

Admiration and Respect for Qualities of the American Fighting Man.

By GEN. CURIERES DE CASTELNAU, French Army.



I have no hesitancy in asserting that the military forces of the United States of America contributed very largely by their splendid display of valiance, efficiently directed, to the final supreme triumph of right and liberty.

During the war I gained an intimate first-hand knowledge of the American fighting man's qualities. My personal admiration for him is only equaled by my professional respect. I know him as only a commanding general knows his men.

From the moment the American soldier first met the enemy until the very end, he displayed the most remarkable individual courage. His magnificent spirit in battle was invincible. Officers and enlisted men rivaled each other in bravery, coolness, energy, tenacity and the spirit of self-sacrifice.

After once seeing the American army in action, we were impressed that, had our confidence in victory needed a stimulant, the presence of our transatlantic comrades would have been sufficient to assure us of the inevitable victory.

Whenever troops show such splendid soldierly qualities as displayed by the Americans as individuals—and it is on the individual soldier that the general, in the last analysis, counts for success—all hopes are justifiable, all strategic and tactical plans are feasible and success is inevitable.

Military Policy of the American Legion as Set Forth in Resolutions.

FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION AT MINNEAPOLIS

That a large standing army is uneconomic and un-American. National safety with freedom from militarism is best assured by a national citizen army based on the democratic and American principles of the quality of obligation and opportunity for all.

We favor a policy of universal military training, and that the administration of such policy shall be removed from the complete control of any exclusively military organization or caste.

We are strongly opposed to compulsory military service in time of peace.

We have had bitter experience in the cost of unpreparedness for national defense and the lack of proper training on the part of officers and men, and we realize the necessity of an immediate revision of our military system and a thorough housecleaning of the inefficient officers and methods of our entire military establishment.

We favor a national military system based on universal military obligation, to include a relatively small regular army and a citizen army capable of rapid expansion sufficient to meet any national emergency, on a plan which will provide competitive and progressive training for all officers, both of the regular army and of the citizen forces.

We believe that such military system should be subject to civil authority.

Any legislation tending toward an enlarged and stronger military caste we unqualifiedly condemn.

The national citizen army, which should and must be the chief reliance of this country in time of war should be officered by men from its own ranks and administered by a general staff on which citizen-soldier officers and regular army officers shall serve in equal number.

We recommend that congress pass such legislation as will make the United States air service a separate and distinct department of our system of national defenses under control of a member of the president's cabinet appointed for that purpose alone.

We favor the continuance of training camps for the training and education of officers to serve in case of national requirement.

We recommend that military training in high schools and colleges be encouraged.

The national citizen army should be organized into corps, divisions, and smaller units, composed in each case of officers and men who come from the same state or locality, and preserving local designations as far as practicable.

The national citizen army should be trained, equipped, officered, and assigned to definite units before, rather than after, the commencement of hostilities.

The selection and training of men for the national citizen army should be under the local control and administration of its own officers, subject to general national regulations.

Both the Native-Born and Immigrant Have Their Duties to America.

By SENATOR W. S. KENYON of Iowa

The alien cannot Americanize himself. He can never become assimilated if he is shunted off into a shanty town. He cannot be Americanized with a club. There is more hope in a handshake than in profit-sharing.

There is a growing need for America to Americanize itself; for each individual to stop shifting the blame onto others and depending on some one else to put our house in order. The immigrant has his duty to America and he must be made to discharge it. The native-born has his duty and he must search his own heart to see if there are any roots of the trouble there. If we could only control our greed, our avarice, our quick prejudice and passion and pull together for the general welfare of our country, what a nation this would be! America means more than stocks and bonds, and churches and schools and farms and stores. It means a great ideal of justice for all men. A man who cannot be just whether with his employee or with his employer is not a true American.

The ship of state is sailing through pretty troublesome seas, but it is a mighty sturdy old ship. It will weather the storms. It will pull through every crisis. It is a time for aroused conscience and determination of all our people to enthrone justice in their own hearts and then do what they can to assist others. We are engaged now in much talk of helping the world. We can help it by giving to the world a high example of justice and fraternity, and in so doing many of our industrial problems will be solved.

SAW DEATH CLOSE

Circuit Rider Looked Into Eyes of Grim Reaper.

Marvelous Escape From Destruction at Natural Tunnel in Virginia Could Almost Be Classed as a Miracle.

