

AMERICA'S TRIBUTE TO HER SOLDIER DEAD



STATUE OF GEN. WEST T. SHERMAN



STATUE OF GENERAL THOMAS



GRAVE OF GEN. PHIL SHERIDAN

MEMORIAL DAY this year will witness the perfecting of the nation's plans for honoring her military dead. It will see the final fruiting of a national, official sympathy with the bereaved who have lost sons, brothers and sweethearts in their country's service. It will witness the final results of the nation's attempts to do all things possible for those bereaved and for the memory of the dead. It is a big task, and the manner of its accomplishment is the story of a tribute paid to one of the noblest sentiments that has ever been lodged in the breasts of a people.

In that attempt, since 1900, for instance, the United States government has supplied free of charge 150,000 headstones to mark the graves of soldiers and sailors who have done her service. To the cemeteries of the great cities, to those of the quiet hamlet, to those on the borderlands of civilization, these headstones have gone. This Memorial day they offer themselves to a scattered multitude as fitting places for the bestowal of floral wreaths. The unmarked graves, through the efforts of the government, are growing fewer.

In the national cemeteries alone there are the remains of 154,000 unknown heroes who have met death in the defense of their country, and who must, because of the loss of their identity, be denied individual recognition. Yet the nation has exhausted every resource in attempting to find the names of these heroic dead. The very fulfillment of these deaths, from the standpoint of the credit received by the men as individuals, calls for a sentimental appreciation of their service that overshadows that accorded the men with the handsomest monuments. The unknown are being reinterred in sacred ground, their graves are being kept green and great monuments are being erected to them, collectively.

Every effort is being made to prevent the recurrence in the future of the tragedy of the "unknown" grave. At the war department army regulations have been drafted and put into execution that are so rigid that in the future it will be impossible for the soldier who fights for his country to fall of identification wherever he may fall. Above all this, the government has developed a system of careful and generous disposition of the remains of the dead soldier or sailor that offers the greatest possible recompense to the aggrieved and the best possible chance for the perpetuation of the memory of the gloriously dead, for the remains of any man who dies in the service, wherever his end may come, are transported to any other spot on the globe that be designated by his family and there given burial with military honors. All this is at the expense of the government, for the glory of the dead and the consolation of his family.

Finally, the government is marking the graves and placing monuments over the remains of the Confederate soldiers who died in the northern prisons and hospitals during the Civil war.

Wherever any man dies for whom it can be shown that he ever served in the United States army or navy, the Federal government stands ready to furnish for his grave a headstone of marble neatly inscribed with his name and indicating his military service. The government has a large contract with a firm in Massachusetts to furnish these headstones. Under the contract 20,000 such headstones were delivered last year. An average of 15,000 a year have been so delivered for the last score of years. Since this policy of marking the graves of the military dead was inaugurated in 1873 there have probably been 500,000 stones that have gone forth and which are today standing over the graves of men who once fought for their country. The nation is willing and anxious to continue their distribution of monuments free of charge, with freight paid to any point. It is hoped that eventually every grave of every soldier will be marked with a stone that will survive forever.

The graves of all soldiers and sailors who are buried in national cemeteries are so marked when the identity of the individual is known. There are some 80 such cemeteries with a total of 300,000 men buried in them. But of this great aggregate of assembled dead of the military there are 154,000 buried beneath the slab of the "unknown." There are acres and acres of these white headstones that mark the graves of soldiers whose identity was never established. At Fredericksburg, Va., there is another 12,000 graves of men whose mothers never knew where they rested. There are 9,000 of them at Memphis; 12,000 at Salisbury, N. C.; 5,000 at Richmond; 4,000 at Nashville, and similar and smaller numbers scattered over the country as a whole. At the greatest of the national cemeteries, that at Arlington, opposite Washington, D. C., there is a single great monument that marks the burying place of 2,111 unknown soldiers whose remains were gathered from the battlefields of Virginia.

But the unknown population of the national cemeteries is to be prevented from largely increasing.

