

As an outgrowth of every war from the days of '61 to the memorable Nov.

11, 1918 when the firing on the western front ceased after 4 years of thundering, there has sprung up in every village and city a group of "comrade veterans" who have borne the brunt of battle and have come back home to enjoy the fruits of peace.

These have been duly organized into groups of national organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic which sprang up after the Civil War. It is the veterans still alive and those for whom taps have sound who make Memorial day the hallowed day that it is.

In Yakima there are four such veteran organizations. They are the TOOAD Meade post of the G.A.R. the John T. Alderson post of the Spanish war, the William Wharton post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Logan Wheeler post of the American Legion.

The ranks of the Meade post are being thinned rapidly while those of the later groups are maintained with younger blood.

Records of the Meade post kept by T.W. Clark show that this group was formed into a permanent organization in Old Town on January 10, 1884 with 21 charter members. First call for the formation of the post was issued on November 15, 1883 when P.S. Burk presided as chairman. It was decided at this meeting to organize ~~also~~ and a second meeting was dated for Dec. 15. At this session officers were elected but the installation did not take place until Jan. 10 following.

Col. W. Prosser was named first mustering officer and Charles M. Holton the first post commander. Other officers installed were senior vice commander Ed Pruyn; junior vice commander, Robert Dunn; adjutant D.W. Stair; quartermaster Adam Dunca; surgeon Joseph O. Clark; officer of the day Moses N. Adams; officer of the guard H.L. Tucker; sergeant major D.R. Edwards a quartermaster sergeant P.S. Burk. Among other charter members were D.A. Rollins, Sven Munson, Josiah Wiley, Walter Reed, George H. Hull,

Charles R. Lilley, Charles A. Pressy, J.F. Sinclair, A.J. Lewis, James Gleed and Duncan Adams.

All of the meeting during the first years were held in such quarters as were available in old town and when the exodus toward North Yakima took place the post also moved. The ~~grounded~~ post has never owned a foot of ground of its own nor quarters of any kind.

At ~~one~~ first the honors of a military funeral and burial in the G.A.R. plot in the cemetery were restricted to members of the post. Several times indeed a former rebel soldier became a member of the circle. At least two such he buried in the G.A.R. plot and their graves are garlanded on this day with the r st.

On August 1, 1906 the fifth permanent organization for Spanish war veterans in the state was formed in Yakima as the John T. Alderson camp. There are about 75 active members in this post at the present time. John T. Alderson for whom the camp was named enlisted from Yakima when hostilities first broke out with Spain in the nineties. He started as a sergeant with Co. E of the first Washington U.S. volunteers and served with this company ~~through~~ through the war. He was advanced from sergeant to the position of top sergeant and then received his commission as a second lieutenant. While in the service in the islands he contracted a disease that ravaged the troops in the tropical climate and died from it after returning home.

Fifty men who fought overseas in the World War met together in Yakima and obligated themselves by forming the William Wharton post No. 379 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. That was March 29, 1920. Officers were elected and installed and it was at this time that the name of the organization was determined.

When only 18 years old young Wharton left with Company C of the national guards stationed at Yakima for duty at the border. Early in 1917 he was sent across the sea and transferred to Co. 1 of the 26th infantry.

After serving as befitted a soldier he was killed in action at Chateau Thierry on July 18, 1918 when he was only 20 years old. He was born at ~~Bellingham~~ Bellingham.

What ~~has~~ existed for some time previous as a service club with its membership consisting of ex service men in Yakima was unanimously merged into the Logan Wheeler post of the American Legion on August 1, 1920 with a membership of almost 400. Dolph Barnett at that time headed the service club and sponsored the merger into a Legion post. The membership is now 417. Post commanders in their order have been Sam Tyrrell, A.J. Gamble, Clarence Huntley, Jack Crawford, Dolph Barnett and Andrew Jacobson.

Logan Wheeler ~~was~~ a product of the Yakima public schools and beloved by all who knew him was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Wheeler.

When the war broke out he enlisted in the ordnance department but he longed for the field of action. As a member of the 91st division he was sent overseas leaving behind him his youthful bride who ~~was~~ was his classmate in school.

He was killed on the field of action in the Verdun sector on Sept. 28, 1918 at the age of 23. As corporal he was leading his men and ~~was~~ was commended afterwards by officers and men for his courage and good judgment. A machine gun bullet penetrated his helmet and he died within five minutes.

"Take this book with our names and turn it in to the company" were his last words. He was buried in the Verdun sector near the village of Very. He is survived by his father, Thomas Wheeler, his stepmother, Mrs. Wheeler; his widow, Mrs. Taletta Wheeler and a brother, Gerald Wheeler, all residing here--Yakima Republic, May 30, 1924

(On May 5, 1868, Commander John A. Logan of the U.S. army issued a general order designating May 30 a day set aside for strewing the graves with flowers. Graves of those comrades who died in the service of the

country during the Civil war were to be especially decorated. The day was at first called Decoration day.

