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JOHNSON'S OWN STORY OF THE HEROIC FIGHT

Literary Digest Quotes a First Hand Account of the Scrap Which Won Two Colored Soldiers the Croix de Guerre.

The following article clipped from the Literary Digest purports to be Johnson's own account of his and Robinson's heroic encounter with the Germans. It is amusing and worthy of record, but we wonder if Corporal Norwood hasn't stretched truth a little and tried to write the way he thinks all Colored men should talk, instead of as they do talk. Johnson and Robinson are both New York boys and have lived in the Empire state long enough to know nothing about the strange dialect which the corporal has attempted to put into their mouths. It isn't real southern speech and bears little resemblance to good English, but we hasten to reprint it because of the humor there is in it, as well as the humor of white men trying to imitate our own inimitable folk. Letters From the Front to the Folks

at Home. Ablood-and-thunder novelist might | reply. have told the following story with more frills and thrills, but he could Johnson, the boy who used to drive a hardly have made it more real. The horse for Hartman's on ---- street." incident has figured in cable reports, which told briefly how two Colored and Mr. Johnson was warmly conboys from Albany, N. Y., had held an gratulated by his attentive audience. world, from the Philippines and the American outpost position against a Daily as Corporal Johnson strolls wrecks of the Spanish empire to small German army, accounting for the streets of the village on his con- France and the borders of the German some dozens of the enemy, and re- valescent limp he is stopped by both empire. ceiving therefor French and American French and Americans, who congratdecorations.

Sylvia, Kan., met the hero of that in- acter about the place and many await whom we all knew, was a candidate cident, Corporal Henry Johnson, and the appearance of his partner, Robin- for congress once more. He had lost wrote home Johnson's account of the son, to see the pair which scored such by only three votes in the previous of the country, and subcommittees of fight in the Colored soldier's own an extraordinary win against heavy election, and the word had been passed Surgeon-General Stokes's committee words.

Corporal Norwood's letter appears in the Hutchinson (Kan.) News, from GALVESTON EPISCOPAL which we quote:

Corporal Henry Johnson himself, who is convalescing at a nearby base Special to The Monitor. hospital, rather unexpectedly dropped gestures of the fray.

"Yessah, ma name's Johnson. Dis is Johnson, what's left of 'im.

son and Robinson, shure yau did; it was in all de papers.

through ma laig an' shot me in de the Episcopal church. right arm. Day want to send me home but Ah ain't goin' home. Ah gonna GEORGIA GOVERNOR stay here till ma company goes home. I'm as good a man as any of 'em. Dose Germans can't fight.

"Twas a cloudy an rainy night and me and ma pardner was at this here outpost. Bout two in da mornin' we es a bunch a Germans comin' at us. Ah figured maself as good a man as took ma rifle, a French gun, just like eleven, perhaps more, Negroes, one dis, and hit a Dude right on de haid of them a woman. It will be rememand broke the rifle right here. .

bandaged ma pardner with me firstaid kit. "Den de lootenant comes runnin' in an' says, 'Johnson, what's happened?' "I says, 'It's all over, lootenant.' "Ah had sixteen automatics and mo

mans, what was lef of 'em, beat it.

stuff piled in front of ma. "I says, 'Go out dere an' count dose Dudes.'

"The lootenant takes his pocket light an' looks over the ground and comes back.

"'For heaven's sake, Johnson, there's twenty-four of 'em!'

"Yessah, and if dey hadn't a got ma pardner here, dey would a been a lot

"The lootenant says, 'Johnson, are you hurt?'

"Ah says, 'No, sah.'

"'Yes, you is,' he says. 'Look, youse all bloody.'

"Oh, I says, dat's from de Dudes. "Yessah, I figured maself as good a

got ma pardner we'd å clean up." At this point one of the listeners in-

quired: "Johnson, where are you from ?"

"I'm from Albany, sah." "I'm from Albany, too," was the

"Yah ought to know me. I'm Henry

ulate him and inquire as to his heroic

CHURCH PROSPERS Chillicothe, Mo., then.

German odds.

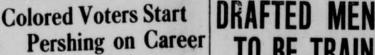
"told his story blushing and stammer- school board, made appropriate ad- about the trick. ing as a schoolgirl," Johnson gave a dresses. On the Sunday within the The night before election I called a

"Yah must a read all about John- hind the cross in procession.

"Dere's a silver plate right here marked-success, and St. Augustine's all of them to vote for Mansur the (pointing to his left foot), yessir, is taking its place among the most next day. right dere, they pushed a baynet progressive Colored congregations of

ASKED QUESTION

National Association Requests Information as to Steps Taken to Punish Lynchers and Carry Out President's Missouri." Desires.



THE MONITOR

How an Omaha Linotyper Pulled Po litical Trick Which Indirectly Sent General Pershing to West Point.

Was an Admirer of the General in His Baseball Days, When He Played Third Base.