Today when a man is inspected for active duty a metal tag of identification is a part of his

equipment. When men go into the field of active service each wears about his neck a piece of tape, and hung upon that tape there is a metal tag which contains his name, the branch of the service to which he belongs and his particular regiment and company. This tag is made of aluminum and the lettering is stamped into it. It is practically indestructible. If a man is killed in battle he may always be identified.

When the identity of the individual has been established the department will communicate with his relatives. If they desire his remains, these will be prepared for transportation to the old home. They will be brought back to his own people to be buried as they wish. All expenses will be borne by the federal government. If the relatives of the dead soldier or sailor prefer that he be buried in a national cemetery they may so order, and the orders will be carried out to the letter.

There are the men who have died in the Philippines, for instance. None of these are left to rest in this foreign, tropic land. All are eventually sent back to the states. Relatives are informed of their coming. They may order the disposition of the remains as they see fit. In case there is no call for the remains of the Philippine veteran, his body is interred in the national cemetery at San Francisco and duly marked.

During the Civil war there were great numbers of Confederate soldiers taken prisoners and held in northern prisons. Many of these died in these prisons, and many others, suffering from wounds and disease, died in the hospitals of the Union forces. Two years ago the federal government appropriated \$200,000 to mark the graves of these Confederate soldiers. That money is now being expended. The task is practically completed. The Confederate dead are thus being honored in the land from which came their enemies in the monster conflict.

At many of the prisons the dead Confederates were buried separately, and their graves were marked with their names. In these cases the graves are being permanently marked with headstones of a design different from those used for the Union troops, but in no way less imposing. There is the cemetery at Elmira, N. Y., for instance. The resting place of the Confederate dead at that point is no less beautiful nor well cared for than are any of the national cemeteries.

But in most instances it was found that the dead had been buried in trenches, as were most of the dead on both sides in that war. Here it is impossible to identify the individual remains, but the names of all the men buried in given trenches are to be found in the records of the prison. In such cases one imposing monument is erected over the spot and the names of all the dead resting there are inscribed upon it. Such a monument has been erected at Camp Douglas, Chicago, and upon it are names of 4,275 Confederates. At Point Lookout are the remains of 3,300 prisoners who died, and their resting place has been marked by a similar monument. The same course is being followed at Finns Point, N. J.; at Alton, Ill.; at Camp Morton, Ind.; and at Camp Chase, Columbus, O. All such burying grounds were marked by Jan. 1, 1912, and the commission appointed for that purpose disbanded.

The federal government has taken no action toward marking the graves of Confederate soldiers other than those who died in northern prisons and hospitals. But throughout the south the various organizations, such as the United Confederate Veterans and the Daughters of the Confederacy, have given ample recognition to the men who died for the southern cause. Their bodies have been gathered in special cemeteries, monuments have been built in their honor and their graves have been appropriately marked.

In the south on Memorial day there are often enacted scenes that are even more touching than those in other sections, for there the veterans of both causes, those who wore the blue and those who wore the gray, join hands in honoring the military dead. Oftentimes the uniforms of the two causes, worn by men in the very eventide of life, are in evidence and old animosities are buried in a realization of the valor of both combatants and the fact that each fought for a cause he deemed the right.

But everywhere under the Stars and Stripes on Memorial day there is an outpouring of those who pay homage to the soldier dead. Everywhere is evidenced the thoroughness and efficiency of the nation's attempt to take care of its dead and assure the perpetuation of the name and the credit of the martial hero.

Twelve freight trains of 25 cars each would be required to haul the money in 20-dollar gold pieces that this nation has paid out in pensions to the veterans of the Civil war. Ten freight cars would be required to haul the money in gold that the nation pays to its veterans in a single year. These amounts promise to be greatly augmented by legislation now pending before congress.

The pension office in Washington is the primary monument in honor of the old soldier. It was built with the particular idea in mind of furnishing a clearing house for the gratuities which the government extends to him. It is the largest building ever erected by the federal government. The maintenance of the pension service alone in its handling of the sums that go to the pensioners cost the government \$2,650,000 last year. The net sums paid out in pensions has during the last few years amounted around \$160,000,000 annually.

This appropriation would mean a couple of dollars to every man, woman and child in the nation. Indirectly every man, woman and child contributes a couple of dollars to it.

