

## Thanks and Good Will NEW YEAR'S GREETING

After a most successful holiday season we wish to thank our friends and customers and wish them one and all A Very Happy New Year--with peace restored.

--- E. D. SWIFT.

# SWIFT, SONS & Co.

## P. DODDS & SON

Wish All

# A HAPPY NEW YEAR

We take this opportunity of thanking our numerous customers for their liberal patronage during the year 1917 and solicit a continuance of the same during 1918.

"THE BEST GOODS AT THE  
LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES"

will still be our aim.

## FOR REAL HEROES

Uncle Sam's Great Military Prize,  
the Medal of Honor.

NOT WON BY MERE BRAVERY.

It Takes a Deed of Almost Superhuman Fearlessness to Gain This Coveted Badge, the Hardest to Win of All National War Decorations.

"Hardest to gain, fewest in numbers, the least known of the military decorations of honors of the world," sums up the medal of honor of the United States, the bit of ribbon and the piece of metal that are so eagerly coveted and highly prized by the soldiers and sailors of Uncle Sam.

When you see a man with the inconspicuous bronze star pinned to his coat by a blue ribbon on which are thirteen white stars you may know that he has done a deed that has placed his life in such jeopardy that escape from it was nearly a miracle.

The medal of honor was first authorized by congress in 1862 and was for noncommissioned officers and privates only. But in the following year the law was changed to extend the award to commissioned officers also. In all about 1,500 of the medals were presented for services in the war between the states, and it is a remarkable fact that 96 per cent of them went to private soldiers.

In its present form the medal of honor is a five pointed star with a medallion in the center bearing the head of Minerva and around it "United States of America" in relief. On each ray of the star is an oak leaf, and the points themselves are trefoil shaped. A laurel wreath in green enamel encircles the whole, and this wreath is surmounted by "Valor," which in turn is surmounted by an eagle that attaches the decoration to its ribbon.

Accompanying this medal there is a badge, or sash button, hexagonal and made of blue silk with the thirteen original stars in white. The army medal is represented by a small blue button studded with stars, while the navy medal is represented by a small red, white and blue bowknot.

It was not until 1897 that regulations definitely enunciating the conditions under which the medal should be awarded were promulgated. They emphasized the difficulty of winning the decoration and the great honor attaching to its possession.

"Medals of honor authorized by the act of congress approved March 3,

1893," say the regulations, "are awarded to officers and enlisted men in the name of congress for particular deeds of most distinguished gallantry in action. In order that the congressional medal of honor may be deserved, service must have been performed in action of such conspicuous character as to distinguish clearly the man for gallantry and intrepidity above his comrades, service that involved extreme jeopardy of life or the performance of extraordinarily hazardous duty. Recommendations for the decoration will be judged by this standard of extraordinary merit, and incontestible proof of performance of the service will be exacted.

"Soldiers of the Union have ever displayed bravery in battle, else victories could not have been gained. But as courage and self sacrifice are the characteristics of every true soldier, such a badge of distinction as the congressional medal is not to be expected as the reward of conduct that does not clearly distinguish the soldier above other men whose bravery and gallantry have been proved in battle."

In other words, the medal of honor is a medal for superheroes, for men who not only risk their lives in some extraordinary way, but who display such intelligence in the action that it stands out as something apart from conduct in the line of duty. Executive orders prescribe as follows the way in which the medal may be gained:

The recommendations must be presented by some one other than the proposed recipient, one who is personally familiar with all the facts and circumstances claimed as justifying the award, but the application may be made by the one claiming to have earned it, in which case it will be in the form of a deposition reciting a narrative description of the distinguished service performed. Recommendations will be made by the commanding officer at the time of the action or by a soldier or an officer having personal cognizance of the act for which the badge of honor is claimed.

The regulations also provide for exhaustive examination of the circumstances in each case and for an investigation that removes every possibility of fraud. Affidavits from witnesses are required, and the system safeguarding the distinction is hedged about with innumerable restrictions. It may be taken for granted that a man who secures one of the coveted medals has earned it with interest.

### Akron and Rubber.

There are thirty or more rubber factories in and around Akron. Three of them are so vast that the visitor feels a bewilderment that merges into awe as he follows his guide hour after hour through titanic shops. These three colossal plants are said to represent 70 per cent of Akron's life, while Akron itself stands for 60 per cent of the total rubber production of the United States.—Edward Mott Woolley in McClure's.

The only thing that walks back from the tomb with the mourners and refuses to be buried is character.—W. M. Bazet.

### An Isle of France.

The smallest dependency of France is the Ile d'Hoedie, situated at the east of Belle Isle. Its population is 238. The people do not speak French, but Celtic. Fishing is the principal industry and all the inhabitants are provided with food at an inn managed by women.