In both the Natural tunnel in Scott county, Virginia, and the Natural bridge in Rockbridge county, a deep and narrow defile between two hills is spanned by a huge mass of rock, over which a public highway passes. The Natural bridge is more widely known. Travelers have written about it for perhaps two centuries, and Elihu Burritt describes it in the "Scene at the Natural Bridge in Virginia," a selection that has won many prizes in youthful contests in declamation. But the Natural tunnel was once the scene of a real incident, that, while it lasted, was just as thrilling as the imaginary one Mr. Burritt describes in his declamation.

It was witnessed by no spectators, and it had only two participants, a horse and a Methodist circuit rider. Yet into a brief space of time it crowded suspense and agony as terrible as a human being can endure.

Soon after the close of the Civil war Rev. H. C. Neal was sent to travel a circuit in Scott county, which included the Natural tunnel within its bounds. Returning one Monday morning from the charge where he had preached the day before, his route led him over the tunnel, and he stopped to enjoy the view from its summit.

Now, the surface of the tunnel on each side of the highway is covered with a low growth of bushes, and on its southern side, from which the view is more remarkable, it is comparatively level to within a short distance of the edge, where it begins a gradual but constantly increasing slope downward.

Turning from the highway, the preacher rode through the bushes, then turned to hitch his horse and then proceed on foot. But in winding about he had gone farther than he had suspected. Feeling the animal slide forward, he checked him and saw suddenly that the yawning chasm was only a short distance away. He was now on the edge of the downward slope with only some small bushes growing between him and the abyss. Apprehending as yet no real danger, he quietly gazed into the immense void, when his horse again suddenly slipped forward. Rain had fallen the night before, and the thin coating of dirt was soft and yielding. The rider now attempted to turn his horse's head. Once more the animal slipped forward. All at once he saw that he actually was in an extremely perilous situation. The slope was becoming steeper, and as the horse kept slipping forward the edge of the chasm was getting nearer. The rider, thoroughly alarmed, drew hard on the reins and soothed the horse with soft, encouraging words. Intending to throw himself from the saddle, he relaxed slightly on his hold on the reins; but at once the animal again began slipping. He drew hard again, and for an instant stopped the slipping. Then, almost imperceptibly, it continued. Preacher and horse trembled in fear. It seemed as if the chasm were reaching up invisible hands to pull them down.

At that terrible moment the sliding suddenly ceased, and the horse sank to his haunches. Cautiously, the rider slipped from the saddle and seized a low, stout shrub with one hand while he held the reins in the other. Crawling upward the length of the reins, he caught another shrub, and turned the horse's head. The animal struggled to his feet and followed the rider to the summit. Here the trembling horse stood panting, and the rider lay on the ground so overcome with weakness that it was some time before he was able to walk.

Returning on foot to the scene of the narrowly averted tragedy when he had recovered his strength, he saw that a ridge of flint protruding above the limestone had caught the animal's feet and had held the weight of horse and rider in that perilous moment. Youth's Companion.

Date-Growing in California.

Date palms grown from shoots that were imported from Algiers are now abundantly bearing fruit in the Coachella valley of California. In its growing, the date crop is indeed picturesque. As a staple, however, it is hardly so well known in America as in the Levant, where for untold centuries it has been almost as important as wheat.

Though it would doubtless take more than numerous dates and olives to make a Garden of Eden, still these are supposed to have been factors in that delectable condition of things. In midwinter it is pleasant to think of such a crop as this growing near a town called Mecca in the United States.

Food Oil From Grapes.

The palatable and highly nutritious new food oil from grapes is suggested as a rival for olive and cottonseed oils for cooking and salad dressing. Dr. J. H. Shrader of the United States bureau of plant industry finds that not only may a profitable quantity of such oil be derived from the waste of vineyards, but that the seeds of pumpkins, tomatoes and other vegetables may be utilized in a similar way. A method of separating the seeds without sending to a central station is being developed.

EXPLAINING "JACK" IN FLAG

Origin of Emblem of the British Empire Goes Back to the Days of Plate Armor.

"The Star-Spangled Banner" explains itself; like the "tricolor" of France. But who put the Jack in Union Jack? This curious term, which is the only name by which we know the British flag, has been the subject of much surmise; but so unique is its history that you would never guess it in a thousand years!

