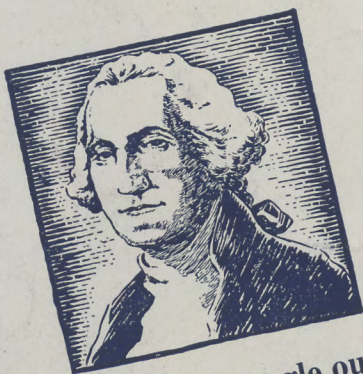
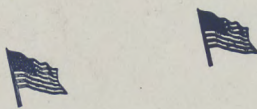


# The Jewish Veteran



“Why quit our own to stand upon foreign ground?—Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European ambition, Rivalship, Interest, Humour or Caprice?—’Tis our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world.”  
—George Washington.



“... that this Nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.”—  
Abraham Lincoln.



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*More than a Million Three Hundred Thousand*  
**BOY SCOUTS**

on February 8, 1940, the THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY of the founding of the  
Boy Scouts of America, rededicated themselves to

**THE TWELFTH SCOUT LAW**

"... A Scout is reverent, he is faithful in his religious duties, and  
respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion."

... *We heartily subscribe to this sentiment* ...

# DOWN... But Far from "Out!"

By JACK SHAPIRO

"Life is not what you think it ought to be, but what you make it," is the motto which pervades the room in which Gerber D. Schafer lies.

Who is Gerber Schafer? He is the world's champion exponent of courage, cheerfulness and charity. Within the confines of his room, are adventure, thrills, accomplishment. Although unable to move any part of his body, except his mouth and eyes, for twenty-one years, Schafer has achieved a world-wide reputation.

In 1918 young Schafer enlisted in the army. Physically handsome and well built with nerves of steel, Schafer was a "natural" for the Air Corps. After an apprenticeship, he was assigned to the 193rd Air Squadron, became a sergeant and ultimately an Aerial Gunnery Instructor. Shortly before the Armistice, while flying over Alabama, his plane cracked-up, and in the fall, so did Gerber Schafer's spine. After hovering between life and death for a long time, he finally "pulled through" but completely paralyzed.

For the past twenty years, he has been on his back in St. Joseph's Hospital, Reading, Pa. He has two nurses constantly in attendance; one his brother, Clifford, and the other, James Barrow. Since he cannot move his hands or legs, they must feed him and cater to his every physical requirement. He can read and talk when a telephone or microphone is held to his mouth.

With his incapacity, the average human would be inclined to write "finis" to his usefulness. But not Schafer. He says "I had rather live for five minutes than be dead for 1,000 years. Why? Because there is much work to be done. The opportunity to serve is here for all of us each day."

"Work"? "Serve"? You ask "what can a fellow do who is flat on his back in a hospital?" You'd be surprised! He is full of life—helpless, but not hopeless.

Let us step into his room. On a table is a small coin can and over it a sign reading "Three cents a day will help feed a Chinese child." What does he do with this money? He has already saved hundreds of Chinese children with the pennies collected in his room. One of his attendants shows you a letter of appreciation recently received from Madam Chiang Kai-Shek, which is printed in another column.

Next let us glance into the registry book of visitors. We find among his visitors, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Connie Mack, Grace Moore, Tony Galento, Edgar H. Burman, Rose Marie, Edgar Guest, Gene Autry, Leon T. Turou, Jack Dempsey, Ex-Governor Harold Hoffman, Governor James, Buddy Rogers, and hundreds of others of America's most distinguished citizens.

In the corner is a typewriter, donated by Abe Golden Post of the Jewish War Veterans of the U. S. During the course of a year, Schafer sends thousands of letters to all parts of the world. He has a mailing list of over 500 sick and disabled veterans,

November 20, 1939

Dear Sergeant Schafer:

*On behalf of the war orphans I want to thank you for the U. S. \$26 which you sent with your letter of November 11th. This money helps to give the children shelter and education.*

*I regret that, owing to the tremendous claims upon our strength, the Generalissimo cannot personally answer you.*

*Every atom of energy, time and capacity are employed day and night in trying to free our land from the scourge that descended upon us.*

*Just now cries of barbarities are coming from Europe. Perhaps they will become greater. But most appalling is the death and destruction which have been brought widespread upon us by invading Japanese.*

*Their bombers have been blowing up cities and villages, killing people wholesale, driving millions from their homes; nothing like it has ever occurred in the world.*

*Yet we unfortunate Chinese people have been immolated without cessation and without any effort of other governments to stop the orgy of slaughter which seems to be the head and front of the Japanese attack upon us.*

*Yours sincerely,*

MADAME CHIANG-KAI SHEK

*Chungking-Szechuan, China.*

mostly shut-ins, to whom he regularly sends his philosophy and good cheer. And Gerber's files are over-flowing with letters of hope and cheer from Presidents, Kings, Generals, and from the great and small from all parts of the world. Songs and poems galore have been written about him. Famous radio personalities frequently mention him over their programs. From that

little room in the hospital, his fame has spread around the world—a spirit of hope and cheerfulness. Two women volunteers, Miss Lynch and Mrs. James Schultz, visit him daily to write his letters and keep his records.

Does this "Cheerful Philosopher" as he is called do anything else?

Each Christmas he sells Christmas cards, and the money so raised through his friends and visitors, is used to make up 50 food baskets, which are distributed to 50 poor families.

Reading that a poor boy down South was hopelessly paralyzed, he started to save postage stamps. He accumulated 5,000 stamps on which he realized \$300.00 and bought a wheel chair for the little sufferer down South.

