

September 21, 1959

Mrs. Frank Medley
634 South 27th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska

Dear Mrs Medley:

This letter is in response to your telephone inquiry of today. Following is a list of the Civil War soldiers who received Medals of Honor and after the war lived in Nebraska.

"Johnston, David, Pvt. Co. K, 8th Mo. Inft. Vicksburg, Miss. 22 May 1863. Entered Service _____
Birth: _____ Date of issue: 16 Aug. 1884
Citation: Gallantry in the charge of the "volunteer storming party." Inscription on the back of medal as provided by son - "The Congress to Pvt. David Johnston, Co.K, 8th Mo. Vol., for Gallantry at Vicksburg, Miss. 22 May 1863. This man born at Shelock, Pa., resided at Central City, Nebraska

Prentice, Joseph R., Pvt. Co. E, 19th U.S. Infantry, Stone River, Tenn. 31 December 1862. Entered Service: _____
Birth: Lancaster, Ohio; Date of issue: 3 Feb. 1894
Citation: Voluntarily rescued the body of his commanding officer who had fallen mortally wounded. Buried in Catholic cemetery north of Hebron. Moved to Nebraska in 1900, lived originally in Sabetha, Kansas; died in Hebron, Nebraska in 1916. Mrs. Peter J. Seberger, Cozad, Nebraska was informant on August 4, 1952. She indicated he served under Gen. Meade and thought he received the medal for event during the Battle of Bull Run.

Traynor, Andres, Cpl. Co.D, 1st Michigan Cav. Civil War, at Masons Hill, Va., 16 March 1864. Entered service at Rome, New York. Birth: Newark, New Jersey. Date of issue: 28 September 1897. Citation: Having been surprised and

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captured by a detachment of guerrillas, this soldier, with other prisoners, sized the arms of the guard over them, killed two of the guerrillas and enabled all the prisoners to escape.

Vifquain, Victor (Civil War). Home in Crete, Nebraska, April 9, 1865

Widick, Andrew J., Pvt., Co. B., 116th Illinois Inft. at Vicksburg, Miss., 22 May 1863. Entered service: _____
Birth: Mason County, Ill. Date of issue: 11 August 1894. Citation: Gallantry in the charge of the Volunteer Storming Party." Resided at Bertrand, Phelps County, Nebraska "

The book The Medal of Honor of the United States Army, Washington 1948 contains the names of all the men who had won the medal to that date. The list of Civil War veterans included takes up one hundred pages (105-205) and is too long to be included in this letter. You are welcome to use the book in our library.

We are pleased to be of service to you.

Sincerely yours,

Donald F. Danker
Archivist

DFD:sls

-M-

November 14, 1969

✓ Dr. Eli R. Whitley
President, Medal of Honor Society
P.O. Box 5028
College Station, Texas 77840

Dear Sir:

We are interested in obtaining an official listing of the Nebraskans who have been recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor. It has been suggested that the Medal of Honor Society could supply us with the desired information. We are concerned with individuals who have won the Medal of Honor through service in Nebraska; native Nebraskans; and individuals who may have taken residence in the State following military service. We trust your organization will be helpful in supplying us with the above information. We will be looking forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Duane J. Reed
State Archivist
Nebraska State Historical Society

DJR/pp



NOV 26 1969

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CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR SOCIETY
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CHARTERED BY THE CONGRESS

OFFICE OF:
PRESIDENT

November 21, 1969

Mr. Duane J. Reed
State Archivist
Nebraska State Historical Society
1500 R Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Dear Mr. Reed:

The Congressional Medal of Honor is indeed happy to supply the information on the recipients of the Medal of Honor who entered the service from Nebraska or those who may have taken residence in the State.

These men are listed by war or campaign:

Indian Campaigns (1869)

Co-Rux-Te-Chod-Ssh (Mad Bear) U.S. Army

War with Spain (1898)

Ehle, John Walter U. S. Navy

Interim (1901-1911)

Schmidt, Otto Diller U.S. Navy

Action Against Outlaws, Philippines (1911)

Volz, Jacob U.S. Navy

World War I

Graves, Ora U.S. Navy

World War II

Bauer, Harold William	U.S. Marine Corps
Booker, Robert D.	U.S. Army
Hansen, Dale Merlin	U.S. Marine Corps
Parle, Hohn Joseph	U.S. Naval Reserve

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November 21, 1969
Mr. Duane J. Reed

Korean Campaign

*Kouma, Ernest R.	U.S. Army
Gomez, Edward	U.S. Marine Corps

Viet Nam

*Hagemeister, Charles Cris	U.S. Army
Hibbs, Robert John	U.S. Army

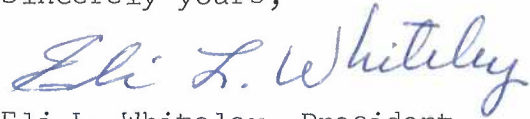
*Living recipients present addresses:

M/Sgt. Earnest R. Kouma
ARMC-Sp.Tp 2128
Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121

2 Lt. Charles C. Hagemeister
Co. C. 1st Bn. The USAMEDTC
Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234

If I can be of further service to you, please call on
me.

Sincerely yours,



Eli L. Whiteley, President
Congressional Medal of Honor Society

ELW/vm

Medal of Honor Winners
Accredited to the State of Nebraska

Nebraska State Historical Society

February 12, 1970

P R E F A C E

The following listing of recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor has been compiled pursuant to L.B. 1212 as passed during the Eightieth Session of the Nebraska Legislature which provides that Nebraskans awarded the Medal of Honor shall be named to the Nebraska Hall of Fame. Criteria for selection includes those individuals who have been awarded the Medal of Honor for service within Nebraska; native Nebraskans and individuals who have taken residence in the State prior to or following military service. Entries include the name, rank, and organization of the individual; citation for gallantry and an indication of the individual's relationship to Nebraska.

Available sources indicate that the list is complete. Problem areas include those individuals who may have resided in the State for a limited period of time and recipients of the Medal for service during the Civil War.

CIVIL WAR

BATES, DELAVAN Rank and Organization: Colonel, 30th United States Colored Troops. Citation: "Gallantry in action where he fell, shot through the face, at the head of his regiment." Aurora, Nebraska resident at one time.

BOURKE, JOHN G. Rank and Organization: Private, Company E, 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry in action." Omaha, Nebraska resident at one time.

FLANAGAN, AUGUSTIN Rank and Organization: Sergeant, Company A, 55th Pennsylvania Infantry. Citation: "Gallantry in the charge on the enemy's works: rushing forward with the colors and calling upon the men to follow him; was severely wounded." Tecumseh, Nebraska resident at one time.