In 1882 the G.A.R. urged the designation of May 30 as Memorial day instead of Decoration day. Rhode island set the day aside as a legal holiday in 1874, the first of the states to do so. The first official Decoration day order came only four years before 1872.

After arriving as a soldier he was promoted to sergeant and then to first sergeant. He was discharged in 1864 and returned to his home in Rhode Island. He was a member of the G.A.R. and was active in its work. He was a member of the Rhode Island Legion and was a member of the American Legion. He was a member of the Rhode Island Legion and was a member of the American Legion. He was a member of the Rhode Island Legion and was a member of the American Legion.

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On May 5, 1868, Commander John A. Logan of the U.S. Army issued a general order designating May 30 a day set aside for honoring the brave men who died in the service of their country. He was a member of the Rhode Island Legion and was a member of the American Legion.

Civil War Vets

Pensioners. War of 1812

Veterans of the civil war are dying off at the rate of about 3 1-3 per cent per annum.

Commissioner of pensions Evans estimates that there are about 925,000 survivors of the civil war. Of this number there were on the pensions rolls last year 742,467.

During the year 24,787 pensioners veterans died. This number is slightly more than 3 1-3 per cent. Assuming that the death rate among those not pensioned is the same as among the pensioners who died during the year the total number of pensioners who died during the year would be about 30,855.

Commissioner Evans estimates that the average age of the veterans who still survive is about 59 years.

The last survivor of the war of 1812 died last summer, 75 years after the close of the war. At the same rate there will probably be a few survivors of the civil war still living in 1940...Yakima Republic, Jan. 3, 1901

Yakima veterans of the Spanish American war will on the afternoon of May 30 realize their ambition of a quarter of a century in the dedication of their war memorial in tribute to their hero dead at Ahoma cemetery.

The memorial, a beautiful marble statue of an angel scattering flowers stands in the United Spanish War Veterans plot at the cemetery and was purchased from savings of the organization through a period of years and without any solicitation of funds.

Dedication of the monument is scheduled for 3 o'clock with H.L. Leeper and John Alderson post in charge and W.B. Clark selected as the speaker of the day.

The dedication ceremonial is expected to bring out a 100 per cent attendance from the veterans of the "Remember the Maine!" Days-
The Yakima Daily Republic, May 19, 1926.

GAR...Monument

Since the donation by the city of three lots in the new addition in the cemetery to Meade Post No. 9, GAR, the ladies of the Relief Corps have been busy raising funds with which to erect a monument.

The contract has been let to Mr. Gleason and will cost when put in position something like \$600. The monument is of attractive design being 21 feet high. The plans are now on exhibition in the windows of the North Yakima drug store.

The ladies are resorting to several schemes to raise funds. Besides the ~~condo~~ contributions that have been made to the fund the ladies have sold cook books, held birthday parties at which all ladies attending contributed 10 cents while the hostess gave as many pennies as she was years old. In this way about \$20 has been raised--The Yakima Herald, Sept 7, 1904.

With a view to carrying out the plan of Mead post, Grand Army of the Republic to place headstones at the graves of all comrades buried in Tahoma cemetery, Capt. T.W. Clark has checked over all available records for information required for this purpose but finds facts regarding 24 missing.

The headstones are furnished by the government but the full name, company and regiment and date of death must be given.

Captain Clark desires to ^{get} give these facts from anyone who may have them read ~~and~~ regarding the following comrades whose graves the post ~~wishes~~ wishes to mark with others:

G.A. Hardy, W.M. Burroughs, J.G. Butler, C.A. Dodge, G.W. Gardner, Luther Hoard, J.V. Leavitt, John Tuffs, D.W. Young, P.H. Fink, Ira Ruby, Leo Cafield, Robert Dunn, James Gleed, Henry Goodlander, George Howmaster, Charles M. Hatton, A.C. Ketcham, N.C. Mobly, John C. Murphy, E.P. Parsons, Joseph C. Repp, Cephas Mario and Joseph Weddel--Yakima Republic, Dec. 30, 1910.

GAR

GAR day at the fair grounds which resulted in so large an attendance of veterans as to creat comment was explained Saturday by Commander C.H. Hoffman. He stated that the post was growing in proportion to the increased population as incoming families there were Civil War veterans. Interest in the GAR activities is growing proportionately he said.

The local post now numbers about 100 members. The Relief Corps has a membership of 200 or more. Great inters is being taken in the GAR corps by an association o women consisting only of blood relatives and wives of veterans.

The Cosgrove ladies of the GAR as the local association is called was organized on August 19, last at the residence of Mrs. Hoffman. It now has permanent quarters in IOOF hall and meets every first and third Monday of the month. There are twenty charter members and several more will be admitted before the charter is closed.

