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## The Rouen Post, March 1937

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# THE ROUEN POST

A PAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF ROUEN POST No. 242

WILLIAM STACK

Editor

NEXT REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1937.

ROUEN POST NO. 242, AMERICAN LEGION

CORONADO HOTEL 8:00 P. M.

ALL FUTURE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE CORONADO HOTEL

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## TWENTY YEARS AFTER

The men and women who served with Base Hospital No. 21 are invited to attend a reunion on May 14 and 15 at the Coronado Hotel in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Unit's departure from St. Louis. The reunion, under the auspices of Rouen Post No. 242, American Legion, will be featured by a dinner with special entertainment on Friday night, followed by a cocktail party on Saturday afternoon. The Coronado management will offer special rates for rooms to out-of-town members. These are advised to make reservations early, either through the hotel or through the executive committee of Rouen Post at 514 Commercial Building, St. Louis.

The Committee in charge of arrangements:

Col. Borden S. Veeder, Estella Claiborne, Retta Snyder, William C. Stack, Chairman; J. Edgar Stewart, Lee Pettit Gay, P. H. Byrns, Willard McQuoid, Charles Jablonsky, Philip Conrath and Arthur Melville.

## A GAVEL FROM BRASEL

During the February meeting of Rouen Post in the Hotel Kings-Way, a parcel post package from Hoopeston, Illinois was delivered to Commander Bill Engel. Fearing that it might be a bomb intended to arouse the Membership Committee, Engel handed the package to Depke who cautiously removed the string, placed an ear against the box, listened intently for a moment and then slowly removed the paper wrapping. The other members looked on in silence which was broken by a general sigh of relief as the "Jam King" pulled out a gavel of polished wood and an envelope containing a presentation note in verse. The donor was Glen Brasel, Athletic Director of the Hoopeston High School. Glen read of the disappearance of the original gavel and decided to contribute a new one. Due to Brasel's thoughtfulness Commander Engel will no longer jeopardize the dignity of the Chair by calling meetings to order with an empty beer bottle.

Members of Unite 21 remember Brasel as the fighting pedagogue who once traded punches with Frank (Jam King) Depke over the possession of an army tunic in Rouen. The battle ended when Depke severely bit his own right thumb during a flurry of infighting.

## PROBABLY CONVOY PARTY NO. 2

The sit-down strike made its debut in France but James Sallee claims that this novel method of protest was inspired by a group of American soldiers during the World War. According to Sallee, a native of Normandy conceived the idea after watching a Unit 21 convoy party on duty as stretcher bearers at General Hospital No. 12 in Rouen.

# THE ROUEN POST

## GOOD-BY-EE

Farewell testimonial from the British detachment of General Hospital No. 12, Rouen, France.

Colonel Veeder:

We, the undersigned, wish to thank you very kindly for the many considerations and favors you have shown us while attached to your hospital. It is our heartiest wish that the journey home will be pleasant and without mishap for yourself and officers, N. C. O.'s and men of the Unit.

Signed:

Corporal J. T. Ridley  
Durham Light Infantry

F. J. Milward  
Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry

T. P. Flynn  
Welsh Regiment

A. Tiley  
4th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment

D. Wilson  
Inniskilling Dragoons

Sergeant Herbert W. Pickering  
Royal Army Medical Corps

W. Phillips  
2nd Royal Berkshire Regiment

A. Walker  
6th Hussars

C. Barclay  
Royal Scotch Fusileers

A. M. Stanley  
Royal Artillery

R. Polaine  
Worcester Regiment

## THE ARMENIAN ZIEGFELD

Versatile is the word for Nushan. Since the days of his youth when he peddled diluted goat's milk and stale pistachio nuts to the followers of Allah in the crowded bazaars of the Near East, Arshav has turned from one task to another with surprising facility. An outstanding linguist, tap-dancer and trap-drummer, the colorful veteran of Unit 21 recently appeared in a new role, that of stage director for the Tower Grove Turners' annual revue and minstrel show which was presented at the Turners' Hall on the nights of January 30 and 31. Under Nushan's direction inexperienced dancing girls, black-face comedians and singers strutted their hour upon the stage with all the assurance and ability of seasoned performers and the show moved with pleasing precision from the opening number to the finale. A pantomime number in which peg-legged buccaneers quarreled over women while the chorus sang "Every Day is Ladies' Day With Me" was dedicated to Unit 21 as a compliment to several members of Rouen Post who attended the opening performance with their wives. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Melville, Mr. and Mrs. Ritchey Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Depke, Mr. and Mrs. William Stack and Mr. and Mrs. William Engel.