HANKS, JOSEPH Rank and Organization: Private, Company E, 37th Ohio Infantry. Citation: "Voluntarily and under fire went to the rescue of a wounded comrade lying between the lines, gave him water, and brought him off the field." North Bend, Nebraska resident at one time.

JOHNSTON, DAVID Rank and Organization: Private, Company K, 8th Missouri Infantry. Citation: "Gallantry in the charge of the 'volunteer storming party.'" Central City, Nebraska resident at one time.

JOSSELYN, SIMEON T. Rank and Organization: First Lieutenant, Company C, 13th Illinois Infantry. Citation: "While commanding his company, deployed as skirmishers, came upon a large body of the enemy, taking a number of them prisoner. Lieutenant Josselyn himself shot their color bearer, seized the colors and brought them back to his regiment." Omaha, Nebraska resident at one time.

MILLER, JACOB C. Rank and Organization: Private, Company G, 113th Illinois Infantry. Citation: "Gallantry in the charge of the 'volunteer storming party.'" Springfield and Hastings, Nebraska resident at one time.

MILLER, JAMES P. Rank and Organization: Private, Company D, 4th Iowa Cavalry. Citation: "Capture of standard of 12th Mississippi Cavalry (C.S.A.)." York, Nebraska resident at one time.

PRENTICE, JOSEPH R. Rank and Organization: Private, Company E, 19th U.S. Infantry. Citation: "Voluntarily rescued the body of his commanding officer, who had fallen mortally wounded." Hebron, Nebraska resident at one time.

CIVIL WAR (Contd) Page 2

SHAPLAND, JOHN Rank and Organization: Private, Company D, 104th Illinois Infantry. Citation: "Voluntarily joined a small party that, under a heavy fire, captured a stockade and saved the bridge." Sutton, Nebraska resident at one time.

TRAYNOR, ANDREW Rank and Organization: Corporal, Company D, 1st Michigan Cavalry. Citation: "Having been surprised and captured by a detachment of guerrillas, this soldier, with other prisoners, seized the arms of the guard over them, killed two of the guerrillas, and enabled all the prisoners to escape." Omaha, Nebraska resident at one time.

VIFQUAIN, VICTOR Rank and Organization: Lieutenant Colonel, 97th Illinois Infantry. Citation: "Capture of flag." Crete, Nebraska resident at one time.

WIDICK, ANDREW J. Rank and Organization: Private, Company B, 166th Illinois Infantry. Citation: "Gallantry in the charge of the 'volunteer storming party.'" Elwood and Smithfield, Nebraska resident at one time.

• WILLIAMS, WILLIAM H. Rank and Organization: Private, Company C, 82d Ohio Infantry. Citation: "Voluntarily went beyond the lines to observe the enemy; also aided a wounded comrade." Schuyler, Nebraska resident at one time.

INDIAN CAMPAIGNS

BABCOCK, JOHN B. Rank and Organization: First Lieutenant, 5th United States Cavalry. Citation: "While serving with a scouting column, this officer's troop was attacked by a vastly superior force of Indians. Advancing to high ground, he dismounted his men, remaining mounted himself to encourage them, and there fought the Indians until relieved, his horse being wounded." Won medal for service at Spring Creek, Nebraska.

CANFIELD, HETH Rank and Organization: Private, Company C, 2d United States Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry in action." Won medal for service at Little Blue, Nebraska.

CO-RUX-TE-CHOD-ISH (Mad Bear) Rank and Organization: Sergeant, Pawnee Scouts, United States Army. Citation: "Ran out from the command in pursuit of a dismounted Indian; was shot down and badly wounded by a bullet from his own command." Born in Nebraska.

FOLEY, JOHN H. Rank and Organization: Sergeant, Company B, 3d United States Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry in action." Won medal for service at Loup Fork, Nebraska.

GRANT, GEORGE Rank and Organization: Sergeant, Company E, 18th United States Infantry. Citation: "Bravery, energy, and perseverance, involving much suffering and privation through attacks by hostile Indians, deep snows, etc., while voluntarily carrying dispatches." Nebraska resident at one time, North Platte and Frontier County.

HERRON, LEANDER Rank and Organization: Corporal, Company A, 3d United States Infantry. Citation: "While detailed as mail courier from the fort, voluntarily went to the assistance of a party of four enlisted men, who were attacked by about 50 Indians at some distance from the fort and remained with them until the party was relieved." St. Paul, Nebraska resident at one time.

HEYL, CHARLES H. Rank and Organization: Second Lieutenant, 23d United States Infantry. Citation: "Voluntarily, and with most conspicuous gallantry, charged with three men upon six Indians who were intrenched upon a hillside." Won medal for service at Ft. Hartsuff, Nebraska.

HIMMELSBACH, MICHAEL Rank and Organization: Private, Company C, 2d United States Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry in action." Won medal for service at Little Blue, Nebraska.

INDIAN CAMPAIGNS (Contd.) Page 2

HUBBARD, THOMAS Rank and Organization: Private, Company C, 2d United States Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry in action." Won medal for service at Little Blue, Nebraska.

^{J.}
LEONARD, PATRICK Rank and Organization: Sergeant, Company C, 2d United States Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry in action." Won medal for service at Little Blue, Nebraska.

^{T.}
LEONARD, PATRICK Rank and Organization: Corporal, Company A, 23d United States Infantry. Citation: "Gallantry in charge on hostile Sioux." Won medal for service at Ft. Hartsuff, Nebraska.

LOHNES, FRANCIS W. Rank and Organization: Private, Company H, 1st Nebraska Veteran Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry in defending Government property against Indians." Won medal for service at Gilmans Ranch, Nebraska.

LYTTON, JEPHTHA L. Rank and Organization: Corporal, Company A, 23d United States Infantry. Citation: "Gallantry in charge on hostile Sioux." Won medal for service at Ft. Hartsuff, Nebraska.

STRAYER, WILLIAM H. Rank and Organization: Private, Company B, 3d United States Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry in action." Won medal for service at Loupe Fork, Nebraska.

THOMPSON, GEORGE W. Rank and Organization: Private, Company C, 2d United States Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry in action." Won medal for service at Little Blue, Nebraska.

VOKES, LEROY H. Rank and Organization: First Sergeant, Company B, 3d United States Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry in action." Won medal for service at Loupe Forke, Nebraska.

WAR WITH SPAIN

EHLE, JOHN WALTER Rank and Organization: Fireman First Class, U.S. Navy. Citation: "On board the U.S.S. Concord off Cavite, Manila Bay, Philippine Islands, 21 May 1898. Following the blowing out of a lower manhole plate joint on boiler B of that vessel, Ehle assisted in hauling the fires in the hot, vapor-filled atmosphere which necessitated the playing of water into the fireroom from a hose." Born in Kearney, Nebraska.

