

OUR BOYS WITH THE COLORS

News Letters, and Stories of Our Soldiers and Sailors in France, In the Training Camps, On the High Seas, and Everywhere Gallant American Fighters Are Found.

James McGill of Meridian has just received a letter from Homer Choate, of Co. I, 126 Infantry, now in France where the aeroplanes hum and the cannon roar. He says, "One can hear the report of the airplane machine guns, and the shrapnel of the anti-aircraft guns make an awful roar. I wish you could hear one of Fritz's big shells land. We have got so now we can tell just about where one is going to land by the whistling sound as they travel through the air. I thought before I went to the front there would be no fun at all but it is much different."

When the first shell comes over in the morning, some guy will say, "Good morning, Fritz"; and when one comes close it's "Better luck next time, Fritz." And all such foolish stuff. A fellow's nerves are like iron, and he doesn't care what happens. We have four ways of looking at things. This is the way they run: If we get hit with a natural, then all our troubles are over. If we are lucky enough to get seriously wounded, then we go back across the pond. If we get a slight wound, then it's a nice rest in the hospital. If no wound at all, then we see plenty of action and still come home. How much more can a man ask for?

We carry our gas mask all the time. The children around here carry one to school. It is one of their best friends. Of the gas mask, the gun and the shovel, I find the latter the best friend, for it is quite necessary to "dig in" at times. We sure look like pack mules when we start out on a hike with everything we own, amounting to 75 pounds, on our backs. We are sure welcome any place in France. I saw four real American women Sunday. It sure surprised me for they are the first I have seen since I came over here.

Well Jim, I have been in another big drive. We drove them back 21 miles. We gave them a run for their life, and they are sure good runners. But you can't blame them for keeping clear of the Yanks, for the Yanks are certainly "all there" when it comes to open warfare. I served in the trenches several times. That's a slow way of fighting.

Say, Jim give me Alec McAllister's address. I may have a chance to run over to Ireland before I go back to the States."

I am now working in the Aviation General Supply Depot Infirmary (A. G. S. D. I.) for short. It is also known as the Red Cross Infirmary. I am in charge tonight, and as there isn't much doing, I am writing letters. There was a general review of the whole field today. I did not see it, but our doctor (Lieut. Miller) watched it, and he says it was fine. The doctor said he did not know the medical boys were so well drilled. The nurses also took part in it. I got a letter from Bill Flick recently. He mentioned meeting Norris Young and says other Wilsonville boys are not far away. He also said he had a card from Ira. I saw a good flying stunt this afternoon. The aviator was flying upside down—and diving! I like to watch those birds."—E. M. White, Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. White have received letters the past week from their sons Victor and Ira, at Contres, France. The latter writes that he has not seen "Butch" (Carl Haman) for months, as he went to the front soon after the 7 arrived. "I have heard of him several times and he is all right. Time has never passed so quickly for me (as during the last two years). I wish I could have been with you to take part in the work, and I believe that I will be by this time next year, for things look better every day. You can see that by the paper just as quickly as we do."

"Our band is coming along fine. We are very near 50 men strong. We do lots of playing and it is by no means an easy day's work. I don't see much of Vic lately. His company has moved away four kilometers (2½ miles)."

Letters from Leslie Grazer at Camp A. A. Humphreys, Virginia, say that he has again been transferred to Co. B, 216th U. S. Engineers and that his whole company may be sent to California to drill recruits and form the nucleus for several companies of engineers, nearly all his company having been made noncoms, for drill purposes.

A Clackamas county soldier boy has sent home the following from the address of a major general to the American soldiers of a famous fighting division. The name of the general and the division, the war department regulations forbid us to publish. The address follows, in part:

To the officers and men of the— Division, France, August 13: "A year has elapsed since the formation of your division. It is, therefore, fitting to consider what you have accomplished as a combat division and what you should prepare to accomplish in the future. You first entered the trenches in Lorraine where you served at the front 110 days. You were the first American division to hold a divisional sector, and so conducted yourselves as to win the respect and affection of the French veterans with whom you served. Under gas and bombardment, in raids, in patrols, in the heat of hand to hand combat and in the long dull hours of trench routine, so trying to soldiers of spirit, you bore yourselves in a manner worthy of the best traditions of your country."

You were withdrawn from Lorraine to go immediately to the Champagne front where during the critical days from July 14 to July 18. You had the honor of being the only American division to fight in General Gouraud's army which so gloriously obeyed his order, "WE WILL STAND OR DIE", and by its iron defense crushed the German assault and made possible the offensive of July 18 to the west of Reims.

