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Pages 1 to 8

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# MEMORIAL DAY

## MEMORIAL DAY IN MANY LANDS

From This Time There Will be Graves of Soldier Dead to be Dec- orated Overseas

### SCENE NOW SHIFTS TO FRANCE

76,247 of the Flower of American Man- hood Lie Buried in 2,342 Cemeteries in France

Memorial day this year finds the thoughts of many Americans thousands of miles away. There is a remarkable rapidity the principal Memorial day scene has changed from the 83 national cemeteries, where tiny flags decorate nearly 400,000 graves to France, where 76,247 of the flower of American man- hood lie buried in 2,342 cemeteries.

Filling the ever thinning lines of blue and gray is the mighty khaki clad host of democracy. There is the patriotic oratory by the foremost men, but this time by men tried by war. There is the usual booming of guns, reinforced this year by the blazing artillery of the A. E. F.

But the significance of it all is an almost international observance of the great American Memorial day. For the first time graves of American soldiers, like monuments of democracy, are found in rugged Scotland, in quiet English churchyards, at Coblenz in Germany, on the icy wastes of Siberia and in the fields of sunny Italy, as well as on the slopes of Montafaucon and at Surènes, in France.

Surènes, the great American cemetery just outside of Paris, might be retained in perpetuity by the United States for the purpose for which it was so generously given by the French nation. It lies on the beautiful slopes of Mount Valerien, sentinelled by a historic fortress. Bordered the curved frontage of its 13,000 square meters runs a shady boulevard, which the municipality of Paris has recently named "Boulevard Washington."

The Seine Wings Past  
From this spot of the sepulture one overlooks the city of Surènes, with the Seine winding past its doors and the world famous Boulogne flying yet farther on down the gentle declivity toward the French capital.

Writing to the mayor of Surènes, Maj. Gen. H. L. Rogers, former quar- termaster of the A. E. F. but now quar- termaster general of the army, said:

"The commander in chief is deeply sensible of the touching devotion thus manifested by the people of the town of Surènes, both in the donation of a place that shall be sacred to the mortal remains and the honored memory of our heroic dead and in the noble resolution to watch over their resting place. He also desires for me to impart to you my appreciation of the tributes, instituted at your suggestion, to the memory of our first American president, in giving the name of Washington to a boulevard leading to the space allotted for this hallowed purpose."

Shell Holes Opened Up  
The graves register on service, that comes under General Rogers, and which did such laudable work through- out the war under the able leadership of Lieut. Col. Charles C. Pierce, of Philadelphia, reinforced by 10,000 negro troops, combed the entire battle area of France in an effort to locate and identify the bodies of all soldiers who fell. So thorough was this final inspection that even shell holes were opened up in the search for missing bodies.

The cemeterial branch of the quar- termasters corps, in charge of Maj. H. B. Lemly, organized, equipped and sup- plied four units of the graves registra- tion service, which after preparatory training at the casual camp at Col- onel's Island and at Camp Merritt, went overseas in command of Lieut. Col. Pierce, then a major.

It was the business of the graves registration service to locate all cemeteries under the prescribed procedure is followed in establishing American bur- ial grounds.

An officer of the graves registration service took the initiative in all ac- quisitions. A letter was prepared for the signature of the commander in chief, addressed to the French military mis- sion, or the commanding general of the region, if in the zone of the interior, asking for the allotment of whatever space was required.

Inspect and Test Grounds  
Commissions were then appointed by the French authorities, consisting of representatives of the engineers, sani- tary department, the prefect and the ministry of war, and the American au- thorities designated an American officer as the fifth member of the commission.

The commission inspected and tested the grounds, in company with the mu- nicipal authorities, making recommen- dations upon which the ministry of war procured the ground for the French state and set it aside for an American cemetery. It is thereafter controlled and administered entirely by the graves registration service.

On the battle front space was chosen by the American commanding general directly, or through an officer of the graves registration service. However, the same procedure of acquisition was followed, the only difference being that the emergencies of battle were met promptly, and the slower process of legal formalities arranged afterward.

Graves Given to the A. E. F.  
In many places plots in French ceme-



### PASSING OF THE GRAND ARMY

Significant That in Omaha Three Posts of Veterans Have Had to be Consolidated

One of the items of local news carries with it a tinge of sadness, observes the Omaha Bee. It recounts the fact that the three Omaha posts of the Grand Army of the Republic are to be consolidated because they no longer have numerical strength for more than one. This is simple notice that the great organization of men who wore the blue and marched with Grant and Sherman is passing on more rapidly than we realize. They were boys in '66, when the conflict closed, but that was more than half a century ago, and the youngest head that sheltered under a soldier's cap then is now snow white from age. It was inevitable that this association of men who shared to- gether the hardships and privations, the dangers and the triumphs of war, should pass in its time, for its members are immortal only in the deeds they wrought and the glory they brought to America. Soon the muffled drum's sad roll will have beaten the last tattoo for the Grand Army; the last vet- eran will have been laid away to await the bugle sounding reveille in eternity, the last bronze button will be placed alongside the tattered old battle flags and the stained uniform, and the Grand Army of the Republic will live only in the memory of a people who will more and more enjoy the fruitage of its history. For

On fame's eternal camping ground  
Their silent tents are spread,  
While glory guards with solemn round  
The bivouac of the dead.