MEREDITH, JAMES Rank and Organization: Private, U.S. Marine Corps. (Name changed to Patrick F. Ford, Jr.) Citation: "On board the U.S.S. Marblehead during the operation of cutting the cable leading from Cienfuegos, Cuba, 11 May 1898. Facing the heavy fire of the enemy, Meredith displayed extraordinary bravery and coolness throughout this action." Born in Omaha, Nebraska.

INTERIM 1901 TO 1911

SCHMIDT, OTTO DILLER Rank and Organization: Seaman, U.S. Navy.

Citation: "While serving on board the U.S.S. Bennington for extraordinary heroism displayed at the time of the explosion of a boiler of that vessel at San Diego, Calif., 21 July 1905." Born in Blair, Nebraska.

ACTION AGAINST OUTLAWS, PHILIPPINES 1911

VOLZ, JACOB Rank and Organization: Carpenter's Mate Third Class, United States Navy. Citation: "While attached to the U.S.S. Pampang, Volz was one of a shore party moving in to capture Mundang, on the island of Basilan, Philippine Islands, on 24 September 1911. Investigating a group of nipa huts close to the trail, the advance scout party was suddenly taken under pointblank fire and rushed by approximately 20 enemy Moros attacking from inside the huts and other concealed positions. Volz responded instantly to calls for help and, finding all members of the scout party writhing on the ground but still fighting, he blazed his rifle into the outlaws with telling effect, destroying several of the Moros and assisting in the rout of the remainder. By his aggressive charging of the enemy under heavy fire and in the face of great odds, Volz contributed materially to the success of the engagement." Born in Russia of German Ancestry.

WORLD WAR I

*Determined
not to
be a
Nebraska*

GRAVES, ORA Rank and Organization: Seaman, U.S. Navy. Citation: "For extraordinary heroism on 23 July 1917, while the U.S.S. Pittsburgh was proceeding to Buenos Aires, Argentina. A 3-inch saluting charge exploded, causing the death of C. T. Lyles, seaman. Upon the explosion, Graves was blown to the deck, but soon recovered and discovered burning waste on the deck. He put out the burning waste while the casemate was filled with clouds of smoke, knowing that there was more powder there which might explode." Accredited to Nebraska.

HOLDERMAN, NELSON M. Rank and Organization: Captain, 307th Infantry, 77th Division. Citation: "Captain Holderman commanded a company of a battalion which was cut off and surrounded by the enemy. He was wounded on 4 October, on 5 October, and again on 7 October, but throughout the entire period, suffering great pain and subjected to fire of every character, he continued personally to lead and encourage the officers and men under his command with unflinching courage and with distinguished success. On 6 October, in a wounded condition, he rushed through enemy machinegun and shell fire and carried two wounded men to a place of safety." Born in Trumbull, Nebraska.

RICKENBACKER, EDWARD V. Rank and Organization: First Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps, 94th Aero Squadron, Air Service. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy near Billy, France, 25 September 1918. While on a voluntary patrol over the lines, Lieutenant Rickenbacker attacked seven enemy planes (five type Fokker, protecting two type Halberstadt). Disregarding the odds against him, he dived on them and shot down one of the Fokkers out of control. He then attacked one of the Halberstadts and sent it down also. Omaha, Nebraska resident at one time.

WORLD WAR II

BAUER, HAROLD WILLIAM Rank and Organization: Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps. Citation: "For extraordinary heroism and conspicuous courage as Squadron Commander of Marine Fighting Squadron Two Hundred Twelve in the South Pacific Area during the period 10 May to 14 November 1942. Volunteering to pilot a fighter plane in defense of our positions on Guadalcanal, Colonel Bauer participated in two air battles against enemy bombers and fighters outnumbering our force more than two to one, boldly engaged the enemy and destroyed one Japanese bomber in the engagement of 28 September and shot down four enemy fighter planes in flames on 3 October, leaving a fifth smoking badly. After successfully leading 26 planes on an over-water ferry flight of more than 600 miles on 16 October, Colonel Bauer, while circling to land, sighted a squadron of enemy planes attacking the U.S.S. McFarland. Undaunted by the formidable opposition and with valor above and beyond the call of duty, he engaged the entire squadron and, although alone and his fuel supply nearly exhausted, fought his plane so brilliantly that four of the Japanese planes were destroyed before he was forced down by lack of fuel. His intrepid fighting spirit and distinctive ability as a leader and an airman, exemplified in his splendid record of combat achievement, were vital factors in the successful operations in the South Pacific Area." North Platte, Nebraska resident at one time.

BOOKER, ROBERT D. Rank and Organization: Private, 34th Infantry Division. Citation: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty in action. On 9 April 1943 in the vicinity of Fondouk, Tunisia, Private Booker, while engaged in action against the enemy, carried a light machinegun and a box of ammunition over 200 yards of open ground. He continued to advance despite the fact that two enemy machineguns and several mortars were using him as an individual target. Although enemy artillery also began to register on him, upon reaching his objective he immediately commenced firing. After being wounded he silenced one enemy machinegun and was beginning to fire at the other when he received a second mortal wound. With his last remaining strength he encouraged the members of his squad and directed their fire. Private Booker acted without regard for his own safety. His initiative and courage against insurmountable odds are an example of the highest standard of self-sacrifice and fidelity to duty." Born in Callaway, Nebraska.

COWAN, RICHARD ELLER Rank and Organization: Private First Class, Company M, 23d Infantry, 2d Infantry Division. Citation: "He was a heavy machine gunner in a section attached to Company I in the vicinity of Krinkelter Wald, Belgium, 17 December 1944, when that company was attacked by a numerically superior force of German infantry and tanks. The first six waves of hostile infantrymen were repulsed with

heavy casualties, but a seventh drive with tanks killed or wounded all but three of his section, leaving Private Cowan to man his gun, supported by only 15 to 20 riflemen of Company I. He maintained his position, holding off the Germans until the rest of the shattered force had set up a new line along a firebreak. Then, unaided, he moved his machinegun and ammunition to the second position. At the approach of a Royal Tiger tank, he held his fire until about 80 enemy infantrymen supporting the tank appeared at a distance of about 150 yards. His first burst killed or wounded about half of these infantrymen. His position was rocked by an 88-mm. shell when the tank opened fire, but he continued to man his gun, pouring deadly fire into the Germans when they again advanced. He was barely missed by another shell. Fire from three machine guns and innumerable small arms struck all about him; an enemy rocket shook him badly but did not drive him from his gun. Infiltration by the enemy had by this time made the position untenable, and the order was given to withdraw. Private Cowan was the last man to leave, voluntarily covering the withdrawal of his remaining comrades. His heroic actions were entirely responsible for allowing the remaining men to retire successfully from the scene of their last-ditch stand." Born in Lincoln, Nebraska.

