

SALISBURY'S FLAG ESCORT EPOCH IN LEGION ACTIVITY

I. T. VALENTINE

The Memorial Flag escort of Rowan county is an epoch in the realm of music and parades in legion activities, not only because this novel group presents something heretofore unheard of, but because of the distinctive sentiment attached to each flag used in this set-up.

Soon after the Louisville convention in 1929, the Samuel C. Hart Post of Rowan county, Salisbury, conceived the idea that something a little different from a band or drum corps would lend a colorful touch to parades and other public occasions and at the same time teach a lesson in international fellowship and create a live and impressive memorial to the men from Rowan county and to all American and allied soldiers who lost their lives on the battlefields of France, Belgium, Russia, Italy, the Balkans, to those who died in hospitals of disease, gas or wounds, and also to those who have died since the war.

The Post attempted first to obtain from our former Allies their national flags, but only one nation answered this call by the presentation of its national banner. Undaunted by this setback the post decided to acquire the flags and other equipment as memorials by individual contributions. Desiring the uniforms to be reminiscent of the uniforms of the allies, a committee from the post designed, with the co-operation of a uniform manufacturing company, the outfit now used by the escort.

It very closely resembles the dress uniform of the first regiment, French Foreign Legion, stationed at Sidi-bel-Abbes, Algiers. The blouse is of a slightly different cut, fashioned more after the old Russian Imperial tunic, but of a different color, the belt a duplicate of the West Point dress belt, the pants a pattern of the French Foreign Legion, the leggings from the United States Marine corps, and the cap that of a non-commissioned officer of the French Blue Devils.

A number of flags and other parts of equipment were given as specific memorials; for instance, six bugles and four snare drums (tambour type) were the first donation to the post and escort. These were donated by Meade S. Hart of Mooresville in memory of his brother, Samuel C. Hart, private, first class, Thirtieth division, who was killed in the Hindenburg line offensive, and who was cited posthumously for exceptional bravery, G. O. No. 45, War department, 1919, and his father awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. A beautiful Italian flag was donated to the escort by the Italian embassy, Washington, D. C., in memory of the sons of Italy who gave their lives in the various Allied and American armies.

An American flag was donated by the Sons and Daughters of Liberty. The North Carolina flag was donated by Kent W. Goley, member of the escort and disabled overseas veteran. J. W. Swink and family of China Grove, donated an American flag in memory of their son, William I. Swink, Jr., who served in C. A. during the war, and who died in Asheville of tubercular infection as result of his service. The family of W. G. Bradshaw donated another American flag in memory of a son, W. C. Bradshaw, who died in service in France. Another flag was donated by Bryce P. Beard in memory of Marvin Trexler, private, Company D, Seventh infantry, Third division, who was killed in action and cited under G. O. No. 22, July 1, 1918, for extraordinary bravery.

The outfit is composed of 44 regular members and six substitutes. Each one has an honorable discharge from the army, navy or marine corps, showing service during the World war. At least 85 per cent of the personnel of the outfit served overseas, practically all of whom saw action under fire. Several of the men saw additional service in other wars, expeditions, etc.

J. S. Stricker, another member of the escort, was in the navy for a number of years and took part in the expedition against Vera Cruze. Lt. Col. Max L. Barker, former commander of the escort, was in the Spanish-American war and served as a major in the A. E. F., 81st division. Though they use the Foreign Legion uniform, they have no men in the outfit who were born in a foreign country.

The escort uses nine U. S. flags, one North Carolina flag, and a flag of each of the following countries: France, Great Britain, Belgium, Italy, Japan, Rumania, Serbia, Cuba, Brazil, Montenegro, Czechoslovakia, Portugal, China, Greece, and Canada.

It is thought that this is the only outfit of its kind in the world.

This escort has appeared before more than 250,000 people during the 18 months of its organization. It appeared before the North Carolina department convention in Winston-Salem in 1930. At the Sesqui-Centennial celebration at Kings Mountain it drilled for 15 minutes before more than 60,000 people. Here it was greeted with

thunderous applause and the crowd seemed to catch fully the spirit presented in this unique display. At the Carolina-Georgia Tech football game about 20,000 people gave them an ovation. At the dedication of the Salisbury airport and the Memorial flag escort held in Salisbury November 11, 1930, the home people were impressed with the significance of the escort and expressed appreciation of the tireless effort of the local Legion post in bringing into existence this unique sentimental attraction.—The Charlotte Observer.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(ANSWERS BELOW)