### THEIR MEMORIAL DAY

It Matters Not Whether Their Bodies Are Here or in France, It Is Their Memorial Day

It matters not whether their bodies are here or in France, it is their Memorial day, and the American people pause from their activities to pay them tribute, together with the dead of other wars. Some day perhaps, it will be possible to place flowers upon the graves of all of our men who fell in the great fight. But wherever they rest these heroes will be honored by the people of the whole country and Memorial day now takes on a new significance greater than in its inception. Perhaps some day the lands of France will adopt this custom and establish May 30th as the day of commemoration of gallant deeds and unselfish service and sacrifice.

### The Nation's Obligation

Every patriotic impulse is stirred by the sentiments that cluster about Memorial day. With hearts filled with re- newed devotion to the ideals for which these heroes fought and died, let every American observe the day as befits one who appreciates the blessings of life, liberty and happiness.

They have been given to the A. E. F. These include space for 25 to 500 or more graves. In Great Britain the gov- ernment provided ample cemetery space for American use and requested that the expenses be borne by the British people. In Germany space was re- quisitioned by the authorities of the army zone of occupation. The subject of Amer- ican graveyards in Germany will be a proper matter for settlement by one of the many commissions resulting from the Paris peace conference.

While the graves registration service had nothing to do with burials, it was required to identify bodies whenever possible, and register all graves, appropri- ately mark them and maintain such a complete system of records that in- formation might be furnished relatives of the dead and that places of burial might be located whenever desired.

Elaborate arrangements were made abroad by Americans and foreigners alike to observe Memorial day.

### GATHER ARMSFUL OF FLOWERS

Flowers Were Laid on Graves of Civil War Veterans in 1865—School Chil- dren Gather Flowers

### THE WORK OF CHILDISH LOVE

Decorating of Graves of Dead Soldiers Did Much to Wipe Out the Bitter- ness Between North and South

In the early part of April, 1865, a man named John Redpath was acting as su- perintendent of schools in the city of Charleston, S. C. John Redpath was a newspaper reporter with the northern armies during the civil war, and had been with General Sherman on his march to the sea, sending out the first newspaper report of the surrender of the city of Charleston. He was a man very much interested in education; that was why he was trying to better the school conditions, which, after four years of the civil war, were very bad. There was one school in which he was particularly interested, which was con- ducted in an old church.

As he walked to this school one morning he went past a place that had been famous as a race course but was now used as a cemetery for the sol- diers who had died in battle. He looked over the fence of the cemetery, and it made his heart sad to see the way the graves of the brave men were neg- lected. He wished that something might be done for them.

When he reached the school he ad- dressed the children, telling them that it made him unhappy to see the badly cared for graves, and asking them to try to find time to gather a few wild flowers for the cemetery.

"We'll gather armsful of posies, and just hide the graves from sight—so that they'll never look bad again," one little pupil cried.

The enthusiasm of the youngster who had jumped to her feet and sug- gested the "armful of posies" was not forgotten by John Redpath. As he went about his work during the next few days he thought of it often, and finally a beautiful plan grew in his mind.

At that time Charleston was still un- der military rule and was governed by Colonel Woodford of the union army. John Redpath went to Colonel Wood- ford and told him about the plan, ask- ing him to appoint the day a military and civil holiday. The date decided upon for the decoration was May 1st, and on that day over 10,000 men, women and children were present at a mem- orial service, and then marched to the cemetery where the children dropped flowers on the graves while everyone sang patriotic songs.

Such was the first Decoration day. From that time on the custom of de- corating all the graves of the soldiers on one day grew to be popular.

The custom of decorating the graves of the dead soldiers did much to wipe away the bitterness felt between the people of the north and south. Francis Miles Finch expressed just such a thought in his Decoration day poem, which every child in school has read, "The Blue and the Gray."

John Redpath lived to be an old man, and saw the custom that he founded become one of the most pleasing and popular holidays. Later in life he founded the Redpath chautauqua bu- reau, which is still popular and has been the means of giving entertainment and education to thousands and thou- sands of people.—Utica Globe.

