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The American Legion

(Copy for This Department Supplied by the American Legion News Service.)

POOR LEAD TO OBTAIN SPLIT

Attempt to Arouse Indignation Over "Horror on the Rhine" Proves Dismal Failure.

"The Germanophile attempt to arouse American indignation over the horror on the Rhine and thereby to lead to a split, spiritual rather than diplomatic, between America and her recent allies, has failed of its purpose in precisely the same way that German propaganda in this country failed in every one of the years between 1914 and 1918," says an editorial in the American Legion Weekly.

"The truth is merely that the Germans do not know how to go about it. 'Kultur' obviously does not include any knowledge of the fine art of getting something over, a fact amply attested by the reflex action which has accompanied the present attempt. The Von Mach style of persuasiveness is no more subtle than the efforts of a St. Bernard puppy to stand up on a hardwood floor. It is flattering the Von Mach type of 'boring from within' to call its insidious. Insidious it is, however, in its intent if not in its application.

"Dr. Von Mach has proved himself a poor servant of his country, whether he regards his country as America or Germany. He is a poor American for having tried to win America over to the point of view of the unrepentant nation to defeat whose government 100,000 Americans gave their lives, for attempting to resurrect a hyphen that was theoretically buried just three years ago. He is a poor German because his clumsiness has served only to arouse America to the fact that she is still at war with Germany."

POST WINS ON GOLDEN CALF

Two-Headed Animal Aids in Raising Organization's Funds From \$100 to \$1,500.

The Golden Calf of the Twentieth century has been discovered by the American Legion post at Fredericksburg, Va., which owes an increase in its working capital from \$100 to \$1,500 to a two-headed juvenile cow, in full title to which the post invested its scant \$100 last fall.

Having induced a Westmoreland county farmer to part with the freak animal for this sum, a special levy of various small amounts was made upon the treasury to buy nourishment for the calf. Then came the Virginia state fair in Richmond and the calf was in full bloom, eating both his heads off and waxing fat withal.

The Fredericksburg post put him on exhibit, charging a suitable fee. When the fair was over and the dust had settled, the post treasury contained \$1,500—the accrued earnings of



Two-Headed Calf That Put Virginia Post on Road to Wealth.

the calf—and all this for doing nothing but standing still and being inspected.

It was recently that the representative of a large circus made his offer of \$150 for the animal and it was accepted. There is a rumor that the excitement of travel and late hours have affected the calf's health and that he is a poor insurance risk. However, as the old Romans had it, caveat emptor.

The post plans to reinvest the \$1,500 as soon as some other such good security as the calf is found.

Legion Men Among the Miners.

The activity of the American Legion in the mining districts of southeast Kansas is another pertinent proof that the misunderstanding between labor bodies and the ex-service men's organization has been dissipated. At Seamon, Kan., the climax of the eight-hour day celebration of the miners in District 14, was reached in a ball at the Legion hall, under the auspices of Francis Ellison Post. Another instance is the almost unprecedented growth of Clarence Smith Post No. 272 at Weir. From a membership of 21 ex-service men in 1920, a total of 112 has been enrolled in 1921 thus far.

THE LEGION BOSS UP

Ex-Patriated Former Service Man Remains Abroad and Serves in Important Capacity.

When the last of the American expeditionary forces left France, a considerable number of ex-service men remained in the country as representatives of American firms and in various other positions. Among this group was Col. Francis E. Drake, commander of the department of France, American Legion.

The ex-patriated former service men found that there were mutual ties binding them together and the result was the formation of the Legion's department of France.

Among the achievements of this detached body of Legionnaires are: The direction of the decoration of graves of American soldiers on the battlefields and in the cemeteries of France on Memorial day; aid to stranded veterans in France; the raising of a fund to defend the American sergeants who attempted to capture Bergdoll, the arch slacker, on German soil and co-operation with the French government in furthering memorial plans of the American Legion.

Colonel Drake has returned to France after a visit to America, during which he effected arrangements for the decoration of all soldiers' graves on Memorial day, 1921.

The Legion commander attracted national attention when his investigation of the alleged "Rhine Horror" showed that there was no ground for the assertion of pro-Germans that French negro troops are participating in outrages upon German women in the Rhenish provinces.

CONVENTIONS OF 1921 OPEN

Program of Department Gatherings of Ex-Service Men's Organizations Inaugurated in Alaska.

When delegates from far-away parts of the American Legion in Alaska met at Valdez on April 12, the program of department conventions of the ex-service men's organization for 1921 was inaugurated.

Departments which have announced the place and date of their 1921 conventions are: Alabama, Florence, June 10 and 11; Arizona, Prescott, August 8; Florida, Orlando, May 16 and 17; Iowa, Spirit Lake, September 12 and 13; Kansas, Hutchinson, August 22, 23 and 24; Kentucky, Lexington, September 2 and 3; Maryland, Ocean City, September 12 and 13; Michigan, Kalamazoo, September 6 and 7; Minnesota, Winona, August 1, 2 and 3; Montana, Lewistown, June 27 and 28; Nebraska, Fremont, September 20, 21 and October 1; New Mexico, Silver City, September 22, 23 and 24; New York, Jamestown, September 30 and October 1; Oregon, Eugene, July 1 and 2; South Dakota, Rapid City, August 23 to 26; Tennessee, Chattanooga, July 8 and 9; Utah, Provo, June 10 and 11; Virginia, Norfolk, September 1, 2 and 3; Washington, Hoquiam, July 14, 15 and 16; Wisconsin, Eau Claire, June 28, 29 and 30.

Other departments which have announced conventions, with the exact date as yet undecided, are: Colorado, Glenwood Springs, October; Louisiana, Bogalusa, early September; Nevada, Gardnerville, July; New Hampshire, Weir, last week in August; New Jersey, Ausbury Park, September; Oklahoma, Enid, last week in September or first week in October; Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, between September 15 and 30.

AMERICANISM BILLS GET O. K.

Three Measures Written by the American Legion Become Laws in Oklahoma, June 25.

Three Americanism bills written by the American Legion and introduced in the Oklahoma state legislature at the request of that organization, have been passed by the state lawmaking body, signed by Governor Robertson and will become laws on June 25.

House bill No. 383 provides that the American flag shall be displayed at all times in every school room in the state—public, private and denominational—and that pupils shall be taught proper respect and reverence for it by the state school superintendent. A penalty is provided for violation.

American history and civil government are made compulsory subjects for study in all schools of the state under house bill No. 384.

High schools, colleges, universities and normal schools must require at least one full year's work in American history and civics of each student graduated.

In the future, each teacher who is granted a certificate to teach in Oklahoma must subscribe to an oath of allegiance to the constitution of the United States and of the state of Oklahoma under the terms of house bill No. 389. Teachers found guilty of public statements against the flag or country shall have their certificates revoked.

The bills have been widely praised in the Oklahoma press and have been made a part of the national Americanism program of the American Legion.

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