

**THE LEGION**

(Continued from page 10)

the community a better place in which to live.

There is a greater service still which the American Legion can render to America and to humanity. It is to preserve and practice the basic principles upon which it is founded. Friendship and idealism are its twin virtues. Without these no great work can be done. Friendship translated into universal terms means brotherhood and idealism interpreted in the light of 1917, and 1917 means democracy. The Legion therefore is an instrument of brotherhood, a weapon of democracy. Brotherhood and democracy are the only things worth fighting and dying for—nay, more—the things in life worth living for. This is a statement of ideals, but they are practical ideals, to be proclaimed by The American Legion and practiced within its ranks and among all men.

Just as the men who now constitute The American Legion were once willing to die for the cause of humanity, they are now to be willing to live for our country and the world. In the doing of this the Legion will win its way into the hearts of Americans, and will merit the praise of humanity. Idealism, some will call this; but it was idealism which inspired our nation to perform miracles in 1917 and 1918.

Americanism means, I take it, the imparting to the minds and inculcating in the hearts of all who live under the flag, the traditions and the ideals of our beloved nation. Unfortunately it is not only the newly-arrived immigrant who needs to be taught the speech, the traditions, the noble ideals of the nation. There are in every community those who through long years have stood aloof from America. Accepting her protection, living in peace under her flag, waxing fat and sleek upon her wealth they have taken but have never learned to give. These must be taught that American freedom is no vaunted boast, but is a sacred heritage for which our fathers fought, and for which our comrades died. To these, Americans in name only, it is the right and duty of America to say "Ye must become Americans in ideals and aspirations or go back to the country from which you came." Americanizing America is a task that confronts all institutions, particularly this organization which stood for America in 1918 and since. The Legion is a force for law and order in every community. What a joy it should be to a community to know that it has a backbone of law respecters dwelling in its midst.

There remains a single thought which one would fain put aside, but

which he must face. The possibility of future war seems remote. So it did in 1914, but the greatest war of the ages came, and we could not avoid taking part. We Americans sincerely hope and devoutly pray that war clouds will never again hover over this our beloved land. May our children and our children's children to the third and fourth generation forget the meaning of war. But if our hopes for peace should be dissipated and we should find ourselves forced into a war, then for a quarter of a century more the most of us will still be young enough to answer once more the call of our country. Here is a nucleus around which an invincible army can be built. Standing as The American Legion does for peace; thankful as it is for the great conference on disarmament which is now drawing to a close, yet this our organization pledges its full strength to the protection of the land whose call we once answered and whose flag we are ever ready to protect.

Actually, as organized and constituted today, The American Legion is a great body of ex-service men banded together for the purpose of preserving the best it learned from the war. Just now its chief task is the

fulfilling its obligations of friendship to its comrades and their families who paid the heaviest price; who offered on freedom's altar the greatest sacrifice.

Potentially The American Legion is America's greatest organization for promoting peace and good will; its ideal agency for making America American; its surest safeguard against war.

Finally, if all else should fail and our country should find herself forced into a just war, there stands back of America, with America, for America—The American Legion.

THE POST CHAPLAIN

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in

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A Scream from Start to Finish

Thursday, June 22

MAY McAVOY in

"Through a Glass Window"

CHARLIE CHAPLIN  
in "SUNNYSIDE"

Friday—Saturday, June 23—24

CONWAY TEARLE

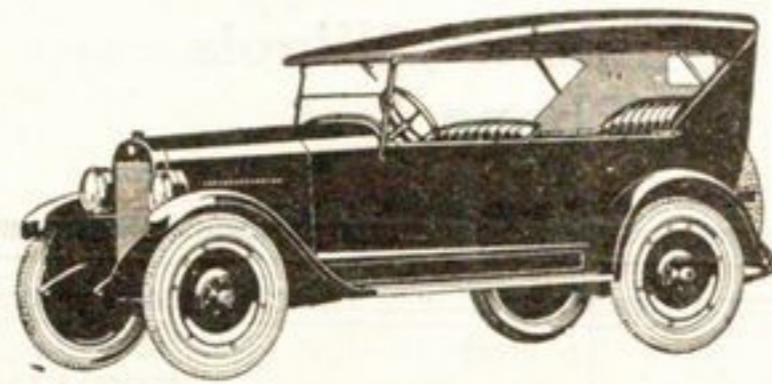
"Loves Masquerade"

