

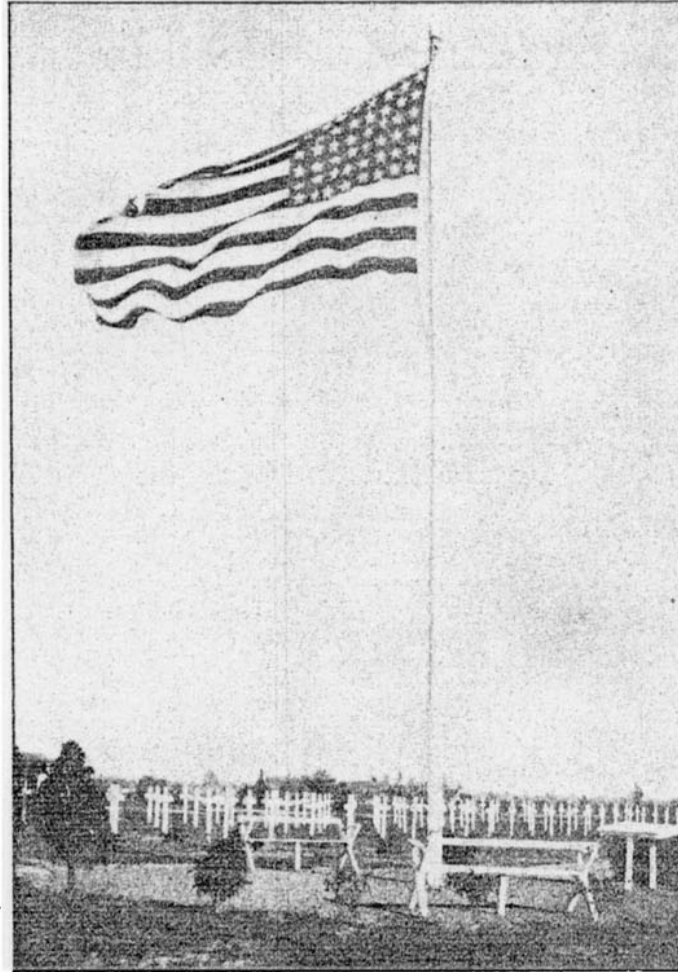
## A MEMORIAL FOR SOME AMERICANS ABROAD



WHERE AMERICAN TROOPS ARE IN THEIR LAST BIVOUAC ON FRENCH, BELGIAN AND ENGLISH SOIL

Most of the men who fell abroad are still there, and will remain there forever—the victors of Château Thierry and Belleau Wood at Belleau, the conquerors of St. Mihiel at Thiaucourt, and, at Romagne, some thousands of those who helped to break the German lines in the Argonne.

**T**HE AMERICAN FLAG is still in Europe, even tho the last doughboy has left the Rhine. It floats over eight cemeteries, six in France, one in Belgium, and one in England, where 32,000 American soldiers are gathered in their last bivouacs. In the Aisne-Marne Cemetery at Belleau the flag floats above 2,220 Americans who fought in Belleau Wood and at Château-Thierry. At Thiaucourt rest 4,231 of ours who took part in the St. Mihiel defensive. There are others at Romagne, who broke the German lines in the Argonne, and men of the 27th Division, nearly 2,000 of them, at Bony on the Aisne. Still others lie in the Flanders Field American Cemetery, at Waerghem, Belgium, and nearly 500 are at the Brookwood American Cemetery in Surrey, England, where are the graves of men who died in transport sinkings or in hospitals. This silent army, which will represent America in perpetuity, will not be forgotten on the coming Memorial Day, announces the American



WHERE AMERICANS LIE "IN FLANDERS FIELDS"

Men from the United States, 365 in all, are gathered here at Waerghem, Belgium, beneath their flag.

Legion. The Government will, of course, see to it that the graves are not neglected, but the Legion proposes that there shall be a more personal and intimate connection between America and the Army which still represents it on eight fields of honor in Europe. The Legion will send America's greeting to these soldiers on this Memorial Day, and on every Memorial Day. An announcement by Alvin Owsley, National Commander of the Legion, runs, in part:

It is the high honor of the American Legion to represent the American people in the fulfilment of the sacred national obligation of decorating the graves of our soldiers abroad on each Memorial Day. The Legion pledges itself always to remember and honor our dead on foreign soil on the day when the heart of all America is thrilling with reverence for them. Let us all—every Legionnaire, every post—contribute this year to the Graves Endowment Fund, which will insure that each year our respect and honor shall be fittingly bestowed upon those who sleep in perpetuity in the cemeteries of Europe.

