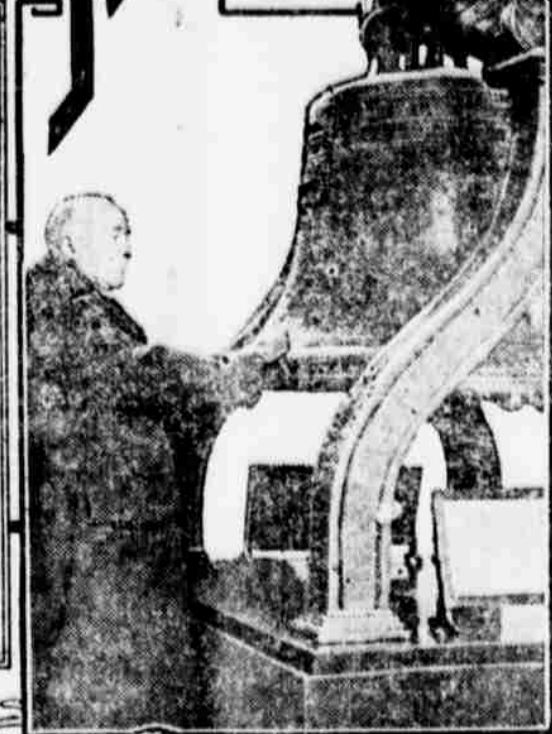


Independence Day, 1923



This Republic needs today, as it never did before, men and women of character, purity, vigor, and unselfish judgment. It needs men to stand in the hard places and fight the hard battles. It needs women to answer its questions and to solve its problems.—Guy D. Galt.

By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN
INDEPENDENCE day will be celebrated in every nook and cranny of the United States of America. How it will be celebrated is another story, since just now the observance of this American holiday is in a transition stage. The fashion of celebrating will depend upon the spirit of the celebrating community. Of course only works of necessity will be done. And, with pleasant weather, most of our citizens will celebrate in the open air.

Independence day will also be celebrated after a fashion all over the world. For America is a world power nowadays and its sons and daughters are many in most parts of the earth. And wherever they are, they will gather in honor of the Star-Spangled Banner. For example, 500 Chicagoans visiting Gothenburg's tercentennial will give Sweden an object lesson in Fourth of July celebrations. Wherever Old Glory floats, there will be some sort of observance of the day the homeland celebrates.

Moreover, all the peoples of earth, with few exceptions, will be in sympathy with these celebrations, for it is coming more and more to be understood that American independence and liberty stand for a world-wide idea.

There is one thing, however, that every good American should do on Independence day. Reaffirm his view of patriotism. We have come up from a humble beginning through storm and stress to the first place among the nations of earth. We should make firm resolve on the Fourth of July that we will not lose that proud eminence through the onerating influence of wealth and luxury and neglect of patriotic duties. We should try to realize how fast history is making in these modern days and resolve to help in making it along lines of progress.

Frank W. Mondell of Wyoming, majority floor leader of the house, closed a continuous service of 13 terms at the end of the last congress. These words from his farewell address give us a hint of how fast history is making in America:

"At the close of this congress I shall have served my constituents as a member of the congress 13 terms, or 26 years, and 28 years shall have elapsed since I first visited this chamber as a member elect. Twenty-eight years is a brief period in the titles of time, but it is a long period in the life of a man and a considerable period in the life of a nation when important history is in the making. My service here has been under six presidents—Cleveland, McKinley, Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson and Harding; and under five speakers—Reed, Henderson, Cannon, Clark and Gillett. During the period since my service began we have fought two foreign wars; we have extended our boundaries and our jurisdiction from the continent of America to the islands of the eastern and western seas as far as the farthest Orient; we have united the two great oceans at Panama. We have during this period, through the force of our moral influence and without intent or purpose on our part, passed from the condition of an isolated and somewhat unimportant western power to a position of acknowledged supremacy in potential power and in high moral influence.

"At home, measuring our activities by expenditures, we have progressed from an annual outlay of half a billion to the expenditure in a period of war and stress of thirty-three billions in a twelve-month, and to a present annual outlay of nearly four billions. In my first session of congress we discussed with apprehension of unjustifiable extravagance a naval expenditure of less than \$30,000,000, the beginning of an effort to revive our navy from the moribund condition into which it fell following the Civil war. Today our naval policy contemplates a fleet equal to any afloat. In those days a river and harbor appropriation approximating \$15,000,000 was considered a wild extravagance, as compared with the \$55,500,000 of the present year.