### No Shirker.

"Son, the president of your college writes me that you are not doing much in your studies."

"Don't let that depress you, dad," replied the husky youth. "Just drop a line to our coach and ask him about me."

### No Occasion For Alarm.

Briggs—I understand that you have hired our former cook. Griggs—Yes, but don't be alarmed. We intend to discount everything she tells us.

### Not Curious.

Doctor—What made that mule kick you? Patient—I may look foolish, but I am not fool enough to go back and ask him.

### Coal.

The earliest mention of coal is in the writings of Theophrastus, a Greek philosopher, who lived about 300 B. C.

No harm can befall a good man whether alive or dead.—Socrates.

### Good Advice.

"What did the doctor say when Tom shot off some of his digits fooling with a loaded pistol?"

"He thoughtfully told him he should remember that fingers are good things always to keep on hand."—San Francisco Chronicle.

### Making It Worse.

"Did you try counting sheep for your insomnia?"

"Yes, but it only made matters worse—the sheep reminded me of my butcher's bill."

## LOW BLOOD PRESSURE.

First Aid to Those Suffering From Hemorrhage or Shock.

One hears a great deal about the danger of high blood pressure, but not much about the danger of too low a pressure. Yet the latter may be very swiftly fatal. It results often from shock, as well as from severe loss of blood. But there is a very simple means of giving temporary relief, which every one should know, since such knowledge might often be the means of saving life.

A diastolic pressure of fifty millimeters is critical for the blood tends to accumulate in the abdomen, but death may be avoided if immediate means be taken to raise the arterial pressure. A late number of La Revue gives the following directions:

"The wounded person in whom arterial pressure is low should be placed immediately on an operating table heated by electricity, with his feet elevated for an hour or more some thirty millimeters (about one and one-quarter inches) higher than his head. If the diastolic pressure remains below eighty millimeters an injection of isotonic serum should be made and if necessary repeated. If the pressure does not remain sufficiently high after the second injection another injection is made of adrenalin into a vein, preferably a vein near the heel."

It will be noted that the first part of these directions can be carried out by any one—namely, the application of warmth and the raising of the patient's heels higher than his head. This is so important and so efficacious that the famous French physician and research scientist, Dr. Charles Richet, has made it a practice in his lectures to students to give them the striking object lesson of a dog which had been bled almost to the point of exhaustion, so that death was imminent, being instantly revived by this simple expedient of changing its position. When he was apparently dead while the head remained higher than the extremities, as soon as the head was lowered the waning life returned.

First aid to the injured, therefore, suffering from hemorrhage or shock is to place the victim on a mattress or bench and raise the feet slightly higher than the head.—Review of Reviews.

### Stepping Stones to Success.

Picture what you want.  
Visualize it.  
Dramatize it.  
Rehearse it.  
Make your mental picture clear.  
Focus your attention on it.  
See it over and over a thousand times.  
Improve it; empower it.  
Put your inspiration into it.  
Have dynamic interest in it.  
Awaken your sleeping genius.  
Expect success; laugh at failure.  
Be confident and poised.  
Rest in accomplishing.

### Sovereigns in Bolivia.

Bolivia has a strange connection with Great Britain in the fact that the English sovereign is the standard gold coin. This is minted from local gold at the capital of the country, La Paz, along with the Peruvian half sovereign, which also is legal tender. Although Bolivia is as yet quite a "new" country and has not had time to adopt a coinage of her own, she has found an opportunity of establishing state monopolies on alcohol, spirituous liquors and tobacco, rendering the prohibition of them at any time an easy matter.—London Chronicle.

### What Can Be Done in One Day.

"Every day is such a usual occurrence that its true significance does not come home to us," says a writer in the Woman's Home Companion. "We get so used to our days that we are blind to their universal possibilities."

"In the beginning one-sixth of the whole world was made in a day, yet how many of us feel that we can do one-sixth, or even one-hundredth, of all the things we ought to do in one day?"

"Within one day the battle of Waterloo and the battle of the Marne were won. How about all the days between? A man can change the fortune of his entire life in a day."

### Loading on the Job.

Mrs. Woman, are you married? If you are we wish you all of the happiness and the best of blessings a generous world can give you. But let us ask a bold question and probably offend you. We do not mean to be impolite. It is just the perversity of human nature to want to know if you married a lazy man—a man who talks in a loud voice about his back yard garden and lets his wife do all the work.

### Didn't Do It.

Flatbush—He's always knocking the married men.

Bensonhurst—Yes, I know it.

"Only a few years ago he told me he was just crazy to get married."

"That's right, but it seems he wasn't quite crazy enough."

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