

One of the First Decoration Days

Grave of Young Southerner Scene of Service That Drew Attention.

WHEN flags are fluttering, bands playing, feet tramping, cannon booming, hearts swelling and tears rising, as millions pay tribute to America's war dead, on May 30, an aged Southern woman, sitting at the window of her little home in Petersburg, Va., will remember a memorial day that antedated the famous "Order No. 11" by which Gen. John A. Logan, as commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., established the national custom, writes Ernest C. Pollard in the New York World.

Miss Nora Fontaine Maury Davidson, Petersburg residents claim, decorating the grave of a Southern patriot and the sight of the wreaths and flags on the Confederate graves at Petersburg, as described by Mrs. Logan to her husband, suggested to him the idea he carried out in Order No. 11 and later by a bill in congress.

Mrs. Logan, in her "Reminiscences of a Soldier's Wife," tells the story of her visit to Petersburg, and of the resulting action of General Logan, but she does not mention having seen or heard of Miss Davidson. Mrs. Logan died but recently.

This is the story, however, as Miss Davidson's friends tell it, and it is a firmly rooted tradition of the town.

In Spring of 1868, Petersburg, the historic old Virginia city, 22 miles from Richmond, the scene of some of the bloodiest fighting in the Civil war, was under martial law, and occupied by Federal troops. One day in March a squad of soldiers on duty were astonished by the appearance of the Confederate flag at the head of a procession of pretty girls, in stiffly starched white dresses and black sashes, marching out of the "Confederate school," a select seminary for young ladies, conducted by Miss Nora Davidson. Miss Davidson carried the big flag and, in addition, each girl wore a small flag on her shoulder.

"Halt!" ordered the officer in charge. The fluttering line stood still. The officer demanded the surrender of the big flag. Miss Davidson refused. He warned her that she might be arrested and imprisoned. She merely remarked: "Come, young ladies," and the white-gowned procession marched calmly past the dumfounded soldiers and climbed into two waiting omnibuses.

A young man, a friend of Miss Davidson's brother, climbed up beside the driver of the first omnibus and, taking the flag, shouldered it himself. The old negro driver touched his whip to the horses and the buses started. The commanding officer, recovering from his astonishment, leaped upon his horse and galloped in front of the conveyance and, covering the young man with his revolver, demanded the surrender of the flag. The boy refused and the officer shot him dead. The flag wrapped itself about his body as he fell to the ground.

The street was instantly filled with excited citizens and the Federal soldiers carried the body away and buried it within the hour, without ceremony, but Miss Davidson and her girls followed it to the cemetery and when the soldiers had left they scattered some of the flowers they carried on the mound and marked the place with flags and stood in a circle while Miss Davidson led in prayers. It was then late evening, but the remaining flowers were carried through the city again to the old Blandford cemetery, where sleep "The Blue and the Gray." A short service was held and the graves decorated with flowers and small flags.

Custom Continued.
The custom was thereafter continued. Two years later, in March, 1868, Col. Charles L. Wilson, editor of the Chicago Journal, invited a party consisting of his niece, Miss Anna Wilson (later Mrs. Horatio May), Miss Farrar, his fiancée, General Logan and Mrs. Logan, all of whom are now dead, to accompany him on a visit to the battlefields around Richmond.

It was a bleak March day and snow was falling when the party visited Blandford cemetery, in Petersburg. As they entered they paused to let a large group of school girls and their teacher pass out. They had seen the girls and the young woman arise from their knees on the damp earth where they had been praying, and now they saw the graves strewn with flowers and fluttering little Confederate flags.

As is well known, when Mrs. Logan returned to Washington she told her husband of the old cemetery and the flower-strewn graves, and he declared he would establish the custom as a permanent one. As commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic he issued Order No. 11, which he afterward called "the proudest act of my life." As member of congress from Illinois, he introduced the bill June 22, 1868, and it was unanimously adopted.

