



Conducted by Lewis M. Grist, Publicity Officer, Meech Stewart Post, No. 66.

The post commander announced today that he had made arrangements whereby any ex-service man who wishes to unite with Meech Stewart Post and who is shy the necessary \$3 for membership fees, could arrange to get the money for the purpose for a period of twelve months if that long a time be necessary. It was stated that all ex-service men who would join the post should apply at once to the Post Commander or the Post Adjutant, P. A. Smith.

Delegation Uninstructed.

The seven delegates elected to represent the post at the state convention in Newberry, September 7 and 8, will go uninstructed in regard to bonus legislation. At a special meeting of the post held in the American Legion Club Tuesday evening there was some little discussion in regard to the matter of a soldier bonus and the legion voted that the delegation should go uninstructed in regard to it.

Local Board Members.

An agitation has been commenced by members of Meech Stewart Post who would have the members of the local exemption board elected honorary members of the post. The matter will be brought up at the regular monthly meeting for September, it is stated.

Next State Commander.

There is considerable interest among American Legion men throughout the state regarding the election of a state commander for 1921-22 which election will be held at the state convention to be held in Newberry, September 7 and 8. Among the American Legion men most prominently mentioned for the honor at the present time are Ben E. Adams, adjutant of Charleston Post; William McGowan, state vice commander of Columbia and L. Mell Glenn of Greenville, formerly commander of Anderson post of the American Legion.

For a Democratic Legion.

American Legion Weekly. This is the third summer in the life of The American Legion. Add in this third summer representative democracy goes on trial within the Legion.

By representative democracy we mean that system by which all the members of The American Legion have an equal voice in electing the men who represent them in the department and national conventions, the law-making assemblies of the Legion. Under that system the members of each post elect delegates to the department convention. The department conventions, in turn, elect delegates to the national convention.

Now is the time when the policies that will be definitely decided upon at the Third National Convention in Kansas City should be crystallizing out of the sentiments in individual posts. Members of each post should be learning the facts and solidifying their views on the principal questions which concern or should concern The American Legion. They should know what views they wish their convention delegates—the representatives they elect—to express in the deliberative sessions in which Legion policies are determined. Each post should determine what it believes, what it thinks ought to be done, what it thinks should be corrected. The success of representative government in the Legion depends wholly upon the degree in which individual members and posts fulfill their responsibilities.

What the Sweet Bill Does.

Centralizes the three great government bureaus charged with the welfare of the World War veteran in a single Veterans' bureau, responsible directly to the president.

Delegates to 14 regional offices authority to pass on compensation claims and to assume other functions heretofore performed solely by the central office, and provides for the establishment of 140 sub-offices.

Provides hospital care for all veterans with disabilities traceable to the service, without regard to the extent of these disabilities.

Assumes without proof unless government can prove willful misconduct that the tubercular and neuro-psychiatric veteran contracted his disease in line of duty and is therefore entitled to compensation.

Establishes liberal reinstatement provisions for veterans whose War Risk Insurance policies have lapsed and allows premiums to be waived under certain conditions.

Provides for payment of War Risk Insurance premiums at any post office.

Training for Women Nurses.

A training school for women nurses of the United States Public Health Service is to be established by the Surgeon General, says a letter received by the commander of Meech Stewart Post of the American Legion. Training will be given in certain hospitals in the service. Schools will be open on Sept. 1 at Fort McHenry in Baltimore and at Fox Hill, Staten Island, N. Y. The service hospitals provide experience in surgical nursing, including orthopedic eye, nose and throat; medical, including communicable, nervous and mental diseases; X-ray and laboratory technique; experience in the diseases of children and public health nursing. Gynecology and obstetrics will be provided in the second or third year of the course through affiliations with civilian hospitals. Lectures, recitations and laboratory work will be given in the required subjects in each hospital training school. The course will be three years. A credit of nine months will be given to graduates of accredited colleges and credit of three or more months to students who

have had two or more years in college or in approved technical schools that include the prescribed courses in the sciences. Candidates should make application in person or in writing to the Surgeon General, Washington, D. C. Special consideration will be given to candidates who have taken the course in elementary hygiene and home care of the sick with the Red Cross or who served as nurses and aids in army or civilian hospitals throughout the war. Candidates must be between twenty-one and thirty-five years of age, must pass satisfactory physical examination and must be graduates of a recognized high school or present evidence of an educational equivalent. No tuition fee will be required and students will be provided with quarters, subsistence, laundry and text books, but they must provide their own uniforms. A monthly allowance of \$30 for the first two years and \$50 for the third year will be made.