In ancient times every English soldier in the field wore the protecting "jaque" or surcoat (over all), which was a garment of padded leather interspersed with pieces of plate armor, upon the breast the crimson cross of St. George. When the soldiers had occasion to board a ship their jaques were placed next each other along the bulwarks of the ship in the same way that the Romans arranged their shields on board their galleys.

The jaques so afforded the men protection against the arrows of their adversaries on the water, and by their device upon the outer side proclaimed the nationality of the ship. Excepting the king's own ship, which flew the royal arms on a silken sail, the jaques bore the only indication of the nationality of a vessel.

In the course of time, when the jaques were no longer needed along the bulwarks, a solider jaque was probably displayed at the bowsprit, and so the name "Jack" came into use for the flag that superseded it.

In 1801 the three kingdoms of England, Ireland and Scotland were formally united and the British flag made a combination of the cross of St. George for England, of St. Andrew for Scotland and of St. Patrick for Ireland. It was this union which made the British flag the "Union Jack."

Reliable Information.

An American tourist recently visited the ancient city of Chester, and was startled by the loud clanging of the fire alarm bell.

Seeing others run, he ran, too, and presently found himself one of a crowd gathered to witness the departure of the fire engines. In a short time the engines dashed out of the yard and disappeared down the street in a whirl of dust and smoke.

With a view to gathering information, the tourist addressed himself to a man in the crowd:

"Say, master, I suppose in an old place like this containing so many timber-fronted houses, you often have a fire?"

"Pretty often," assented the man. "How often, now, does a fire occur?" asked the American.

"Every time that bell rings," replied the man, nodding towards the bell-tower.—London Tit-Bits.

Sea-Horses Scarce.

For a long time one of the most popular exhibits at the aquarium has been the sea-horses, says the New York Times. At the present time there is a scarcity of these interesting fishes with miniature horse's heads and queer tails. W. L. De Nyse, assistant director, said the scarcity might be attributed to the excessive cold of two years ago, in which many of the delicate little fishes might have perished before reaching warmer latitudes.

When in captivity sea-horses have to be fed on minute marine worms. They are found in local bays, and Mr. De Nyse has seen as many as eight or ten with their tails hooked together drifting with the tide. They are among the most unique of fishes, and in the aquarium tank they may be seen with their tails linked together like so many monkeys. The scientific name of the sea-horse is Hippocampus. They were known to the ancient Greeks and Romans.

Sulphur Deposits in Alaska.

Located in the crater of a snow-capped volcanic mountain on Unalaska island, one of the Aleutian group, is a large deposit of sulphur, believed to contain from 10,000 to 15,000 tons. A claim has been filed for the location, and mining operations probably will start in the near future. Subterranean heat and a hot vapor, the latter issuing from cracks in the rocks, keep the deposit free from ice and snow, though these permanently cover nearly all of the remainder of the peak, which is about 6,000 feet in height. Another sulphur deposit has been discovered on Akun island, in the same group, and a third near Stepovak bay, on the southern shore of the Alaskan peninsula.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Town Peculiarly Named.

What's in a name? becomes a matter for consideration in the case of the happy-go-lucky manner of bestowing one practiced by the surveying party about which Captain Reynardson tells in his book on the Mesopotamian campaign. This party came to a village on the Euphrates not marked on the map, so the surveyors marked on the map, so the surveyors harked a local Arab and asked him: "What is the name of this village?" "M'adri," the Arab replied, m'adri meaning "I do not know." But the party unquestioningly accepted it as the name of the village, and M'adri the village is to this day—on the survey map.

Filming Holy Writ.

The Bible is to be filmed, and the men in America who are about to begin this stupendous work claim that their Bible pictures will help to quiet the unrest of the world, and that, as an aid to religion, education and social welfare, their value will be almost incalculable.

INTERESTING ITEMS FROM THE CITIES

Love Letter Probated as Yankee Soldier's Will

SAN FRANCISCO.—A love letter which Harry F. Heine, of the Three Hundred and Twenty-first field artillery, wrote to Miss Carmelita F. Cadogen was probated in Judge Dunne's court as Heine's last will and testament, and his \$5,000 estate was awarded to Miss Cadogen.

