



WHEN you want to say something nice in the nicest possible way in a letter, you can add a lot to the pleasant impression your letter makes by writing it on

EATON'S HIGHLAND LINEN

It's always so dainty, so fresh and clean; it helps you say nice things in the very nicest way. May we show you some of the new styles?

Red Cross Drug Store

Meeting of M. I. A. This Evening
The regular weekly session of the M. I. A. will convene at the Tabernacle at 7:30 this evening. A special musical program will be provided, and this will be followed by social activities. The monthly conjoint session will be held Friday night at which time Senator Walter Pierce will give the principal address.



Preparedness

LEARN THE TRUTH ABOUT
CORSETS As We Are Learning the
Truth About War.
Get Acquainted With

"La Camille"
Inc. Trade Mark, U. S. Pat. 9224

the Front Lace Corset with the
JENTILLO Back and Front Shield
There's a La Camille Style That's
Best For You.

All the Latest Models Now on Hand

Priced at \$2.00 up.

MRS. ROBT. PATTISON
Corsetiere.

Res. 1702 Oak Phone Red 3221

\$50,000,000 IN FIRES BY SPIES

All Industries Aiding Country
Have Suffered.

BLAZE LOSSES MAKE RECORD

Reach \$267,000,000 in 1917 Against
\$229,000,000 in Last Peace Year—
Investigations Show That the En-
emy Has Been Busy in Every State in
the Union—Loss of \$6,000,000 Worth
of Grain Laid to Enemy Torch.

Since the United States entered the world war on the side of the allies, the value of the munition factories, grain elevators, stock yards, oil properties, cotton, marine properties, tanneries, and other industries vital to the war efficiency of the nation, which have been destroyed as a result of known incendiary or suspicious origin, is more than \$50,000,000, and of this amount over \$43,000,000 represents fires in which the damage done amounted to \$100,000 or more in each specific instance.

A table has been prepared by the national board of fire underwriters, which gives by months the statistical story of the damage wrought in the United States by enemy incendiaries since April 1, last.

This table shows that the enemy has been busy in every part of the country. In eleven instances the damage done equaled or exceeded \$1,000,000, the most disastrous of the conflagrations being that which in October last destroyed piers and war supplies in Baltimore valued at \$8,500,000.

Only \$100,000 or More.

The grain destroyed by the enemy torch has totaled since we went to war more than \$6,000,000; that of piers and other marine properties over \$5,000,000; the oil and oil products loss has amounted to more than \$6,000,000, while the loss due to incendiary on timber lands and in lumber yards reaches a total of over \$6,400,000. All these totals refer to fires in which the loss was \$100,000 or more.

The total fire losses in 1917 were the greatest of any year in the history of the United States, except 1906, when the great fire which followed the San Francisco earthquake swelled the total for that year to \$450,710,000. The 1917 record exceeds that of 1916 by about \$37,000,000, and that of 1915 by more than \$84,000,000.

The total fire losses in America during 1913, the last peace year, amounted, according to the Journal of Commerce, to about \$225,000,000. In 1914, the first year of the war, to \$230,000,000; in 1915 to \$183,000,000, and in 1916 to \$231,000,000, while in 1917 the losses due to fire, with the figure for December estimated at \$25,000,000, was about \$270,000,000. The difference between the figures for 1913, the last peace year, and 1917 is about \$42,000,000.

Monthly Losses Shown.

The following table shows the monthly losses of the nine war months of 1917, compared with those for the corresponding months in 1916:

Month	1916	1917
April	\$12,651,000	\$18,397,225
May	15,572,500	21,985,500
June	12,247,500	15,513,375
July	23,012,800	14,143,050
August	10,745,000	21,751,100
September	12,244,425	14,940,950
October	17,303,375	20,384,450
November	18,888,450	20,128,025
December	22,023,250	25,000,000
Totals	\$145,568,425	\$192,057,500

There is not a great industry, the continuance of which is essential to the war efficiency of the United States and their allies, which has not suffered as a result of the activities of the enemy agent or his hireling. Included

in the long list are tanneries, flour mills, leather factories, coal pockets, car and machine shops, iron mills, navy yard structures, chemical works of all kinds, automobile manufacturing plants, gasoline tanks, food warehouses, woolen mills, stock yards, sugar mills, gun cotton plants, railroad equipment, arsenals, munition plants, tobacco warehouses, cotton gins, cotton warehouses, dry docks, ocean-going shipping, steel mills, army storage warehouses, stables, horses, coke ovens and mine properties.

Cover Whole Country.

The national board of fire underwriters was, at the outbreak of war, asked by the government to co-operate in the effort that the government is making to combat the fire menace. The result has been that the national board has devoted the entire work of a majority of its officials and fire experts to the government service, and its inspectors cover every part of the country, investigating all fires, regardless of whether the properties, damaged or destroyed, are insured or not. These investigations, made in every instance by men expert in fire investigation, show that the loss due to fires of incendiary or suspicious origin which have involved the loss of \$100,000 or more in war munitions or equipment has totaled, since April 1, \$43,558,000.

