

# THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Copy for This Department Supplied by the American Legion News Service.)

## WELLS HAWKS, 'THE BOOSTER'

Noted Publicity Man, Who Has Been Active in Formation of Legion Film Service.

He has told you all about the wonders of "the most gorgeous and stupendous tent attraction on the earth," what your favorite movie star wears for breakfast and why; what they do in the navy and when, etc., etc. For the last 30 years his writings have been read more widely than those of perhaps any American author, but his name has not been signed to them.

He is Wells Hawks of New York, formerly press agent of Ringling Brothers' circus; publicity representative of several of the leading motion picture corporations; personal representative for 12 years of Charles Frohman, the theatrical producer, and during the war in charge of publicity for the navy.

Mr. Hawks, a lieutenant commander in the naval reserve, organized and for three terms commanded the S. Rankin crew post of the American Legion, composed of actors and actresses, movie and legitimate, publicity and newspaper men of New York city. He has been active in the formation of the American Legion film service of national headquarters, which is supplying projection machines and films to Legion posts of the country.

## KNOWN AS FAIRY GODMOTHER

State President of Minnesota Women's Auxiliary, Mrs. Sandy Hamilton, Is Warm Friend of Veterans.

With a post of the American Legion of Minnesota named in honor of her son who fell in France, Mrs. Sandy Hamilton, Minneapolis, who has just taken office as state president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Legion, has adopted all the wounded veterans of her state in memory of her boy.



During the year that she was chairman of the Legion Auxiliary hospitalization committee Mrs. Hamilton spent practically her entire time in visiting and ministering to disabled men in Asbury and Thomas hospitals. The unfortunate service men came to know her smile and her tenderness and to them she was "our fairy godmother."

## TO ATTEND LEGION MEETING

Marshal Foch, Noted Military Leader, Plans to Honor Convention With His Presence.

The governors of Missouri and Kansas, the mayors of Kansas City, Kan., and Missouri, and a federation of the principal clubs and societies of those cities joined in a formal expression of the honor they feel on the occasion of the visit Marshal Foch will make to the United States in October to attend the opening of the third national convention of the American Legion at Kansas City.

A memorial to this effect was presented the marshal at the recent dedication of the Filrey monument in France by Charles W. Bartlett of Kansas City, chairman of the distinguished visitors committee of the convention. Mr. Bartlett accompanied the Legion pilgrims to France for this purpose.

The marshal asked Mr. Bartlett to convey to the people of Missouri and Kansas how deeply he was touched by this honor and to assure them of the eagerness with which he looked forward to seeing more of the Legion when he should come to the United States.

## Aerial Exhibition at Convention.

Altitude trials, parachute drops and a spectacular aerial derby in which most of the country's best aviators will take part, will be included in a flying circus to be held during the third annual convention of the American Legion at Kansas City, October 30, 31 and November 1. Eddie Rickbacher, William Furlow and Edna Tobin are among the aces who will be seen. A raid with illuminator bombs will feature the night flying program. Stunt flyers will change planes in air, walk on the wings and loop the loop in contest for a large prize.

## Carrying On With the American Legion

Despite the long trip, the Massachusetts department of the American Legion will send two large bands to the annual convention of the service organization at Kansas City, this fall.

A downtown rest room for the convenience of farmers' wives in the city for supplies and for city wives on shopping tours has been opened in Drumright, Okla., by the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion post there.

Because they considered the post a community asset and worthy of recognition, citizens of the town of Waitsburg, Wash., recently purchased a hotel building and presented it to Samuel W. Southard post of the American Legion for use as a clubhouse.

When heavy rains washed out the road to the village cemetery, the American Legion post of Natchez, Wash., called upon its farmer members. Each man brought a team of horses, gave two days' work and a new road was constructed.

Advocating a playground for the kiddies of the community members the Saylesville (Rhode Island) post of the American Legion brought the matter to completion by leveling the ground and putting the equipment in place with a saving of several hundred dollars to the city.

The athletic tastes of the young war veterans of Oklahoma were evidenced recently when the state department asked each post of the American Legion what games they wanted at a state athletic meet. Horse-shoe pitching contests led the list, with tennis and golf post seconds.

