

When Blue and Gray Fought Without Hate-- 'Little Johnny' Clem's Memorial Day Thought

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 31.—This very day, exactly 51 years ago, on a bloody southern battlefield...

Because Col. Clem is the last living link connecting the present United States army with the heroic armies whose fallen brave we honor today...

What memory will be uppermost in your mind, Colonel? he was asked.

And this famous soldier—who, at the age of 12, was the twice-wounded veteran of one of the greatest campaigns of history...

My memory pictures today what my kid eyes saw 51 years ago today, he smiled gently, a soldier in blue and a soldier in gray shaking hands like two loving comrades between the trenches...

Yet what I like to think of first on Memorial day is not the bloody fight, but that tender scene preceding it, which showed me that, after all, man to man, we soldiers of the north and of the south were FRIENDS AND BROTHERS always.

Johnny Clem was only 10 years old when he ran away from his home in Newark, Ohio, and attached himself to the Twenty-second Michigan regiment.

At Chickamauga he was hero of a brilliant scene performed right under the eyes of his union comrades, who were falling back rapidly.

Johnny's nerves never quivered. A second's hesitation in wielding his heavy musket—he had abandoned the drum—would have meant death.

The colonel toppled headlong from his horse, and from the guns of his men a storm of bullets rained over Johnny Clem.

It was for this deed that Gen. Thomas made the hero drummer boy a sergeant.



'Little Johnny' Clem 51 years ago, and Col. John L. Clem, U. S. A., today.

year-old soldier was hit on the hip by part of a shell, wounded in the ear while dispatch riding and once taken prisoner.

When the war was over, Johnny Clem went to high school, and then entered the army as second lieutenant.

He is now a colonel in the quartermaster department and Aug. 13 next, he will be retired for age, with the rank of brigadier general.

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South Tacoma Girl Essay Winner Proud of Her Country; Can Give Reasons Why

While the veterans who fought to establish and make firmer the principles of our government marched, in honored ranks, through the streets today, the thoughts of young Tacoma were no less patriotic.

Thanks to the public schools and to the organizations of veterans which make it their purpose to keep alive the spark of patriotism everywhere, the children are taught early what it means to take part in American citizenship.

Miss Ilene Grieb, eighth grade student, who lives at 5225 1/2 South Union av., has written an essay—the best in Tacoma schools—that shows she not only is proud of her country and its freedom, but that she knows why to be proud.

The government protects our lives and our belongings. The ideal of liberty is slowly developing and growing.

The true value of a citizen is not counted so much by what he knows as by what he does for the general welfare.

The citizen is entitled to speak freely on all public matters. The aim of all government is to insure the happiness of the people.



MISS ILENE GRIEB. "The government of the United States has never before been so nearly perfect as at the present time."

'First Time Since War My Grave Hasn't Been Decorated'

STEVENSON, Cal., May 31.—Today will be the first Decoration day in 50 years that my grave in the Alton, Ill., cemetery has not been decorated.

It was John W. Franse speaking. He is 81 years old and lives on a ranch a few miles outside of Stevenson.

For 50 long, weary years his sister placed flowers on her brother's grave every Decoration day—or rather on the grave she thought was her brother's for she had been told that he died after being captured in the Civil war.

Then only a few weeks ago as the result of a chance remark she learned that her brother was alive and well in California. Their reunion quickly followed—and this year she will be spared the sad trip to the graveyard in Alton.

"I found my sister," Franse continued, "in Kirkwood, Mo., a suburb of St. Louis. She is Mrs. W. H. Maxxin, now, and virtually all of her life she has been a stranger to me, and I to her."

Franse tried to trace his relatives when he was released from prison after the war, but when he failed, turned his face to the setting sun, and after a rancher's life in Idaho and South Dakota, came to Stevenson.

John W. Franse, the veteran who was "dead for 50 years," and sketches telling his life and "death" story.



Decorated "his grave for 50 years."



Started west after the Civil War. Became a Rancher.



Retired in the Golden West.

TORPEDO ANOTHER U.S. LINER

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THE FORTRESS STRONGHOLDS OF ITALY



Map showing location of the big forts of Italy's interior and sea coast. Rome is guarded by a circle of forts.

SEATTLE SCENE OF \$100,000 EXPLOSION

Seattle at 2 o'clock yesterday morning was the vortex of an explosion that shook up the country for a radius of 50 miles and did damage estimated at \$100,000.

The blast was accompanied by a flash that lit up the whole sky; a quiver that shook the stanchest buildings in the city, and a roar that carried terror to thousands and awoke the majority of Seattle residents from their sleep.