The government has expended in pensions to date for all the wars of the past a little over \$4,000,000,000. Of this \$3,000,000,000 was received by Civil war veterans. Four billion dollars is an enormous amount of money. There is at present in the United States, including all the gold, silver and paper money in all the treasuries, banks, wallets and old socks, but \$3,556,000,000. This is to say, there is not enough money in the United States today to pay, at a single time, the pensions that the Civil war veterans have received. So, in the course of drawing their stipends it is evident that the pensions have at one time or another had all the money there is. There is but \$1,750,000,000 in gold coin in the United States. There is not half enough gold coin in existence to have paid these pensions had the call come all at once. The government has paid out altogether 250 carloads of gold coin in pensions. All its gold might have been used two and one-half times over in the process. If this twelve trainloads of gold were loaded at once it would require but nine additional trainloads to haul the balance of the gold coin of the world.

These pensions are paid quite cheerfully. There is hardly a dissenting voice in congress when a proposal to increase pensions is introduced. The people approve of the action. They worship at the shrine of the martial hero and are willing at all times to be taxed that he may be given further pittance.

The pension appropriation is the largest individual item when, each year, congress makes up the list of governmental expenditures. Yet scarcely a voice is raised in disclaimer. Administrations may lay heavy stress upon the program of economy, but no suggestion is ever made that the pension roll be cut. When measures of pension increases are brought before congress not even the Democrats vote against them. When investigating committees go roaming through government departments in search of financial leaks the pension office is clear-listed and no questions are asked. The veteran and his pension are held sacred.

When the question is raised as to who shall secure position under Uncle Sam, the veteran is again given the advantage. In the civil service, in the first place, the age limit is removed from the old soldier. Be his age what it may, the positions are all open to him. In the examinations that must be taken under civil service rules the veteran need secure an average of but 65, while the civilian must rate at least 70.

No Escape.
"I got arrested again on account of that automobile of mine," remarked Mr. Chuggins.
"Exceeding the speed limit?"
"No. On the contrary, it wouldn't move, and a policeman overheard what I said about it."

Indefinitely Postponed.
"Pop, what's the millennium?"
"It's a time coming, my son, when there will be jobs enough in every administration to go around among those who want 'em."

The Trouble.
"What was the matter with the old fellow who was always arguing with everybody?"
"The doctors seemed to think it was discussion on the brain."

Likes to Dine.
"Who is Gorgit's favorite author?"
"I don't know what his name is, but he's the man who makes out the carte de jour at Gorgit's favorite restaurant."

GOOD TIMES AWAIT EDITORS.

Omaha, Neb.—Luncheon, a banquet and dance following, an automobile ride, and a special initiation at Ak Sar Ben, are some of the entertainment features which are being arranged for the members of the Nebraska Press Association on June 1 to 4.

Committees have been appointed by the Bureau of Publicity, which will have charge of the details of the entertainment.

One notable feature of this meeting will occur on Sunday, the day before its official convening, when about forty of the visiting editors will occupy the pulpits of the various churches of the city and will talk upon the subject of what the press is doing to raise the standard of morality of Nebraska, and will give the church-going folks of Omaha an idea of what the country newspaper stands for and how the country press is daily and weekly influencing for the better.

On Tuesday of convention week, the members of the Association and their wives will be the guests of the Union Stock Yards company and the business men of South Omaha at a luncheon, which will precede the afternoon meeting, which will be held in the South Omaha metropolis. An auto ride through South Omaha and Omaha, the latter including a trip through the tornado district will follow, after which the visitors will be the guests of the daily newspapers at a banquet and dance at one of the country clubs.

If the members of the association do not have an enjoyable time it will be because Omaha and her citizens will be unable to provide it. Judgment will be left to the distinguished visitors.

While the above arrangements have been made to cover the social entertainment of the visiting editors, the program for the business sessions has not been by any means neglected. Only a tentative program has been given out as yet, but as now outlined it gives promise of being one of the best ever arranged. Pertinent topics, covering every phase of newspaper work have been placed in competent hands, and will no doubt prove to be entertaining and instructive to all who hear them.

Job Printing and Ad-Setting Contests Feature of Meeting.