FAR WESTERN PRICES

Charleston Newspaper Man Writes of What He Sees.

Living prices along the West Coast are far lower than in the Central West, South, North and East. Food of all kinds is sold for less than prices prevailing in other sections of the country, writes Ben E. Adams of the staff of the Charleston News and Courier, who is visiting in Seattle, Washington.

Meats, fish, eggs, poultry, vegetables, bakery goods and in fact practically everything used on the family table is to be found in abundance at what one from the Eastern part of the nation calls cheap. The quality of the goods is of the very highest and displayed in an appetizing manner. 'Nice big beef roast can be had for 10 cents per pound while excellent steaks sell for only 25 cents per pound. Other meats in proportion to that of beef and beef products.

Milk, butter and other dairy products are within reach of what is often termed the average family. Sweet milk sells in the market at 9 cents per quart as compared with 22 cents in some of the Southern cities. Buttermilk is sold at 10 cents per gallon. Fish of the finest quality are sold at very low prices. Vegetables of all kinds sell for prices far below those asked in the East. High class fruits are to be had for reasonable figures.

Visit to Farmers' Market.

One of the big features of this city is a visit to the Farmers Market. Here is a building covering perhaps a block and from one to three stories high depending on which side of the hill you stand on. This market is on one of the principal streets and everything just as clean as water, soap and man power can make it. There are several hundred stalls in the building and along the sidewalks. The interior stalls are occupied by permanent tenants each dealing in some specialized line. The outside stalls are rented to the farmers for 10 cents per day with one day's rental as the minimum.

The producer comes in with a load of vegetables or fruit and pays one dime for the privilege of selling his goods in an orderly manner. This plan works to the advantage of both the producer and consumer and is quite different from the plan employed in some cities where the farmer is forced to pay a yearly license before he is allowed to peddle one load of produce. The market house is crowded daily with the family buyer driving bargains with the producer. The former gets the best quality of vegetables and fruits for a reasonable price while the farmer receives all the profits for his labors. No peddlers or hucksters are seen on the street.

Prices prevailing at Portland and San Francisco are within keeping of those at Seattle.

Prices in Restaurants.

One accustomed to paying high prices in restaurants, hotels and dining cars breathes a sigh of relief and thankfulness as he sits down in a dining room here and glances at the menu card. Nice big juicy steaks with potatoes, bread, butter and coffee or milk for 60 cents makes one wonder if he is in dreamland. Two eggs any style with bread, butter and coffee for 15 cents. In Portland I had a four course dinner with chicken for the main dish for 75 cents. Truly one should be able to dig up a living in this part of the world.

Standardization is the big word in marketing here. Everything offered in market places is up to a standard and sold in a manner that makes one appreciate it. Tomatoes, potatoes, beets, cabbages, apples, oranges, peaches, pears, eggs and poultry are graded and the different sizes placed in separate piles on the display stands. The customer can tell at first glance just what is offered and can immediately see the quality. Standardization is the one big need in settling the farmers' marketing problem.

REWARD CAME TOO LATE.

Another Example of Incompetency of War Risk Bureau.

George Bochner, a former soldier of the 119th "Wildcat" division, waited two years for the war risk bureau to adjust his claim for compensation, says a Springfield, Ill., dispatch. The award was made today—eight hours after Bochner died of tuberculosis. Today's message telling of the award of Bochner's claim, said: "I trust this action may insure immediately his benefit and conduce materially to the alleviation of his condition."

