

HOPES FOR HARMONY
AMONG STATE V. F. W.



COL. SAMUEL J. SMITH.

COL. S. J. SMITH
WILL HEAD STATE
FOREIGN WAR VETS

Elected Over Louis Zebley
at Annual Meeting
Saturday.

MEDALS PRESENTED

Colonel Samuel James Smith, 69, of Newark, past national chaplain of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a U. S. Army chaplain, retired, was elected commander of the Provisional State Department of Delaware, V. F. W., Saturday afternoon.

Colonel Smith was elected by a margin of two votes, after which it was made unanimous. The other contestant was Louis W. Zebley, commander of Memorial Post, retiring State adjutant. The vote was 24 to 22. Following the election there was an expression by some of the members that with Colonel Smith as State Commander there will be closer harmony.

Colonel Smith has seen service in three wars. He is a past post commander and a member of the J. Allison O'Daniel Post, No. 475, V. F. W., Newark.

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COL. S. J. SMITH WILL HEAD STATE FOREIGN WAR VETS

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Other officers elected were State Representative William F. Rupp, member of J. Allison O'Daniel Post, senior vice-commander, George M. Bailey, member of Wilmington Memorial Post No. 2084, junior vice-commander, Raymond Meece, of J. Allison O'Daniel Post, quartermaster, Edmund L. Parker, Post 615, Wilmington, chaplain, C. A. Schindler of Memorial Post, judge advocate, Dr. J. B. Rutherford, of Memorial Post, surgeon, and George Keenan, Wilmington, Council of Administration. The encampment was held in the headquarters of the Memorial Post, Law Building, Ninth and Market Sts.

James F. McFarlin, assistant adjutant general of the national organization, V. F. W., presented retiring State Commander Paul Podolsky with a past commander's medal. George M. Bailey, retiring quartermaster of the State Department and Lewis Zebley, retiring State Department adjutant, were presented with gold V. F. W. medals as a token of appreciation for their work in the department. The presentation was made by James E. Van Sant, national junior vice-commander-in-chief. The installation of the new officers was made by Commander Van Sant, assisted by Past Commander Podolsky. Brief addresses were made by Benjamin Bradford, Homer C. Kinsler and L. Victor E. Devereaux, of Fort Du Pont. S. Leroy Layton spoke on co-operation among the various posts.

The State V. F. W. Medal of Valor was presented by Mr. McFarlin to George W. Russell, Jr., 16 years old, member of Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church Boy Scout Troop, of near Centreville. Russell saved William McLoughlin, five-year-old boy, last summer from drowning in the lake at Noxentown, near Middletown.

The retiring officers of the Delaware Department are Commander Podolsky, J. Harold Harrington, senior vice-commander, Newark, Edward L. Parker, junior vice-commander, Wilmington, George M. Bailey, Wilmington, quartermaster, Colonel Smith, chaplain, Dr. J. R. Downes, Newark, department surgeon, William P. Rheuby, Wilmington, judge advocate. Resolutions urging Congress to favor the soldiers' bonus were adopted at the meeting, to be sent to the national encampment, to be held in Sacramento, Calif., August 28.

Announcement was made today of the appointment of Victor E. Devereaux, as Adjutant General of the Department of Delaware. Other officers will be named later.

Colonel Smith was born in London, England, December 13, 1863, the son of Joseph and Helen Smith. He was educated in public and private schools of Amsterdam, N. Y. He also took a three year course in the Sprague Correspondence School of Law, Detroit, and in 1889 was graduated from the Revere Lay College and Bible Institute. He was with the U. S. N. as an apprentice and attained the rank of chief petty officer in the U. S. Revenue Cutter Service. He also was a student pastor of the Baptist Church at Halifax, Vt.

He was a representative in the Vermont State Legislature in 1900. He served as chaplain in the U. S. Army in the Philippines for three years of duty from 1901 to 1913, visiting Hawaii, China and Japan and in 1916 was promoted to rank of major by selection and later to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He retired August 23, 1923.

He is a past national chaplain of the Army of the Philippines and of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also is a Knight Templar and a third second degree Mason and a member of A. A. O. N. M. S. He resides at 222 South College Ave., Newark.