Last week there arrived in Omaha at the store of Fred Brodegaard, the well known jeweler of that city, the most expensive and handsomest trophy cup ever brought west of the Mississippi. This cup will be given to some Nebraska printer at the Omaha meeting of the Nebraska Press Association and will be worth its weight in gold to him, from an advertising standpoint alone. Just think,



—Guaranteed by Fred Brodegaard, of Omaha.

Trophy Cup

printers, what it would mean to come home from Omaha and exhibit that cup to the business men of your city, you—the best printer in Nebraska. It's some honor. The cup is solid silver, beautiful in design, fully guaranteed by Mr. Brodegaard and cost the donors—the Bureau of Publicity of Omaha, over \$150. It is handsomely engraved and in addition to the present engraving will carry the name of the winner and will be his exclusive property.

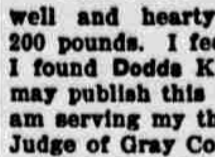
There will also be given \$200 in cash prizes to winners of the Ad-Setting contest. These prizes are for the neatest and most attractive ad set from copy furnished by the South Omaha stock yards company. The donors of the prizes. The ad must be three columns wide and ten inches deep, and may not contain any special cuts or ornaments. Only such type, rules, borders, and ornaments as are usually found in type specimen books may be used.

Newspaper Exhibition.
H. B. Allen, editor of the Creighton Liberal made a good suggestion to the secretary, recently when he proposed that we have a "newspaper exhibition," at the coming Nebraska Press Association meeting, and display the country newspapers of Nebraska, at a prominent place in the convention room, where comparisons could be made and suggestions and new ideas gained. This will be done, and the secretary will see to it that every newspaper that is brought or sent will be displayed.

Answer to Query.
The act of uplifting the hand during the taking of an oath is so ancient that it would be futile to even attempt to say when it started. Homer attempts to say when it started. Homer mentions it as common among the Greeks of his time, and it is also found in the earliest biblical time. For instance, Abraham, the father of the Jewish people, says: "I have lifted up my hand to Jehovah," showing that even at that remote period the practice was existent. It was from the Jews, of course, that the practice found its way into christendom, where it has ever since held its place in judicial trials.

JUDGE CURED, HEART TROUBLE.

I took about 6 boxes of Dodds Kidney Pills for Heart Trouble from which I had suffered for 5 years. I had dizzy spells, my eyes puffed, my breath was short and I had chills and backache. I took the pills about a year ago and have had no return of the palpitations. Am now 63 years old, able to do lots of manual labor, am well and hearty and weigh about 200 pounds. I feel very grateful that I found Dodds Kidney Pills and you may publish this letter if you wish. I am serving my third term as Probate Judge of Gray Co. Yours truly,



Judge Miller.
PHILIP MILLER, Cimarron, Kan.
Correspond with Judge Miller about this wonderful remedy.
Dodds Kidney Pills, 50c. per box at your dealer or Dodds Medicine Co., Buffalo, N. Y. Write for Household Hints, also music of National Anthem (English and German words) and recipes for dainty dishes. All 3 sent free. Adv.

Uphill Road.
At a poet's luncheon in Philadelphia Alfred Noyes, the English writer, said: "My success, such as it is, has been due to perseverance and modesty. In fact, in the beginning of my career," he said, "I used to tear up a poem ten times before I felt satisfied to submit it, and I used to submit it ten times and then feel satisfied to tear it up."

Anyway, the rolling stone never was interested in the moss there.

SPECIAL TO WOMEN

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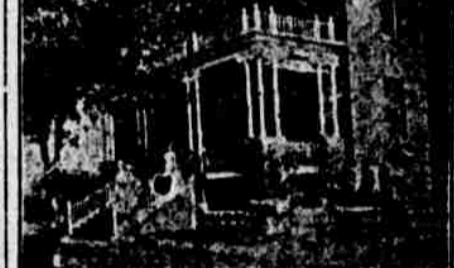
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In measuring, measure from top of front post to bottom of front post, the particular shade whether awning fastens on brick, wood or iron. Measure color and texture wanted. Satisfaction guaranteed. Ask for our prices, they are right.
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