Ex-service patients in hospitals of Oregon have been extended free membership in the American Legion of the state, the posts waiving post dues and the department paying state and national fees, that the disabled may receive copies of the official magazine and the benefits of membership.

John Broadhead Wallace, son of the secretary of agriculture, and Miss Margaret Powell, Cedar Rapids, Ia., recently married, have been receiving the official congratulations of Argonne post, the American Legion, Des Moines, of which Mr. Wallace is a vice commander.

By besting a walking record which had been undisturbed for years, George N. Brown, Endicott, N. Y., won a wager of \$100 which he divided equally between two American Legion posts of his vicinity. Mr. Brown holds the world's championship pedestrian record.

Chimes installed in every city and town of America, to play "The Star-Spangled Banner" each evening, would be a most fitting memorial to the war dead, according to a resolution introduced into the recent convention of the American Legion of North Carolina, seeking support of the state in the project.

After having achieved distinction in Pittsburg, Pa., by being the first sailor married in an American Legion post, P. C. Rose was stranded in Albany, N. Y., in the middle of his honeymoon because he couldn't collect his bonus money. Members of the Albany Legion helped him to complete the wedding trip.

Insurance against rain, high winds and liability to spectators, is being sought by the Kansas City Flying club in preparation for the annual convention of the American Legion there this fall. Applications for the "treak" policies have been made to American companies and to Lloyd's of London.

An American Legion emblem, wrought in exquisite crochet in memory of the dead and wounded soldiers of the World war, which won first prize in a national knitting contest for Mrs. Velma S. Cole, Binghamton, N. Y., has been presented to her local post of the Legion. Mrs. Cole is an invalid.

Holding that a sense of shame would work where entreaties failed, the American Legion post of Zillah, Wash., recently took photographs of every dirty and unsightly back yard in the city. These photos were displayed in several stores of the city's main streets, and within a week, every back yard had been cleaned to perfection.

Transferred from San Francisco to St. Paul, Private Charles Gilbert, U. S. Marines, gained permission to hike to his new station. He completed the record march recently, after having been lost in the desert country of Battle Mountain, Nev., and without water for two days. He was "lifted along" by various American Legion posts which he visited along the route.

A romance of the Rhine ended tragically recently when Sgt. John Wolf of the army died shortly after returning to America with his young German bride. Penniless, following the illness of her husband, the widow was taken in charge by the American Legion of New York and will be sent back to her home at Coblenz with money contributed by the Legionnaires.

# Afghanistan the Exclusive



Amir Amanullah Khan

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

Afghanistan, long almost a synonym for fanatical isolation from the rest of the world, is at last apparently showing a desire to enter the family of nations. The Moslem kingdom, which even now continues its old policy of exclusiveness pending the outcome of its negotiations, recently sent a delegation of nobles to Washington to petition the United States for the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Afghanistan's exclusiveness is not accidental. Situated between the southern-growing empire of Russia and northern-spread British India, it has been the typical buffer state; its natural exclusiveness, due to religious fanaticism, has been accentuated by the political rivalries of its great neighbors.

Forbidden Lhasa itself is no more exclusive than brooding, suspicious Kabul, the capital of this isolate, unfriendly realm of fanatic tribes, of rocks, deserts, irrigated valleys and towering unsurveyed ranges.

Not a single railway or telegraph line has been permitted to cross this hermit country or to run into it, lest the perilous ways of the world leak in. And the six or seven million people have been hardly on speaking terms with any other nation.

## Few Foreigners Permitted to Enter.

Night and day, from stone watch towers and hidden nooks along the ancient caravan trails that lead in from India, from Persia and Russia—trails used long ago by Alexander and Jenghiz Khan—squadrons of bearded, turbaned Afghans, with imported field glasses and long rifles, have kept watch against trespassers from without.

Only a few Europeans, mostly British but occasionally also an American and now and then a few Russians or Germans, have been permitted to enter this country and to sojourn for a while in its curious capital. But even on such rare occasions as when a foreign engineer, or a doctor whose services are badly needed, is admitted by the grace of the amir, the visitor is subject to a surveillance that amounts almost to imprisonment. "Splendid isolation" is a sort of Afghan tradition, a conviction that the coming of the foreigner will mean the end of the amir and of his unique, absolute rule.