- 1—What are the five most populous states in the U. S.?
- 2—How many drams are there in one ounce?
- 3—What is the smallest political division of a county or city?
- 4—Who was the first successful postmaster-general of the United States?
- 5—What is the oldest of common vegetables?
- 6—Who has sometimes been called "the Father of the American Revolution?"
- 7—What large Mediterranean island is moving slowly towards Italy?
- 8—What is the most wonderful product, or form, of iron?
- 9—What enormous animal's legs are so short that when it walks in mud or other yielding surfaces, its belly touches the ground?
- 10—What country is the birthplace of drama?
- 11—To what was Longfellow referring in his poem, when he said, "The fate of a nation was riding that night?"
- 12—What North American river's name means "Thunder of Waters?"
- 13—What is a "Mosque?"
- 14—What is the most common bird of the south?
- 15—In what country do the Boers live?
- 16—Who presided over the Peace Conference ending the World war?
- 17—Which state has the most air ports?
- 18—What was the most useful tree to the Indians?
- 19—What is the unit of electromotive force?
- 20—What U. S. city because of its geographical position in reference to the far west, is called the "Gate City of the West?"
- 21—What famous opera star took the name of a city in Australia for her stage name?
- 22—What is the only creature in the world that has wings made of skin?
- 23—What is the most abundant element?
- 24—What two primary colors make purple when mixed together?
- 25—Who were the members of the Triple Alliance?
- 26—What is the most famous book dealing with a dual personality, the characters of which are often ascribed to persons in everyday life?
- 27—What empire claims the longest unbroken dynasty?
- 28—What British war decoration is denoted by the initials V. C.?
- 29—What is meant by the Decalogue?
- 30—Through what republic does the Panama Canal pass?

ANSWERS

- 1—New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio and Texas.
- 2—8 in apothecaries' weight, 16 in avoirdupois.
- 3—A precinct.
- 4—Benjamin Franklin.
- 5—Garden peas.
- 6—Samuel Adams.
- 7—Corsica, at the rate of about nine inches a year.
- 8—Steel.
- 9—Hippopotamus.
- 10—Greece.
- 11—The midnight ride of Paul Revere.
- 12—Niagara River.
- 13—A Mohammedan place of worship.
- 14—The mockingbird.
- 15—South Africa.
- 16—Georges Clemenceau.
- 17—California.
- 18—The canoe birch.
- 19—The volt.
- 20—Omaha, Nebr.
- 21—Melba (from Melbourne).
- 22—The bat.
- 23—Oxygen.

- 24—Blue and red.
- 25—Germany, Austria and Italy.
- 26—"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," by Robert Louis Stevenson.
- 27—Japan (26 centuries).
- 28—Victoria Cross.
- 29—Ten Commandments.
- 30—Republic of Panama.

TEAR GAS ROUTS JANITOR
Stamford, Conn. — With tears streaming down his cheeks, the janitor of the Fidelity Title Company fled from the building. While dusting he set off automatic tear gas valves.

TOWN BUYS CHURCH HALL
North Reading, Mass. — North Reading town hall was owned jointly by the town and the First Parish Unitarian Church until recently. The town bought out the church's share in the property.

PROFIT FROM GRASS FED BEEF CATTLE

With the curtailment of cotton and tobacco acreage, new areas are released for planting to pasture grasses. Such grasses will furnish grazing for beef cattle and give an added income to landowners.

"In one of the tests which we made with beef cattle in eastern North Carolina this past summer, we found that an ordinary pasture of carpet grass, lespedeza and white clover paid the owner excellent returns through the grazing of beef cattle," says L. I. Case, animal husbandman at State College. "E. E. Bell of Jones county had eleven acres of this kind of pasture which he planted a few years

ago. Twenty-six head of cattle grazed on this eleven acres from June 8 until September 8 and with no supplementary feed of any kind gained 2,960 pounds. This amounts to 269 pounds an acre. At five cents a pound, this is worth \$13.45."

In other words, says Mr. Case, the owner received \$13.45 an acre for the grazing of his pasture for three months. There are thousands of acres of land in all parts of North Carolina which may be utilized in this way. Particularly will the eastern farmer be interested in planting pasture because under present conditions, he must reorganize his farm throwing large areas into one farm and quit the one man and one mule system of cash cropping which has brought him to bankruptcy.

Read The Watchman Ads.

Woman Found Dead After Court Sentence

Waterbury, Conn.—Judge Theodore V. Meyer convicted Mrs. Theresa Andrulevitch, 44, of making moonshine and, in lieu of a ninety-day jail sentence, ordered her to vacate her home.

"If I finish with moonshine I finish with everything," said Mrs. Andrulevitch.

Her body was found last night in a gas-filled room.