Omaha, Neb., Sept. 12 .- That comparatively insignificent events sometimes lead to mighty results is illustrated in the story of Victor P. Gay, linotyper in the composing room of the Bee, who unintentionally initiated a train of events which are responsible for the presence of General John J. Pershing at the head of the Ameri-

can armies in France today. These are the links in the chain of, events which have placed General man as any of dem and if dey hadn't Pershing in command of the forces which will change the course of

the world's history. Gay was a cog in the political machine which brought about the election of Charles Mansur to congress from the old Third Missouri district in the fall of 1882. Mansur soon afterward appointed John Pershing, then a Missouri schoolmaster, to West Point, and so started him on the This ended the dramatic offering career which was to embrace leadership of American forces over half a

Calls Meeting of Negroes.

"It was back in the early eighties," Corporal J. Rush Norwood of deed. He is becoming a popular char- said Gay, " and Charley Mansur, out to the boys that we were to break our necks if need be to elect old Charley this time. I was a printer in

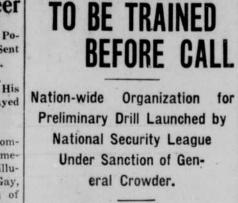
"Just before election a brilliant idea occurred to me. There were about St. Augnstine's church (Episcopal) 80 Negroes who lived in and around in at the field headquarters of the observed its patronal festival with Utica, five miles west of Chillicothe. press section here and very willingly festal evensong, St. Augustine's day, These Negroes were voters, but no gave a vivid and awesome story of August 25. The rector of Trinity one had ever attempted to swing their the event. I am going to try to offer church, the Rev. T. J. Sloan, and Mr. votes one way or another in the elecit to you as I heard it. Quite contrary F. W. Catterall, cashier of the First tions. Many of them were friends to the well known newspaper phrase, National bank and chairman of the of mine and through them I brought

rapid and vivid story, inserting all octave, there was a high celebration meeting of them in a schoolhouse on of the Holy Eucharist, and at even- edge of town. I told them what the song an American and a British flag election of Charley Mansur, staunch were blessed, and will be carried be- old republican, would mean to them, and told them what the party had The new vicar, the Rev. George done for them during and after the Gilbert Walker, is meeting with civil war. I secured the promise of

Votes Bring Election.

"Election night the votes were counted. Sixty-five of my 80 Negro votes had gone in a solid block for Charley Mansur and he was elected by

It was only a few months after he



Under the sanction of Provost Marshal General Crowder, the National Security League has undertaken the organization throughout the country of a systematic preliminary course of training for the young men in the draft, so 'hat when they are called they will know something of their duties and

ensive plan, which will be put in operation in every state in the Union under 'he direction of a "Committee on Preliminary Training and Instruction of Men Registered for Draft," of which Surgeon-General Charles F. Stokes, U.

Crowder Approves.

Provost Marshal General Crowder, to whom the Security League submitted the idea before acting, has approved it in a letter to Col. Charles E. Lydecker, President of the League, in which he says:

"Your proposal gives me great satis-

es of the League, scattered in all parts co-operating with the Local Draft Boards in all the states. It provides for the organization into instruction classes of the men soon to be called, to be selected by the Draft Boards, the tired or disabled army officers, whose service will be supplemented by local

Gen. J. Franklin Bell, commandant

"The object of our endeavor will be to make the young men understand why they are called for service to their country, what is to be expected of them and why they should be loyal. clean, sober and intelligent soldiers." says Surgeon-General Stokes. Outlining the operation of the plan, he continues:

points:

"(1) Each Local Draft Board. through its Chairman, will select a Captain, who will procure the assembly of the registrants and obtain from a local military or naval post, State 39votes. He'd have lost out sure if it Guard or Home Defense Unit or from hadn't been for those Negroes. Oh, we retired or disabled veterans of the had close elections those days in old present war an adequate training officer.

"(2) The Captain will also invite a took office that Mansur appointed local clergyman to give information, GENERAL CONTRACTORS.

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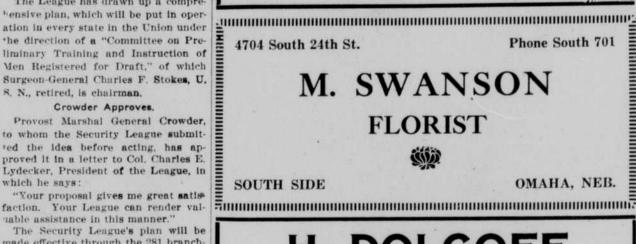
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how to take care of themselves. The League has drawn up a compre

S. N., retired, is chairman.

uable assistance in this manner."

The Security League's plan will be made effective through the 281 branchactual training to be conducted by reefforts to prepare the young men for

clergymen and physicians. at Camp Upton, is an enthusiastic supporter of the plan and has promised

the Security League co-operation in New York City and vicinity.

obtaining instructors for the classes in

"Clean, Sober Soldiers."

"There are three main" working

to nudder in the guts.

