

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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

SHE JUMPED FOR THE LEGION

Miss Verna Welch Plunges 3,000 Feet in Parachute From Airplane at Wichita Falls.

To climb out of an airplane cockpit and dive headfirst toward the earth 3,000 feet below on her second ride off of terra firma required a good deal of nerve. At least, the act made thousands of spectators gasp for breath and shudder lest the harness fail to work and the parachute, which trailed behind her, remain unopened.

Miss Verna Welch was creating the sensation. The spectators were the good citizens of Wichita Falls, Tex.,



Just Before the Flight.

witnessing the American Legion's aviation meet, one of the biggest ever held in the Southwest.

Miss Welch dropped like a dead-weight for several feet and then the parachute very slowly opened and the drop earthward became more gradual. She hit the ground with a jolt but was uninjured.

It was a proud young woman who received the congratulations of the hundreds who crowded around her for her daring act. But Miss Welch says that she isn't sure that she wants to jump from airplanes for a living. The big aerial meet was staged to raise money for a Legion clubhouse at Wichita Falls.

ACTIVE IN LEGION AFFAIRS

Miss May Merritt, Indiana, Rises From Auxiliary President to National Committeewoman.

From the presidency of the first local American Legion Auxiliary unit in Connersville, Ind., to the office of Indiana national committeewoman in less than six months is the simple story of the sudden rise of Miss May Merritt, as chairman of the Auxiliary's national emblem committee and chairman of the resolutions committee, has had much to do with formulating the plans and policies of the organization during the past year.

Aside from her work for the Legion Auxiliary, Miss Merritt is chiefly interested in better educational advantages for the children of Hoozlerdom.

Lack of Patriotism.

Enraged because some of his own countrymen refused to stand when "Deutschland über Alles" was being sung in the smoking room of a transatlantic liner, a young German officer, son of a German general, created a sensation by dashing his wine glass to the floor and otherwise showing his disapproval of the lack of patriotism displayed by his German companions.

Clubhouse Over Oil Well.

To build their clubhouse over an oil well was the unique and profitable experience of the American Legion men in Waynesboro, Tenn. Drilling was begun after oil was noticed in a mud puddle in the back yard and oil was struck at 200 feet. The Legionnaires plan to erect a fine community clubhouse from royalties.

Benefits Certain Ex-Service Men.

Certain ex-service men who are not eligible for compensation under the veterans' bureau are nevertheless eligible for entrance into the national home for disabled volunteer soldiers. This class consists of those who passed the draft board but were later rejected at the training camps for physical disabilities.

Highest Commendation.

A letter from Postmaster General Work, expressing the "highest commendation of your corps" has been received by Major General Lejeune, commandant of the marine corps, following the withdrawal of the 2,000 marines who have been guarding the mails over the country for several months.

ONLY WOMAN MAJOR IN ARMY

Julia C. Stimson, Dean of School of Nursing, Served as Chief Nurse of Red Cross.

The superintendent of the army nurse corps and dean of the Army School of Nursing, is the only woman major in the United States army. Maj. Julia C. Stimson served as chief nurse of the American Red Cross in Paris and later as director of the American expeditionary forces nursing service, with 10,000 nurses under her control during the World War, before becoming superintendent of the army nurse corps and head of the school of nursing.



Major Stimson was born in Worcester, Mass., and graduated from Vassar when barely twenty years of age. She first went overseas as chief nurse of the St. Louis unit, base hospital No. 21. She holds numerous awards and citations for her services during the war.

One of the major's most recent experiences was the honor of christening the army transport Chaumont. "General Pershing was there," Major Stimson said in speaking of the event, "and I spilled champagne all over the general's best uniform when I broke the bottle over the bow."

FEW BUCKS NOW IN U. S. ARMY

Number of Trained Doughboys Has Been Reduced, Bringing Total to Not More Than 20,000.

Doughboys—just plain buck privates of infantry—are becoming almost as scarce in the regular army as shavel-tails were some time ago. Every time there is a reduction in the size of the army, the number of buck privates is very perceptibly cut down. At the present time, it is said that there are not more than 20,000 plain, unspecialized "bucks" in the ranks of the United States army. There are only 47,837 men in all branches of the foot regiments while there were more than 53,000 enlisted men in the infantry when the war started in April, 1917.

Impending additional reductions in the size of the army will show a further drop in the number of privates, officers say, and leave the infantry only a framework of highly trained specialists with just a few humble bayonet-wielding bucks here and there to give a sketchy suggestion of a wartime force.

This framework of specialists will be maintained, the War department declares, so that in an emergency the army may be able to quickly expand, filling in the vacant ranks with raw recruits who, with a few weeks' training, will make our fighting forces a highly trained machine.

PREFERS TO MARCH AS 'BUCK'

Brig. Gen. William V. McMaken, Ohio, Has Served His Country for Forty Years.

