

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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

MONUMENT AT NEW ORLEANS

Memorial to World War Fallen Heroes Regarded as One of the Most Interpretive.

One of the most truly interpretive memorial monuments erected since the World war was recently completed at New Orleans. It is the work of Charles L. Lawhorn, designer, and C. H. Dodd, sculptor. Local American Legion posts presented the monument to the city.

Standing in a bed of red poppies in the beautiful city park, the monument is silhouetted against the palms. At the base is the simple inscription "In memory of our comrades who made the supreme sacrifice." Slight



Memorial Monument at New Orleans.

ornamentation relieves the severity of the shaft. On each side of the monument is an insignia, denoting the departments of service in which Americans gave their lives—the army, navy, marine and aviation. The four figures created by the sculptor represent four phases of military experience.

T. Semmes Walmsley, chairman of the Legion's national committee on memorials, was deeply interested in the erection of this tribute to the fallen comrades in New Orleans, where he makes his home. Mr. Walmsley pronounced it the most remarkable conception he had seen.

LEGION MEN DO NOT FORGET

Tuberculosis Victim Is Sent Back to His Home in California by Faithful Buddies.

Paul P. Pinnel was only a job baker in the United States navy during the World war, but he served his country faithfully and is now one of the thousands suffering from tuberculosis. For many months he had been in Seton hospital, New York city, which is caring for patients in the last stages of the dreadful disease.

His application for compensation has been on file for more than a year, but no action has been taken by the bureau of war risk insurance, although time and time again, Pinnel's critical condition has been brought to the bureau's attention. So he has been existing without compensation and dependent upon members of the American Legion who visit the hospital regularly, for the many little necessities dear to the heart of every sick man.

Walter T. Hamilton, chairman of the Bronx county Welfare committee of the American Legion visited the ex-ib and the latter confided to him that he longed to be back home in California among his people. Hamilton got busy. The next day he took the matter up with his committee and \$450 was raised by the Legionnaires to provide for Pinnel's transportation and an attendant nurse.

Pinnel is home now with his aged father. His country for whom he fought may have forgotten, but his buddies—never.

Pies for Sailor Boys.

One thousand home-made pies were dispensed by members of the women's auxiliary of the American Legion at Seattle, Wash., to the 1,400 sailors of the Pacific fleet who took part in a parade there. Other rations were distributed in as generous a measure. Pity the poor ship's cook on a night like that!

Carrying On With the American Legion

Not to be outdone by the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion and the various associations of war mothers, "Dad" is now forming an association of his own. The new father's organization is known as the "Order of Loyal Dads." It will co-operate with all patriotic orders, and will be especially affiliated with the American Legion. "Dad" Sheldon Foote, of Ft. Myers, Fla., is the founder of the paternal order. Its principles will encourage "clean, patriotic living, irrespective of party, politics, race or creed." Men whose sons served in the Spanish-American or World wars, or who served in the army or navy at any other time, will be eligible.

A sales system for the hundreds of practical articles and ornaments that are being made by disabled veterans, is being developed by the East Side post at St. Paul, Minn. The sale opened on Bastille day, July 14, with a carnival, the proceeds of which will aid their unfortunate comrades in civil re-establishment. The American Legion Welfare Bureau of St. Paul, is fighting for the unemployed ex-service men with financial handicaps in what it terms a determined effort to "keep the bread line and soup kitchen out of St. Paul."

Thomas J. Bannigan, the new vice commander of the American Legion, is well-known in New England for his record as chairman of the legislative committee of the Connecticut department of the Legion. He waged a fight against politicians who, he declared, were trying to "commercialize, federalize and politicize soldier legislation." As a result of this campaign the state of Connecticut turned over to the American Legion as disbursing agent, a fund of \$2,500,000 for the relief of needy ex-service men and their dependent families.

Capt. Harry C. Brumbaugh, formerly executive officer of General Pershing's information force which kept track of every man in France and the movements of all troops and individuals, has been chosen executive secretary of the World War veterans' state aid of Oregon. Brumbaugh was formerly treasurer of the Legion Publishing corporation and assistant national treasurer of the American Legion.

After surviving several engagements of the World war in which he won a Croix de Guerre and was twice cited for bravery, Clifford A. Laffin, member of the American Legion, died at St. John's hospital, St. Paul, Minn., as a result of a pin scratch. Laffin was a first lieutenant in the Seventeenth field artillery. Infection from the scratch caused his death within a few days.

National Commander Emery of the American Legion placed a wreath on the casket of Private Gresham at memorial services which marked the return of the hero's body from France. Commander Emery and Private Gresham were members of the same brigade. The former was severely wounded and the latter killed in action. Private Gresham was one of the first three Americans killed in France.