In April, the first month of the war, the destruction or damage, due to fires involving a loss of \$100,000 or more, amounted to \$5,555,000. In that month there were 24 great fires in the country, and these fires occurred in 14 different states. The fire which entailed the heaviest loss was when grain elevators in Chicago, valued at \$700,000, were destroyed. The value of the grain elevators destroyed in that one month totaled \$1,700,000. The oil loss due to incendiary amounted to \$7,000,000; foundries, machine shops and car shops worth \$500,000 went up in flames, while the loss to the coal and coke industry totaled \$400,000.

In May the total loss as shown in the table showed a falling off of nearly \$2,000,000, the audited figures for that month giving a total of \$3,033,000, and of this amount \$1,200,000 represented the grain and grain elevator loss, or \$2,900,000 for the first eight weeks of the war. It was in May that the lumber incendiary first got to work, and the report for the month shows that the damage he accomplished totaled \$1,100,000. May also introduced the chemical incendiary, and the total loss to the chemical industry in the second month of the war was \$300,000.

Heavy Loss in Montana.

The loss in June was \$3,800,000, and of this amount \$1,000,000 represented mine property losses in Montana. The lumber loss in June was \$650,000, the grain total was \$600,000, gasoline to the total value of \$350,000 was burned up, and the chemical industry's loss was increased by another \$200,000. The automobile figures for the first time in the June report when an automobile factory in Reading, Pa., valued at \$250,000 was destroyed.

In July the figures began to climb, and the total loss due to incendiary or suspicious causes was \$4,140,000. The July losses include oil properties valued at \$700,000, a \$400,000 cotton compress plant, a woolen mill worth \$500,000, elevators and warehouses valued at \$900,000, a \$250,000 sugar mill, and shell and shipbuilding properties of a total value of \$520,000, and dye works worth \$150,000 and \$250,000 in tanneries.

August was one of the enemy incendiary's best months, his total destruction that month entailing a loss of \$5,101,000, \$2,550,000 of which was suffered by the oil industry. The enemy also destroyed his first gun cotton plant in August, when a factory valued at \$100,000 at Gary, Ind., was destroyed. There also occurred in August a fire which destroyed ships and piers in Brooklyn worth \$1,000,000.

ITALY HAS COUNCIL TO SPEED UP WAR

Premier Is Determined to Follow
Energetic Policy in Push-
ing the War.

Now that the Italian cabinet has a working majority sufficiently numerous and powerful to combat antiwar intrigue both inside and outside parliament Premier Orlando is determined to follow an energetic war policy. In fact a war council has been formed in Italy composed of the premier, the ministers of foreign affairs, war, navy, arms and munitions, treasury and another member of the cabinet chosen by the premier, besides the three chiefs of staff of the army and navy.

Executive measures connected with the war and having an urgent character will be decided in future by the war council instead of the cabinet, and considerable loss of time will thus be saved with great advantage to the success of military operations heretofore delayed, as their approval depended on long discussions in cabinet councils.

Premier Orlando recently confirmed in the senate his declaration in the house that no compromise was possible with those who opposed the war, as any attempt to weaken the resistance of the country amounted to treason, and antiwar activity exclusively benefited the enemy.

An energetic war policy would be impossible in a country like Italy unless the government were backed by the people. So long as the provisioning of the country is assured and the encouraging announcement made in the senate by the minister of food, Signor Crespi, who said that special agreements had been concluded with the United States and the Argentine Republic whereby they placed at the disposal of the Italian government a considerable portion of their wheat crops, affords the best proof that the question of food shortage has been satisfactorily solved.

there is no danger of Italy's elimination from among the allies. The recent insidious Austro-German peace proposals have not deceived Italians, who realize that their acceptance would be worse than defeat.

BEAR MEAT ON MARKET

Some Find It Helps to Cut the High
Cost of Living.

Citizens of Harrisonburg and other towns in Rockingham county, Pennsylvania, who find beef, veal and pork too high-priced, can make ends meet better now by eating bear meat, large quantities of which have been placed on the market at more reasonable prices than those demanded for choice steaks and chops.

The mountains of the county are said to be infested by bears, and in the past few days a number of the animals have been bagged by hunters. One party of sportsmen brought in two, one weighing 300 pounds and the other 250 pounds. The hides, worth about \$35 apiece, will be tanned and made into overcoats.

New Crime in London.

A new form of crime has developed in London. The police describe it as "air raid robbery," for bands of thieves take advantage of the excitement caused by German air raids to loot homes while the families are elsewhere seeking safety.

