

WHEN THE GREAT ARMY OF THE WEST PASSED IN REVIEW

SPeaking of his troops, who passed in grand review at Washington at the close of the great war, General Sherman says:

"It was, in my judgment, the most magnificent army in existence—65,000 men, in splendid physique, who had just completed a march of nearly 2,000 miles in a hostile country, in good drill, and who realized that they were being closely scrutinized by thousands of their fellow countrymen and by foreigners. Division after division passed, each commander of an army corps or division coming on the stand during the passage of his command to be presented to the president, cabinet and spectators. The steadiness and firmness of tread, the careful dress on the guides, the uniform intervals between the companies, all eyes directly to the front, and the tattered and bullet-riven flags, festooned with flowers, all attracted notice. Many good people up to that time had looked upon our Western army as a sort of a mob; but the world then saw and recognized as a fact that it was an army in the proper sense, well organized, well commanded and disciplined, and it was no wonder that it had swept through the South like a tornado. For six hours and a half that strong tread of the army of the West resounded along Pennsylvania avenue. Not a soul of that vast crowd of spectators left his place, and when



General Sherman.

the rear of the column had passed by thousands of spectators still lingered to express their sense of confidence in the strength of a government which could claim such an army."

The statistics of the Civil war are highly interesting in view of what is going on in Europe today. It has been carefully figured out that there were 2,898,304 enlistments in the Union armies during the war and approximately 1,400,000 in the Confederate armies. Reduced to the three-year period there were the equivalent of 1,556,678 enlistments in the Union armies and 1,032,119 in the Confederate armies. The Union casualties were 67,058 killed in battle, 43,012 died of wounds, 224,536 died from disease, 24,872 died from accidents and other causes; total deaths, 359,528; total wounded and recovered, 275,175. The Confederates had 94,000 killed or dead from wounds in battle and 164,000 lost by disease or other causes.

Great Occasion Recalled.

The men who paraded through the streets of the country's cities and towns on Memorial day do not ask to be thought heroes. They are elderly citizens who in their day answered the call just as their sons and their sons' sons would answer it if it came today. The country gave the command, they obeyed.

What makes the parade of these men a great occasion is the greatness of the occasion which it commemorates. Every one of the veterans is a unit in the mass which made up fifty years ago the utmost strength of the greatest republic on earth, exerted to save itself from destruction and to wipe out from it the curse of human slavery.

It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of the work which the Union achieved for humanity or the beauty of the self-sacrifice which the soldiers of 1861 made for the ideal of liberty. It could not be easy for the spectators in Pennsylvania avenue to keep the tears from their eyes as the blue-clad ranks passed by.

All Honor Sacred Dead.

The entire nation lifts its hat on Memorial day to the revered dead; the entire nation lifts its heart to the Almighty who made and has kept the American people a nation. The entire country looks upon the wonderful outcome of the sad strife and marvels at the deeper purposes of Providence in the ordering of the life of the nation. Flowers will decorate all graves, flags will lift their miniature folds above them, prayers will sanctify these places of rest and rejoicing will place its crown upon the memories of the dead.

THE MOURNED EAR OUTNUMBER

THE MOURNERS

"We ARE coming, Father Abraham." Yes they are coming, the veterans of the Union army, responding to the call from the Great Beyond; coming faster now than ever before.

When Memorial day was new in the United States there were dozens and scores, yes, even hundreds of the veterans for each soldier grave to be decorated. Today, half a century after the peace, the graves are legion, and those who would decorate them but a handful.

How fast the "boys in blue" are passing! In this year 1916 they are going at a rate never before reached since the war closed. The death roll of February averaged 116 a day; 115 a day was the average for March, and in April it grew to 118.

Official records show that 2,272,408 men fought under the Stars and Stripes in the Civil war, and that 349,944 lost their lives before Lee surrendered. How many of these remain alive today?

The records of the census office, while perhaps not absolutely accurate, may be taken as approximately authentic. It is believed that since the act of May 11, 1912, granting a service pension to every man who served at least 90 days in the armed forces of the United States during the Civil war, no old soldier remains off the pension roll.