A summer camp, conducted by the American Legion and the Disabled American Veterans of the World war, known as Camp Galbraith, in honor of Col. F. W. Galbraith, Jr., late commander of the Legion, has been opened in a \$100,000 hotel near Port Townsend, Wash. The camp will continue until September 15, and will be open to all veterans and their families for whatever period they desire.

At the suggestion of Victor J. Miller, president of the St. Louis (Mo.) police board, the Frederick W. Stockham post, American Legion, voted to form a committee to co-operate with the police in ridding the city of crime. President Miller characterized their work as a thankless effort to see that Americanism starts at home.

Personal letters congratulating all aliens who receive their final citizenship papers, are sent out by F. M. Wood, commander of the American Legion post at Okmulgee, Okla. In the letters, Wood offers assistance of the Legion in steering a clear course in Americanism and pledges fellowship.

The site for Kansas City's \$2,000,000 Liberty Memorial building will be dedicated October 1, the opening day of the national convention of the American Legion. The dedication will follow a parade of some 30,000 members of the American Legion from all parts of the world.

More than 6,000 former service men have been assisted financially and otherwise by the Connecticut department of the American Legion, according to a recent report. Approximately \$250,000 from a fund appropriated by the state of Connecticut, has been spent in the soldier welfare work.

Among the cities that have tossed their hats in the ring as candidates for the 1922 national convention of the American Legion, are New Orleans, Baltimore, Houston and San Francisco.

COUNTRY OF CONTRASTS



A Public Square in Mexico.

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

East or west an American must travel far to reach a foreign country. But let him take only a few steps to the south and he will find himself more effectively abroad than if he traveled to many parts of Europe. A land devoid of Yankee "hustle" except where Yankees themselves display it; a land with its peasantry reminiscent of a feudalism which the remainder of North America escaped; a land where the aborigines were not dispossessed but with their European conquerors formed a new race—such is Mexico.

It is a country of striking contrasts. Though it is exceedingly rich in natural resources, a large part of its population lives in dire poverty. It had a university before John Harvard was born, yet the great mass of its people are illiterate. Modern equipages and machines are to be seen side by side with the most primitive vehicles and devices. And desert sands and tropical jungles can be found almost within a stone's throw of eternal snow.

The Mexico of today has an area of about 770,000 square miles—approximately a quarter that of the United States. Roughly half of the long shore line of the Gulf of Mexico is Mexican; and its Pacific coast is nearly a thousand miles longer than that of the United States exclusive of Alaska.

Big in Some Ways, Small in Others.

Of the nineteen independent Latin-American countries, Mexico is exceeded in size by only two, Brazil and Argentina; and in population by only Brazil. With its population of 15,000,000, Mexico has twice the total population of Argentina and three times that of country's density of population; but measured by the value of its commerce, its revenue or the strength of its navy, Mexico is of less importance among the countries of the world. It is subordinate in these respects too, to Brazil and Chile, the latter a country less than half the size of Mexico and with a population of about a quarter. Even in the matter of railroad mileage per 1,000 square miles of territory, Mexico, before its revolutions well ahead of all other large Latin-American countries, is now practically equalled by Argentina and Chile.

But Mexico has wonderful potential wealth, and with a stable and constructive government and laws that make the investment of capital safe, would have many advantages over its Latin-American competitors in the race for development and rank among the countries of the world.

Though Mexico has an area of great extent, what may be called the real Mexico is much smaller. Throughout the history of the country, both before the coming of the Spanish conquerors and since, its culture and its center of population have been on the great central plateau which rises between the two oceans, and particularly in the south central part of that region. A section there occupying not more than one-sixth of the country contains nearly two-thirds of the total population. This portion, of which the valley of Mexico and the city of Mexico are near the center, has a delightful climate. Blankets are used at night the year round, but seldom at any time of the year is an overcoat needed at midday.

The northern portion of Mexico is largely occupied by deserts. The southern section is tropical—a country of steamy moisture and jungles. Both coasts are hot and unpleasant throughout a large part of their extent. It is natural enough, therefore, that the central plateau has played an important part in the country's history.

But One Really Large City.