The Drummond Litterage company's scow No. 3, attached to city buoy No. 3, in the West waterway, off Harbor island, in Elliot bay, was blown up with fifteen tons of dynamite, destined for Vladivostok.

With the scow there disappeared a watchman, name unknown, who had been hired for the night's work only a few hours before. He was known as "Fat," and is said to have done other odd jobs around the waterfront.

"Fat" was blown up at his post or whether he deserted and left the scow to the mercy of malicious destroyers will perhaps never be known.

Plate glass insurance men say 7,000 panes were broken, valued at \$50,000. Industrial plants also had machinery jolted out of place and damaged to an extent that cannot immediately be estimated.

The clock on the Colman dock stopped at 13 seconds before 2 o'clock.

Manager of the Lilloo Launch Co. which owned the scow, said he thought some variation of the clock-bomb had been used to set off the explosion.

The explosive was Hercules powder, 80 per cent nitroglycerine, from the Dupont plant near Tacoma.

Stranger Buys Fuse. Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock a stranger purchased 450 feet of dynamite fuse from a Tacoma waterfront firm, saying that he wanted to blast stumps on his property at American lake.

After the report of the Seattle explosion, the Tacoma firm became suspicious of the stranger to whom the sale had been made, and started an inquiry. They found that his address, at American lake, was fictitious, and could find no trace of the man.

Whether he thought this had any connection with the Seattle explosion, Detective Capt. Smith would not say today.

"We are doing nothing on the case," said the Tacoma police head. "There seems to be nothing to work on."

Fearful lest an explosion of ammunition or war supplies occur in Tacoma similar to the terrific discharge of dynamite in Seattle harbor Sunday morning, Mayor Fawcett today sent detectives into all the Tacoma freight yards to learn if any ammunition was stored here.

"My men found no ammunition but they found two big freight cars in the Half Moon yards marked 'High explosives,' with all manner of danger and warning signs on them," said the mayor.

Mayor Fawcett immediately communicated with George F. Reid, vice president of the Northern Pacific, and Reid promised to haul the explosives outside the city limits at once. He told the mayor that he had been unaware of the presence of the large quantity of explosives in the city.

"We can't afford to have an explosion here," said the mayor today. "If that explosion in Seattle had been on land instead of water it might have killed a thousand persons."

Many Tacomans not versed in naval regulations thought Tacoma was being bombarded by a foreign fleet at noon today, when the crash of cannon rolled across the city. It was merely the Memorial day salute of the Pacific flag ship South Dakota. The flag was dipped at noon, and the big cruiser fired 21 minute guns as a memorial to the departed soldiers and sailors of Uncle Sam.

The South Dakota is open to visitors today and tomorrow between 10 and noon, and between 1 and 5:30. Hundreds visited the battleship yesterday.

Will the friends of the Rev. J. H. Sutton, until recently the pastor of the First Baptist church, endeavor to reinstate him as the pastor of the congregation?

There is an entire possibility that they may, members of the First Baptist board of deacons admitted today. Already Dr. Sutton has said he will be in the city next Sunday for a meeting in the Empress theater. E. E. Sander, son is making arrangements.

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BLAST WAY AHEAD

LONDON, May 31.—In a terrific effort to recapture Przemysl and free the Austrian armies for a smash at Italy, the Austro-German forces are pouring unparal-leled fire on the fortress and the Russian forces around it.

As much powder was used in one 4-hour bombardment as usually is consumed in a six-months siege. The Russians literally were blown out of their positions.

The fate of the fortress, however, is still in doubt.

The Italians continue to force the Austrians back on their main defenses.

In the western theater, the French report successes.

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CHILDREN WOUNDED BY BATTLEFIELD SHELLS.



Here are four of the many little children wounded at Ypres. These were taken to La Panne and nursed. The youngest is only six weeks old.

Pain \$50,000 Parish House

Marking its 41st anniversary, members of the First Congregational church yesterday started a movement to raise \$50,000 for a parish house, to be constructed on the property just south of the church, at Division and J streets. The church is now clear of debt, it was announced. Addresses were made by the Rev. Frank Dyer, Chaplain R. S. Stubbs, Prof. W. H. Wynn and Rev. A. P. Powelson.

Lassen Again In Eruption

REDDING, Cal., May 31.—Investigation today failed to determine whether any lives were lost yesterday when Mt. Lassen broke into violent eruption again. It was known that dozens of investigating parties were on the mountain. The volcano belched forth smoke and lava yesterday, for the first time since the violent outbreak on May 22, and the smoke hung in a pall over northern California.