

GRESHAM EX-SERVICE MEN HAVE LIVE ORGANIZATION

By CHASE E. ST. CLAIR.
Past Adjutant Gresham Post No. 30.
One of the many organizations in this city that goes and grows and is ever ready to do anything for the betterment of conditions is the American Legion Post. It was chartered in September, 1919, by veterans of the then recently closed World War. The organizers were C. G. Schneider, Glenwood Miller, Chase E. St. Clair, Isaac Anderson, Oscar Stone, Leo Caddy, Ed. Everett, Oscar Carlson, R. H. Shumway, Andrew Brugger, W. S. Everett, A. W. Metzger, Dr. A. W. Botkin, F. L. Mack and Dr. H. H. Hughes.

The first commander of Gresham Post No. 30, Department of Oregon, was C. G. Schneider; vice commander, Ernest J. Brugger; adjutant, Chase E. St. Clair, and treasurer, Glenwood G. Miller. Meetings were held in John Metzger's hall and in J. E. Metzger's hall, over the furniture store, until the Post finally secured permanent quarters in the rooms formerly occupied by the Pastime club. Following a period of growth but lack of interest in the meetings the Post relinquished this place and disposed of its club-room equipment. Since then it has met in the I. O. O. F. hall and Grange hall.

A clean sweep of the officers and renewed interest awakened through the passage of the national soldiers bonus bill has done much to "put the old-time pep" back in the Post. This past year the Post has been officered by A. W. Metzger, commander; Leslie T. St. Clair, vice-commander; Don W. Snyder, adjutant, and Ernest J. Brugger, treasurer.

At a recent meeting the following were nominated to fill the offices for the coming year:

Commander, L. T. St. Clair, K. C. Roberts; vice commander, C. E. St. Clair, H. C. Bottelton; adjutant, C. C. Yager; finance officer, Bayard Miller, Roy Gibbs.

Gresham Post had 60 paid members last year and although the dues are only a little more than sufficient to defray the expenses of the body it has a very healthy balance in the treasury. Funds to help meet the Post's expenses are raised partly by dances and Fourth of July celebrations. The Legion has conducted three very successful Independence Day celebrations, which have had the whole-hearted support of the other civic organizations of the city.

The American Legion was organ-

ized in Paris soon after the signing of the Armistice. Among those at the first meeting was Brigadier-General Geo. A. White, then colonel adjutant general of the state of Oregon. General White has been very active in Legion affairs in this state.

The American Legion is non-political and non-sectarian. Membership is open to all men or women who served in the army, navy or marine corps during the period of the World War. Nationally and internationally known personages such as, the late Woodrow Wilson, Theo. Roosevelt, Jr., and Marshall Foch have been accorded membership in this society and Chas. G. Dawes, the new vice president of the United States is a Legion man.

The purpose of the American Legion is best summed up in the preamble to the national constitution which reads:

"For God and country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the great war; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy; and to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by devotion to mutual helpfulness."

Soon after the American Legion began to gain a foothold in the United States a women's auxiliary, composed of wives, mothers, daughters and sisters was formed. Gresham Post early ceased its bachelor existence with the formation of an auxiliary unit.

The auxiliary has been a big assistance to the Post here. They have worked hard and kept their treasury poor helping the wounded veterans and seeing that they are supplied with many little comforts they would otherwise miss.

The following were nominated for the offices of the auxiliary:

President, Letty Pulfer, Mrs. Albert Camp; vice president, Mrs. C. C. Yager, Mrs. L. T. St. Clair; secretary, Mrs. Wm. Everett, Gladys Sharp; treasurer, Mrs. C. E. St. Clair.

A very successful membership drive was closed Monday night, with a big

smoker in the Grange hall. Three teams, of five members each, rounded up members in a hot three-weeks' campaign. To add zest to the fight the teams were named vin blanc, vin rouge and cognac. It is possible that some members were induced to sign with the thought that there might be some of the team's name passed out for drinking purposes. Gresham Post is starting the new year with a large paid membership. Many more ex-service men are expected to come in before the close of the coming year.

One Who Knows!

Paint and wall paper are not side lines with Todd, the Paint Man. He will tell you how. Phone 1971.—Adv.

COTTRELL

At a special meeting of the Cottrell Parent-Teacher association held Monday evening, December 1, the following officers were elected to hold office until the annual meeting in May: Mrs. H. H. Watkins, re-elected president after having served two years; Mrs. Bancke, vice president; Miss Snyder, secretary; and Mrs. Wilkinson, treasurer. A fine program was rendered at the regular December meeting, which consisted of a recitation by Ruth Gossett, songs and recitations, by the "Saw Dust Six" from Bull Run, "The Embalming of Ebenezer," a playlet, by Lawrence

Craswell, Carl Goger and Ralph Griffin, an Irish song by four school girls and three reels of moving pictures.