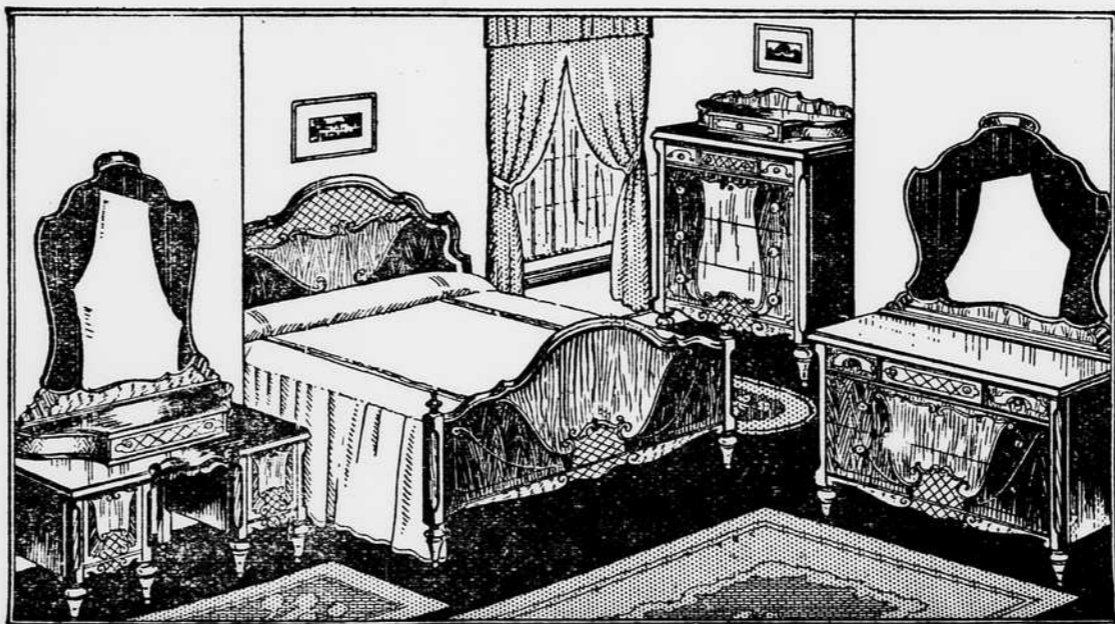
Duck Hatched Chicks

El Reno, Okla.—Tired of coaxing a hen to sit on a hatching of fifteen eggs, S. H. Bell put the eggs under a duck. All the eggs hatched and all the chickens lived.

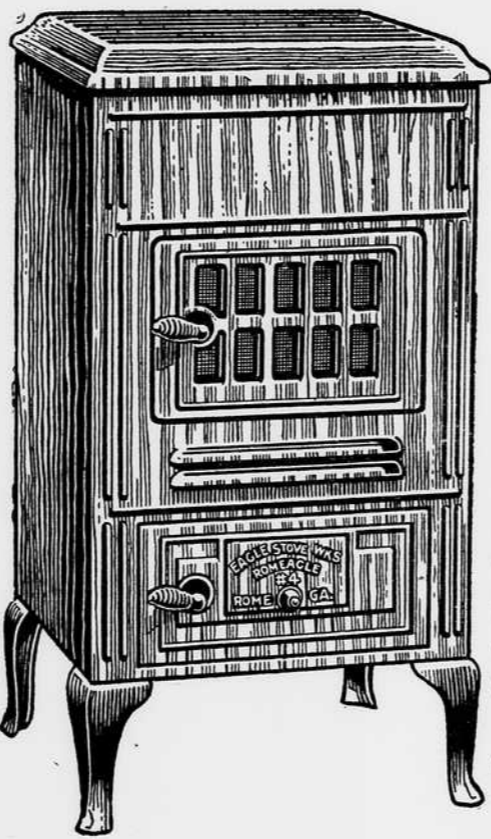
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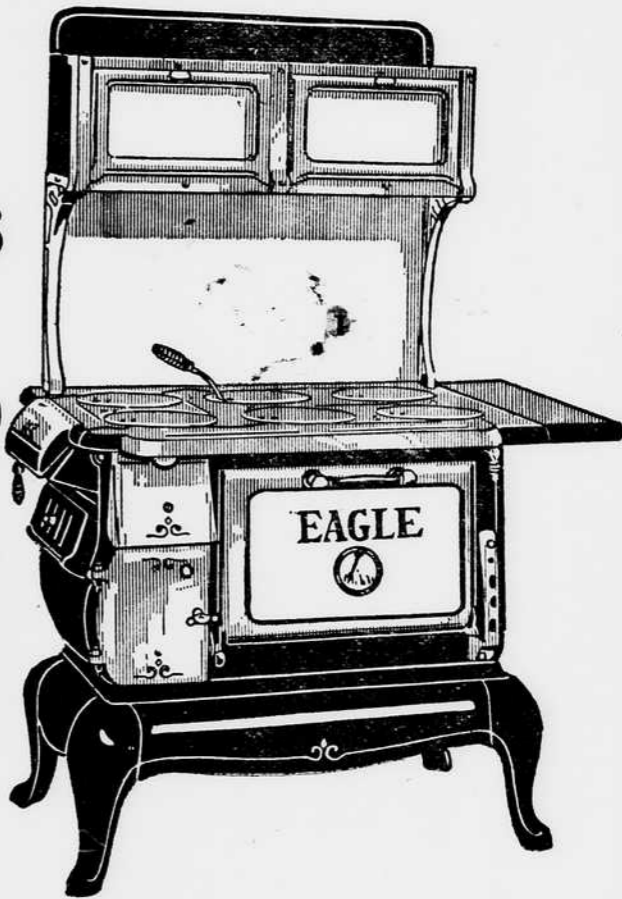
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