The various posts of the

Legion throughout the country will each set aside a day, in the week preceding Memorial Day, on May 30th, to be known as "Poppy Day," when small poppies will be sold, at ten cents each, to everybody willing to buy. The hundreds of thousands of dimes thus collected will go toward the \$100,000 fund which the Legion is raising. In the meantime, the various posts are

G. Jones, adjutant of the Charles A. Learned Post of Detroit, one of the largest Legion posts in the country. A special committee of which Dr. Frank B. Broderick, past post commander and department welfare officer, is chairman, has been appointed to handle the solicitation of funds. An appeal to the more than two thousand members of the post is appearing in each week's issue of the post's official paper.

Providence, Rhode Island, Post has pledged at least \$1,000 toward the fund.

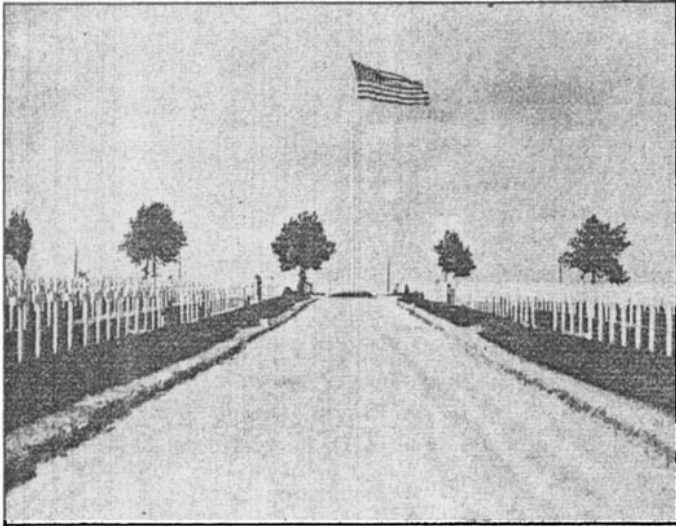
The American Legion, it is explained, has set \$100,000 as the sum it hopes to raise, "but this figure is regarded as the minimum amount which will be needed." Other estimates place \$200,000 as the sum required if merely the interest is to be used each year. Regarding the estimate of \$100,000, says the *Weekly*:

It was based on an existing fund of approximately \$66,000 left over from previous years and the probability that additional large contributions might be forthcoming through efforts being made abroad. The Legion desires, however, that the fund raised this year shall be unquestionably large enough to meet all future needs, and it will endeavor to obtain contributions totaling as much as \$200,000, if possible.

Word from overseas indicates that this year Memorial Day in France and all parts of Europe will be observed more impressively than ever before. Arrangements are being made for the dedication of the eight permanent American military cemeteries in France, Belgium and England—Romagne, Fère-et-Tardenois, Belleau, Surèsnes, Bony and Thiaucourt, all in France; Waereghem, Belgium, and Brookwood, England. Delegations of Legionnaires from Paris Post, London Post and other posts in Europe will be present at the ceremonies to pay respect to the dead in the name of their million comrades of the Legion and in the name of the American people. The American Overseas Memorial Association, in Paris, of which Myron T. Herrick, the American Ambassador, is honorary president, and Francis E. Drake, past commander of the Department of Continental Europe of The American Legion, chairman, is giving the Legion splendid assistance in preparing for Memorial Day.

General Pershing, Secretary of War Weeks and other prominent Americans have expressed their warm approval of the Legion's efforts to provide for the perpetual care of the graves abroad.

Monuments and memorials to the men of the A. E. F. who are buried in this country are also receiving especial attention from the Legion and *The Weekly* at this time. War memorials, writes Rober Aitken, member of the National Academy and the Royal Academy, and a former Captain in the 306th Infantry, should be so arranged as to be impressive by their setting, simplicity and lack of ostentation. Mr. Aitken urges the need of



**THE FLAG AND OUR SOLDIERS ARE STILL THERE**

An army of 32,000 American troops is still on foreign soil, and the American Legion is making a special effort to see that they are remembered by the home folks on the coming Memorial Day. The American cemetery at Thiaucourt, France, is shown above.