Two years ago the rivers in Pennsylvania and Ohio overflowed, causing disaster and damage. Schafer started a Flood Relief Campaign, and through radio and newspaper appeals collected large sums of money for food, clothing and medical supplies.

He read that some of the poor children in the schools were suffering from improper eyesight, but were too poor to purchase needed eyeglasses. Schafer raised \$50.00 and purchased the glasses.

Yes and Schafer indulges in hobbies—one of them is to send radio sets to shut-ins to all parts of the world.

St. Joseph's Hospital needed some modern operating equipment. Hearing about it, Schafer raised \$400.00 and the equipment was bought.

In 1939, he was appointed Chairman of the Salvation Army Drive. The goal was \$10,000. The drive went over the top with \$19,250.00.

Veteran organizations are his special pride. Laurelton, Pa., didn't have a Legion Post. Schafer not only organized a post, but raised funds to equip meeting quarters, and then organized a junior Drum and Bugle Corps and helped equip them.

A local post of the Disabled American

(Continued on page 16)



# THE Jewish Veteran

"THE PATRIOTIC VOICE OF AMERICAN JEWRY"

J. GEORGE FREDMAN • Editor

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

*"Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And, departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time.*

*"Footprints, that perhaps another,  
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, shall take heart again."  
—LONGFELLOW.*

In making the "J.W.V. Peace Award" to Dr. James C. Bryant—scientist, educator and humanitarian, we hope to focus attention on the forces which make for lasting Peace. Let us rather honor those who prevent wars, not those who make them. If and when man is civilized, we will honor those who save life, not those who kill; its Pasteurs, not its Napoleons.

At its recent National Executive Committee meeting, the "Sons of J.W.V." congratulated the Boy Scouts of America on their thirtieth birthday. The patriotic and spiritual of both organizations are practically alike. Both are worthy of our utmost support and cooperation.

Pres. Roosevelt recently remarked "we are all immigrants, or descendants of immigrants." From the number of "anti-immigration" bills now before Congress, many must have forgotten their own ancestry. Opposite the White House is "Lafayette Park." In this small park are monuments to four famous "immigrants"—General Lafayette, Gen. Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Baron Friedrich von Steuben and General Rochambeau.

This anti-alien hysteria has spread to several states where similar bills have been introduced. The Federal District Court recently declared the 1939 alien-registration law of Pennsylvania unconstitutional. Alien statistics have been grossly exaggerated. There has been talk of deporting seven million aliens employed in American industry. There are only 1,828,000 aliens all told employed in America. During the last two years only 104,000 immigrants have come to this country and they are of the "preference quota" type.

## Features - February, 1940

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	PAGE
DOWN—BUT FAR FROM "OUT"! <i>By Jack Shapiro, Commander, Abe Golden Post 170, Reading, Pa.....</i>	3
J.W.V. PRESENTS AMBULANCE TO FINLAND .....	5
MESSAGE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER <i>By Edgar H. Burman .....</i>	6
A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A DOCILE NAZI .....	7
THE DOCTOR KEPT A DIARY.....	8
MID-YEAR CONFERENCE .....	10
EDITORIALS .....	12
HARVARD PRESIDENT RECEIVES FIRST JEWISH WAR VETERAN "PEACE AWARD" .....	13
JEWISH NEWS AND VIEWS <i>By J. David Delman .....</i>	14
AMERICANISM ACTIVITIES OF KINGS COUNTY <i>By Archie H. Greenberg .....</i>	15
ON THE AMERICANISM FRONT....	17
WHAT IS THE "JEWISH PEOPLES COMMITTEE"? .....	18

There was built in Hamburg, run through the blockade and delivered this month to the Texas Petroleum Co. in New York, a huge tanker. Enough said? Efforts are still being made through our State Department to have Great Britain exempt certain non-contraband Nazi goods from the blockade. The Boycott is still on. And if you waver, try and think what is happening to Jews and Poles in Poland.

"The American is no soldier. The inferiority and decadence of this allegedly New World is evident in its military inefficiency."—Adolf Hitler.

April 6th, is the anniversary of America's entrance into the World War. In line with the purpose of all veteran organizations to "Keep America out of This War", why should it not be a good idea for veteran groups in every city to conduct parades and hold Americanism rallies "for Peace?" There is still time for proper preparations.

In view of the current showing of the movie "The Fighting 69th," the article "The Doctor Kept a Diary" is appropriate. Dr. Freiberger, a member of Manhattan Post No. 1, was attached to the Fighting 69th, and was personal physician and friend of Father Duffy. Dr. Freiberger kept a complete diary during his service, and we hope in the near future to have the doctor write for us some personal reminiscences of Father Duffy. Incidentally, J.W.V. posts in many cities where "The Fighting 69th" is being shown, have participated with other veteran groups in appropriate ceremonies for those valiant heroes of the 69th. While this regiment was predominantly Irish Catholic, there were not a few Jews in it, and one of its outstanding heroes was Sergeant Abe Blaustein.

The report by Archie H. Greenberg, Commander of our Kings County Council, won the National Commander's "Americanism Award" at our Mid-Year Conference in Cleveland. It shows an incredible amount of unselfish activity in the cause of Democracy and to further the purposes of J.W.V. It also gives insight into the operation and wide scope of the subversive movements, and some practical suggestions as to how they can be overcome. In an early issue, we will print the report from Sandy Weisberger Post, Scranton, Pa., which won the second prize.

February 18th to 24th is Brotherhood week. One of the greatest lessons ever given to humanity has been "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Everyone is willing to applaud in the abstract "brotherhood", "tolerance", "liberty", "justice." It's quite a transition from approving them in the abstract and putting them into actual practice. It seems that should be the main task of Brotherhood week.

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