The officers are Mrs. R.A.W Allen, president; Mrs. Bridgman senior vice president; Mrs. "eQ60 Webb, junior vice president; Mrs. Henderson, secretary; Mrs. Clark, treasurer and Mrs. Haines, chaplain.

The Yakima Herald, Oct 2, 1912.

Despite vigorous protests from some of the veterans, all of the old soldiers who fought in the Civil war and who participated in this morning's Memorial day parade rode in automobiles.

This is the first year that at least part of the veterans have not marched.

Headed by the Eagles band, the parade of veterans of three wars and members of patriotic organizations extended for six blocks.

Although the ranks of Meade post Grand Army of the Republic have dwindled to 32 members of the Civil war, most of them ~~had~~ were able to take part in the parade today. Eight or 10 of them headed by Alex Burnham, J.H. Frazier and G.W. Hays held out for marching but finally acceded to the will of the majority and went in cars provided for their comfort.

"It's a shame ~~that's all there is to it~~ that's all there is to it, for us to be babied so," Mr. Burnham protested. "A number of us could walk just as well as not; we did last year. Why I could walk all over town myself without getting tired."

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Six Yakima Civil war veterans four of them members of Meade post GAR have died since the roll was called on Memorial day a year ago. Two of them are former post commanders. (83 and 78 years old)
The Yakima Daily Republic May 31, 1926.

Céntralia , June 24--Last year 137 mem ers of the Washington and Aaska department of the Grand Army of the Republic died, leaving only 1,171 names on the roll, January 1, a report of the association in session here today showed.

Three posts were forced to give up their charters on account of diminishing memberships. Of 55 posts left in the department, three have only two member each while another has thr e.

Last night the army paid tri ute to Warren Grimm, Dale Hubbard, Arthur Elfresh and Ben Casagrande, four members of the A_merican Legion, who were shot down on the str ets of Céntralia by I_ndustrial W_orkers of the W_orld while parading on Armistice day in 1919. Wreaths were placed at the base of a statue in honor of the slain m~~00~~ veterans by Mattie Ross of Wenat achee, department president of the Daughters of Veterans. Yakima Republic, June 24, 1925.

"Two years make a difference in the number of veterans remaining with the GAR" sadly stated A.F. Lawrence, department commander of Washington and Alaska of the Grand Army of the Republic who was in Yakima yesterday afternoon.

Lawrence met with the members of the Meade Post No. 9 and told of the events of the national meeting in Boston, Mass. this summer.

"I shall insist on shorter parades in the future he stated." The public is beginning to forget we cannot make the long marches we used to and many of our comrades are becoming too feeble to march the distances parades usually cover. There are 65,504 members of the GAR now but the number is rapidly decreasing. A few days is enough to make a change in the figures." The Yakima Republic, Oct 17, 1925.

An interval of 26 years has not dimmed in the memories of a hundred and more Yakima men the scenes enacted on February 4, 1899 when occurred the first uprising in the Philippines.

Those scenes and those of the days both preceding and following are being recalled today as veterans of the Spanish American War gathered here from all parts of the valley for the annual Santa Ana banquet which is to be held tonight in the armory.

Although tomorrow is the actual anniversary of the insurrection the banquet is being held tonight because of convenience to the veterans.

Among those who are planning to attend the dinner this evening are at least seven who are veterans of both the Spanish American War and the World War and they will be able to recall war experiences of a much later date. They are Fred Hennecke, Bert Sewell, Sgt. George Kintzle of the recruiting service, Peter Thome, A.J. Bush, W.A. Morgan and Dr. C.H. Weir.

Dr. Weir is commander of the John Alderson post of the Spanish War veterans and will preside at the gala gathering tonight.

When the call to arms to free Cuba swept the country in 1888 Yakima was among the first to organize a company. Old Company E was recruited to war strength in a hurry and was soon on its way.

This company, commanded by Capt. Marshall Scudder, played an active part in the highly praised campaign of the Washington regiment in which it participated in 27 battles and captured 700 prisoners.

The regiment also suffered a heavy loss.

The memory of one martyr, John T. Alderson is recalled in the name of the Yakima post.

Preparations are being made by the women of the auxiliary headed by Mrs. H.R. Nosler to serve nearly a hundred veterans tonight. J. Howard Wright is in charge of the program. He announced that

The battle of Santa Anya in which the First Washington regiment including the North Yakima company participated was fought 12 years ago today in the Philippines.

The anniversary is the cause of a banquet celebration by the Seattle veterans at one of the hotels in that city and will be participated in by several Yakima veterans. As a local celebration the Yakima camp will hold a dinner here February 27--
Yakima Herald, Feb. 4, 1913.

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A meeting will be held next Saturday night at the Masonic hall of the soldiers of this city who took part in the recent war with Spain and in the Philippines.