William V. McMaken of Toledo, O., who was a brigadier general in the service to which he gave 40 years of his life, says that he prefers now to march as a "buck" in the rear rank at patriotic and memorial demonstrations since his military career is over. But this modesty sometimes causes him a little embarrassment. During the American Legion parade at the national convention in Cleveland, in 1920, when Mr. McMaken marched in the ranks, he received the "hawling out" of his life from an erstwhile hard-boiled sergeant who noticed that the former brigadier general had failed to "dress right."

Mr. McMaken was a brigadier commander in the Thirty-seventh division during the World War.

Carrying On With the American Legion

A memorial to the marines who were once students of the University of Minnesota has been unveiled on the university campus.

An entire island in the Maumee river, 20 miles from Toledo, O., has been bought by a Toledo Post of the American Legion to be used as a vacation resort.

Athletic and playground equipment for seven playgrounds in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, has been presented to each of as many communities by the American Legion.

A special troop of boy scouts who could not pay their entrance fees into the scout organization were organized and given their uniforms and equipment by the American Legion at Otumwa, Ia.

The \$500,000 remaining unexpended following the payment of the New Jersey state bonus to former service men may be used by the American Legion to provide hospital accommodations for incapacitated ex-soldiers.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.) Copyright, 1922, Western Newspaper Union

LESSON FOR JULY 30

THE FIRST RETURN FROM EXILE

LESSON TEXT—Jer. 29:10-14; Ezra 1:1-11

GOLDEN TEXT—We know that all things work together for good to them that love God.—Romans 8:28.

REFERENCE MATERIAL—Psalms 86:130; 131; Jer. 29.

PRIMARY TOPIC—God's People Return Home.

JUNIOR TOPIC—How God Kept a Great Promise.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—How God Kept a Great Promise.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Striking Manifestations of God's Providence.

I. The Return From Captivity Predicted (29:10-14).

It seems that false prophets were flourishing in Babylon telling the people that they would speedily be restored to their own land. To counteract this the Lord moved Jeremiah to send this letter to the captives in Babylon (vv. 8, 9). In this letter he advised them to settle down and quietly pursue their regular callings of life and not to be led astray by the false prophets (vv. 6, 7).

1. The length of the captivity (v. 10). Their coming back was to be "after seventy years." From Daniel 9:2 it is clear that seventy years means a definite time. It dates from the time when the first company was taken captive among which Daniel was found.

2. Recovered by God (vv. 10-14). God's purpose in the captivity was to cure them of their idolatrous practices. He assured them that when His purpose was accomplished he would visit them and convince them of His good purpose toward them. When once this was done they would call upon Him in sincerity and He would be found of them. Their captivity He would turn away; gather them from all the nations and bring them into their own land.

II. Prediction of Captivity Fulfilled (Ezra 1:1-11).

1. The proclamation of Cyrus (vv. 1-4). (1) This was not by accident, but that the word of the Lord might be fulfilled (v. 1). What God has promised He will do; He never forgets. Wherever we find a promise which He hath made we can rest upon it; He will make good. (2) By divine initiation (v. 1). "The Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus." How this was done we do not know. Possibly Daniel brought to his attention the prophecy of Isaiah and Jeremiah (Isa. 44:28; Jer. 25:12). Every impulse to do good in all men is caused by the Lord—even a heathen king who may not have been conscious of doing His will, at God's appointed time took the initiative in this matter. It may have been that Cyrus only saw his own action as a piece of statecraft—the creation of a buffer state nation between his kingdom and that of Egypt. Be that as it may, God stirred him up to do His will. (3) The content of his proclamation (vv. 2-4). (a) "The Lord God of heaven hath charged me to build Him a house in Jerusalem" (v. 2). This makes clear that he had some impression of God's hand upon him. (b) Appeal to Jewish patriotism (v. 3). He invokes God's blessing upon such as possess the national religious feeling, and commands them to go and build the house of the Lord God. (c) Lend assistance (v. 4). Many of the Jews were established in business and therefore were not free to go. Many, no doubt, had lost their national spirit and therefore were not anxious to go.

All such were to lend friendly assistance in silver, gold and beasts. Those who cannot go to do God's work should strengthen the hands of those who do go.

2. The response of Cyrus' proclamation (vv. 5, 6). The chief of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin and the priests and Levites presented themselves as willing and ready to go. The company which returned was largely made up of representatives of Judah and Benjamin.