HANSEN, DALE MERLIN Rank and Organization: Private, U.S. Marine Corps. Citation: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Company E, Second Battalion, First Marines, First Marine Division, in action against enemy Japanese forces on Okinawa Shima in the Ryukyu Chain, 7 May 1945. Cool and courageous in combat, Private Hansen unhesitatingly took the initiative during a critical stage of the action and, armed with a rocket launcher, crawled to an exposed position where he attacked and destroyed a strategically located hostile pillbox. With his weapon subsequently destroyed by enemy fire, he seized a rifle and continued his one-man assault. Reaching the crest of a ridge, he leaped across, opened fire on six Japanese and killed four before his rifle jammed. Attacked by the remaining two Japanese, he beat them off with the butt of his rifle and then climbed back to cover. Promptly returning with another weapon and supply of grenades, he fearlessly advanced, destroyed a strong mortar position and annihilated eight more of the enemy. In the forefront of battle throughout this bitterly waged engagement, Private Hansen, by his indomitable determination, bold tactics and complete disregard of all personal danger, contributed essentially to the success of his company's mission and to the ultimate capture of this fiercely defended outpost of the Japanese Empire. His great personal valor in the face of extreme peril reflects the highest credit upon himself and the United States Naval Service." Born in Wisner, Nebraska.

LINDSTROM, FLOYD K. Rank and Organization: Private First Class, 3d Infantry Division. Citation: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. On 11 November 1943, this soldier's platoon was furnishing machine-gun support for a rifle company attacking a hill near Mignano, Italy, when the enemy counterattacked, forcing the riflemen and half the machine-gun platoon to retire to a defensive position. Private Lindstrom saw that his small section was alone and outnumbered five to one, yet he immediately deployed the few remaining men into position and opened fire with his single gun. The enemy centered fire on him with machine gun, machine pistols, and grenades. Unable to knock out the enemy nest from his original position, Private Lindstrom picked up his own heavy machine gun and staggered 15 yards up the barren, rocky hillside to a new position, completely ignoring enemy small arms fire which was striking all around him. From this new site, only 10 yards from the enemy machine gun, he engaged it in an intense duel. Realizing that he could not hit the hostile gunners because they were behind a large rock, he charged uphill under a steady stream of fire, killed both gunners with his pistol and dragged their gun down to his own men, directing them to employ it against the enemy. Disregarding heavy rifle fire, he returned to the enemy machine-gun nest for two boxes of ammunition, came back and resumed withering fire from his own gun. His spectacular performance completely broke up the German counterattack. Private Lindstrom demonstrated aggressive spirit and complete fearlessness in the face of almost certain death." Born in Holdrege, Nebraska.

PARLE, JOHN JOSEPH Rank and Organization: Ensign, U.S. Naval Reserve. Citation: For valor and courage above and beyond the call of duty as Officer-in-Charge of Small Boats in the U.S.S. LST 375 during the amphibious assault on the island of Sicily, 9-10 July 1943. Realizing that a detonation of explosives would prematurely disclose to the enemy the assault about to be carried out, and with full knowledge of the peril involved, Ensign Parle unhesitatingly risked his life to extinguish a smoke pot accidentally ignited in a boat carrying charges of high explosives, detonating fuses and ammunition. Undaunted by fire and blinding smoke, he entered the craft, quickly snuffed out a burning fuse, and after failing in his desperate efforts to extinguish the fire pot, finally seized it with both hands and threw it over the side. Although he succumbed a week later from smoke and fumes inhaled, Ensign Parle's heroic self-sacrifice prevented grave damage to the ship and personnel and insured the security of a vital mission. He gallantly gave his life in the service of his country." Born in Omaha, Nebraska.

POWERS, LEO J. Rank and Organization: Private First Class, United States Army, 133d Infantry, 34th Infantry Division. Citation: "For

conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. On 3 February 1944, this soldier's company was assigned the mission of capturing Hill 175, the key enemy strong point northwest of Cassino, Italy. The enemy, estimated to be at least 50 in strength, supported by machineguns emplaced in 3 pillboxes and mortar fire from behind the hill, was able to pin the attackers down and inflict 8 casualties. The company was unable to advance, but Private First Class Powers, a rifleman in one of the assault platoons, on his own initiative and in the face of the terrific fire, crawled forward to assault one of the enemy pillboxes which he had spotted. Armed with two hand grenades and well aware that if the enemy should see him it would mean almost certain death, Private First Class Powers crawled up the hill to within 15 yards of the enemy pillbox. Then standing upright in full view of the enemy gunners in order to throw his grenade into the small opening in the roof, he tossed a grenade into the pillbox. At this close, the grenade entered the pillbox, killed two of the occupants and three or four more fled the position, probably wounded. This enemy gun silenced, the center of the line was able to move forward again, but almost immediately came under machinegun fire from a second enemy pillbox on the left flank. Private First Class Powers, however, had located this pillbox, and crawled toward it, with absolutely no cover if the enemy should see him. Raising himself in full view of the enemy gunners about 15 feet from the pillbox, Private First Class Powers threw his grenade into the pillbox, silencing this gun, killing another German and probably wounding three or four more who fled. Private First Class Powers, still acting on his own initiative, commenced crawling toward the third enemy pillbox in the face of heavy machine-pistol and machine-gun fire. Skillfully availing himself of the meager cover and concealment, Private First Class Powers crawled up to within 10 yards of this pillbox, fully exposed himself to the enemy gunners, stood upright and tossed the two grenades into the small opening in the roof of the pillbox. His grenades killed two of the enemy and four more, all wounded, came out and surrendered to Private First Class Powers, who was now unarmed. Private First Class Powers had worked his way over the entire company front, and against tremendous odds had singlehandedly broken the backbone of this heavily defended and strategic enemy position, and enabled his regiment to advance into the city of Cassino. Private First Class Powers' fighting determination and intrepidity in battle exemplify the highest traditions of the Armed Forces of the United States." Born in Anselmo, Nebraska.