It was sent from the White House. William G. McCauley, state commander of the American Legion, sent this reply to Washington: "Bochner received his award this morning. Case now in hands of his maker."

HORNED SNAKES.

Pickens Sentinel Gathers Information About Reptiles.

The Sentinel has gathered considerable information about horn snakes, but is desirous of seeing several other parties whom we believe can furnish us with more facts of interest. In the meantime we are printing the following interesting accounts taken from Logan's History of Upper South Carolina:

"Logan's History of Upper South Carolina, in speaking of the snakes of this section, says:

"Bertram met with a reptile which he calls the horn snake in his travels in Carolina and speaks of it as follows:

"The pine or bull-snake is very large and inoffensive, with respect to mankind, but devours squirrels, birds, rabbits and every other creature it can take as food. They are the largest snake yet known in North America, except the rattlesnake, and perhaps exceeds him in length; they are piebald black and white. They utter a terrible loud, hissing noise, sounding very hollow and like distant thunder, when irritated, or at the time of incubation, when the males contend with one another for the desired female. These serpents are also called horn-snakes from their tail terminating with a hard, horny spur, which they vibrate very quickly when disturbed, but they never attempt to strike with it. They have dens in the earth, whither they retreat precipitately when apprehensive of danger.

"Lawson, who traversed the same region about seventy years earlier than the botanist (Bertram), describes another under the name of horn-snake serpent, of a totally different charac-

ter. 'Of the horn-snake,' he says, 'I never saw but two that I remember. They are like the rattlesnake in color, but rather lighter. They hiss exactly like a goose when anything approaches them. They strike at their enemy with their tail, and kill whatsoever they wound with it, which is armed at the end with a horny substance like a cock's spur. This is their weapon. I have heard it creditably reported, by those who said they were eye-witnesses, that a small locust tree, about the thickness of a man's arm, being struck by one in the morning, then verdant and flourishing, at four in the afternoon was dead, and the leaves red and withering. Doubtless, be it how it will, they are very venomous. I think the Indians do not pretend to cure their wounds.'

"This singular statement of the old surveyor, in relation to the locust tree, could scarcely have ever come to the knowledge of the good but plain people living in Coronaca and Wilson's creeks, yet there is still extant in that region a tradition in which it is related that many years ago a man in the lower part of the district or in Edgefield, being closely pursued by a horn snake, took refuge behind a tree, with the enraged serpent, rolling swiftly after him like a trundled hoop, plunged its horny sting deep into its trunk, where it was made fast, and so diffused its venom into the circulating sap as to destroy in a few hours the vitality of the tree.

"Bertram, with all his acuteness and enthusiasm as a naturalist, has certainly confounded the name of two distinct native serpents of Carolina. The bull snake, as he describes it, was well known in the upper country at the period of his visit and long after; but the old people had seen and talked

much of the horn snake as well, whose sting they dreaded as the visitation of death. Hewitt informs us that the horn snake was found in Carolina and owed its name not to a horny excrescence growing upon its head, as some have supposed, but to the horn-like sting at the extremity of its tail, with which it defended itself, striking it with great force into every aggressor. It was also deemed exceedingly venomous; and the Indians when stung by it did not resort to their usual antidotes, but instantly cut out the wounded part as the only safe preventive of the deadly poison being infused through the system. Mills, in his Statistics, enumerates, among the indigenous reptiles of Carolina, both the horn and bull snake. The former, however, must have been exceedingly rare; for at a comparatively early period it had already become a creature of curious tradition. Lawson, it has been observed, saw but two of them as early as 1781, notwithstanding no white man of his day enjoyed better opportunities for making such discoveries in Carolina. Among the innumerable facts that may be gathered from natural history illustrative of God's goodness, there are few more deserving of notice than this rareness of a reptile so fierce and deadly as the horn snake must unquestionably have been. Had it been as abundant as the other venomous species the Indians even, though furnished with their potent antidotes, could hardly have inhabited the country. The imagination is taxed to conceive of an object more repulsive or truly terrible. It possessed scarcely a single redeeming feature; there was nothing of the admirable craft of the eye—nothing of the beautiful changing of colors or characteristic magnanimity of the rattle-

snake—but with dull eye, insensate skin and vengeful spite, ready to dart its dreadful sting into every approaching intruder, it lay a horrible compound of all hate qualities of its race—the incarnation of death.

