

### Cannot Identify All Soldiers Who Died In Siberia

Twenty-Nine Of Eighty-Six Unidentified. Buried There In Uniforms, Blankets.

Washington.—The final phase of the sad American military expedition into Russia is being liquidated by the war department's cemeterial division down in the munitions building.

A miscellaneous collection of rotted, mildewed and corroded clues from the bodies of doughboys who perished in the cold, barren wastes of Siberia for no particular reason is held for identification by relatives.

The remains of 86 American soldiers were recently brought oack to the United States. Congress last year appropriated money for the recovery of the 126 bodies left in Russian soil because they could not be taken away by the living survivors. Some 40 men still remain buried and uncounted in the Soviet territory and probably they always will. But 12 years had elapsed and so the army regards the percentage of recovery as not so bad.

Twenty-Nine Unidentified. Twenty-nine corpses of the 86 still are listed as unidentified. They are out in Detroit. There the Polar Bear association, whose name is a grim reminder of the hardships which our troops had to endure when they set out with the soldiers of other nations to subdue the new Soviet government, has a plot of burial ground and plans to erect a large monument to the victims of the expedition. If any of the 29 remain unidentified prefer not to move them, the bodies of such men will be interred there forever.

But the cemeterial division hopes to identify them all. The job is not so difficult in this instance as it has been in the case of the victims of the western front. Only one comparatively small force operated in Russia. Whereas in France several American regiments might at one time or another have covered the same strip of territory, leaving their dead behind, that didn't happen in Russia. It has been easier to check the record of a man killed when the spot where a body was found. There was less chance that the grave markers would be disturbed by subsequent action. There was much less confusion in the burials.

Nevertheless, there are the 29 unknown dead. One platoon, 17 men, disappeared in that Russian offensive and their disappearance became something of a sensational mystery. There were weird rumors—such as the one that they had deserted and were still alive and together in North Russia. But finally they were all found buried together in a common grave. Most of them have been identified, but several have not. The names of the 17 are known, but it has thus far been impossible to give each body a name.

Some of the men were buried in their uniforms and blankets, some only in sheets. Sometimes they were laid to rest five feet underground and sometimes that was impossible.

Now the cemeterial division has the collection of clues—the "effects" which were found on what were once uniforms or which had been in pockets. Nothing very large or elaborate. The emblem of a fraternal order attached to the tiny shred of a billfold. A few old large copper coins, turned green. A metal trench mirror, also turned green. A ring. The remains of a letter, apparently from home but largely undecipherable. Half of a battered cigaret case, with intricate Chinese design.

### SPHINX NOW GAZES AT GAUDY BILL BOARDS

Carlo, Egypt.—Pills and whiskey have almost obliterated the ancient glory of the Sphinx and the Pyramids.

The avenue to the Pyramids has been disfigured by huge sign boards proclaiming the virtues of pale pills, whiskey, and other modern commodities. A sign board has been erected directly in front of the Sphinx, and some advertisers have plastered the walls of monuments with legends extolling their wares.

The government has ordered the fire department to wash the defacements off the buildings, but the sign boards will have to remain until abolished by a special law.

### The Common Oil Can.

From The Wall Street Journal. Few realize the manifold uses to which common articles of trade are put before they outlive their usefulness.

The common oil can, for instance, serves innumerable purposes after it is exported from this country. Travelers may see it used as a cooking utensil, water carrier, or even as building material in some lands. In fact, it often makes three trips to this shore in different forms; first as the raw material; second, returning a second-hand oil can used as a conveyor of vegetable oils from Asia, and finally as toys from Japan, made out of these same cans flattened out and exported across the Pacific as scrap.

### Professor Doubts Story About Noah's Ark And Loses His Job

Birmingham.—The resignation of Dr. Horace Calvin Day, as professor of biology at Howard college, a Baptist institution here, was requested and accepted by Dr. John C. Dawson, president, because of remarks the instructor made regarding the Bible during recent chapel exercises.

The reference to the Bible was made in an address by Dr. Day, the subject of which was "be skeptical" and during which he said to the student body:

"We should not give a too literal translation to the Bible." In his talk, Dr. Day said: "There are some people so ignorant they still believe Noah crowded two of each specie of animals into the ark during the flood. How could he have gotten all those animals into the ark? During my years of biological experience, I have studied two kinds of whale and found it is impossible for either of them to swallow a man whole and anyway, no man can live inside a whale. These references seem illogical, but God is logical."