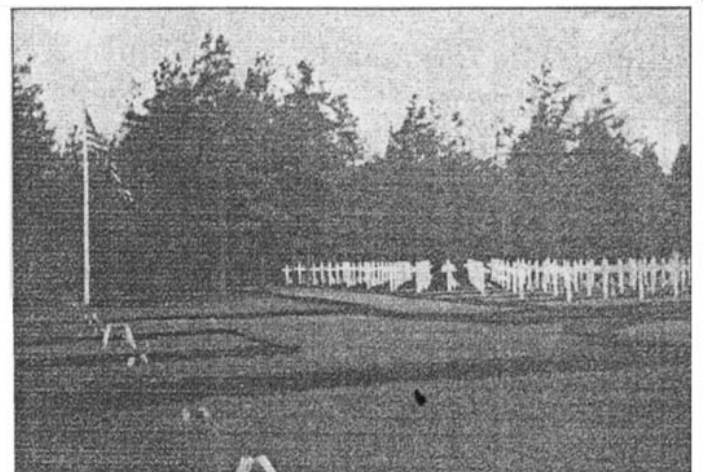
levying on their own members for small sums, and *The American Legion Weekly* prints a cut of a check for \$10, signed by Woodrow Wilson. "Among the first checks received for the Overseas Graves Decoration Fund," says *The Weekly*, "was this—the contribution of America's most distinguished disabled veteran." Under the headline, "Our Flag Is Still There," the Legion announces:

Chivalrous Kentucky claims the honor of making the first contribution to the American Legion's Overseas Graves Endowment Fund. Before the mail-carriers of America had finished distributing the issue of *The American Legion Weekly* announcing that the Legion has pledged itself to raise enough money this year to insure the perpetual decoration of the graves of our buddies abroad, Chief Paducah Post of Paducah, Kentucky, had forwarded its subscription of twenty-five dollars to the National Treasurer in Indianapolis. At the same time it sent word that it probably would contribute a larger sum later, as a Paducah newspaper has opened its columns, inviting contributions from all citizens of Paducah.

Meanwhile letters of enthusiastic support from department officials and posts and from Auxiliary leaders throughout the country began coming to National Commander Owsley and *The American Legion Weekly*. "We'll do our part!" they said, one and all, and some of them told of plans already started. Theodore E. Damm, Commander of Advertising Men's Post of New York City, one of the largest and most influential posts in the metropolis, wrote Commander Owsley that his post would immediately get in touch with the New York departments and offer its special facilities to insure that New York would raise more than any quota that could possibly be assigned it.

"It would be comparatively easy for us to raise \$100,000, or even several times that sum, by going to people whom we know can well afford to give large sums, such as \$5,000 or \$10,000, toward such a worthy cause," Mr. Damm wrote. "But we think the public wants to be in on this. Therefore our slogan will be something like this: 'A dime from everybody.' We'll get the newspapers to give us free advertising, news and editorial space for telling Mr. Public all about it. We'll put little boxes in every chain cigar-store and drug-store in the city. We'll tell the public the boxes are there and ask them to go in and deposit their dimes and other small change. We'll announce it from every stage in New York, and have the Boy Scouts pass around the little boxes. We'll get some of the theatrical stars to do some stunts for us in front of the Public Library, Times Square and City Hall Park and raise some money that way. Perhaps we'll get the Hippodrome for a Sunday benefit concert to top the whole matter off."

Additional assurance of cooperation was received from David



**ENGLISH GROUND BENEATH THE AMERICAN FLAG**

At Brookwood, in Surrey, England, lie 435 American troops, who died in various transport sinkings, or in English hospitals.

proper monuments and memorial buildings, properly designed and situated. He concludes:

There are hundreds of instances that demonstrate, when the artist has studied his site, as he has the deed or event that his conception is to represent, and made them all inseparable, that we get the wonderful result of magnificent art. Go back in the past as far as you will and you will find that the artist has not only written history in imperishable beauty, but has given life and soul to the faiths, aspirations, legions and personalities of the world.