DECRIES GOVERNMENT CONTROL

Official Report Favors Termination
of Plan of Coal Handling

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Predicting a disastrous coal shortage soon unless the fuel administration ceases its "experimentation and guesswork," Senator Reed today submitted the food-fuel investigators' report on the recent coal inquiry. The report recommends the termination of federal interference with the coal business; immediate announcement of prices prevailing after April 1, so that dealers may make contracts; and informing the consumers of coal so that they will know when coal will be available and at what price.

Better than money because they earn money; buy a WAR-SAVING STAMP TODAY.

PERSONAL MENTION

Leo Benson from Enterprise is in the city.

J. K. Wright went out to Imbler this morning.

Mr. George Benson is spending the day in the city.

Jess Spencer, of Union, is in the city on business.

Ray Caviness returned today from a trip to Portland.

J. D. Sommers returned to his home in Elgin this morning.

W. J. Townley, county commissioner, is in the city on business.

Mrs. Ed. Stearns went to Pendleton this morning for a short visit.

Mrs. Ethel Hughes of North Powder is visiting here for a few days.

Boyd Robinson, of Baker, is doing business at the land office today.

Mr. Caldwell, manager of the Union Hardware Company, is in the city.

C. Wagoner, prominent lumberman of Union, is in the city on business.

Frank Gouck of Walla Walla is visiting his sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Donnelly of this city.

H. E. Kelly, prominent cattle buyer and owner from Washoult, is in the city for a few days.

R. E. Stordivant of Ukiah, Ore., father of Gale Stordivant of the West store is here on a short visit.

Mrs. W. Landrum who has been visiting in the East for the past three weeks has returned to her home in this city.

Mrs. Bessie Hitecock and daughter, Helen, left last night for Seattle after a visit with H. J. Ritter and family.

Mrs. Rodah Marks leaves tonight for Austin, Texas, to visit her son, Dean Smith, who is in the aviation corps at that place.

G. A. Boner, confectioner at Joseph, left for home this morning after looking after some business affairs in La Grande.

Bert Anderson, a prominent engineer on the O.-W. leaves tonight for Northern Minnesota where he will visit friends. His return to La Grande is looked forward to with great interest by his friends for they feel sure after his visit in Minnesota he will be contented to live in Eastern Oregon permanently.

Mrs. A. C. Wood left this morning for Washington to visit her son who is in the Y. M. C. A. work

Newest Spring Styles IN DAINTY WASH AND SILK WAISTS

Daily express shipments have constantly added to our array of pretty waists in both silk and wash fabrics. We are confident that you will find by far the best values at this store and are assured that it will pay you to make a special trip to see these exceptional waist values.

**NEWEST
WORTH MOR
\$1.00 WAISTS**
The biggest dollar waist
value in all America.

**WELWORTH \$2.00
BLOUSES**
offer many attractive
styles in dainty wash
fabrics.

**OUR SPECIAL
WAISTS \$1.38**
are equal in style and
material to most stores'
\$2.00 waists.

NEW TUB SILK WAISTS
in fancy stripes and colors.

Prices\$2.00 to \$3.98

NEW SHEER SILK WAISTS
in georgettes, chiffons and crepe de
chene. Shades are gray, coral, flesh,
white, navy and maise.
Prices \$2.98, \$3.98, \$5.00, \$5.50, \$6.00

Select Your New Waist Today, While You Have the Choice of This Complete
New Assortment

**NEW
SILK SWEATERS**
Just Received

THE GOLDEN RULE CO.
Quality the same—Prices less

One of the 600 R. C. U. Stores with an Annual Purchasing Power of
Over 60 Million Dollars

Oregon Grocery Company's

Daily Recipe for Wheat Substitutes

FEBRUARY 26, 1918

In compliance with the latest Food Edict, the grocer must sell 17 pounds of Wheat Substitutes with every sack of flour. Many of the substitutes recommended by Mr. Hoover are new to La Grande housewives. We take pleasure in recommending this recipe for tomorrow.

Try Cream of Barley for Breakfast,
GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZED
SUBSTITUTE — Ask Your Grocer

"Have you a little Thrift Stamp in your home?"

Oregon Grocery Company

Distributors of OREGON Barley, Rye and Corn Meal
in Full 10 pound Sacks

WHEAT-OAT BREAD

20 per Cent Oat Meal
Yeast—1 cake Yeast Foam or Magic Yeast, 2 cups lukewarm water, 2 tablespoons sugar, 2 tablespoons flour, ¼ teaspoon salt, ½ cup boiled mashed potatoes.

Soak yeast 20 minutes in 1 cup of water. Mix remaining ingredients in the other cup of water. Add soaked yeast and mix thoroughly. Let rise over night. Yeast will be ready in the morning.

