

SEC. BAKER UNDER SHELL FIRE IN FRANCE

VISITED WOUNDED AMERICANS
WHOM HE PRAISED FOR
GALLANTRY

ADDRESSED MEMBERS
OF RAINBOW DIVISION

And Said He Would Send Message
to Folks at Home in Their
Behalf

ON THE AMERICAN FRONT IN FRANCE, March 20.—Secretary Baker was in the front line trenches under shell fire yesterday. He scanned No Man's land from a listening post. He said, "Now I am at the frontier of freedom." As he was leaving the trenches, a big shell exploded near the auto which was to carry him from the field. He visited Captain Archibald Roosevelt, whom he praised for gallantry, and also visited other wounded soldiers.

Addresses Rainbow Division
Today Secretary Baker addressed members of the Rainbow division who have been on the firing line. He promised to convey a message from them to the folks at home. "To your relatives throughout the states I'll send a message that you are well fed and do not lack for supplies; that proper attention is being given for safeguarding your health. Your communities in the nation will be proud of your good conduct and the clean living which goes with clean, hard fighting and the principles for which you fight."

American Decorations Bestowed
Lieutenant Wm. Green and Sergeant Wm. Norton and Pat Walsh are the first Americans to receive the first American decoration, the "Distinguished Service Cross," which is awarded for heroism.

FRENCH RAILWAYS DESCRIBED

American Expert Gives His Impressions Of Locomotives, etc.

A more than usually interesting description of the French railroad system, as viewed by an American expert, is contained in a letter from Allan J. Hitchcock, who is a brother-in-law of Mrs. Hitchcock of Portland, who visits her sister, Mrs. Henry J. Ritter in La Grande, occasionally. The letter follows: "You asked me about the French railways and I'll write some about them. The equipment, especially for freight, is very light, as the capacity of the box cars is only twenty tons. Have seen a few big steel flats of forty-ton capacity, but they are very scarce. The largest engines are only about 110 tons and are made only for speed, as the maximum freight train is of about 1,800 tons. Practically all cars are rigid and have a pair of wheels at each end. A few of the larger cars have four-wheel trucks, but very few, aside from the passenger cars. All passenger coaches are divided into compartments of either first, second or third class. The cars are very comfortable riding and the sleeping cars on the long run trains are big and fine. The engine I've been working with is one made in 1863 and is nearly all copper and brass. If it was shined up you couldn't look at it in the sunlight. They are all equipped with a screw reversing lever and all are manual. They don't know what a Johnson bar is. French guards (brakemen) are not allowed to ride while switching, and the law says a switch engine shall run no faster than a man can walk, so you can easily see how much work they accomplish in one day. One American engine and crew could switch more cars in a day than five French crews. We use our American methods here, and you can bet we always ride. "Forgot to say that automatic couplers are unknown here and that a turnbuckle link and hook coupler is used. All European railroads are the same in this as I've seen."

At the city hall last evening A. N. Stanton, director of the commercial economy section of the State Council of Defense, explained in detail what should be done to curtail deliveries in the different cities of the state. A number of merchants attended and the following committee was appointed to take up the work and elucidate all details to give La Grande the one delivery a day which is asked for by the government at this time: J. G. Snodgrass, Frank Lilly and W. S. Parker.

CASE IS ON TRIAL

In the circuit court today a hearing is being held in the case of La Grande Milling Company vs. Geddes. The suit is for an accounting.

STATE POLICE UNITS RECOMMENDED BY COUNCIL

(United Press.)
SALEM, March 20.—Formation of state police units like the Pennsylvania constabulary is urged by representatives of the defense council at a meeting of the emergency board to devise a permanent method of guarding shipyards, etc., during the war.

Drum Major Will Please All

Clyde Bunting, as the imperial drum major in the operetta of that title, takes the role of a happy, music-loving youth, who is eager for war and its glories. As a youth of the village, he deserts his sweetheart for a life at the front and the so-called glory. Mr. Bunting has had some little experience, obtained in local plays, and is accredited with "knowing the ropes." As the sweetheart of Jean, the drum major, Miss Jeanette Stoddard enacts the part of the country girl who, just about to be married to her handsome lover, loses the latter when the war opens, and the impetuous youth departs with his comrades. Miss Stoddard has also appeared in several plays and is quite noted for her singing.