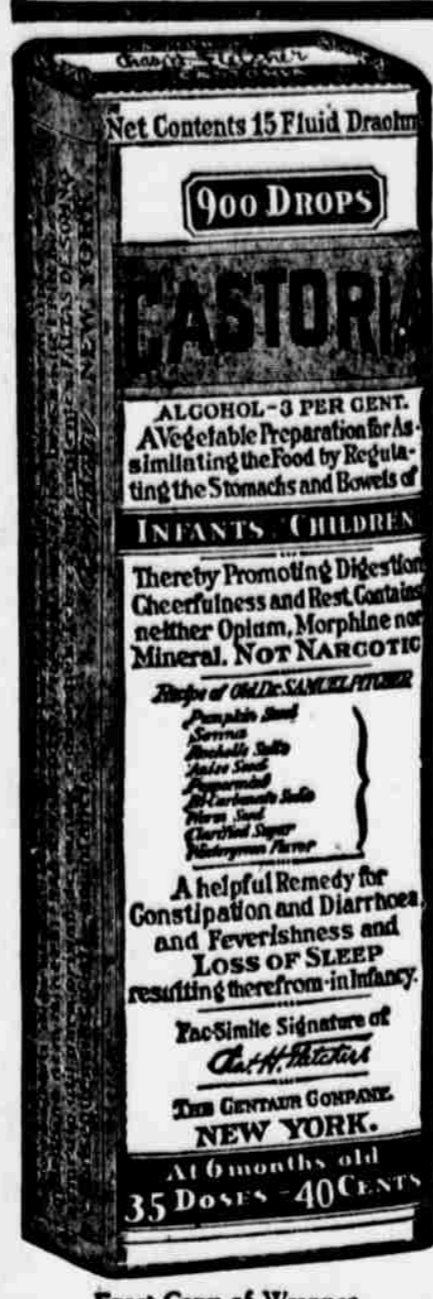
3. The royal favor (vv. 7-11) Cyrus brought forth the vessels of the house of the Lord which Nebuchadnezzar had brought forth out of Jerusalem and put into the house of his gods. This was a great encouragement to every loyal Jew whose heart had been grieved over the profanation of these sacred vessels. Now to have 5,400 of these vessels returned to their owners and sent back to Jerusalem to be put to their original use, met a hearty response by the Jews.

Who Knoweth the Lord's Mind. He that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him?—1 Corinthians, 2:15, 16.

Perseverance is Necessary. Few things are impossible in themselves. It is not so much means, as perseverance, that is wanting to bring them to a successful issue.—Rochefoucauld.

Godliness. Godliness consists not in a heart to intend to do the will of God, but in a heart to do it.—Jonathan Edwards.

Enemies Discover Your Faults. Observe your enemies for they first find out your faults.—Antisthenes.



Children Cry For Fletcher's CASTORIA

Special Care of Baby.

That Baby should have a bed of its own all are agreed. Yet it is more reasonable for an infant to sleep with grown-ups than to use a man's medicine in an attempt to regulate the delicate organism of that same infant. Either practice is to be shunned. Neither would be tolerated by specialists in children's diseases.

Your Physician will tell you that Baby's medicine must be prepared with even greater care than Baby's food.

A Baby's stomach when in good health is too often disarranged by improper food. Could you for a moment, then, think of giving to your ailing child anything but a medicine especially prepared for Infants and Children? Don't be deceived.

Make a mental note of this:—It is important, Mothers, that you should remember that to function well, the digestive organs of your Baby must receive special care. No Baby is so abnormal that the desired results may be had from the use of medicines primarily prepared for grown-ups.

MOTHERS SHOULD READ THE BOOKLET THAT IS AROUND EVERY BOTTLE OF FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

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Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Fletcher.

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

Love Thy Neighbor. Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people; but thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself; I am the Lord.—Leviticus 19:18.

Fellows who tell you they have never had a chance would be afraid to take one if they saw it. It is hard work to keep up an average that you don't have.

Good Stores Sell Them!

There's a man in this town who sells KEY OVERALLS. Ask him to show you a suit. Extra quality. Better workmanship. Costs less per day to wear them. Buy them. If they don't give full satisfaction, take them back and get your money back or a new pair free!



Answers Call of Blood. One of the chiefs of the Fiji Islands has a remarkable record. Descendant of a famous line of chieftains, he is also an Oxford graduate, served as cook with the R. M. A. corps in France in 1916, and later as a clerk with the Royal Scotch Borderers. He has been medaled by King George for bravery. Despite his good running start, he has deserted civilization and returned to the South Pacific to live among his fellow Fiji Islanders.

The boa constrictor is rarely more than fifteen feet long.

For true blue, use Red Cross Ball Blue. Snowy-white clothes will be sure to result. Try it and you will always use it. All good grocers have it.—Advertisement.

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No Exception. The Irate Father—I can see right through that chorus girl's intrigue, young man. The Lovesick Son—I know, dad, but they all dress like that nowadays.—New York Sun.

Do not turn your back on troubles—meet them squarely.

Don't be Fooled

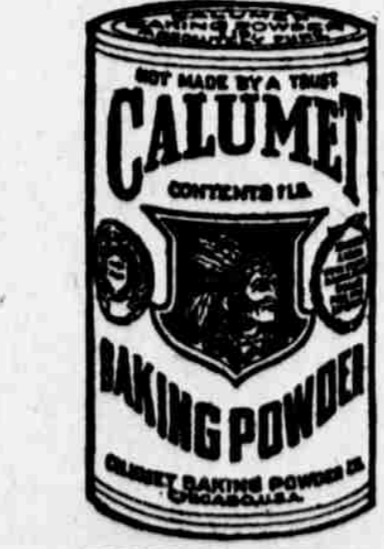
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