Bread—3 tablespoons lard, 2 teaspoons salt, yeast prepared as above, 2 cups oat meal, cooked in 4 cups boiling water in double boiler for 20 minutes, about 8 cups flour.

Mix lard and salt, adding yeast mixture and flour to make a thin batter. Beat thoroughly with a spoon or egg beater, finally adding cooked oat meal, thoroughly cooled. Add gradually remaining flour and knead to make a firm, elastic dough. Let rise until the mass has doubled its bulk. Shape into five loaves. Let rise again until the loaves have doubled their bulk. Bake.

there. Mrs. Wood is Mrs. C. Simkins' mother, of this city.

Mrs. George Hibberd, who has been in La Grande several days looking after the affairs of her deceased sister, Mrs. John Allen, left today for her home in Seattle.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

M. E. Ladies Aid Postponed.
The meeting of the M. E. Ladies Aid Society has been postponed on account of the death of Mrs. Anderson.

The revival meetings at the M. E. Church South are still growing in interest. The public is invited. Come and bring your friends.

There will be a basket supper given at Island City Friday, March 1, at 1. O. O. F. hall. A good time will be assured. After supper bring your dancing slippers.
2-26-3t. COMMITTEE.

Amsterdam Funeral Tomorrow.
The funeral of the late Mrs. Anderson who died yesterday noon will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2

o'clock from the Methodist church. The remains will be at the Hohenskamp chapel until time for the funeral. The casket will not be opened at the church.

Concert and dance by the Halliwell Musical Company of Chicago, Wednesday, February 27, at Rex hall. Don't miss it. The biggest musical event of the year. 2-26-1t.

During the Lenten season St. Peter's auxiliary to the Red Cross will meet every Friday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, at the residence of Mrs. Fred Gaskill. All members are urged to be present.

LOCALS And Advertising in Brief

Selling more cigars all the while; try them at see why. La Grande Pharmacy.
2-18-1t

Wentzel the great baritone who will sing the latest war songs at Rex hall Wednesday night, February 27. Be sure to hear him. Con-

cert, 25c; concert and dance, \$1.00. Big dance will follow the concert.
2-26-1t.

Official war pictures owned by the British Government, every Thursday and Friday at the Star. 2-25-3t.

The retreat of the Germans at the Battle of Arras; Star Thursday and Friday.
2-25-5t.

Take a nice box of candy home for the lady. Fresh box and bulk candies at Silverthorn's Family Drug Store.
2-19-1t

Money to Loan.
On improved real property in Union county. No delays. Current rates. La Grande Investment Co.—Adv. 1t.

Developing and printing of your films at Silverthorn's Family Drug Store where they try to please you.
2-21-1t.

The finest candies by box or in small quantity, always fresh at Silverthorn's Family Drug Store.
2-21-1t.

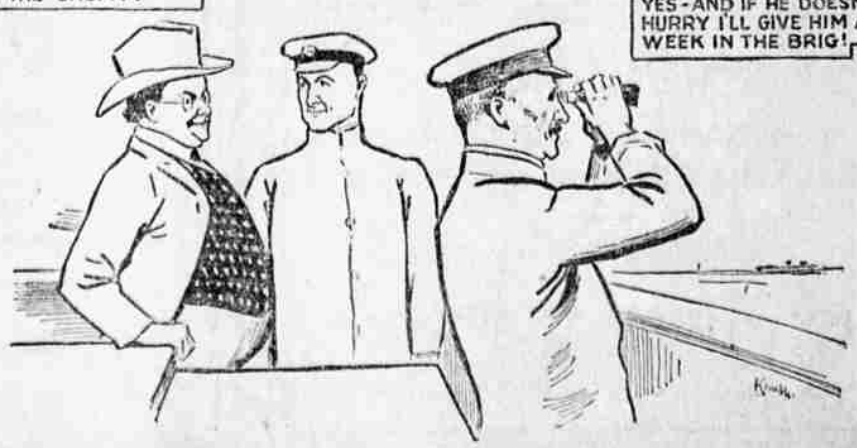
Always choice candies of the best and tastiest kind; you will find them at Silverthorn's Family Drug Store.
2-20-1t.

ANXIOUS TIMES FOR THE ADMIRAL

NOT MUCH! A REAL FRIEND
—THE ORDERLY WITH OUR
SUPPLY OF W-B CUT.

IS HE LOOKING FOR
THE ENEMY?

YES—AND IF HE DOESN'T
HURRY I'LL GIVE HIM A
WEEK IN THE BRIG!



SHERRY THEATRE

THE HOUSE OF QUALITY

TODAY

VITAGRAPH PRESENTS

Earle Williams

In

"In the Balance"

A Blue Ribbon Feature from the Novel

"The Hillman" by

E. PHILLIPS OPPENHEIM

Also

"VENGEANCE AND THE WOMAN" Chapter 5

Entitled "The Plunge of Destruction"