If, however, there are any not pensioned, they certainly are few in number. The pension office rolls show



that May 1, 1915, there were 401,796 veterans of the Civil war pensioned. It is safe to say that no more than this number are now alive.

Rapidly, too, is the veteran of the Union army passing out of public life. In 1914 three veterans of the blue were sole representatives of the Union army in the house—Sherwood of Ohio, Kirkpatrick of Iowa and Goulden of New York. The last named died May 3, 1915, and Kirkpatrick has retired, leaving General Sherwood, so far as known, the sole Union veteran in congress.

On September 27 those survivors of the Union army who were physically able to be present marched in grand review on Pennsylvania avenue, in Washington, reproducing the grand parade of half a century ago. It showed the thinning ranks, as did the grand encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, then in progress in the capital city. This was the last large encampment the order will hold. Truly, "We are coming, Father Abraham."

With the Naval Veterans.

Nowhere in the entire country is Memorial day solemnized with greater profundity of feeling than at the United States Naval home at Philadelphia where the gray-haired veterans of Uncle Sam's sea fighters, many of whom have seen service in the seven seas, are passing their declining years in well-earned comfort. Their Memorial day memories are Farragut and Porter, Foote and Winslow, Cushing and Truxton, Dewey and Schley, of the battles of the Mississippi river, the historic running of the batteries in Mobile bay, the epoch-making fight of the Kearsage and Alabama, and in more recent days, of the famous battle of Manila bay that made us an Asiatic power, and the battle of Santiago which ended Spanish rule in the western hemisphere. For the naval home houses veterans of all these battles so decisive in the shaping of American destiny—battles which make glorious chapters in the history of the United States navy. And the home has likewise sheltered naval veterans of the war of 1812.

All Are Heroes.

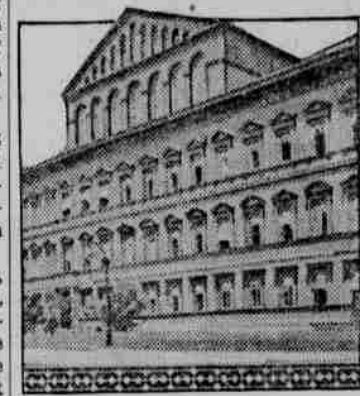
"Heroes are they who respond to the nation's need."

Our nation has never asked for men in vain. With Spartan bravery mothers give their sons, wives their husbands and maidens their sweethearts when the country calls. Many of them will never return. Others will come back to lay their diseased and broken frames beside the hearths of their youth. Some as by divine protection seem to have enchanted lives and return as strong as when they left. They all are heroes if they have felt the thrill of sacrifice and never hesitated in the face of duty.

HOW THE PENSION BUSINESS OF THE COUNTRY IS DONE

A GREAT, angular red brick building, set in a green park, is the home of the pension building at Washington. It was built at a time when American architecture was in a formative period. A feature of the exterior of the building is a broad frieze, showing repeated groups of infantry, cavalry, artillery and seamen in bas-relief. Inside a great, beautiful court, somewhat marred by being made to contain battalions of file cases, is another attractive feature. In times past, when there were such things as inaugural balls in Washington, these balls were held within the court.

It seems to be the fixed belief of the average citizen having business with the pension office that the commis-



Main Entrance to Pension Office.

sioner personally sees and answers all correspondence. Since almost 4,000,000 pieces of mail a year go out of the bureau, this is hardly possible. In fact, it takes a force of about 1,300 employees properly to handle the business, these including doctors, lawyers, expert accountants and other specialists.

Every pension check now issues from this central office, and is received when due, instead of many days thereafter, as formerly when pension agencies were distributed over the country. This and other economies which have been introduced, has greatly reduced the clerical help required, and the force of the office is gradually being cut down.

Still, to handle some 785,000 individual pension accounts and to provide for regular payments thereon is no small task, even though the total now is being decreased from year to year by death. The appropriation for the ensuing fiscal year is \$164,000,000, and Commissioner Saltzgeber is of the opinion that it will be \$4,000,000 less during the following year.

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
And the musketry's 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 freedom'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!

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 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."