FRIDAY

CHARLIE CHAPLIN

in

"SUNNYSIDE"

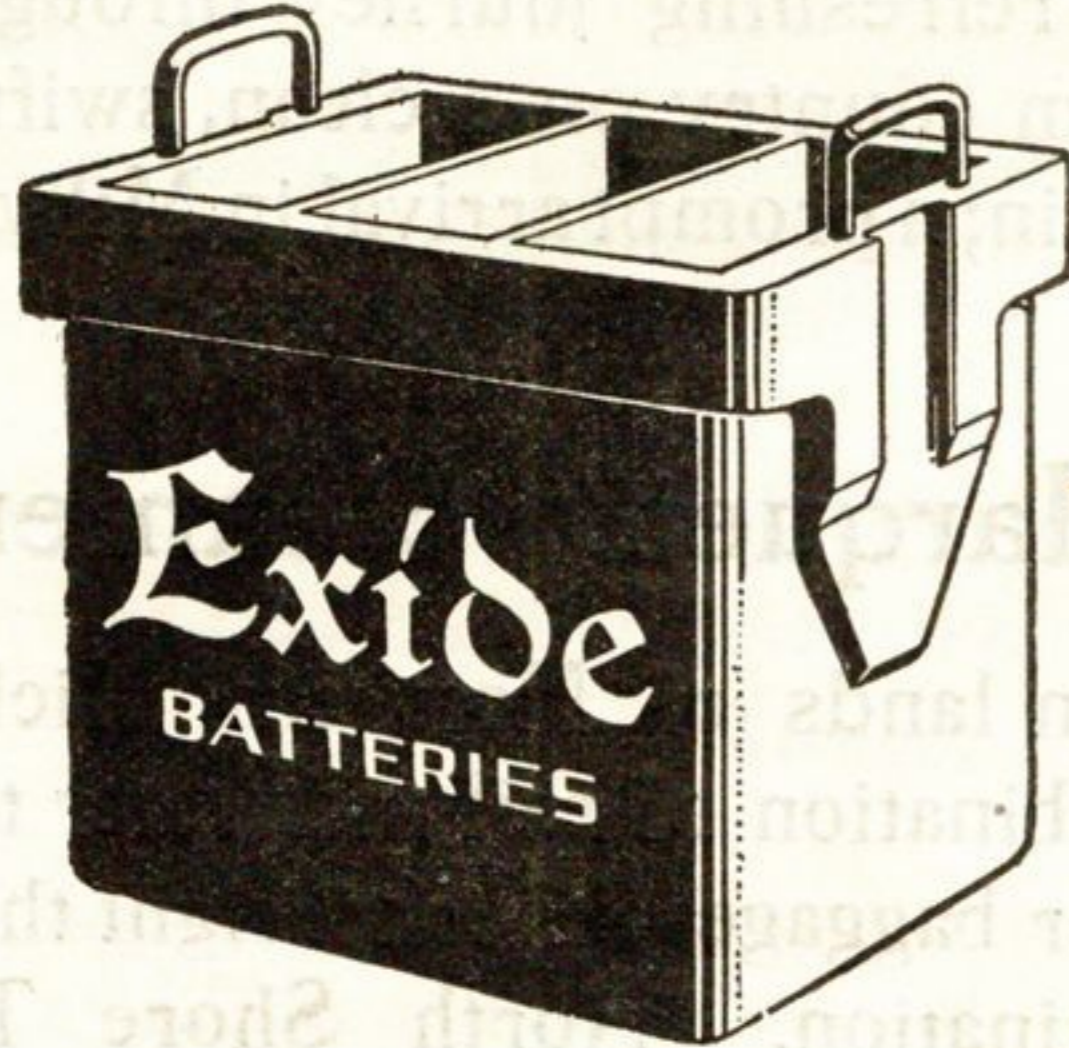


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