As it is, no unique monarch now wields such undisputed authority or is in closer touch with the every-day life of his subjects. He personally runs his country's religion and its foreign affairs, and he even supervises much of its commerce. He also owns and censors the only newspaper printed in all Afghanistan. Incidentally, he keeps 58 automobiles, and he never walks. Even from one nearby palace to another he goes by motor over short pieces of road built especially for his pleasure.

Though the amir took no active part in the World war, he emerged from it with singular profits. His old and once rival neighbors, Great Britain and Russia, drawn together as allies in the conflict, left him a free hand. In 1919 Great Britain officially recognized the political independence of this much-buffed buffer state, to whose rulers she had so long paid a fat annuity.

## Keeps in Touch With the World.

Afghanistan, with an area of 245,000 square miles, is, next to Tibet, the largest country in the world that is practically closed to the citizens of other nations. But political life is wary, alert Mohammedan Kabul is in sharp contrast to the meditative seclusion and classic aloofness of the Buddhist lamas at Lhasa. Through agents in India and elsewhere Amir Amanullah Khan is in close touch with the world's current events; and, as the

last remaining independent ruler of a Moslem country, now that the power of the Turkish calliph at Constantinople is broken, he wields a far-reaching influence throughout the Mohammedan world. And it is probably that because his hand happens to lie just as it does on the map of the world, he will be for a long time to come an active force in the political destinies of middle Asia.

The amir's word, his veriest whim, is law to his millions of subjects. He is, in truth, the last of the despots, a sort of modern oriental patriarch on a grand scale. His judgments are, of course, based primarily on the Koran, or on the common law of the land. There is no statute book, no penal code and no court.

The amir reserves to himself the right of passing death sentences. The cruel Afghan forms of punishment, such as shooting a prisoner from the cannon's muzzle, sabering off his head, stoning him to death, burying him alive, cutting off his hands and feet or putting out his eyes, are seldom employed nowadays; yet often the criminal himself will choose a quick, though violent, exodus to paradise rather than suffer long imprisonment in a filthy iron cage, perhaps to die eventually of starvation.

The way of the transgressor in Afghanistan continues to be uncommonly hard, however. Time and again, in the recorded history of this land, deposed amirs, troublesome relatives and political enemies have been deliberately blinded, there being a tradition here that no man with any physical affliction may hold a public office of honor or profit.

## Its Mountains and Tribes.

Politically, Afghanistan is divided into four provinces: Afghan Turkestan, Kabul, Kandahar and Herat. Topographically its most conspicuous features are the high peaks in the northeast; where it touches the great Hindu Kush, the Tirach Mir attains a height of over 23,000 feet.

Through these mountains of northeast Afghanistan wind some of the most picturesque and historic trails of the whole world. For centuries the trade between Turkestan and India has flowed over these high passes, and the story goes that often these annual caravans number as many as 120,000 loaded animals, including camels, mules and horses.

Afghanistan is a Babel of races and tongues; more than half its population are not Afghans at all. The majority group embraces the Iranian-Aryan Tajiks, who inhabit the settlements and large towns; the Mongolian Hazarans, who roam the mountainous central regions of the country, and the Turkomans and Uzbeks of northern Afghanistan. The real Afghans, or "Pahlos" (Pathans), as they call themselves, live in the high ranges stretching from the Solimans past Ghazni and Kandahar to the west, toward Herat.

The tribes are divided into minor clans, called "khal," and they live almost entirely off their herds of cattle, camels and sheep.

Persian culture has molded the social life in Afghanistan through centuries; notwithstanding the religious hatred between the Sunnis and the Shias, Persian customs have been more or less adopted in the upper ranks of all middle Asiatic Moslem society. From the Persians the Afghans got the idea of marrying more than one wife; but, like the Persians, too, they have found to their dismay that polygamy is nowadays a most expensive custom.

Amir Habibullah Khan (who was assassinated in 1919) had a harem of 100 women, and among these, strange enough, were a few Europeans. The present amir, Amanullah Khan, has but one wife.