One of the most touching, dramatic and inspiring events of the evening is the wonderful bit of oratory that is delivered by Harold Walsinger. The latter in his oratorical outburst sways his listeners on the stage by praising his noble France in a mighty voice. Walsinger is quite worth the price of the play alone and is sure to influence the audience as he does those on the stage.

There are numerous choruses during the evening, one of which is the chorus of eight recruits. These, with their various singing and acting, form a good part of the play. In them you may see the typical soldier of the French revolution. In their sweethearts you may see the true rural maiden of the same period.

This play, accompanied by a complete nineteen-piece orchestra, is to be an attraction you cannot afford to miss. It will be given at the high school auditorium Friday evening, March 22.

Shipping Loss Eight Per Cent.

LONDON, March 20.—Sir A. H. Godden told the House of Commons today that the total allied and neutral shipping losses from the beginning of the war until January 1st of this year was but eight per cent of the total tonnage, or two and a half million tons. He said according to the German claims three times this amount had been sunk.

NURSE RECEIVES CALL

Miss Ellen Grady Is To Report At Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Miss Ellen Grady, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Grady of this city, received notice today to report at Fort Dodge, Iowa, and she will leave tomorrow in response to the call to do work as a war nurse. It is expected that nurses from this cantonment will soon be on the way to France. The department which the La Grande young lady joins is a University of Oregon hospital unit and is known as Hospital Base No. 45. It was financed by the Order of Elks.

COMMITTEE NAMED

Mr. Stanton Explains Details Of Curtailment Delivery.

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OVERMAN BILL IS REPORTED FAVORABLY

EMPOWERS PRESIDENT TO CO-ORDINATE INEFFICIENT WAR BRANCHES

ORIGINAL OPPOSITION IS DISAPPEARING

House Is Still Wrestling With the War Finance Corporation Measure

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The senate judiciary committee has reported favorably on the Overman bill, empowering the president to co-ordinate the scattered, inefficient war branches.

Opponents of the measure have been preparing a bill limiting the re-organizing power to the war and navy departments, shipping board and the bureau of mines. That improved war work will result in dispirited much of the original opposition to the Overman measure.

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ALL DAY MEETING HELD

Red Cross Ladies Serve Fine Lunch at the Elks Building

An all day session of the Red Cross ladies was held at the Elks quarters today. The noon luncheon was in charge of Mrs. H. H. Hug and Mrs. C. M. Humphrey. The lunch served brought forth many complimentary expressions as to its quality and tempting arrangement. The sum of \$12.50 was realized on the day's meeting.

ASIATIC AMBASSADORS REACH MANCHURIA

PEKING, March 20.—Chinese and Japanese ambassadors, accompanied by a member of the American diplomatic headquarters, have arrived at Manchuria under the safe conduct of a Russian guard.

BOLSHEVIKI ORGANIZED IN SAN FRANCISCO

NEW BRANCH OF AMERICAN SOCIALISTS HAS BEEN INSTITUTED.

Members Will Register For Elections Under the Russian Title Of "Bolsheviki."

SAN FRANCISCO, March 20.—A Bolshevik branch of the Socialist party in America has been organized here with an initial membership of 100. Members will register for the elections as "Bolsheviki." The chief organizer says that organizations will be made throughout the country and will uphold the left wing views of the Bolsheviks.

AIR FIGHTING INTENSE

Both Daylight and Night Attacks Are Made.

ON THE BRITISH FRONT, March 20.—Air war on the western front is record breaking. One hundred and sixty-seven airplanes have been downed this month in daylight fighting, including 23 last Sunday. Night flying is unprecedented, and much aerial bombing is done nightly. The Portuguese repelled a raid near Pauquhart. There is heavy artillery on both sides at Passchendaele.