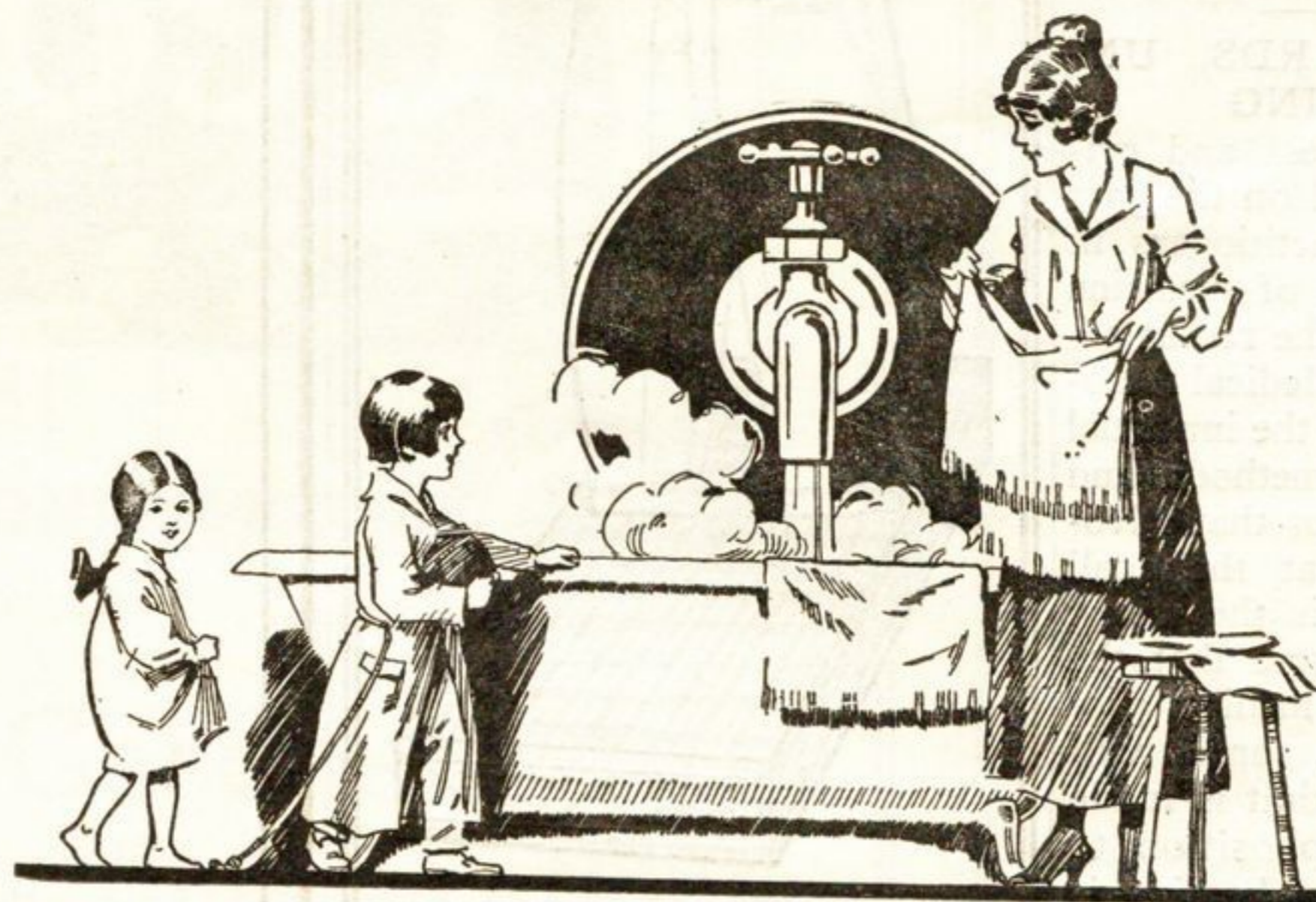
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