"On an afternoon, nearly forty years ago, a party of gentlemen were riding from Abbeville village towards the Calhoun settlement, and when approaching the place known as the Cabins they passed a dwelling near the wayside, just at the moment when a little girl, whom they had seen to cross the road some distance before them, gave a piercing shriek, and ran back into the house in an agony of pain and fright. Perceiving that something serious had occurred they hastily alighted to ascertain the matter; and entering the room found the child stretched upon a bed and already a corpse. She had lived long enough, however, to whisper to her mother that a snake had struck her while she was in the act of gathering firewood by the roadside. The party instantly sought the spot and there discovered a large specimen of the horn snake, which they dispatched. The skin of this serpent was stuffed and preserved by an intelligent gentleman of the neighborhood; and it was long an object of great curiosity at his residence, and afterwards at Old Cambridge, where it was last seen.—Pickens Sentinel.

Those Charleston Mosquitoes.—How long are we to be eaten up by mosquitoes in Charleston without doing anything to get rid of these pests? The rains have made them worse than they have been in years. A campaign to do away with them is in order. Can't the Chamber of Commerce start one?—Charleston News and Courier.

COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA

Revolutionary Ideas to Be Spread Among the Women.

Efforts to spread Communistic revolutionary ideas among the women and young people of the world were outlined recently at Moscow at two congresses, the first that of Women Communists of the World and the second by the Young People's Communist Internationale, meeting in connection with the Third Internationale congress, says a Riga, Russia, dispatch.

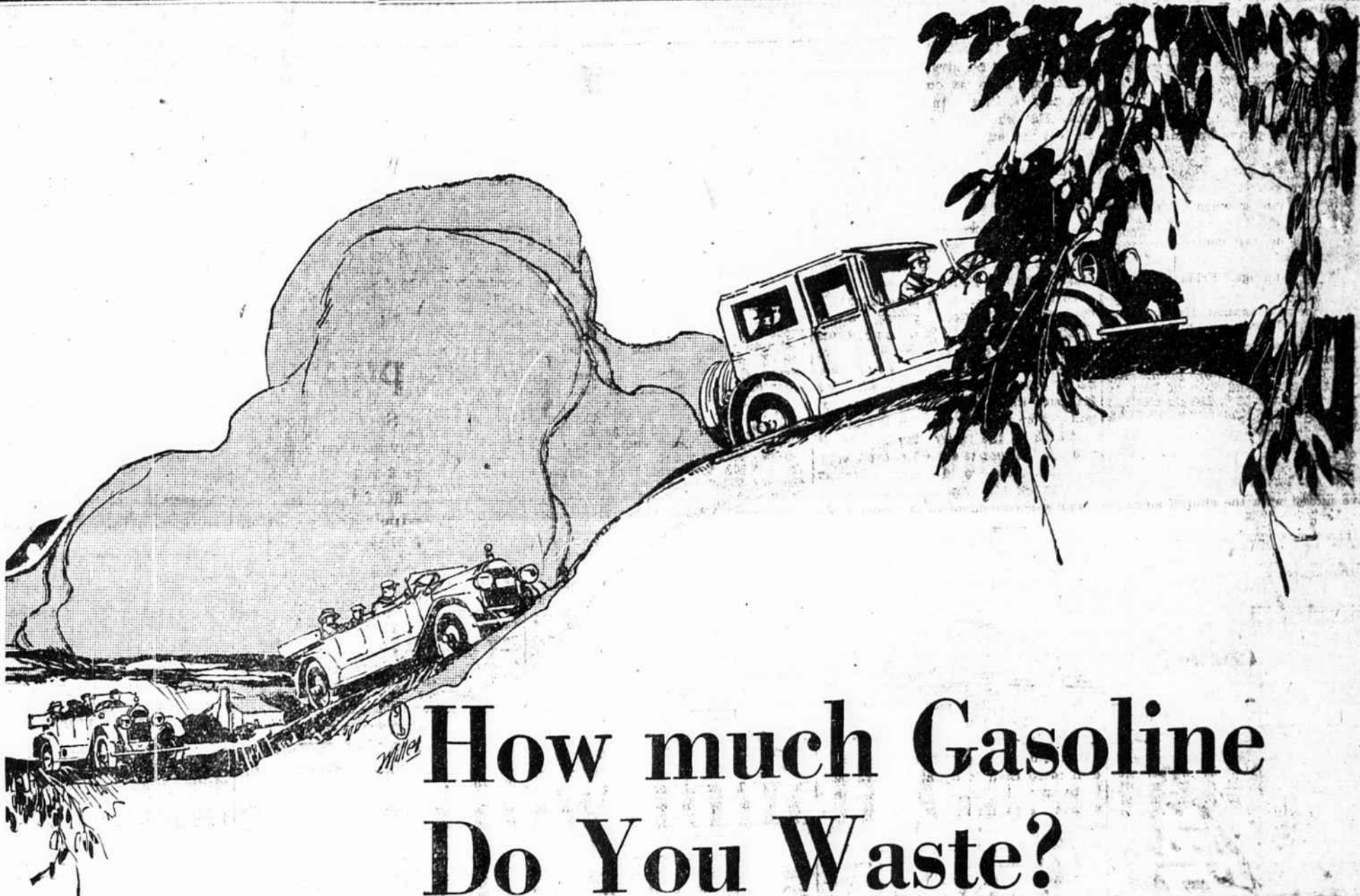
At the Women's Communist congress, in which Clara Zetkin, a Communist, member of the German reichstag, and Madam Krupskaya, the wife of Lenin, participated in the leadership work already done along these lines was outlined.