TOMINAC, JOHN J. Rank and Organization: First Lieutenant, United States Army, Company I, 15th Infantry, 3d Infantry Division. Citation: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty on 12 September 1944, in an attack on Saulx de Vesoul, France, Lieutenant Tominac charged alone over 50 yards of exposed terrain onto an enemy roadblock to dispatch a three-man crew of German machinegunners with a single burst from his Thompson machine-gun. After smashing the enemy outpost, he led one of his squads

Private First Class Powers, however, had located this pillbox, and crawled toward it, with absolutely no cover if the enemy should see him. Raising himself in full view of the enemy gunners about 15 feet from the pillbox, Private First Class Powers threw his grenade into the pillbox, silencing this gun, killing another German and probably

in the annihilation of a second hostile group defended by mortar, machinegun, automatic pistol, rifle, and grenade fire, killing about 30 of the enemy. Reaching the suburbs of the town, he advanced 50 yards ahead of his men to reconnoiter a third enemy position which commanded the road with a 77-mm. SP gun supported by infantry elements. The SP gun opened fire on his supporting tank, setting it afire with a direct hit. A fragment from the same shell painfully wounded Lieutenant Tominac in the shoulder, knocking him to the ground. As the crew abandoned the M-4 tank, which was rolling down hill toward the enemy, Lieutenant Tominac picked himself up and jumped onto the hull of the burning vehicle. Despite withering enemy machinegun, mortar, pistol, and sniper fire, which was ricocheting off the hull and turret of the M-4, Lieutenant Tominac climbed to the turret and gripped the 50-caliber antiaircraft machine gun. Plainly silhouetted against the sky, painfully wounded, and with the tank burning beneath his feet, he directed bursts of machinegun fire on the roadblock, the SP gun, and the supporting German infantrymen, and forced the enemy to withdraw from his prepared position. Jumping off the tank before it exploded, Lieutenant Tominac refused evacuation despite his painful wound. Calling upon a sergeant to extract the shell fragments from his shoulder with a pocket knife, he continued to direct the assault, led his squad in a hand-grenade attack against a fortified position occupied by 32 of the enemy armed with machineguns, machine pistols, and rifles, and compelled them to surrender. His outstanding heroism and exemplary leadership resulted in the destruction of 4 successive enemy defensive positions, surrender of a vital sector of the city of Saulx de Vesoul, and the death or capture of at least 60 of the enemy." Lincoln, Nebraska resident at one time.

TREADWELL, JACK L. Rank and Organization: Captain, United States Army, Company F, 180th Infantry, 45th Infantry Division. Citation: "Captain Treadwell (then First Lieutenant), commanding officer of Company F, near Nieder-Wurzbach, Germany, in the Siegfried line, singlehandedly captured 6 pillboxes and 18 prisoners. Murderous enemy automatic and rifle fire with intermittent artillery bombardments had pinned down his company for hours at the base of a hill defended by concrete fortifications and interlocking trenches. Eight men sent to attack a single point had all become casualties on the bare slope when Captain Treadwell, armed with a submachinegun and hand grenades, went forward alone to clear the way for his stalled company. Over the terrain devoid of cover and swept by bullets, he fearlessly advanced, firing at the aperture of the nearest pillbox and, when within range, hurling grenades at it. He reached the pillbox, thrust the muzzle of his gun through the port, and drove four Germans out with their hands in the air. A fifth was found dead inside. Waving these prisoners back to the American line, he continued under terrible, concentrated fire to the next pillbox and took it in the same manner. In this fort he captured the commander of the hill defenses, whom he

sent to the rear with the other prisoners. Never slackening his attack, he then ran across the crest of the hill to a third pillbox, traversing this distance in full view of hostile machinegunners and snipers. He was again successful in taking the enemy position. The Germans quickly fell prey to his further rushes on three more pillboxes in the confusion and havoc caused by his whirlwind assaults and capture of their commander. Inspired by the electrifying performance of their leader, the men of Company F stormed after him and overwhelmed resistance on the entire hill, driving a wedge into the Siegfried line and making it possible for their battalion to take its objective. By his courageous willingness to face nearly impossible odds and by his overwhelming one-man offensive, Captain Treadwell reduced a heavily fortified, seemingly impregnable enemy sector." Omaha, Nebraska resident at one time.

THE KOREAN CONFLICT

GOMEZ, EDWARD Rank and Organization: Private First Class, United States Marine Corps, Reserve, Company E, 2d Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division (Reinforced). Citation: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as an ammunition bearer in Company E, 2d Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea on 14 September 1951. Boldly advancing with his squad in support of a group of riflemen assaulting a series of strongly fortified and bitterly defended hostile positions on Hill 749, Private First Class Gomez consistently exposed himself to the withering barrage to keep his machinegun supplied with ammunition during the drive forward to seize the objective. As his squad deployed to meet an imminent counterattack, he voluntarily moved down an abandoned trench to search for a new location for the gun and, when a hostile grenade landed between himself and his weapon, shouted a warning to those around him as he grasped the activated charge in his hand. Determined to save his comrades, he unhesitatingly chose to sacrifice himself and, diving into the ditch with the deadly missile, absorbed the shattering violence of the explosion in his own body. By his stouthearted courage, incomparable valor, and decisive spirit of self-sacrifice, Private First Class Gomez inspired the others to heroic efforts in subsequently repelling the outnumbering foe, and his valiant conduct throughout sustained and enhanced the finest traditions of the United States naval service. He gallantly gave his life for his country." Born in Omaha, Nebraska.

KOUMA, ERNEST R. Rank and Organization: Master Sergeant, United States Army, Company A, 72d Tank Battalion. Citation: "Master Sergeant Ernest R. Kouma (Service No. RA7060531) (then Sergeant First Class), United States Army, a tank commander in Company A, 72d Tank Battalion, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Agok, Korea, on 31 August and 1 September 1950. His unit was engaged in supporting infantry elements on the Naktong River front. Near midnight on 31 August, a hostile force estimated at 500 crossed the river and launched a fierce attack against the infantry positions, inflicting heavy casualties. A withdrawal was ordered and his armored unit was given the mission of covering the movement until a secondary position could be established. The enemy assault overran two tanks, destroyed one, and forced another to withdraw. Suddenly Sergeant Kouma discovered that his tank was the only obstacle in the path of the hostile onslaught. Holding his ground, he gave fire orders to his crew and remained in position throughout the night, fighting off repeated enemy attacks. During one fierce assault, the enemy surrounded his tank and he leaped from the armored turret, exposing himself to a hail of hostile fire, manned the .50 caliber machinegun mounted on the rear deck, and delivered point-blank fire into the fanatical foe. His machinegun emptied, he fired

his pistol and threw grenades to keep the enemy from his tank. After more than 9 hours of constant combat and close-in fighting, he withdrew his vehicle to friendly lines. During the withdrawal through 8 miles of hostile territory, Sergeant Kouma continued to inflict casualties upon the enemy and exhausted his ammunition in destroying three hostile machinegun positions. During this action, Sergeant Kouma killed an estimated 250 enemy soldiers. His magnificent stand allowed the Infantry sufficient time to reestablish defensive positions. Rejoining his company, although suffering intensely from his wounds, he attempted to resupply his tank and return to the battle area. While being evacuated for medical treatment, his courage was again displayed when he requested to return to the front. Sergeant Kouma's superb leadership, heroism, and intense devotion to duty reflect the highest credit on himself and uphold the esteemed traditions of the Army of the United States." Born in Dwight, Nebraska.