The object of the meeting is to form a local camp of the Veterans of the Spanish War. There have been camps of this order formed all over the United States and it has been one of the most successful social and fraternal orders that has been organized in the country of late years.

Nearly all the men who fought for their country during the recent unpleasantness are members and no one is a more hearty supporter of enthusiastic member than our president, Theodore Roosevelt.

All who took part in the war are invited to attend the meeting and become charter members of the new camp. President Will Lemon and in is hard at work on organizing the vicinity of thirty ex soldiers have signed the roll already-The Yakima Herald, Dec. 13, 1905.

Death came to the relief of Lieut. John T. Alderson early on Sunday morning in the home of his parents two miles west of this city and all who knew the noble and upright young man mourn his loss.

During the latter half of his year's service as a volunteer soldier in the Philippine war the young man contracted dysentery, the fateful disease that finally consumed him and although he resisted the ravages bravely and remained during active service longer than he should have done, he was unable to receive any permanent relief.

Lt. Alderson was born in Fallsbrook, Pa, Jan 7, 1868 and was therefore at the time of his death but a few days past 32 years of age. He removed to this county with his parents 11 years ago where he since resided with exception of the 18 months of service he saw during Spanish and Philippine wars. He began his service as a second sergeant but was mustered out as a second lieutenant which is ample evidence of his worth as a soldier. The funeral took place at 11 am. on Monday from the M.E. church and was very largely attended, not only by his old comrades of Company E but Company C.N.G.W. was in line.----Yakima Democrat, January 20, 1900.

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Memorials

...Loyal survivors of the ~~Spanish~~ Spanish American war, now banded together in the local John T. Alderson camp of the United Spanish War veterans have attained a objective first visioned by them 20 years ago.

In Tahoma cemetery they have completed the erection of their memorial to comrades of the war, now dead.

The memorial is their memorial. For it no funds were raised by hurried and hectic public subscription. Set aside each year of the past 20 from the camp's private funds the memorial fund has been kept sacred and inviolate. Sunday afternoon the dedicatory address of W.B. Clark will mark the fulfillment of their vision.

Twelve years ago the veterans set the block base of Rock of Ages granite on their plot at Tahoma cemetery. For 12 years the block has waited for the Carrara marble sculpture figure that now tops it.

W.A. Morgan, chairman of the memorial committee has worked uneasinessly for the memorial. ..In the plot are the bodies of five Spanish-American war veterans and adjacent to the plot in family lots are the bodies of 20 more...The Yakima Republic May 29, 1926.

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Monuments

One thousand people gathered in Tahoma cemetery yesterday afternoon to dedicate the Carrara marble statue erected by John T. Anderson post of the Spanish War veterans as a memorial to those who gave their lives in the war of 1898.

Joining with those who saw service in the Spanish American war were representatives from the Grand Army of the Republic, the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Dr. W.F. Ineson gave the invocation. H.L. Leeper, then introduced the speaker, W.B. Clark. Throughout the services the flag was kept at half staff.

"This monument is eloquent in its silent significance Mr. Clark said. "It speaks of the past to those of the present and will challenge the attention of future generations. It is not human in its construction, yet human hands have moulded it into form; American patriots have directed that construction and form. We are assembled to dedicate this monument to the memory of those who gave their all for the cause of liberty and humanity."

From the discovery of America by Columbus to the present date the speaker sketched the progress of the country, mentioning the great struggles in which the country has been engaged in the period. American liberty history has given too little importance to the Spanish American war, Mr. Clark declared. Though the war was brief, its brevity was conclusive and persuasive. It is an epoch in American history;. He told the part Yakima played in the war with its organization, principally composed of farmer boys, led by Capt. Marshall Scudder. The dangers and hardships through which these men went were recounted.

"And why the figure of a woman?" Mr. Clark said referring to the statue. It is a monument of peace. Ask the veterans who have caused its construction and selected its form. They will tell you it is not a monument of peace. Is not the goddess of liberty in the figure of a woman? Is

her hands.

"Woman gave birth to every veteran. The last thought of every veteran who paid the supreme sacrifice was of his mother. Recall Clara Barton and the nurses in camp and hospital. In the World War women learned to take a heavier part and followed them to the edge of No Man's land. Yes when one reflects a moment this form of a woman is a wonderful choice, a beautiful sentiment and a choice worthy of respect.

"And now may this monument be an incentive to every man, boy, woman and girl. May each morning's sun cast its bright rays on its spotless white eulogy. May this monument, so glorified, emblazon on the minds of all who may see it the spirit of liberty, justice, toleration and harmony and the desire in the heart and mind of every citizen passing to breathe a silent prayer for the departed veterans who gave or offered to give their all for liberty and humanity--The Yakima Republic, May 31, 1926.