## WONDERFUL GAIN IN WEIGHT REPORTED

Young Woman Only Weighed 76 Pounds—Now Weighs Over 100 and Is Gaining Every Day.

"Before I began taking Tanlac I only weighed 76 pounds, I now weigh over one hundred and am gaining every day," said Miss Lattie Davis of Chattanooga, Tenn.

"I bought my first bottle of Tanlac at Gas City, Ind., and it helped me so much that I continued using it. I have always been very delicate and suffered a great deal from stomach trouble and rheumatism. I rarely ever had any appetite and simply could not relish anything. I fell off until I only weighed 76 pounds and was so thin I looked perfectly awful. This is the condition I was in when I began taking Tanlac. "Oh, I feel so different now. Even my complexion is improved. My appetite is good and I can hardly get enough to eat. Tanlac is simply grand and I can truthfully say it is the only medicine that has ever done me any good."

Tanlac is sold by leading druggists everywhere.—Advertisement.

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It may be said that one is no more responsible for his genius than for his beauty.

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### Cuticura Soap For the Hands

IS IDEAL Soap 25c, Ointment 25 and 50c, Talcum 25c.

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Removes Dandruff, Itches, Redness, Restores Color and Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair. Cuts and \$1.00 at Druggists. Hiram's Chem. W. A. Paterson, N. Y.

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Removes Corns, Calluses, etc., from all parts, restores comfort to the feet, makes walking easy. Sold by mail or at Druggists. Hiram's Chemical Works, Paterson, N. Y.

### DON'T FOOL WITH INDIGESTION

Send for Alpha Indigestion Tablet and get relief. No money necessary, mail the postal and we will send you a bottle containing three weeks' treatment, C. O. D. Parcel post 75c.

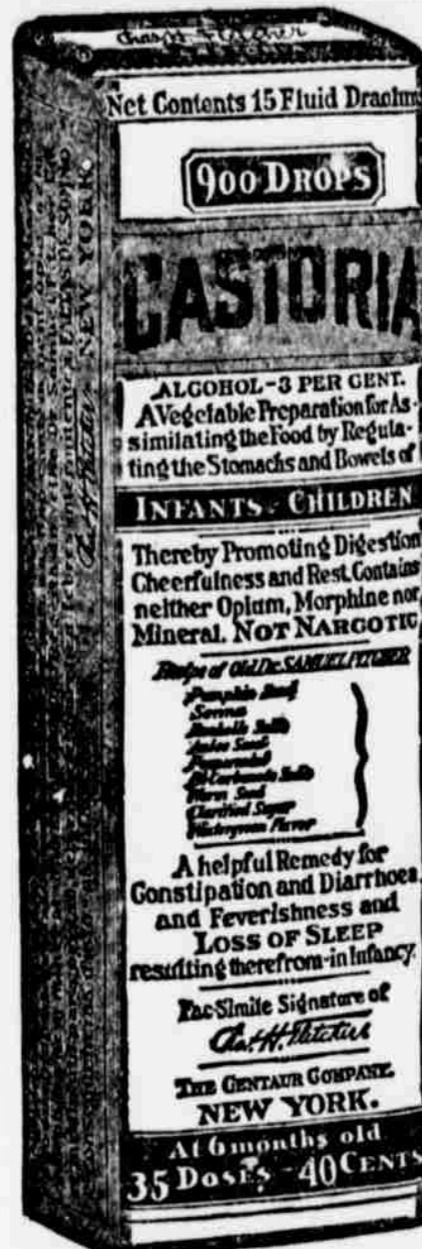
### PATENTS

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Take a good dose of Carter's Little Liver Pills—then take 2 or 3 for a few nights after. A few doses restore your organs to their proper functions and the Headache and the causes of it pass away. In the same manner they regulate the Bowels and prevent Constipation.

Carter's Little Liver Pills. Genuine bear signature. Small Pill; Small Dose; Small Price.

Can Do Both. The Comedian—The leading lady is very temperamental. On the very slightest provocation she makes a scene. Leading Man—I know she can successfully spoil one.—Answers.

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The fact that riches have wings does not help a man to feather his own nest.

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If the fool could see himself as others see him his life would be one continuous laugh.

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