"The present annual federal expenditure of seventy to eighty millions for public roads was undreamed of. Some years were to pass before we undertook the reclamation of our arid lands through federal agencies. Rural free delivery had not even entered upon the period of academic discussion. Federal land banks were without exception in the minds of a few students of foreign agricultural credits. Women voted in general elections nowhere in the Union save in my State of Wyoming and the Eighteenth amendment had not been thought of."

Independence day this year will have a new feature in its celebration: the honoring of James Monroe, fifth president of the United States and author of the Monroe Doctrine. Senate joint resolution 274 in the last congress, to provide for the participation of the United States in the observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the enunciation of the Monroe Doctrine and of the ninety-second anniversary of the death of James Monroe, is substantially as follows:

Resolved, etc., That there is hereby established the Monroe Doctrine Centennial commission. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$122,500, to be expended by the congressional commission. The sum of \$87,500 may be expended in co-operation with the James Monroe Memorial Association and Foundation, for the purpose of contributing to the purchase and restoration of the former home of James Monroe in the city of New York, as a permanent memorial, and the creation of a memorial foundation, the income from which shall be used for purposes of furthering progress, amity, and good will among the peoples of the Pan-American republics. Fifty-five thousand dollars may be expended in co-operation with the National Committee of Celebration for the purpose of participating in a general program of public celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the enunciation of the Monroe Doctrine to be held in New York and Washington, and in the places of the birth and of the burial of James Monroe; and participating in memorial services to be held in New York, on July 4, 1923, the ninety-second anniversary of his death. No expenditures shall be made until the James Monroe Memorial Association and Foundation has expended or contracted to expend at least the sum of \$87,500 for the same purposes.

When Clemenceau was here he put in his itinerary two "must" things: To place a wreath at Lincoln's tomb and to touch the Liberty Bell. He did both. And in this connection, Representative F. B. Gardner of Pennsylvania was moved in the last congress to retell the story of the famous journey of the Liberty Bell to Allentown, Pa., during the Revolution. He said in part:

"It was after the battle of Brandywine, Sept. 11, 1777, that General Washington ordered the transfer of all military stores to Bethlehem, Pa. Even before that critical hour had arrived, the Pennsylvania assembly awoke to the gravity of the situation and passed a resolution on the sixteenth day of June authorizing the removal of all bells, as well as all the copper and brass, in the city of Philadelphia to some place of safety; the Liberty Bell was not taken from Independence Hall until after General Washington's order had been given. It constituted a part of the military train of 700 wagons, which carried the whole of the heavy baggage of the army, which was escorted by 200 Virginia and North Carolina soldiers under the command of Col. William Polk of North Carolina. That famous caravan proceeded along the banks of the Delaware river to Trenton, and from there traveled through wild and rugged country to Bethlehem, arriving there on the twenty-fourth day of September, 1777. After the military train had reached Bethlehem the wagon upon which the Liberty Bell was loaded broke down in the street.

"The next day the bell was placed on the wagon of Frederick Leusser, who, together with John Jacob Mickle, escorted by a small guard of soldiers, brought it and the chimes of Christ church, eight in number, to Allentown, where they were placed in the basement of the German Zion Reformed church, where it was kept in hiding until the following spring, when the British army evacuated Philadelphia. It was then returned to Independence Hall, where it was rehung in the belfry on June 27, 1778. This same church was converted into a hospital for the sick and wounded of the Revolutionary army during the entire time that its membership kept their silent watch over the hidden treasure. Allentown was then a thrifty little town of 300 inhabitants, located six miles north of Bethlehem on the banks of the Lehigh river. Its people were intensely loyal to the cause of the Revolution, for 27 members of the congregation in whose church the Liberty Bell was secreted served as members of the Continental army. What a responsibility the consistency of that church assumed, but John Griesemer, Nicholas Fox, Michael Kolb, John Miller and Peter Rhoads were patriotic and God-fearing men who earnestly and courageously assumed this sacred task."

Philadelphia is busy getting ready for its sesqui-centennial celebration in 1926 by an international exhibition. The old city hall or Supreme court building, a group of structures centered by Independence Hall and facing on Independence square, was rededicated with appropriate ceremonies in May. The restoration of this building to its original form has just been completed as part of the work of restoring the entire group undertaken by the city of Philadelphia to perpetuate the shrine of American Independence.