Seven Boys Graduate Tonight From Scio High



ELDRED LONG (Port)
Basketball 4, Baseball 4, Track 2, Athletic Reporter 4.
"Wouldst have a serpent sting thee twice?"



RAY MCKNIGHT (Dad)
Football 2; Basketball 3, 4; Baseball 3, 4; Pres. Class '24; Treas. Student Body 4.
"Happy as the long, long day."



JOE RONER (Joedy)
Librarian 4.
"I will look in the encyclopedia."



TOMMY SMAIL (Red)
Basketball 4, Baseball 4, Gym Committee 4, Sec. of Student Body 4.
"Hang sorrow; care will kill a cat, and therefore let's be merry."



KENNETH WESTENHOUSE (Jeffie)
Manager of Annual 4, Pres. of Student Body 4, Baseball 4.
"It is doing, not dreaming, that wins."



ELDEN KNAUF (Guinea)
Basketball 3, 4; Baseball 3, 4; Track 2, Exchange Editor 4.
"He studies the lunar system, but he's no lunatic."

Relatives and Friends Plan to Be on Hand to Witness First Class of Boys Graduate

Tonight at the High School, at 8:00 o'clock, will occur the graduation exercises of a class composed entirely of boys, the first since the high school was established about 25 years ago, it is said. These seven boys have a distinction, therefore, to always be proud of and to remember.

The graduation address will be delivered by Prof. Samuel Dolan of the O. A. C., and he is said to be a profound thinker and splendid speaker, and will therefore have a message for the class and the audience.

Kenneth Westenhouse will be salutatorian and Ray McKnight valedictorian of the class. It has taken real study and real grades to pass muster, and the class is to be congratulated upon its success thus far. Life is yet before them, in fact just begun. Each no doubt has thought his burden heavy while passing through the twelve grades of school in order to obtain a diploma at the completion. In later years they will reflect back and see how much easier life was during school years and note the time wasted in playing or being "tough." The road to success is wide and straight and if studious, honorable and upright they may carve their names on the tree Success. If they turn off on many of the byways their names may be scratched on the sands of Failure. So life is before them, and they must choose their pathway—to Success or Failure.

The local high school was established in 1900, and during these years some 200 boys and girls have been graduated, and some are now holding splendid positions, while others are successful farmers and housewives, teachers, etc.

Neither of the present faculty applied for the school next year. Prof. Ramsey will probably return to Idaho, while Mrs. Shotwell will take a post-graduate course preparatory to becoming a missionary with her husband when he completes his schooling, while we have not learned of Miss Hall's intention.

Fords Still Going Strong

Ford retail sales in the United States during the first ten days of May averaged eight thousand three hundred and eighty five daily, exceeding the last ten days of the record breaking month of April and indicating the continued upward trend of the market.

Figures just compiled show a total of 757,023 Ford units retailed to customers from January 1st to and including May 10th, of which Ford car and truck deliveries alone show a gain of 102,158 over the same period a year ago.

Fred Savage and two daughters of Enterprise, Ore., all former residents of Scio, were calling on old friends here yesterday. Mrs. Savage is attending the convention of the P. E. O. Sisterhood which is being held in Albany this week.

See Cecil B. DeMille's latest picture,

"TRIUMPH"

Paramount's latest release
At Star Theatre
STAYTON

Tuesday-Wednesday, June 3 & 4.
Admission 10c and 25c

ERNEST TUCER (Teuch)
"Wise, but you never hear him say so."



The 1923-4 High School Faculty



MISS HAZEL HALL
O. A. C. '23
Home Economics
"If you can't be quiet you may leave the class."



LAURISTON RAMSEY
University of Missouri, A. B.
Principal 1923-24
Mathematics, Social Science, Agriculture, Bookkeeping.
"That's about enough of that."



MRS. IRMA E. SHOTWELL
Willamette U. 1922 A. B.
Assistant Principal 1923-24
English, Spanish, Civics Science.
"One in a seat, please."