In a statement, the young instructor said, "I am as much a Christian as anybody. It is merely a difference in interpretation. It is just the old fundamentalist versus modernist fight."

He said he was not a member of

any church, but that "I go to a minister occasionally regarding spiritual matters, as I think a minister stands for the church."

Dr. Day, who is 27 years of age, received his Ph. D. degree from Leland Stanford university in 1923. He also holds an A. B. degree from Lawrence university. His home is at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. He said he would leave for either Leland Stanford university or the University of Indiana, where he had been offered positions.

Dr. Dawson issued a statement in which he said Dr. Day leaves the college with the "best of feeling existing between us. In view of his statements about the Bible, it is impossible for him to remain in his capacity."

### Enjoys Smoking At 105.

Port Dodge, Iowa.—William Hughes, oldest Civil war veteran in Iowa, celebrated his 105th birthday last week.

"People may frown on smoking," Hughes said, "but I smoke most of the time, enjoy it, and am very evidently unharmed by it." He attends church regularly.

Hughes enlisted in the war at Allen's Grove, Wis., in Company K, Seventh Wisconsin Infantry. He was born in Wisconsin, Dec. 14, 1824.

### Now Is The Time.

(From The Spartanburg Journal.)

In the opinion of W. S. Lee, vice president and chief engineer of the Duke Power company and head of the P. and N. railway, now is the time for those who contemplate new construction to go right ahead with their plans, as the money supply is reasonably plentiful and material costs are lower than six months ago. In a recent address to the Rotary club of Charlotte, he pointed out that labor is plentiful, transportation conditions favorable, materials easy to obtain, and costs lower than usual. Mr. Lee is a recognized leader in industrial and business development in the piedmont section of the two Carolinas. His judgment is that of a sound, safe, conservative business executive, and those with building programs or projects in mind would do well to heed this timely note of counsel.

### FRENCH ARMY FINISHES MAP OF SAHARA DESERT

Dakar, French West Africa.—No blank spaces are left on the map of the Sahara, thanks to the camera and the airplane.

The last one was filled by Major Lemaitre, chief of the topographical bureau of the 19th French Army Corps, who surveyed the region between northeastern Hoggar and Tripolitania.

Now anyone able to read a map who loses himself in the great desert has only himself to blame.

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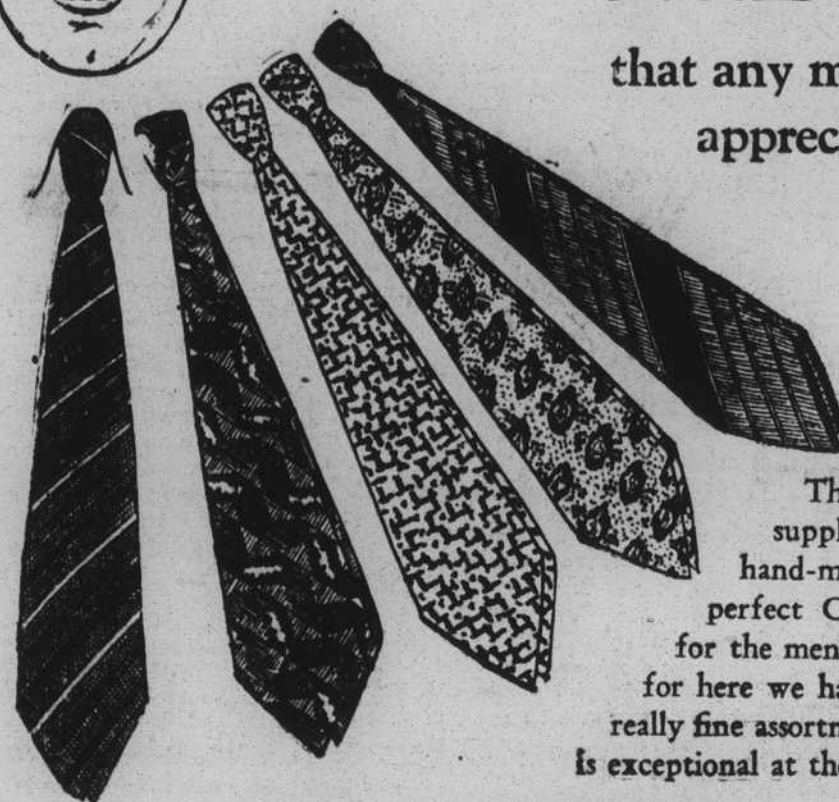
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