

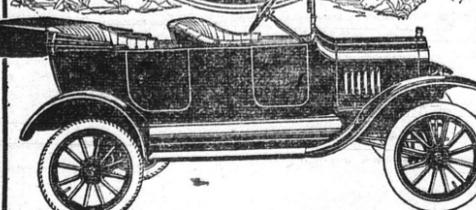
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KEYSTONES

It is time now for everyone to begin to consider material for the various offices in our local Chamber of Commerce. Nominations will be made at the next regular meeting on Saturday evening, June 3rd. It is very necessary that we grow and expand along all lines and our local C. of C. is the ideal place to get together on the kind and manner of improvements we desire; then we will be in a united position to take the issues before the big Community Chamber at Torrance and get results. Every man and woman in Keystone ought to take an active interest in this work. Community improvements mean added values to our individual holdings, improve our home life and increases the numbers of friends and strangers who will come and settle among us. A large number should turn out on the above date. Meeting at usual place—Mr. Sleppy's, Vermont and Hoover. All things come to him who waits, if he hustles while he waits.

Our popular (?) mail carrier, A. F. Thomas, is taking advantage of vacation time to look after business interest in Imperial Valley. Chas. LeBoeuf is on the job as substitute.

Nearly one hundred Keystoneites are now members of the Herald family and we hope to soon double

this number. There is nothing like community news as an uplift in our home life. See that your neighbor reads the Herald.

The County Planning Commission has recognized the importance of improving Carson avenue to take care of increasing east and west traffic, and we are expecting to hear the announcement any day now that this important matter will be handled by the supervisors in the July budget. That will mean another paved highway for this district by the end of summer. If we do not get solidly behind this necessary improvement some other bunch that is more alive and aggressive than we will get a new paved road and we will be wishing we had come to life while the opportunity offered.

The American Legion, together with other veterans, will conduct Memorial Day exercises in Torrance. This is your opportunity and duty to pay homage to the men who gave their lives that you might live in peace and happiness. You will be better men and women if you honor these memories and cause to salute the flag of your fathers.

A petition will soon be circulated in Keystone for the purpose of urging the supervisors to improve and oil our streets. It will be your individual duty to see that every

name in Keystone goes on this paper. A good many low places should be filled in and the whole receive a good coat of oil. United effort will get this thing for us, and it will be because of your lack of interest if the effort fails. The man who whines and says it can't be done, or individual effort will not make any difference as to the result, is worse than a millstone around the community's neck. Don't be a drone or slacker. Watch your step.

Make it a point to be ready to cast a solid vote for the school bonds next month. We need that new school house and it's up to us to work for it. Our school rooms are already crowded and more new children coming to Keystone every month. We want it said that our school facilities are the best to be had; then people will want to bring their children and help in the building of our community.

MISSION PLAY CONTINUES

Announcement has been made from San Gabriel that the Mission Play will continue its present season until the end of June, with the possibility of a still further run. The attendance has been unprecedented and shows no signs of

cessation.

On Wednesday, the 24th of the present month, the 1900th performance of the play will be given. It is far and away the world's record, and the event will be made a gala night at San Gabriel. The Native Daughters of the Golden West, the Baker Iron Works, the Llewellyn Iron Works, the Ontario Methodist Church and other organizations have already made large reservations of seats for this performance, and the advance sales for that week are record-breaking. Hollywood Women's Clubs and Hollywood Community Chorus, the Church of Latter Day Saints, the Osteopath Convention, Real Estate Convention, Rotary Convention and others have reserved whole performances.

A Japanese Night, Edison Night, Daughters of the opulence, Spanish Teachers, Pasadena Business Woman's Club and other night and matinee performances are scheduled for coming weeks, while the regular patronage keeps up with an amazing steadiness.

Lately Miss Clemence Gifford, noted contralto, has been added to the already large and notable staff of Mission Play singers, and Senorita Guadalupe Vigare to the dancing staff, now the greatest in the world.

American War Veterans

By ARTHUR F. THOMAS

Chip of the Rock of Chickamauga.