Mexico is essentially a rural country. Mexico City, the capital, with its million inhabitants, is the only city of large size within the country's borders. Between the metropolis and the next largest city, Guadalajara, is a great gulf, for the latter with its population of 120,000 is only the size of Nashville, Tenn., or Salt Lake City. Monterey, the greatest city of northern Mexico, and third in

the country, is approximately the size of Harrisburg, El Paso, or San Diego. San Luis Potosi is the size of South Bend, Ind., while Vera Cruz, the greatest port of the republic and fifth city, is smaller than Tampa, Florida, or Charleston, S. C. Salina Cruz and the other Pacific ports are little more than villages with extensive docks. As a rule the cities of Mexico are not manufacturing centers but derive what importance they possess from being the markets for the surrounding agricultural country or mining regions.

While Mexico is largely agricultural, and therefore rural, its country life is strikingly different from that with which farm-bred residents of the United States are familiar. Seldom is an isolated farmhouse to be found; many of the tillers of the soil live in little villages and go back and forth to their work, usually on the land of others. These innumerable villages give one the impression of being standardized and are difficult to tell apart. They are made up of low, rectangular flat-topped huts of mud bricks or adobe, and are huddled closely together. Between the forbidding walls of these tomb-like dwellings, the tropic sun beats down on a narrow, dusty street.

Great Ranches and Plantations.

In addition to these more or less independent villages of the common people there are to be found in parts of the country the haciendas or great ranches of the landed proprietors, on which are other groups of the inevitable flat-roofed huts, the dwellings of the ranch peons. In the hot country of the south are extensive plantations of bananas, rubber trees, cacao and other special tropical products. These plantations are often operated by foreign laborers and on them small armies of day laborers are employed. From the forest of southern and southeastern Mexico comes most of the chicla from which the world's chewing gum is made; and from the plantations of Yucatan comes practically all the fiber used in making the miles and miles of bundle twine with which the huge wheat crops of the United States are tied into bundles.

Aboriginal traits cling to the mass of the Mexicans who are such a short distance in time removed from the strange mixture of barbarism and civilization that marked the empire of the Aztecs found by Cortez when he landed on the gulf coast in 1518—a civilization with its human sacrifices in a city carefully policed, and scrupulously kept clean by a corps of trained "white-wings;" with its refined cannibalism beside an astronomical ability superior to that of the scholars who arranged the Julian calendar; with its institution of slavery the only one known in the world which provided that every child should be born a freeman. They are an artistic people, the Mexicans, apt musicians, modellers, basket-makers, featherworkers, weavers and metal-workers.

Burial Vaults Are Rented.

Poverty brings its tragedy into the deaths as well as into the lives of the masses of the Mexicans. Few are able to buy burial plots, and the custom of merely renting vaults for a short term of years has become general. The lease is often not renewed and the bones are cast on a heap of millions of others to make room for a time for some other unfortunate. Mexico abounds in holidays. Besides Sunday there is an equal number of saints' days and additional holy and feast days to bring the total to 131 of the 365.

Mexico's large unassimilated Indian population and its even larger population in which Indian traits predominate makes a certain degree of turbulence a natural condition in the republic south of the Rio Grande. The United States had not so long ago on its frontiers its Indian uprisings, its stage-coach and train robberies, and its "bad men" with a penchant for "shooting up" towns. Mexico is still in this stage of development, and because of the heavy Indian element in its population, probably will be there for many years.

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Bar Trapping of Bear.
Increased bounties on ferocious animals and ferocious birds and protective measures with a view to conserving the bear, which is becoming scarce in many parts of British Columbia, feature new game regulations which have recently been announced. Trapping of bear is now prohibited, and only three bears may be shot in a season. Bounties for panthers has been increased to \$40, timber wolves \$25, crows 20 cents, magpies 20 cents, and big-horn and snow owls, \$1 each.

All for Love.
Clarence was in doubt and so expressed himself as follows:
"Clara, I want you to give me some proof of your love."
"Why, Clarence," said the girl, "am I not dancing with you?"
"That's nothing," said Clarence.
Whereupon Clara bridled. "You wouldn't say that, Clarence, if you knew how badly you danced!"

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Quite So.

"Remarkable family of girls, that!"
"Clever?"
"I should say so! Elsie is the state tennis champion! Maude paints so well that she has come very near to selling a picture; Janet sings like an opera star—almost, and no girl in town dresses as effectively as Clara."
"There's another sister, isn't there?"
"Oh, yes, Mabel. But she is rather dull, I guess. She only works and supports the family."—New York Sun.

Many things remain impossible till they are attempted.

Don't judge by appearances; judge by disappearances.

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Fiction Provided For.
The husband was seeing his beloved wife off on a holiday. "Maggie, dear," he said, "hadn't you better take some fiction with you to while away the time?"
"Oh, no, George," she said, "you'll be sending me some letters."—Western Christian Advocate.

An earnest search for temptation will always find it.
Nature is the mother and habit is the stepmother.

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