The rededication of this building constitutes the beginning of a series of historic celebrations, culminating in the celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence through the sesqui-centennial exhibition in Philadelphia in 1926 in illustration of the world progress in science, art and industry since the centennial celebration of 1876.

The Supreme court building, sometimes called the old city hall, was constructed much later than Independence Hall, being begun in 1789 and finished in 1791. It corresponds with the other buildings and appears as a wing extending to the Fifth street corner of "the row." It was intended to be occupied by the municipal offices of the city of Philadelphia, but, as the moment of completion coincided with the transfer of the seat of federal government from New York to Philadelphia, the use of it was accorded to the Supreme court of the United States, which held its sessions there continuously until 1800, when it removed to Washington.

Philadelphia promises something new in the way of international expositions. Its purpose is threefold: "To mark the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; to portray the progress of the world particularly in the 50 years since the Centennial exhibition held in Philadelphia in 1876; to create a closer understanding and foster the good-will of the peoples of the world."

The dominant aim will be "to interpret the spirit of the Twentieth century and to reflect it in beauty and happiness. New methods and original features will be developed, departing entirely from previous expositions, except for their practical lessons."

Two features at least will be new in international expositions: A vast Automobile Hall, designed to portray the progress of the automotive industry and to present the greatest collection of the most highly-perfected motor vehicles from every part of the world; a great Airplane Building with an air-drome for exhibition purposes, demonstrating world achievement in the navigation of the air.

This also is promised: "The motion picture will be here upon a scale never before attempted, and also the actual filming of scenarios, in which the most noted motion-picture stars appear."

"With Philadelphia's hallowed historic buildings in the background, each day's presentation of a great motion picture will be prefaced by a film portraying the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the great events of the republic that will stamp the lessons of American history indelibly upon the minds of millions of people."

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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

250,000 IN LEGION CONTEST

School Children Throughout Country Are Preparing Essays on Subject of Immigration.

School children in every section of the country are busy preparing essays for entry in the second annual contest to be conducted by the American Legion. Last year more than 50,000 participated in the contest, which was won by Ah Sing Ching, a Hawaiian youth of Chinese extraction, and in 1923, interest promises to be even greater.

The subject announced this year is "Why America should Prohibit All Immigration for Five Years," and is in accord with the policy of the national organization of the Legion, which holds that all immigrants should be excluded over a fixed period of years.

The contest is held in conformity with the Legion's plan for furtherance of Americanization through education, and is under direction of the Americanism commission of the organization. Interest in national questions among children, believe leaders of the Legion, will become one of the vitalizing forces for the development of Americanism. The success of the 1922 contest is an apparent example of this, according to the Legion.

"Taking into consideration the success of the first year's contest," said Garland W. Powell, director of the Americanism Commission of the American Legion, "it is conservative to estimate that 250,000 essays will be submitted in the present contest. This means that a quarter of a million coming citizens of America will be engaged for a period of time on a problem of vital concern to the nation. The 1922 contest started after the close of schools for the summer vacation, and 50,000 competed in it."

National awards for the three best essays will be made in the form of scholarships in colleges and universities. No restrictions are made as to courses or studies. The value of these awards is: First, \$750; second, \$500; third, \$250. In addition to the national prizes separate awards will be made in each of the states, silver and bronze medals and certificates of merit to be given to winners. Elimination of essays will be carried on through an organization of counties and states, thence to the national committee of three well-known educators who serve as judges.

All essays will be restricted to 500 words. Thought, style, originality of subject treatment, in the order named, are to be the basic consideration for awards, with spelling and penmanship also to be considered in the finality. The contest closes October 12.

The 1922 contest was carried on by Legion men working in conjunction with educational officials throughout the country. After the elimination of state winners' essays through consideration of the judges, Ah Sing Ching was awarded first prize, Miss Virginia Chastain of Indianapolis second, and Joseph Giandonato of Bridgeport, Conn., third. The subject was "How Can the American Legion Best Serve the Nation?"

MONUMENT TO COST \$50,000

Galbraith Memorial Committee Is Seeking Soldier, Sailor and Nurse to Pose for Tablet.

A World war soldier, a sailor, a marine and an army nurse are sought by members of the F. W. Galbraith Memorial committee of the American Legion to volunteer to pose for the individual figures of the monument to be erected in Eden park, in memory of the National commander who was killed in an automobile accident near Indianapolis in 1921.