### HALL OF HEROES TO BE DEDICATED

Worthy Memorial Project for Our Na- tional Capital—Immense Conven- tion Hall to be Erected

### WASHINGTON IS RESPONSIBLE

Included in George Washington's Will Was a Bequest of \$25,000.00 for Such a Purpose

It now seems probable that some of the tangible fruits of the world war, in the form of memorials, will be an im- mense convention hall to be located in the national capital, which strangely enough has no really suitable meeting place for large audiences. If the build- ing, for which plans have been accepted and a splendid site secured through the co-operation of congress, is erected, it will be designated as a memorial both to the soldiers of '17 (and '18) and of '75. The reason for thus linking the heroes of the present with those of colonial days is that George Washing- ton himself is responsible for the idea of a memorial, having included in his will a bequest of \$25,000 for the purpose. This was in the form of a stock certifi- cate, and was one of two gifts which congress gave him in view of the fact that he would accept no compensation of the usual sort for his services. In setting aside this gift in his will, Wash- ington designated that it be used for the diffusion of knowledge.

While the original stock certificates have long since become of little value, the idea has never been lost sight of, and an organization was formed to raise money for the memorial. Our sharing in the great war interrupted the work of this society, but on the other hand the coming of peace has given it a new incentive, and so it is proposed to complete the fund (already \$350,000 in cash, with many contingent promises in addition) and erect a great convention hall in honor of our boys in khaki and the revolutionary heroes. A splendid site has been granted by congress for the building—that now occupied by the old Pennsylvania railroad station.

It provides for a main auditorium with a floor space of 28,500 square feet, with a gallery of 10,000 square feet, the two having a seating capacity of 7,000, and so suitable for inaugural balls, public receptions, etc., as well as convocations of groups. The main auditorium are smaller halls. The second floor is to have a banquet hall with a capacity of 600 persons and rooms designated to serve as permanent of- fices for public societies.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

### Belongs to All the Brave.

Memorial day is observed as a mem- orial not only for the men of civil war or those who fell during the war with Spain. It is observed for all these and for the thousands who went abroad to fight for liberty and never returned. Hallowed is the ground where they rest whether they be the old soldiers or the new.

Some people plan festivities for Mem- orial day instead of planning to take part in one of the memorial services. The day should be kept sacred by all. It is not too much to give one day to show honor to the brave dead.

While the farmers of Iowa can't get help enough to cultivate their land and raise food the soda fountains and pean- nut stands in the cities employ great numbers of able bodied men.

### COMMANDERS OLD AND YOUNG

Interesting Comparison of Great Lead- ers of the World Conflict and Our Civil War

The French correspondent of the Army and Navy Journal, E. Gau- trou, comments on the maturity, not to say advanced age, of the generals victorious in war. Of the three mar- shals, 118 generals of divisions and 251 generals of brigades in the French ac- tive service, the youngest of the bri- gade generals is forty-four; the young- est general of division is fifty; all the army group commanders are beyond sixty. It is a contrast, Mr. Gautreau says, with the wars of the French rev- olution, which brought to prominence generals who were scarcely more than twenty-five, such as Bonaparte, Hoche, Picquet and other great soldiers.

It is not necessary to go back so far as that to find groups of military com- manders comparatively young. Our own civil war supplies enough. To mention the oldest of the prominent generals on the union side, Hooker was forty-nine when Lee beat him at Chan- cellorsville; Meade, forty-seven at Gettysburg; Sherman was forty-four when he started from Atlanta to the sea. Grant was only forty-three at Appomattox, McClellan thirty-six at Antietam, Sheridan thirty-three when he galloped to Winchester.

Of the confederate leaders, Albert Sid- ney Johnston was fifty-eight and Lee and Joe Johnston were fifty-four when the war began; Longstreet was forty. Stonewall Jackson, whose beard and piety are to the schoolboy evidences of extreme age, was only thirty-nine when he was killed at Chancellorsville. Hood was but thirty-three when he took command against Sherman.

### CARE FOR NEEDY FIRST

When the soldier bonus was first pro- posed it was estimated that it would cost in the neighborhood of a billion dollars. The idea was generally com- mended, and it was conceded that it would be enacted into law in the near future. As the hearings progressed, however, it became apparent that the vast figures were far below the mark, and now the total bonus to be paid is fixed at from \$1,800,000,000 to \$6,000,000,000. In the proportion that the estimates have increased the sup- porters of the measure have deserted it, until now speeches are being made against the plan on the floor of the House of Representatives at Wash- ington, and many leading journals throughout the country are impress- ing upon their readers the financial disaster that will follow the adoption of any such plan. Party lines are ob- literated in the discussion, as they should be, and concern only for the future stability of the Government ap- pears to be controlling the influence. All expressions on the subject voice appreciation for what our boys did in France, and emphasize the solemn ob- ligation of the Government to care for those incapacitated by service to provide for themselves, but the opinion seems to be rapidly spreading that the indiscriminate distribution of large sums of money to the rest should wait until the nation is on a more substantial financial footing.