From Champagne you were called to take part in exploiting the success north of the Marne. Fresh from the battle front before Chalons, you were thrown against the picked troops of Germany. For eight consecutive days, you attacked skillfully prepared positions. You captured great stores of arms and munitions. You forced the crossing of the Ouarq. You took hill 212, Serpy, Meurcy, Ferme and Serings by assault. You drove the enemy, including an imperial guard division before you for a depth of fifteen kilometers. When your infantry was relieved, it was in full pursuit of the retreating Germans. And your artillery continued to progress and support another American division in the advance to the Vesle.

For your services in Lorraine your division was formally commended in General Orders by the French Army Corps under which you served. For your services in Champagne, your assembled officers received the personal thanks and commendations of General Gouraud himself. For your services on the Oureq your division was officially complemented in a letter from the commanding General, 1st Army Corps of July 28, 1918.

To your success, all ranks and all services have contributed, and I desire to express to every man in the command my appreciation of his devoted and courageous effort.

However, our positions places a burden of responsibility upon us which we must strive to bear steadily forward without faltering. TO OUR COMRADES WHO HAVE FALLEN, WE OWE THE SACRED OBLIGATION OF MAINTAINING THE REPUTATION WHICH THEY DIED TO ESTABLISH. The influence of our performance on our allies and our enemies cannot be over estimated for we were one of the first divisions sent from our country to France to show the world THAT AMERICANS CAN FIGHT.

Hard battles and long campaigns lie before us. Only by ceaseless vigilance and tireless preparations can we fit ourselves for them. I urge you, therefore, to approach the future with confidence but above all with firm determination that so far as it is in your power you will spare no effort whether in training or in combat to maintain the record of our division and the honor of our country.

Sergt. Victor White writes of a field meet in August at Contres between the French and the Americans. He says, "The Yanks won everything in sight, as is their habit, when mixed up in field meet or even in a fight. x x x Last Sunday some of us took a magazine and a book or two and wandered off into a shady meadow and spent the rest of the day reading. I nearly get homesick every time I see that place. It looks exactly like Pudding River bottom on the Colvin and Muecke places. I wrote to Geo. McFarland the other day when I had a few spare moments."

Allen White this week received a letter from Henry Colvin who is now at Hong Kong, China, on the U. S. S. Villalobos. His address, however is Shanghai, China. He tells about baseball and foot ball between ship teams and Hong Kong nines. He also deals out philosophy on autos, tractors, caterpillars, and the necessity for girls on the farm. He expresses his willingness to be a farmer on the latter condition, writing in a lighter vein that is, nevertheless, full of good sense and shrewd reasoning.

Ernest E. Keesling writes from Camp Fremont to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Keesling, Route 1, Aurora that he is getting along fine. He says, "I am about through with the range—made a score of 230. This is a first class private, so you see that is pretty good. Had I made 8 more hits, I would be a sharp-shooter, but 230 hits out of 300 is pretty good, with a big rifle and little practice. I am going to a signal school, which teaches part of the work of every company. Ten of our company (and myself) are attending. We learn the Morse Code in many different ways—by wire, lights, rockets flags, wireless and so on. I am to act as scout, carrying messages, etc. They call it the "suicide club." But there are no snaps in the army, and I prefer this to using the bayonet. We are going to leave here, I think, about Oct. 5, but don't know where for. I will write you again before I leave."

Corp. Ira White writes from France September 10 that it had been raining for 10 days—regular hop picking weather, but his quarters are good, in a modern French house, with a fire place! In another letter he states that he has received a card from "Bill" Flick who is getting along fine. Also received a letter from Clarence Eid of Canby. He writes also that some of his company had met men and nurses from Oregon from various Valley towns, and that it was a great pleasure to see them and talk with them. Victor White is now stationed 10 miles out from Contres.

The Sunday Journal carried a story by Fred Lockley, which related how Russell O. Higginbotham, formerly of this place, is making good with Base Hospital No. 46, in France.

PUBLIC SALE

I will sell at Public Auction at my Aurora residence, on Saturday, October 12, 1918, Commencing at 2 p. m. the following described property:

- 2 Sofas
- 10 Chairs
- 2 Rockers
- 1 Baby's high chair
- 3 Heating stoves
- 1 Folding iron cot
- 1 Chiffonier
- 1 Bureau
- 1 Round dining table
- 2 Book cases
- 1 Bed and springs
- 1 Perfection oil heater
- 2 Rugs—art squares—9x9
- 1 Rug—art square—9x12
- 8 or 10 Rag Rugs, in size from 3x6 to 3x12
- 1 Kitchen cabinet
- 1 "Perfect" range
- 1 Steam Pressure canner
- Many cooking utensils
- 1 "One-Minute" new Electric washer
- 1 Folding Ironing Board
- 1 Davis Sewing Machine
- 1 Boy's Express wagon
- 2 Tubs
- 2 Boilers
- 1 Wringer
- 1 Washstand
- Some hardwood finishing lumber

Many other articles such as 6-foot stepladder, wheelbarrow, 14-inch Pennsylvania Lawn mower, scythe, 50 feet of hose, long pruning hook, shovel, spades, hoes, rake, maul and wedge, Planet Jr. garden plow (with attachments), camp stove, axes, sickle, trowel, weeder, mattock, etc. 18 chickens and laying hens Plymouth Rocks and White Leghorns.