## SCHANUEL JOINS GARDNER ADVERTISING COMPANY

Arthur Schanuel, formerly a sergeant in Unit 21 and Mobile Hospital No. 4, has joined the Gardner Advertising Company in St. Louis. His activities will cover market development work in the home appliance and home modernizing fields in connection with the Gardner experimental kitchens.

Schanuel is a former president of the Advertising Club of St. Louis and past commander of St. Louis Post No. 4, American Legion. We wish success to this genial comrade of wartime days who brightened our darker musings in France by singing "Caroline," "Honey" and "Mary, You're a Little Bit Old-Fashioned."

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## RETROSPECTION



Noon hour in the laboratory of General Hospital No. 12. Grisel Grant, pretty Volunteer Aid Detachment chemist, reading aloud from a book of verse the winter sunlight on her auburn hair and a soft Scotch burr adding beauty to "The Lake Isle of Innisfree"

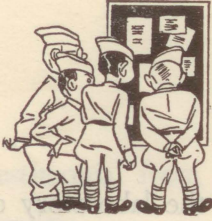
"I will arise and go now, for always night and day,  
I hear lake water lapping with low sound by the shore;  
While I stand on the roadway or on the pavement gray,  
I hear it in the deep heart's core."

Grisel served in hospitals at Boulogne and Marseilles after Unit 21 left Rouen and later joined the staff of a laboratory in Liverpool . . . . Joe Magidson gazing thoughtfully at a pan of bacteria "soup" simmering on a gas burner. Sergeant Jim Costen, lean Arkansas philosopher, peering over steel-rimmed spectacles at a faded Paragould newspaper salvaged from the packing in a case of owl eggs sent to Jim by the patriotic Mayor of that city.

"Bird" Bammann moaning low in the Quarter-master's office . . . Sergeant Roger Puckett passing the buck. "Don't blame me fellers—they's orders." The white-bearded Frenchman who sold contraceptives from a push cart and prided himself on his fluent use of English profanity . . . Holland Chalfant feigning nausea to escape ward duty—and getting away with it . . . The convivial super-salesman Arthur Schanuel, who, though often penniless, spent many jolly evenings in Rouen where he induced the publicans and sinners of that ancient city to sell him their wares on credit . . . Push-cart engineer Wendelburg and his owlish spectacles . . . Melvin Croissant sewing up British heroes in the Mortuary after they had been dissected in the interest of science.

The rudely awakened Frenchman who poured the aging contents of a slop-jar on a group of cognac-inspired Americans singing "Dear Old Girl" beneath his bed-room window in Lorient. Harold Jolley and Rex Hasgall reported among those to fight and much personal discomfort by the deluge . . . Cook Haralambas Bellios saluting four times in rapid succession when suddenly confronted by Brigadier General Hart who had arrived without warning to inspect General Hospital No. 12 . . . Jules Silberberg and his faithful scrubbing brush.





# THE ROUEN POST

## THE BULLETIN BOARD

### BYRNS SPEAKS ON FLOOD RELIEF

Pat Byrns, executive secretary of the St. Louis Red Cross Chapter, addressed the Jackson Park Parent Teachers' Association at their regular monthly meeting February 12. David (Lapin) Millar, Mayor of University City introduced Byrns who described the rescue work of the Red Cross in the flood area and explained the re-habilitation problem that follows emergency relief.

During Byrns' address Mayor Millar occupied a chair on the speaker's platform where he nibbled carrots from a paper bag and the monotonous crunch peculiar to the mastication of raw vegetables obviously unnerved the veteran Red Cross orator.

-AS I WAS SAYING, FOLKS



### BASE DETAILS



If I were fierce and bald and short of breath,  
I'd live with scarlet Majors at the Base,  
And speed glum heroes up the line to death  
You'd see me with my puffy petulant face,  
Guzzling and gulping in the best hotel,  
Reading the Roll of Honour. "Poor young chap,"  
I'd say—"I used to know his father well;  
Yes, we lost heavily in this last scrap."  
And when the war is done and youth stone dead,  
I'd toddle safely home and die—in bed.  
Siefried Sassoon.

The Rouen Post Membership Committee, refreshed by months of rest, has finally embarked on a vigorous campaign for back dues and new members.

Robert (Shorty) Richner has returned to Pixley, California after a brief visit in Clinton, Indiana.

Dr. Edwin C. Ernst, well known radiologist, and Joseph A. Lennon, Special Assistant Attorney General of Missouri, have added their names to the roster of Rouen Post.

Rouen Post No. 242, American Legion:

I enjoy the Rouen Post very much. Bill is doing fine work.

Regards to everyone,

DR. GEO. M. POLK, Independence, Mo.