THE VIETNAM CONFLICT

HAGEMEISTER, CHARLES CRIS Rank and Organization: Specialist 5 (then Specialist 4), United States Army, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). Citation: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. While conducting combat operations against a hostile force in Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam, Specialist Hagemeister's platoon suddenly came under heavy attack from three sides by an enemy force occupying well concealed, fortified positions and supported by machine guns and mortars. Seeing two of his comrades seriously wounded in the initial action, Specialist Hagemeister unhesitatingly and with total disregard for his own safety, raced through the deadly hail of enemy fire to provide them medical aid. Upon learning that the platoon leader and several other soldiers also had been wounded, Specialist Hagemeister continued to brave the withering enemy fire and crawled forward to render lifesaving treatment and to offer words of encouragement. Attempting to evacuate the seriously wounded soldiers, Specialist Hagemeister was taken under fire at close range by an enemy sniper. Realizing that the lives of his fellow soldiers depended on his actions, Specialist Hagemeister seized a rifle from a fallen comrade, killed the sniper, three other enemy soldiers who were attempting to encircle his position and silenced an enemy machine gun that covered the area with deadly fire. Unable to remove the wounded to a less exposed location and aware of the enemy's efforts to isolate his unit, he dashed through the fusillade of fire to secure help from a nearby platoon. Returning with help, he placed men in positions to cover his advance as he moved to evacuate the wounded forward of his location. These efforts successfully completed, he then moved to the other flank and evacuated additional wounded men despite the fact that his every move drew fire from the enemy. Specialist Hagemeister's repeated heroic and selfless actions at the risk of his own life saved the lives of many of his comrades and inspired their actions in repelling the enemy assault. Specialist Hagemeister's conspicuous gallantry and indomitable courage are in the highest traditions of the United States Armed Forces and reflect great credit upon himself." Born in Lincoln, Nebraska.

HIBBS, ROBERT JOHN Rank and Organization: Second Lieutenant, United States Army, Company B, 2d Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division. Citation: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. Lieutenant Hibbs was in command of a fifteen-man ambush patrol of the 2d Battalion, 28th Infantry when his unit observed a company of Viet Cong advancing along the road toward the 2d Battalion's position. Informing his command post by radio of the impending attack, he prepared his men for the oncoming Viet Cong, emplaced two mines in their path and, when the insurgents were within twenty feet of the patrol's position, he fired the two anti-personnel mines, wounding or killing half of the enemy company. Then, to cover the withdrawal of his patrol, he threw hand

grenades, stepped onto the open road, and opened fire on the remainder of the Viet Cong force of approximately fifty men. Having rejoined his men, he was leading them toward the Battalion perimeter when the patrol encountered the rear elements of another Viet Cong company deployed to attack the Battalion. With the advantage of surprise, he directed a charge against the Viet Cong which carried the patrol through the insurgent force, completely disrupting its attack. Learning that a wounded patrol member was wandering in the area between the two opposing forces and although moments from safety and wounded in the leg himself, he and a sergeant went back to the battlefield to recover the stricken man. After they maneuvered through the withering fire of two Viet Cong machine guns, the sergeant grabbed the dazed soldier and dragged him back toward the friendly lines while Lieutenant Hibbs remained behind to provide covering fire. Armed with only an M-16 rifle and a pistol, but determined to destroy the enemy positions, he then charged the two machine gun emplacements and was struck down. Before succumbing to his mortal wounds, he destroyed the starlight telescopic sight attached to his rifle to prevent its capture and use by the Viet Cong. Lieutenant Hibbs' conspicuous gallantry, his profound concern for his fellow soldiers, and his intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty are in the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country." Born in Omaha, Nebraska.

YOUNG, GERALD O. Rank and Organization: Captain, United States Air Force, 37th ARS DaNang AFB, RVN. Citation: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Captain Young distinguished himself on 9 November 1967 while serving as a Helicopter Rescue Crew Commander in Southeast Asia. Captain Young was flying escort for another Helicopter attempting the night rescue of an Army ground reconnaissance team in imminent danger of death or capture. Previous attempts had resulted in the loss of two helicopters to hostile ground fire. The endangered team was positioned on the side of a steep slope which required unusual airmanship on the part of Captain Young to effect pickup. Heavy automatic weapons fire from the surrounding enemy severely damaged one rescue helicopter, but it was able to extract three of the team. The commander of this aircraft recommended to Captain Young that further rescue attempts be abandoned because it was not possible to suppress the concentrated fire from enemy automatic weapons. With full knowledge of the danger involved, and the fact that supporting helicopter gunships were low on fuel and ordnance, Captain Young hovered under intense fire until the remaining survivors were aboard. As he maneuvered the aircraft for takeoff, the enemy appeared at point-blank range and raked the aircraft with automatic weapons fire. The aircraft crashed, inverted, and burst into flames. Captain Young

escaped through a window of the burning aircraft. Disregarding serious burns, Captain Young aided one of the wounded men and then attempted to lead the hostile forces away from his position. Later, despite intense pain from his burns, he declined to accept rescue because he had observed hostile forces setting up automatic weapons positions to entrap any rescue aircraft. For more than 17 hours he evaded the enemy until rescue aircraft could be brought into the area. Through his extraordinary heroism, aggressiveness, and concern for his fellowman, Captain Young reflected the highest credit upon himself, the United States Air Force, and the armed forces of his country." Lincoln, Nebraska resident at one time.

ADDITIONS TO MEDAL OF HONOR LIST - NEBRASKA

CIVIL WAR

HENRY, CUY V. Rank and Organization: Colonel, 40th Massachusetts Infantry. Citation: "Led the assaults of his brigade upon the enemy's works, where he had two horses shot under him." Served at Fort Robinson, Nebraska.

INDIAN CAMPAIGNS

DAY, MATTHIAS W. Rank and Organization: Second Lieutenant, 9th United States Cavalry. Citation: "Advanced alone into the enemy's lines and carried off a wounded soldier of his command under a hot fire and after he had been ordered to retreat." Served at Fort Robinson, Nebraska

STANCE, EMANUEL Rank and Organization: Sergeant, Company F, 9th United States Cavalry. Citation: "Gallantry on scout after Indians." Served at Fort Robinson, Nebraska.

