

Fight! Fight! Fight! for Disabled, Word to Legion of Illinois

"Fight, fight, fight! The enthusiasm and sincerity of purpose, as shown at this time by the World war veterans in this state in enrolling their full strength in the American Legion will have a marked effect in efforts to pass legislation in the present session of congress on behalf of these veterans' disabled comrades," is the word just received from national headquarters of the Legion in Indianapolis, Ind.

The Illinois department of the Legion stands 20th among the other departments in the percentage of its 1930 membership enrolled, according to the latest figures recorded on the books of the national treasurer, James F. Barton, national adjutant, announced today.

The national organization believes a strong advance 1930 membership in each department will have a direct influence on the Senators and Congressmen from that department, in

the Legion's efforts to have additional hospital construction provided by congress. This construction is badly needed for the 5,543 mentally ill veterans who are now herded together in state institutions, including jails, because of a lack of government hospital facilities, recent Legion and Veterans' bureau surveys showed.

The situation regarding Legion legislation in the present session of congress is contained in a bulletin issued just before congress met, December 2, by John Thomas Taylor, vice chairman of the Legion's national legislative committee:

"As a rule, congress marks time in the three weeks preceding the holiday recess, usually planning its work for the serious business which begins in winter," he said. "This will not be the case with the Senate this time, however, due to the tariff revision measure, a tax reduction resolution and the Vare contest.

"The Legion's first legislative objective in the Senate will be an endeavor to secure the creation of a Veterans' committee, similar to the one in the House. Legislation affect-

ing the disabled has been considered in the Senate by a sub-committee of the finance committee, but this method has not been satisfactory and the Legion has requested the Senate to create a Veterans' committee.

"Our first legislative effort in the House will be to obtain a prompt report on the Rogers Bill by the House committee on World war veterans' legislation. This committee reported this bill favorably last winter during the short session, but the House leaders declined to allow a House vote upon it, and so the measure died with the session. The Rogers bill provided additional government hospital facilities to take care of the mentally ill veterans who are now failing to receive proper care."

A national membership roll call of all Legion departments by telegraph on December 31 has been determined up by O. L. Bodenhamer, national commander. All posts will be expected to report their membership strength to the department, either direct or by counties and districts, and the department will telegraph the total to national headquarters.

National Adjutant Barton expressed the hopes that every post in this department will have its full membership quota by December 31, and announced that a citation will be issued to those that do go over the top. Many, if not all, the posts are expected to win these citations.

Find Soldier Badly Hurt at Waukegan; Is Victim of Vamp Car

Found unconscious in the gutter at Belvidere and Jackson streets, Waukegan, late last week, Frank Lucas 46, a member of the Service Battery Third Field Artillery at Fort Sheridan, was reported in serious condition at the Lake County hospital, a victim, apparently, of a hit and run driver last Thursday.

Andrew Payunas, 822 Lincoln street, saw the man lying near the Shell filling station at that corner as he was on his way to work, and notified the police department. The man, unconscious, was taken to the county hospital where Dr. Karl M. Beck found that he had suffered from a skull fracture and internal injuries and his right ear was torn off.

At first, while still unidentified, it was believed that the man had accidentally fallen into a greasing pit at the filling station. There was a pool of blood in the bottom of the pit. A trail of blood showed that the man had partially gained consciousness, staggered out of the grease pit, around the filling station building and had collapsed in the driveway at the very edge of the street. From the amount of blood he had lost, the man had apparently been stretched out there for several hours.

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