During the past year a number of motion picture shows have been given under the auspices of the Parent-Teacher association. Efforts have been made to secure pictures of an educational and religious character, with an occasional comedy. The next film to be shown will be on Friday evening, December 19, at which time a six-reel comedy drama, Hoot Gibson in the "Ramblin' Kid" will be shown, also Baby Peggy in "Hansel and Gretel."

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The yearly report filed with the Insurance Department by the Farmers Mutual Fire Relief Assn. shows \$6,058,000, written during 1923 and 2210 new members gained. Losses paid, \$22,437.00; insurance in force, \$18,283,000. The Assn. also has a substantial cash balance. The low rate of 30c on all property insured by the Association will not be changed, which enables farmers to get adequate insurance on easy payments.

President Snashall reports the Assn. at the present rate of growth will shortly be the largest farmers Assn. west of the Rocky mountains.

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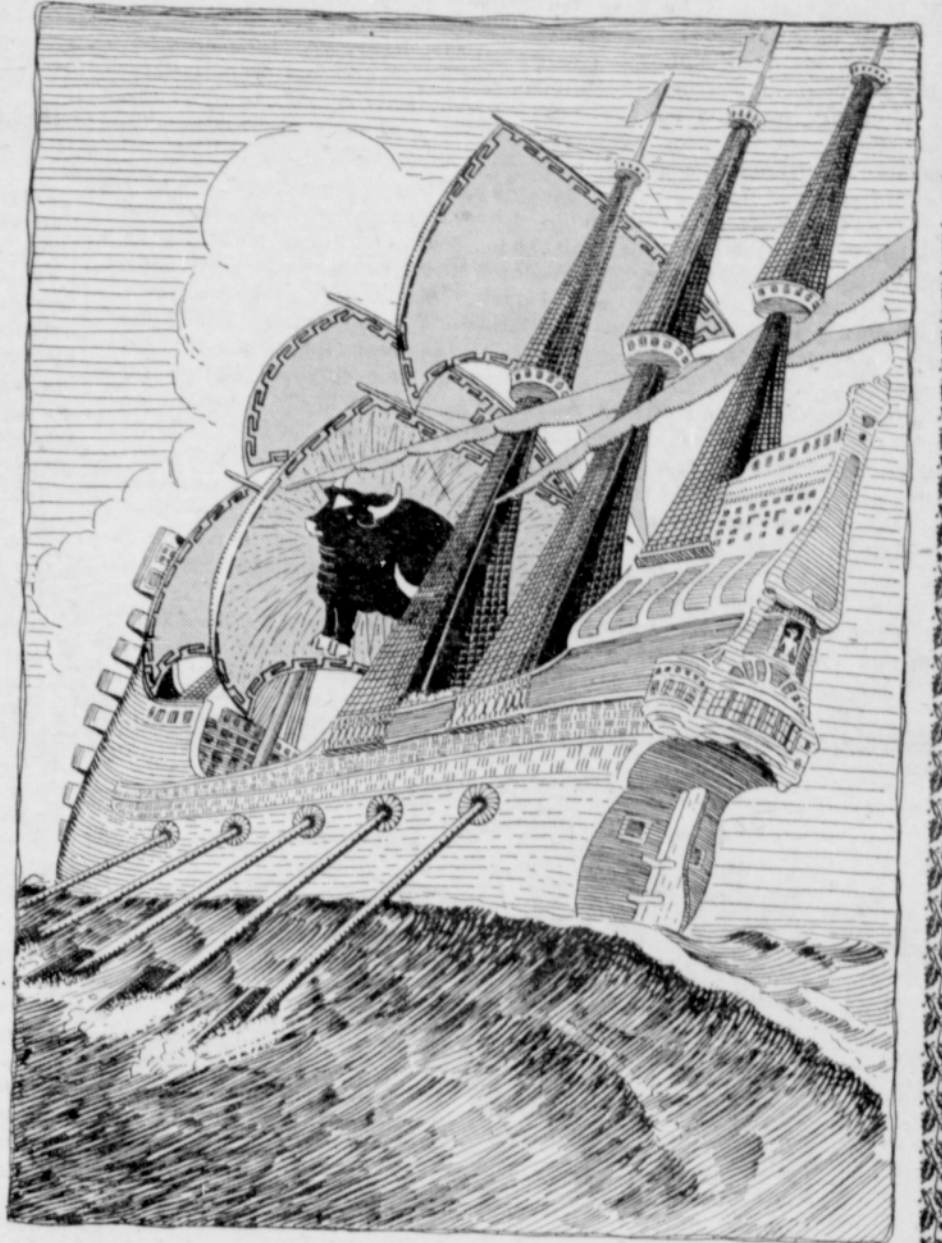
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