Ever since before the days of Israel Putnam and Paul Revere guards of Old Glory have been forming serried ranks on the plains of "Fame's Eternal Camping Ground" the "Land of Liberty" has ever been the melting pot of the best blood from the four corners of the world. The men of '76 shattered the hopes of Kingly Empire on the altar of Freedom, and unfurled a flag of promise to the oppressed of all nations.

Thus the Stars and Stripes have been the magnet that has peopled our fair land from sea to sea with a clean, strong manhood that has been ever ready to rally to the call of the flag of their fathers.

When the immortal Lincoln issued the first call for 75,000 the rebellion the answer was uncertain, for minds were divided as to the gravity of the situation. But the stinging defeat at the "Battle of Bull Run" laid the flag of the people low in the dust of disgrace, and the hurried call for 300,000 was answered as one man. This thoughtless insult to the Flag of Freedom was the beginning of the end for the hopes of the Confederacy.

The predominant thought of every man in the north was later voiced by that grand old mother of Virginia in the autumn of '63, when Stonewall Jackson was leading the rebel hordes through the streets of Fredericktown. From an upper window Barbara Fritche looked down on the host of invaders, and with the shadow of the Stars and Stripes for a shield she flung to the winds of the south the nation's cry, "Shoot if you must this old gray head, but spare your country's flag."

Again in the mountains of Eastern Tennessee General George H. Thomas clung to a forlorn hope with a few hundred starving, half-clothed men and answered Grant's query of how long can you last with the undying words, "Until we starve!" Is it any wonder that the shadow of the "Rock of Chickamauga" will reach into the farthest stretches of eternity.

The veterans of this great conflict became the famous G. A. R. of later years and wielded a mighty influence in the upbuilding of a torn and isrupt nation, and for a quarter of a century the Grand Army of the Republic held undisputed sway as teachers of patriotism, firing the blood of the youth of the land with unquenchable longing for an opportunity to take up arms in defense of the flag.

Then one summer's day in '98 the cry went ringing through the land that a reckless hand from the Spanish Main had reached across the sea to Havana Harbor and hurled Old Glory into the muddy waters of the bay. Almost overnight every state in the Union was drilling its quota of men for the fray, and in less than two years the peoples of Cuba and the Philippines were free and paying homage to Liberty's grand old flag.

But the patriotic tragedy of the century was staged in the summer of '99. The returning Spanish-American war men came to the G. A. R. asking admittance to their ranks as veterans of war in defense of the nation's flag, but short-sighted human eyes could not see that the famous G. A. R. was rapidly passing and that new blood must be added to perpetuate the famous name. Thus Spanish-American War Posts came into being, but were never strong enough to wrest even a shadow of justice from the political powers that be for their sick and crippled comrades.

Since the great war a great and powerful American Legion has organized in every state in the Union and are pursuing their separate way in an effort to secure justice for their invalid and needy comrades, and we have before us the spectacle of a congress of the people quibbling over how this thing shall be done and yet retain their full share of political prestige.

The folly of many different fraternities was the stumbling stone that kept our good friend, Ted Roosevelt, from accepting the leadership of the American Legion at the beginning. The French army did not win the great war. Neither did the British nor the American, but the Allies as a united army did the business in apple pie order.

Thus each of our various patriotic organizations deserve unstinted fame and praise. But we must remember that our fathers won the Civil War. Our brothers cleaned out the Spanish oppressors under the same flag that lead the way across the sea. Why not, then, one country, one flag and one fraternity?

Every man who has served the flag is an American War Veteran, and if he be sick, wounded or in shattered health he is deserving of the best that the American people have to offer, and every day that continues the division of the various fraternities only adds that many days to our political history, while the lads who served the colors are in want or rapidly passing to the great beyond.

I, as one who has known the sweat and horror of the battlefield, claim to be qualified as a veteran in the service of the flag of flags to lift up my voice and say that there should be one flag, one country and one fraternity. Then, and then only, will the ends of justice be served.

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