VIETNAM CONFLICT

COKER, RONALDL. Rank and Organization: Pfc, M Co, 3rd Battalion, 3rd, Marine Division. Citation: "Private First Class Ronald L. Coker...ran across a fire swept area to aid a wounded marine. Although painfully wounded, he silenced several enemy positions and later absorbed the blast of a grenade to protect his disabled comrade. He then continued to move the injured marine toward safety before dying of his wounds." Born in Alliance, Nebraska.

FOUS, JAMES W. Rank and Organization: Pfc. U.S. Army. Citation: "Pfc. Fous and three other riflemen had formed a defense perimeter for the night while on a reconnaissance mission. Pfc. Fous detected three Viet Cong maneuvering toward his position and after alerting the other men, directed accurate fire upon the enemy, silencing two of them. The third Viet Cong soldier managed to escape in the thick vegetation after throwing a hand grenade into Pfc. Fous's position. Without hesitation, Pfc. Fous shouted a warning to his comrades and leaped upon the lethal explosive, absorbing the blast with his own body to save the lives of the three men in the area at the sacrifice of his own life." Resident of Omaha, Nebraska.

KEITH, MIGUEL Rank and Organization: Lance Corporal, 3rd Marine Amphibious Force. Citation: "Lance Corporal Keith was wounded seriously when his unit was attacked by a large force of North Vietnamese troops. Despite his wounds, Lance Corporal Keith crossed a fire-swept area to check vital defensive positions and then, exposed to view, delivered a hail of machine gun fire to stop an attack against the command post. He was severely wounded again by a grenade blast but charged more than two dozen enemy troops who were massing to attack, eliminating four of them and causing the remainder to flee for cover. He was mortally wounded by an enemy soldier while breaking up the attack." Resident of Omaha, Nebraska.

KERREY, JOSEPH R. Rank and Organization: Lieutenant (j.g.), Seal Team One, U.S. Navy. Citation: "Lieutenant Kerrey led his team on a mission to capture important members of the Viet Cong local political cadre. To surprise the Viet Cong, Kerrey had his team scale a 350 foot sheer cliff to place themselves above the ledge on which the enemy was located. He then split the team into two elements and coordinated both as he led them in a treacherous downward descent to the Viet Cong Camp. As they neared the end of their descent, intense enemy fire was directed toward Kerrey's own element. He suffered massive injuries from a grenade which exploded near his feet and threw him backward onto jagged rocks. Although bleeding profusely and in great pain, Kerrey immediately directed his elements fire into the enemy camp. He then radioed the second element to launch their attack which caught the Viet Cong in a devastating cross fire. The confused enemy quit and surrendered. Although immobilized by his multiple wounds and barely conscious, Kerrey continued to maintain control as he ordered his team to secure and defend a withdrawal site. He continued to direct his men until evacuated by helicopter." Lincoln, Nebraska Resident.

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Burial Records of Civil War Veterans in Nebraska, Grand Army of the Republic. (Originals, Nebraska Adjutant General, microfilm copies, State Archives, Nebraska State Historical Society).

Newspaper Collection, State Archives, Nebraska State Historical Society.

Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska, City Directories, The Library, Nebraska State Historical Society.

State and County Histories of Nebraska, The Library, Nebraska State Historical Society.

Medal of Honor 1863-1968, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, 1968.

NEBRASKA RECIPIENTS OF CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR

CIVIL WAR

Bates, Delavan, July 30, 1864
Bourke, John G., December 31, 1862
Flanagan, Augustin, September 29, 1864
Hanks, Joseph, May 22, 1863
Henry, Guy V., June 1, 1864
Johnston, David, May 22, 1863
Josselyn, Simeon T., November 25, 1863
Miller, Jacob C., May 22, 1863
Miller, James P., April 2, 1865
Prentice, Joseph R., December 31, 1862
Shapland, John, July 2, 1863
Traynor, Andrew, March 16, 1864
Vifquain, Victor, April 9, 1865
Widick, Andrew J., May 22, 1863
Williams, William H., July 20, 1864

INDIAN CAMPAIGNS

Babcock, John B., May 16, 1869
Canfield, Heth, May 15, 1870
Co-Rux-Te-Chod-Ish (Mad Bear), July 8, 1869
Day, Matthias W., September 18, 1879
Foley, John H., April 26, 1872
Grant, George, February, 1867
Herron, Leander, September 2, 1868
Heyl, Charles H., April 28, 1876
Himmelsback, Michael, May 15, 1870
Hubbard, Thomas, May 15, 1870
Leonard, Patrick, May 15, 1870
Leonard, Patrick, April 28, 1876
Lohnes, Francis W., May 12, 1865
Lytton, Jeptha L., April 28, 1876
Stance, Emanuel, May 20, 1870
Strayer, William H., April 26, 1872
Thompson, George W., May 15, 1870
Vokes, Leroy H., April 26, 1872

WAR WITH SPAIN

Ehle, John W., May 21, 1898
Meredith, James, May 11, 1898

INTERIM 1901 TO 1911

Schmidt, Otto D., July 21, 1905

ACTION AGAINST OUTLAWS, PHILIPPINES 1911

Volz, Jacob Jr., September 24, 1911

WORLD WAR I

Graves, Ora, July 23, 1917

Holderman, Nelson M., October 2-8, 1918

Rickenbacker, Edward V., September 25, 1918

WORLD WAR II

Bauer, Harold W., May 10 to November 14, 1942

Booker, Robert D., April 9, 1943

Cowan, Richard E., December 17, 1944

Hansen Dale M., May 7, 1945

Lindstrom, Floyd K., November 11, 1943

Parle, John J., July 9-10, 1943

Powers, Leo J., February 3, 1944

Tominac, John J., September 12, 1944

Treadwell, Jack L., March 18, 1945

KOREAN CONFLICT

Gomez, Edward, September 14, 1951

Kouma, Ernest R., August 31 and September 1, 1950

VIETNAM CONFLICT

Coker, Ronald L., March 24, 1969

Fous, James W., May 14, 1968

Hagemeister, Charles C., March 20, 1967

Hibbs, Robert J., March 5, 1966

Keith, Miguel, May 8, 1970

Kerrey, Joseph R., March 14, 1969

Young, Gerald O., November 9, 1967

Magazine Memo—

Three Added to Medal List

THANKS to the sharp eyes and historical files of our readers, we've learned that 22 persons who resided in Nebraska have been winners of the Medal of Honor.

You may recall that two weeks ago, on the occasion of the Medal's centennial, we carried a story of 19 Nebraskans whose bravery we were able to verify from newspaper, library and military records.

We asked readers to supply us with information, and we've added three more names to the list. A fourth, Buffalo Bill, received the Medal, then later was deprived of it.