All the articles listed are in first class condition, most of them being practically new.

TERMS:—\$10 and under, cash; over \$10, 6 month's time, on bankable notes, at 6 per cent. Two per cent off for cash. Will Heinz will be the auctioneer.
GUY N. HICKOK, Owner.

"I got a letter from John Pugh the other day and one from "Bill" Keil yesterday. He is at Camp Meade, Md., writes Edgar White from Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas. "I got a letter from "Bill" Flick yesterday, too. He said he was following his trade (lumber butcher), and working part of the time in the power house."

A late letter from Ira White says that Clarence Eid of Canby is one of the fine soldiers from this section. That he is working hard. Eid is a friend of Mr. and Mrs. Avon Jesse from whom he hears often. White also sends the Jesse's his best wishes, and wants them to write him.

"Political Yarns"

T. B. Neuhausen, of Portland is supporting the measure to establish two more state normal schools, one in Eastern Oregon and one in Southern Oregon, both to be built after the war. One is to be built at Ashland and the side of the other is to be chosen by the Oregon Normal School Board.

Judge Campbell of Oregon City is a candidate to succeed Justice Moore a member of the supreme court. Conrad Olson, who was appointed by Governor Withycombe to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Justice Moore, is also a candidate. Their names will not appear on the ballot but will have to be written in by the voters.

W. A. Jones, one of the Republican candidates for state senator from Marion county, who has been ill for several months, has improved to the extent that he is able to go about at the home of his father, T. B. Jones, at Salem where he has been during his illness.

The Republican county central committee will make a short but hot campaign from October 21 to election for its candidates. The committee held a meeting last week at the Salem court house at which Louis Lachmund, chairman Tooze, Seymour Jones and others made interesting talks. Vacancies on the county committees were filled by the appointment of W. R. McKay of Champeog, Grant Jones of East Hubbard, W. C. Gillis of Monitor, as well as several others.

At the conclusion of the Executive Committee meeting in the morning the members visited W. A. Jones candidate for state senator who after a serious illness of several weeks is rapidly convalescing, and will be beyond question ready for business when the senate convenes in January.

County Chairman Walter L. Tooze urged vigorous action and fidelity in the support of all Republican candidates from precinct nominees to United States Senator. He forcefully set forth the vital necessity of preserving the Republican organization intact that it shall be now and in the future a potent factor in County, State and National government. He referred to Alex La Follett as an old time friend of 30 years standing but from whom he is now forever divorced politically for the good and sufficient reason that Mr. La Follett has duly accepted the Democratic nomination for state senator from Marion County contrary to and in spite of his sacred pledge to the Republican voters prior to the Primary Election of May 17, 1918 at which time he signed and filed for record in the Secretary of State's office the following statement to wit: "If I am NOT nominated I will NOT accept the nomination or endorsement of any party other than the ONE in which I am registered."

Chairman Tooze produced the certified record from the Secretary of State's office of the state of Oregon which proves conclusively that Mr. La Follett not "only has violated his solemn obligation but treats it simply as a "Scrap of Paper." If the spirit of the Primary law is to be upheld and rigidly maintained by the true voters of Marion County Alex LaFollett will receive no support from Republicans, or from the Democratic party on Nov. 5, 1918.

Hon. Louis Lachmund candidate for senator made a splendid and patriotic address, and Hon. Seymour Jones spoke eloquently and forcefully along national lines, and Marion County Republicans are unanimous in the belief that he should win as Speaker of the House of Representatives during the coming session of the legislature. Other speeches by prominent republicans followed, all brimming over with patriotic sentiment. Every speaker stood squarely behind the president and all war activities conducive to victory.

Judge John S. Coke of Marshfield will be another candidate for the supreme bench to fill the unexpired term of the late Chief Justice Frank A. Moore, according to his announcement made in Portland. He will oppose Conrad P. Olson of Portland, recently appointed to the position by Governor Withycombe.

HORSE WANTED—A bout 1200, blocky build, from 5 to 7 years, must be sound and true, Write M. Cohn, Hubbard, (81-2tp.)

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