CAVALRY GROUP FOR THE GRANT MEMORIAL



The cavalry group for the Grant Memorial in the Botanic gardens at Washington has been completed and put in place recently. It is the second of the three most important bronzes made for the memorial by Henry M. Grady, sculptor, of New York.

DUTCH SOLDIERS IN MOBILIZATION CAMP



The sinking of several Dutch steamers and other causes of complaint have resulted in preparations for possible war by Holland. The photograph shows a number of Dutch soldiers in one of the mobilization camps.

SIXTH FIELD ARTILLERY IN MEXICO



This photograph was taken just after the Sixth Field artillery had broken camp and was stretched in a long line over the Mexican mesa on its way south.

AIDS TINY WAR VICTIMS

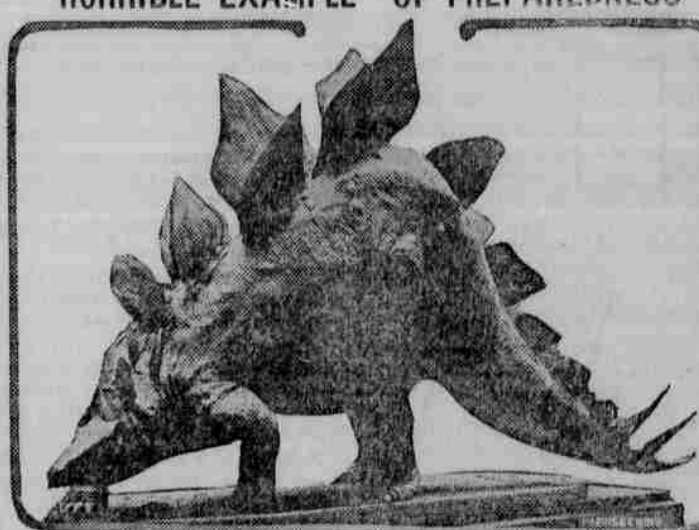


Miss Carolle Dawes Appleton has come from Europe to Washington to start a campaign for the aid of thousands of children who have been left orphans and homeless by the war. She is founder and president of the Friends of Childhood society. Through donations the society has acquired several large tracts of land where schools and homes are being built for the reception of children from the war-ridden countries. In these communities the children will be reared and taught practical vocations by which they will become self-supporting.

Hard to Please.

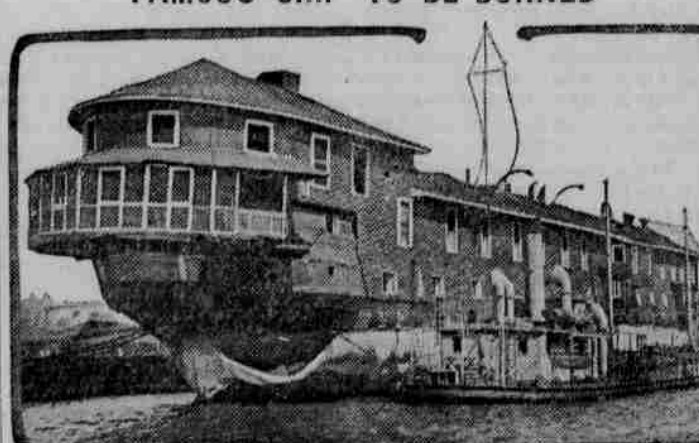
"Some men," said Uncle Eben, "ain't happy unless dey's doin' sumpin' foolish; an' den dey ain't happy."

"HORRIBLE EXAMPLE" OF PREPAREDNESS



Here's the original dinosaur, "all armor plate; no brains," which has been copied by the antipreparedness committee for use in a campaign to block the proposed army and navy increase bills. The model shown here is in the Smithsonian institution. It is 11 feet high and more than 20 feet long, while committee's copy is 15 feet long for transport on a motor truck through New York, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Minneapolis, Des Moines, Kansas City, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh.

FAMOUS SHIP TO BE BURNED



The U. S. S. Franklin, flagship of Admiral Farragut in 1867 and one of the largest frigates afloat at that time, has been sold by the navy department for \$16,787, and will be burned by the purchasers so that her copper and wrought iron may be salvaged. This photograph of the Franklin was taken at Portsmouth, Va.