Assault

OLIVER ROBERTS, retired executive vice-president of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce and a history buff, tells of Henry Sivel, who as a lieutenant led the Second Maryland Infantry in an assault on the works of Petersburg, Va., on June 30, 1864, during the Civil War.

Sivel later changed his name to Henry Mathews and as Mr. Mathews lived in Lincoln for a number of years.

Louis A. Holmes, a Grand Island lawyer, writes that Leander Herron of St. Paul, Neb., won the Medal for bravery in the Indian wars in September, 1868, while a corporal with the Army's Third Infantry at Fort Dodge, Kans.

His daughter, Mrs. Hildred Mead, now in her eighties, still lives in St. Paul.

Defense

FROM Lieut. John D. Mixsell, Jr., of Sixteenth Corps Headquarters, Omaha, comes word of Capt. Nelson M. Holderman of Trumbull, Neb., who served with the Seventy-seventh Division in France in World War I.

Captain Holderman participated in an attack in the Argonne Forest early in October, 1918. Wounded four or

five times, his unit cut off by the Germans, the captain jumped into the open and with his pistol firing point blank at the enemy, inspired a defense until the unit was rescued.

He was awarded the Medal in 1921, as a major.

Indian Giving

NEBRASKA'S own William F. (Buffalo Bill) Cody was given the Medal of Honor along with four other civilian scouts for gallantry in fighting Indians in the 1870's.

But some 40 years later, in 1916, Congress restricted award of the Medal to armed forces personnel and Buffalo Bill's Medal was rescinded.

We're grateful for the information, which for the first time compiles a Nebraska history of its most gallant heroes.

Mosaic

AS THE Lenten season nears its climax this Palm Sunday, we offer several religious features, the most striking of which is Terence R. Duren's cover painting of "The Triumphal Entry Into Jerusalem."

Mr. Duren has depicted the subject as an ancient Byzantine artist might have done.

"Early Christian artists did not apply rules of perspective," explains Mr. Duren. "With a direct and highly sensible feeling for design, they emphasized their center of interest by depicting it larger, or at a higher level. They also chose an unrealistic method of having all figures face the viewer."

"When such pictures were made of thousands of small pieces of jewel-like enamels set into a mosaic of gold-fired porcelains or glass, they created a brilliantly dazzling effect of great richness, splendor and time-defeating permanence."

The finished product is a triumph in fine arts.

Hollis Limprecht,
Editor, Magazine of the Midlands.

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

EIGHTIETH SESSION

Legislative Bill 1212

Introduced by Eugene T. Mahoney, 5th District and Bill K.

Bloom, 20th District

Read first time February 17, 1969

Referred to Committee on Miscellaneous Subjects

Sent to printer February 18, 1969

A BILL

FOR AN ACT to amend section 72-728, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, relating to the Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission; to provide that Nebraskans awarded the Medal of Honor shall be named to the Hall of Fame; and to repeal the original section.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. That section 72-728, Reissue Revised

2 Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

3 72-728. ~~The~~ (1) *Except as provided in subsection*
4 *(2) of this section, the Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission*
5 *shall not name more than two persons to the Nebraska Hall*
6 *of Fame during the first two years after June 22, 1961,*
7 *and not more than one person each two years thereafter.*
8 ~~No~~ , and no individual shall be named to the Nebraska Hall
9 of Fame until after his demise.

10 (2) *Notwithstanding the limitations imposed by*
11 *subsection (1) of this section, the commission shall name*
12 *to the Hall of Fame each Nebraska resident awarded the*
13 *Medal of Honor as a result of his service in the armed*
14 *forces of the United States.*

Sec. 2. That original section 72-728, Reissue

2 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, is repealed.

NEBRASKANS INCLUDED IN LIST OF NATION'S HEROES

Since the Congressional Medal of Honor was authorized by Congress in 1862, the award has been granted to more than 3,200 Americans of the millions who have served in this country's armed forces. Records available in the files of the Nebraska State Historical Society indicate that as many as 39 individuals with Nebraska connections have been honored. This number includes native Nebraskans, persons who lived in Nebraska, and persons who won the Medal for service in Nebraska.

At least five Nebraskans were honored for service in the Civil War. Considering the large number of Medals awarded in that conflict, and the number of veterans who later settled in the state, this list could doubtlessly be increased were records available.

The Indian Wars during the 1860's and 1870's accounted for some 16 Medals of Honor, awarded for gallantry in various engagements with hostile Indians in Nebraska. This number includes one medal awarded to a Pawnee Indian who served with Frank and Luther North in the Pawnee Scouts, and two medals won by the same soldier, Patrick Leonard. Leonard received his medals for separate actions against Indians in 1870 and 1876.

One Nebraskan was honored for valor above and beyond the call of duty during peacetime, a rare occurrence, and two others received Medals for service in the Far East prior to the First World War. By this time, winners of the Congressional Medal of Honor included Nebraskans who had served in the several branches of the armed forces.

The First World War saw two Nebraska service men receive the nation's highest award, and the Second World War added at least nine more names to the roll of the nation's most honored. Two Medal recipients during the Korean War, and three during the Vietnam Conflict have resulted in the present total of 39.

Legislative Bill 1212, recently introduced in the Nebraska Unicameral, would further recognize Nebraska's heroes by providing that each resident receiving the Congressional Medal of Honor will be named to the Nebraska Hall of Fame.

Following is a list of all known Nebraska recipients. The Society would be glad to receive information regarding other Nebraskans who may have won this award.

CIVIL WAR

Johnston, David
Prentice, Joseph R.
Traynor, Andrew
Vifquain, Victor
Widlick, Andrew J.

INDIAN WARS

Babcock, John B.
Canfield, Heth
Co-Rux-Te-Chod-Ish (Mad Bear)
Foley, John H.
Herron, Leander
Heyl, Charles H.
Himmelsback, Michael
Hubbard, Thomas
Leonard, Patrick (2)
Lounes, Francis W.
Lytton, Septha L.

Strayer, William H.
Thompson, George W.
Vokes, Leroy H.

PEACETIME

Schmidt, Otto D.

FAR EAST

Ehle, John W.
Volz, Jacob Jr.

WORLD WAR I

Graves, Ora
Holderman, Nelson M.

WORLD WAR II

Booker, Robert D.
Bauer, Harold W.
Cowan, Richard E.
Hansen, Dale M.
Lindstrom, Floyd K.
Merideth, James
Parle, John J.
Powers, Leo
Tominac, J. J.
Treadwell, Jack

KOREA

Gomez, Edward
Kouma, Ernest

VIETNAM

Hagemeister, Charles C.
Hibbs, Larry J.
Young, Gerald O.