Madame Kollant, one of the leaders of the Russian Bolshevik revolution, told the women's congress that the movement had had very little success in America, where, she said, the movement must be developed in the existing trade unions including many thousands of women workers.

Along with propaganda of Communistic ideas, the conference advocated spreading intelligence on the subject of birth control and other advanced sociological theories.

According to the Moscow newspapers, great importance was attached to the Young People's Communist Internationale congress. Leon Trotsky, the war minister, speaking to this congress, said that the largest part of the youths among the workers and peasants took part in the Russian revolution and aided the Red army.

—Miss Margaret McArdle is buyer for one of the big steel corporations in Birmingham, Ala.



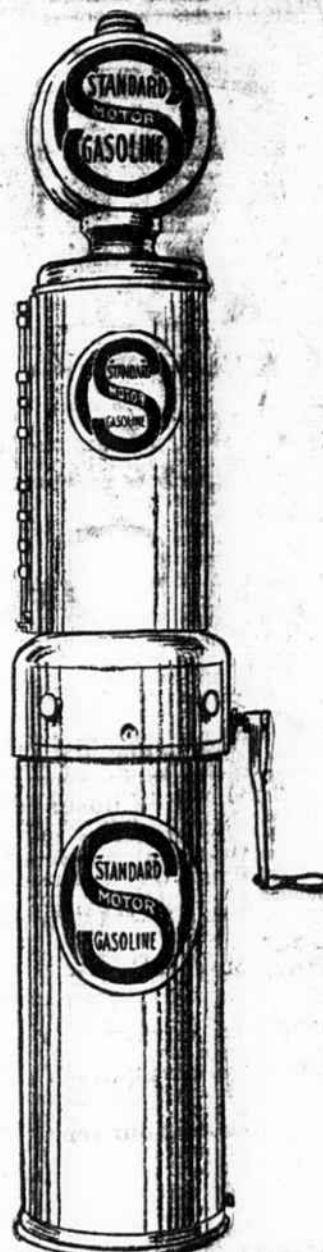
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