So the day is a twin festival, dedi- cated to brave men and true patriots, who in great crises did their duty with a courage and devotion that will ever be a reproach to civilian slackness, and should be an inspiration to more faith- ful and unselfish service. Only so can the American people make good their "resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain." It ought not to be difficult to serve and be loyal to a country for which gallant men were content- and proud—to lay down their lives, whether in the Virginia or the Argonne wilderness. So we come to another Memorial day.

This day of American reconsecration is for the heroes of all of America's wars, the living and the dead, those who laid down their lives and those who offered the supreme sacrifice but were spared to a later generation.

# MEMORIAL DAY

## NATION HONORS ALL HER HEROES

Memories of Veterans of Three Wars Are Now Enshrined in the Country's Heart

### SACRIFICES WERE NOT IN VAIN

Holy Joy of Those Who Know the Sac- rifices Were Not in Vain Dis- tinguishes This Day

Memorial day is the day of the dead, the veterans of three wars, but, though newly consecrated by the fresh and poignant sacrifices of those who passed away in the great war of liberation "over there," these cannot be more than more than in the past any associations but those of true joy and honorable pride, far removed from the despair of causes lost, or from griefs over those whose death is with no moving and end without result. For it is the holy joy of those who know that the sacri- fices were not in vain that distinguished this day of days this year, coupled with the realization that both those who went and those who remained joined freely in the oblation on the altar of the country with an unflinching belief in the noble nobility of the obligation and the deep significance of what it meant for the common good.

While the ceremonies on this side fol- low the usual lines, heightened by the opportunity to pay fresh homage where homage is due, the tribute that is paid "over there," beginning with the ceremony at Surènes, near which has been developed the American cemetery near- est to Paris, at which President Wilson officiated last year, in the very pres- ence of the dead themselves, takes on an especially moving character. For in nothing did the American expedi- tionary force and all its helpful asso- ciated agencies, such as the Red Cross, so distinguish themselves as in their concern that the just resting place of those who fell abroad should be per- manent centers of burial that have been selected at appropriate places as the official American cemeteries, will receive every attention that is their just due from their brothers in arms "over there" and a grateful country. The graves, all separately and singly mark- ed with the cross or the star, save in name and title, to distinction of rank being allowed in the identifying symbol, will be decorated, one and all. And while much that has been devised as to the handling of these special cemeteries has followed the plan of the British, who have been at work at the problem much longer, yet a peculiarly American touch is given in that this annual commemoration of Memorial day, so familiar to us all, is new to our allies, and to the French, though they have gladly co-operated with the American forces in order to make the day a truly national one for the general and significant commemoration.

So far as the general cemeteries go we have followed the British in the plan for the separate graves, but they have gone a little further in that each bur- ially place will be dominated by a tall cross and plain altar stone, de- scribed by Kipling as the "Cross of Sacrifice and the Stone of Remem- brance," the stone bearing the inscrip- tion, also suggested by Kipling, "Their name liveth forevermore." Save for this, the great concentration ceme- teries of the American forces, such as Romagne-sur-Montfaucon, the largest, containing 36,000 graves of those who fell in the Meuse-Argonne battles, will represent little more than the sim- plicity of Quaker burials, in that since the permanent memorial monuments that may be erected are yet to be de- termined. But there is no question of the monumental effect of the commem- oration now will all these and the smaller cemeteries or in the little French churchyards be overlooked to- day or in the years to come.

This is all as it should be. And quite as those at home would wish it. And, as has happened in the case of the older celebrations, even though the day brings its fresh and deeper sorrows, at the same time there must be felt every- where the comforting sense that the country and those who have passed away were equal to their task in the world crisis. It is but meet and proper there fore, that all should insist that wherever they may lie each and all who paid the final debt shall be marked from among their fellows, dead and living, by such seemly and ceremonial ob- servances as we have secured here for generations and are now repeating abroad. Respect and recognition for what they did and proper honors for the hero dead lend dignity to the living, glorify all sense of duty and discipline and lift all life into the nobler channels of a humanity that is not, as is writ of the beasts of the fields, "without aim or hope," but serves understandingly and not in vain.

### Day of Solemn Observance

Those who cannot bring themselves to a cessation of their normal pursuits long enough to join in the memorial services, to bow their heads in a mo- mentary tribute to American valor, at least can refrain from making the event the occasion of a holiday. They owe this much to the dead and to the families whose hearts are saddened. American sentiment can be shown in no better way than by observing May 30th as a real Memorial day.