They will depict the various branches of the service upon the bronze tablet, which will be 4 1/2 feet high and 10 feet long. It will cost \$50,000, and is now in the process of making by Clement J. Barnhorn, Cincinnati sculptor, who was selected from a group of leading artists by the committee.

On the extreme left of the tablet will be the figure of the angel of victory, to the right of which will be a sailor. A soldier will hold a medallion of the bust of Colonel Galbraith, appearing in the center of the memorial. To the right will be the figure of a marine in kneeling position, and then an army nurse. On the extreme right will be the angel of peace. All of the figures will be linked with a chain of flowers, symbolical of the binding together of the armed forces of the country, in constituting the membership of the American Legion.

Running Low.

A hale and hearty old fellow in Maine, who had just buried his fourth wife, was accosted by an acquaintance, unaware of the bereavement, asked: "How's your wife?"

The much married man considered a while, then replied sadly: "Wal, ter tell you the truth, I'm kinder out o' wives just now."—American Legion Weekly.

LEGION MAN STATE ENGINEER

R. L. Cochran, World War Veteran, Is Honored by Governor Bryan of Nebraska.

The office of state engineer of Nebraska has been awarded to R. L. Cochran, of Lincoln, a member of the American Legion who spent fourteen months overseas during the World war. His appointment was made by Governor Bryan.

A graduate of the University of Nebraska, Cochran's first job was that of a rodman with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad. Then he was elected surveyor of Lincoln county and also maintained a private practice as consulting engineer. In 1910, he was appointed state bridge inspector and later investigated a dispute between the states of Wyoming and Nebraska over water rights pending a Supreme court trial.

Appointed deputy state engineer in 1917, Cochran's career in that office was cut short by his enlistment in the engineering corps of the army. He was transferred to the coast artillery as a first lieutenant and went into training at Fortress Monroe. His overseas service began in December, 1917, and in July, 1918, he was made a captain of artillery.



R. L. Cochran.

Following discharge he went to North Platte, Neb., where he formed a partnership to resume private practice. Under the supervision of his firm, ninety-one blocks of paving material were built in North Platte.

NEW CONTESTS AMONG POSTS

Rehabilitation Committee Proposes Plan to Create Interest in Veterans' Bureau Problems.

The national rehabilitation committee of the American Legion is proposing to chairman of local districts that a contest, based on the work of the posts in the district, toward aiding ex-service men to regain their places in community life, be conducted, with the purpose of creating active post interest in the problems of the disabled men and the veterans' bureau.

A communication from Joe Sparks, chairman of the national committee, states that, "While, of course, no incentive in the way of a trophy is required to have any Legion post assist its disabled comrades, nevertheless it is felt that the presentation of a loving cup to the post performing the most service to our disabled comrades would express appropriately the appreciation of the department awarding the cup, and would at the same time furnish a tangible honor to which the post could point with pride."

The winner of the contest in each department would be decided by the score piled up on a basis of points. These points, Mr. Sparks suggests, could be allotted in the following manner, based on the efforts of the post: Twenty-five for every man hospitalized, 20 for every man awarded compensation, 15 for every man awarded section 2 training, 5 for every man awarded section 3 training, 5 for every \$1,000 insurance reinstated, 5 for every training opportunity offered and accepted, and 25 for every job for trained veterans offered and accepted.

It is further suggested that each department officer furnish the posts within its district with concise summaries of the most efficient manner of accomplishing the desired results, so that no unnecessary labor be done.

"It is felt," the communication from Mr. Sparks concludes, "by the committee that the effect of such a contest will be to arouse a friendly rivalry which will result in increased service to our disabled comrades. We believe that if this same idea is carried out in every state department the results nationally will be shown in less complaints on the part of claimants within a short space of time."

Legion Aids Hospital.

American Legion posts in Indianapolis, Ind., the home of the national organization, joined in a city-wide campaign to endow the James Whitcomb Riley Memorial Hospital for Crippled Children. A team for this purpose was provided by the Legion posts of the Seventh district. At least one auxiliary unit will endow a room in the hospital, according to the announcement of the unit officers.

Funds Awarded to Post.

In a suit brought by American Legion members of Warren, O., against the trustees of the local war chest community fund, Judge Charles Wilkins of the Common Pleas court awarded the post \$57,634.82, as its portion of the fund, which had been raised for the benefit of soldiers and sailors during the war. Other posts of the county also shared in the division.