The letter was written a few weeks before he fell in action. He plans another trip—a honeymoon voyage—to the country he was fighting in. The letter follows:

Somewhere in France.
"Girl o' mine,
Though I am far from you,
Having no power,
Singing no song to you,
Bringing no flower—"

"There, I forget the rest. I read it somewhere and it seems to fit in. I have had no word from you yet and hope you are well."

"I wish, dearest, that you would send me some real cigarettes. Also the last two numbers of the 'International Studio.'

"The world is wonderful over here, and fall is coming with its golden leaves (and I can't get time to paint).

"It's wonderful here—these old towns, with their tile roofs and picturesque chimneys against the sky. We will come back here some time, you and I—but perhaps I like California best by turns.

"We are at the front now and have Fourth of July and fireworks regularly. Love to all, and remember—no worrying."

As the letter was written, dated and signed in the handwriting of Heine, Judge Dunne held that it was a legal holographic will, and as such admitted it to probate.

First-Class Fighting Man, but Reckless Criminal

NEW YORK.—Donald Hammond has been sentenced to a term of three and a half to seven years in state prison. Hammond, 24-year-old son of William Hammond, dean of Cornell University, was placed on probation under a suspended sentence last August, after he had pleaded guilty to forging a check for \$2,000 in the name of Norman Bradford Jr., a wealthy Newport, R. I., clubman. He violated his pledge by forging other papers and committing many thefts.



At the outbreak of the war in 1914 young Hammond hurried to Canada and enlisted in the first contingent. He was cited for heroic conduct in battle. He was caught in the first gas attack and wounded by an exploding shell.

Neglecting to get his discharge, he escaped from his hospital and returned to America. A number of New York hotels and business houses were the first victims of his forged checks and unpaid bills.

Lionized at Newport and Atlantic City, he speedily ended his welcome by stealing jewelry and money from his hosts. Finding the authorities closing in on him, he returned to England, joined the royal air force, gained a reputation as a terror among his comrades and the German forces opposite his aerodrome, and was made a sub-lieutenant.

In a daring raid over the enemy trenches Hammond was wounded again. He gave up flying and returned to the United States. Invited to Maine and New Hampshire watering places, he soon scandalized his friends, including many young society women, by his drinking and thievery.

His father and several friends sent him to Manitoba. He tired of the quiet life and reappeared in Boston, stole \$15,000 worth of bonds, was captured in New York, changed places with a murderer he met in the Tombs prison, pleaded guilty to the other's charge and succeeded in some mysterious way in obtaining a suspended sentence under that name.

"Professor X" Is No Longer the Great Unknown

AMBERTVILLE, N. J.—The Rev. T. J. Benzelby, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal church several weeks ago found a man wandering about the outskirts. The man was ragged. His speech was that of an educated gentleman. He was unable to give his name, address or history. The rector took him home, cared for him and made his story public, calling him "Professor X."

Now the man has been identified as Dr. John L. Brand of Worcester, Mass., who has been missing for three years.

The identification was made by his son, Lieutenant Commander Charles L. Brand, who is stationed at the Philadelphia navy yard. Commander Brand

read the account of "Professor X" in the newspapers and instantly recognized his father. Obtaining leave from the navy yard, he immediately went to Lambertville.

"Professor X" was unable to recognize his son when the latter approached him and said, "Don't you know me, father?"

Putting his trembling hands on the epaulets of his son's uniform, he stared for some time directly into his son's eyes, but he could not remember.

When he realized he had failed to recall the past, the broken old man gave a cry and sank to the floor. He had collapsed and was virtually carried from the room. Later he rallied. His physician says he may recover his memory. He will remain in Lambertville for a time.

Dr. Brand was born and educated in England, the son said, and was a physician and musician. He had devoted himself almost entirely to research work for some time prior to his disappearance and was an inveterate reader. He specialized in chemical and biological research.

Sues for \$25,425 Her Smiles Won for "Tip Trust"

CHICAGO.—Why are waiters allowed to pocket their tips, while check girls, door men, washroom boys and maids must turn them over? That is what Miss Hannah Stires, one of the prettiest of the girls in the employ of Ronse



& Wolf, 164 West Washington street, is going to court to find out. Through her attorney, L. H. Craig, Miss Stires has filed suit for the recovery of gratuities handed to her by patrons. That the "tipping trust" managed in Chicago by Sam and Clifford Wolf, has profited to the amount of \$25,425 by her sparkling