"I took my pardner way from 'em and brought 'em back to de post. Den



New York .- The National Associaany of 'em an Ah says to ma pardner, tion for the advancement of Colored 'We's going to stick right here.' He People makes public a telegram adsays, 'I'm with yah to de end.' So dressed to Governor Hugh M. Dorstead of treating to our lines we cut sey of Georgia, inquiring of him what loose grenades and fired way all our action has been taken, if any, in bringammunishion. Robinson was wounded ing to justice the members of the in da laig at de start and fell to de mobs, some of whose names were furground still throwing de grenades at nished to him on July 10 by a special de Huns. Two of 'em tried to carry investigator of the Association, who was ma pardner on a stretcher. Ah during the month of May lynched the general,

bered that on July 10 the investigator

"Ah went atfer de Dudes carryin' placed in the hands of the governor way ma pardner. Ah reached for ma | a memorandum giving the facts disbowie (trench knife) and hit one fel- covered by him during four days spent ler right in de haid. I pulled it out in the section where the lynchings and bout faced all round and give it occurred, a copy of the same memo- ing 'Haymakers,' as we called them,

since that time and the Association one of de Dudes comes at ma holler- pointedly asks the governor, "What big towns right along. Although Pering, 'Kumrad!' Kumrad, you say? can we tell America concerning Geor- shing was a school teacher and was Kumrad. Yessah, and den de Ger- president in helping to stamp out mob play on the team." violence?" The reply of the governor

will be awaited with considerable ingia's record of lynching twenty-five they call 'Dame Fortune.'" Negroes since America entered the war is an unenviable one and the HEIR BORN TO world is waiting to see whether she really wants to stop lynching.

THE SEPTEMBER CRISIS

The cover of the September Crisis Anna McLendon, a registered gradis a portrait of Gertrude Royal in uate nurse. Sergeant Boggus is with "Chu Chin Chow," by Frank Walts. the 92d division somewhere in France. He school playgrounds, etc., will be There are pictures of the Douglass Mrs. Boggus' only brother, Hugh Mc- utilized for the actual drilling. Drills home in Anacostia, D. C., now head- Lendon, is also in France. quarters of the National Association of Colored Women; the Y. M. C. A. Summer Institute; and the Negro Editorial conference. The articles include: "What of Liberia?" by Plenyono Gbe Wolo; "The Work of a Mob." by Walter F. White; "These Things Shall Be!" by John Haynes Holmes; and poems by Georgia D. Johnson, Otto Leland Bohanan and E. Ralph Cheyney.

Pershing to West Point, where the Missouri lad afterwards rose to be instructor and from where he went to begin his active career of leadership. And the strangest part of the story is that, although Gay knew John Pershing by sight, he has never exchanged a word with him in all his life, never was introduced to him and has probably never been heard of by

Gay Rooted for Pershing.

Gay was also one of the Chillicothe rooters who backed the baseball team from Wheeling, Mo., on which John Pershing was a star third baseman. "You had to be a star to play on that team," says Gay, "and the Wheelrandum later being sent to President won the amateur championship of the Wilson. Eight weeks have elapsed state. They used to beat semi-professional teams from St. Louis and other

I'm Kumrad all right. Ah'll show ye gia's governor's co-operation with our a native of Laclede, Mo., he used to "Yes, I guess it was partly my fault

that Pershing is licking the boche toterest, and more particularly his ac- day," concluded Gay, reflectively, "but tion taken on the evidence regarding it was all an accident, and I suppose the lynchings now in his hands. Geor. just another trick of that old lady

SOLDIER IN FRANCE On September 5 a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Boggus of 3518 Parker street. Mrs. Boggus was Miss

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"(3) A local physician will also instruct the young men in matters of health, hygiene and physical well-being in order that when they go to camp they shall present themselves with a consciousness of knowledge which will add to their strength and usefulness.

"At present the vast majority of our young men are called to the colors untrained. It would greatly facilitate their being turned into soldiers and save the government time and money if when they are called they are provided with some knowledge of military training and a sense of discipline and organization

"The position of local Captain, who will supervise the work, offers one of the finest opportunities for patriotic service for men of standing in the community who are unable to get into the trenches.

"Disorganized Rabble."

"Under the guidance of such a man, aided by an influential local clergyman and physician, the drafted men will go to their cantonments in efficient, organized bodies rather than as a disorganized rabble and with a spirit of self-reliance and comradeship. All the strangeness of the new life will have been eliminated, and, since the men will have been taught what lies before them, they will face duty with the confidence of familiarity.

"The military instruction will comprise only the simplest evolutions, with particular emphasis upon military courtesy-when, where, how and whom to salute. A general supervision of this phase of the training for uniformity and efficiency will be conducted by the government military authorities. Armories, public parks and squares, pubtwo or three times a week of an hour's duration will be preferable to longer periods at less frequent intervals.

Fitted for Officers.

"Competitive drills will be arranged to stimulate interest and enthusiasm. One of the advantages of the plan will be that the men who prove most proficient in the preliminary training will have an excellent chance of being selected as non-commissioned officers when they arrive in camp."



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