so forth. Now and then the president of the United States personally pins the medal upon the breast of a hero, but more often the cherished little bronze badge is sent through the mails, and the recipient gets a ten line notice in his local newspaper. Nevertheless, this is the very highest honor that can be bestowed by the government of the United States upon one of its defenders by land or sea.

In the conferring of this medal there is no distinction of rank. The humblest private soldier and the exalted major general may receive medals struck from the same die. Thus in the hierarchy of military courage all men are equal. It is an aristocracy, for the medal of honor "set" is very exclusive. Approximately 2,500,000 men fought for the United States during the civil war, and less than 2,000 of them received the medal of honor. Congress voted nearly half of this number to the members of an entire regiment at one sitting. Right on the eve of Gettysburg, that pivotal battle of the war, the term of service of the Twenty-seventh Maine volunteer infantry expired. To a man the brave fellows volunteered to stay in the army and go into that fight. Every survivor received the medal. Less than twenty medals have been conferred upon soldiers and sailors who fought in the Spanish-American war and perhaps not so many upon heroes of the Philippine service.

Many a medal of honor man has held this official tribute to his bravery for years and years, all unknown to his townspeople. Some of our heroes are too modest to wear their medals even when they march with their army post on Memorial day. But until three years ago the wearing of the medal of honor would not have disclosed to the general public the fact that the veteran possessed it, for unfortunately the original form of the medal was so nearly like that of the Grand Army badge that only by the closest inspection could the two be distinguished. General John A. Logan, founder of the G. A. R., recommended for the emblem of that body a design which, though at the time he was unaware of it, was almost a duplicate of the medal of honor. This design was adopted



THE NEW MEDAL OF HONOR.

and is worn by all the Grand Army men. Three years ago, in order to avoid this confusion, a new design for the medal was adopted. Under the rules the new medal was to be given to any holder of the old medal upon his turning in the old one. Some of the holders turned in their cherished tokens and received the new design, but some preferred to keep the old medal, which had become endeared to them by long years of possession or by the circumstances under which it was received. Comrade Thomas Da-

vis of the Second New York infantry, to give a particular instance, said that he never would give up his old medal because it was presented to him by General Grant in person in the presence of the regiment for capturing the battleflag of a Georgia regiment at Cold Harbor. The new medal has been patented to protect it against further confusion.

The original medal of honor was created by act of congress in 1862, the idea being suggested by General E. D. Townsend, adjutant general of the army during the war. General George L. Gillespie, assistant to the chief of staff of the army, was the designer of the new medal. It is of bronze, suspended from a ribbon of the same metal by a blue silk ribbon stamped with thirteen white stars. The pendant medal includes a five pointed star, above which are a bar containing the word "Valor" and an eagle with wings outspread. A wreath of laurel is around the five points of the star. The star is suspended from the bar. The ribbon is two inches wide, the eagle's wings from tip to tip covering its width. The old medal has a bronze star of the same mold, but the ribbon is a small American flag, beneath which is an eagle, with outspread wings, sitting upon two crossed cannons, with an inverted pyramid of cannon balls beneath. This is the army medal. The navy medal is suspended from the ribbon by an anchor instead of an eagle. On the back of the medal are inscribed the name of the hero and a few words regarding the deed of bravery for which the token is conferred.

A few years ago an order called the Medal of Honor Legion was organized, which meets annually. Members of



SHAFTER MANAGED TO CLIMB A TREE. This legion are of two classes, actual holders of the medal and descendants of holders. The legion has about 500 members of the first class.

Volumes would be required to tell the story of each daring deed for which congress has voted a medal. For the present purpose mention may be made of a few medal of honor men who have reached high rank. One of these is Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles. As colonel of the Sixty-first New York volunteers Miles commanded a line of skirmishers against a strong force at Chancellorsville. To encourage his men Miles several times leaped upon an empuine, calling to his followers to hold their ground. In this exposed position the young colonel was finally wounded seriously. He received the medal for that particular deed.

The late General William R. Shafter, who commanded the United States army in Cuba at the Santiago battles, climbed a tree during the civil war and won his medal. General Shafter was much leaner and more active then than he was at the time of the Spanish trouble, when he could not have climbed a tree to save his life. Shafter was wounded in one leg at the battle of Fair Oaks. Seeing a surgeon approaching, he knew that he would be picked up and sent to the rear. He managed to climb a tree, concealing himself in the foliage until the surgeon passed by. Then he climbed down and fought all day on his wounded leg.

Arthur MacArthur, who, like Miles, had been lieutenant general of the army, earned his medal at Gettysburg. He was a company officer in a Wisconsin regiment. On the fierce charge up Missionary Ridge the regimental color bearers were picked off one by one. MacArthur took the colors from the hands of a wounded sergeant and bore them to the crest of the ridge, where he planted the staff.

General J. Franklin Bell, the present chief of staff of the army, won his medal in the Philippines, where he rode far in advance of his men in pursuit of two Filipino officers and five privates. He captured Captain and two privates, scattering the rest of the little band with revolvers, while a large force of Filipinos was lying upon him from the bamboo thickets.

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HOUSE FOR RENT—Six rooms, well located; very clean; good well. Inquire at 312 East Eighth street. m29

FOR SALE—Dry grub oak; some small size, nice for cooking. E. M. Warren, 442 Lawrence street, Eugene, Or.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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