July Tours -Victor Tours July 2, 1937



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MEN OF COURAGE, THESE

AN times of war when the whole nation is organized for a single purpose, when emotions are fired and patriotism is at its highest pitch young men fight and die for their country on the field of battle. Some of them distinguish themselves for their bravery that is even above and beyond the call of duty, and we decorate them with medals or erect monuments to their memory.

For years there have been within our very borders enemies potentially worse than a regiment of enemy soldiers. Gangsters were beginning to take hold of our very government; crime was organized and open; bandits lurked in densely populated regions as well as along the highways and byways. It appeared that the very foundation of law and order was challenged by criminals and outlaws. They would kill and escape, and apparently our enforcement agencies were unable or unwilling to cope with the situation.

But there came a force of able young detectives, the Federal Agents. They have listed the public enemies by rink, and followed their trail over the country and shot it with them. Al Capone is in prison for many years to come, John Dillinger, Pretty Boy Floyd and many others of them are dead, and hundreds are in prison for long terms. Of the big names in crime, few remain to challenge the law of the land and organized society.

A few days ago on an Illinois road two Federal agents, Samuel Cowley and Hillis, trailing the car of the then No. 1 public enemy, George "Baby Face" Nelson, spotted the hunted car. They swung around ahead of it, blocked the highway, and the battle was on. Machine guns blazed out and two of the aces of the Department of Justice were wiped out. But before they were killed they had ended the career of Nelson. His bullet riddled body was found shortly afterward where it was thrown by companions in their escape.

We maintain it takes a high degree of courage and loyalty to purpose for Federal Agents to go up against such desperate criminals and public enemies. Cowley and Hillis died for the safety of your business and mine, your home and mine, your country and mine. Their bravery deserves all the recognition given the greatest here of warting

all the recognition given the greatest hero of wartime.

Perhaps it would be well to erect a monument on the spot of this historic battle for an everlasting reminder to future generations that in this day and age there lived men with courage enough to end the crime careers of Dillinger, Floyd and Nelson, even if it required the supreme sagnifice.

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