"ARIZONA BILL" EN TOUR

Aged Scout, One of the Last, Reaches La Grande

Colonel R. E. Gardner, a graduate of West Point, has reached La Grande. He is traveling through the country on foot, with the aid of two burros, used for packing. He is now on his way to the Flathead mountains in Montana and expects to spend the summer there. Colonel Gardner, who goes by the name of "Arizona Bill," is 75 years of age, enjoys good health and has an abundance of flowing auburn hair. He has been service all over the west and in the Philippines. Since his retirement from active service in 1908, he has visited many fairs and expositions. In 1913 he made a trip across the continent in company with Navajo Indians. He was a personal friend of Buffalo Bill and is supposed to be the oldest scout living today.

"WHAT A PITY WHAT A SHAME" THEY ALL SAID

WHEN TWELVE QUARTS GOOD WHISKY WENT DOWN THE STORM SEWER

SPECTATORS SNIFFED THE AIR IN VAIN

Liquor Recently Seized from Pullman Porter Is Officially Destroyed By Chief Rayburn

"What a pity, what a shame," were exclamations from a large crowd that gathered at the corner of Elm and Adams this afternoon and witnessed the very touching ceremony which Chief Rayburn and Officer Christianson went through while destroying twelve quarts and seven pints of bonded whisky, which had been captured from a Pullman porter recently. Old Chief Rayburn shook his head when about to order execution, and Officer Christianson changed his tobacco to the other side of his mouth. Both men riveted their eyes upon the pavement as gurgles, gurgles went the smooth, old, seasoned whisky into the storm sewer. Spectators sniffed the air and began to talk about years ago when La Grande was a wide open town, telling of how this fellow or that fellow got into trouble when he got too heavily jagged. The consensus of opinion was, that while it seemed too bad to destroy liquors that might be of benefit to hospitals at this particular time, it was best to circulate it rather than to permit it to circulate among the people as it once did.

WOULDN'T FEED HIS HORSE

Carrying the Hoover idea to the extent of making his horse subsist on post oats, one J. H. Winkler was brought before the municipal court this morning. He was fined ten dollars in money and sentenced to five days in jail.

Baker Man Is Bank Examiner

BAKER, Ore., March 20.—H. A. Sonne, cashier of the Baker Loan & Trust Company, has been appointed by State Banking Commissioner Bennett as state bank examiner. The announcement of the appointment which was made some time ago and accepted by Mr. Sonne was made yesterday.

Mr. Sonne does not know to which district he will be assigned, but will assume his new duties on the 25th of this month. His family will not leave Baker. His successor at the Baker Loan & Trust Company has not been named.

Mr. Sonne came here from Joseph, Ore., where he was cashier of the First National Bank, 1906, shortly after the Baker Loan & Trust Company was organized and has been its cashier ever since. His appointment is a merited one and he has the best wishes of his many friends here in his new position.

Mr. Sonne was formerly a resident of Joseph and is well known to Walla Walla and Union county people, who are greatly pleased to see him appointed to this important state position.

TROTSKY AT MOSCOW

Russian War Minister Arrives To Defend The City.

MOSCOW, March 20.—War Minister Trotsky has arrived from Petrograd to plan a defense of Moscow against the obvious intentions of the Germans to envelop it.

United States Not Discouraged
WASHINGTON, March 20.—The United States government is firm in the belief that there is still some hope of arousing the Russians against the Teutons. It is certain that President Wilson will continue to assure Russia of America's friendly interest.

La Follett's Man Running Behind

MILWAUKEE, March 20.—The republican senatorial nomination is still in doubt, although latest reports indicate that Lenroot in all but nine counties has a lead of twenty-nine hundred over Thompson who has the endorsement of Senator La Follette.

The democrats nominated Joseph E. Davies, who resigned as federal trade commissioner and upon the acceptance of which President Wilson expressed the hope for Davies' election.

Victor L. Berger, former socialist congressman, was nominated by the Socialists by the heaviest vote the Socialists ever polled in the state.

USE DANCE HALL FOR WAR

RISK BUREAU WORK.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—From a large dance hall in the national Capitol, Uncle Sam, the proud father of the War Risk Insurance, daily sends forth 40,000 checks to relatives of insured soldiers and sailors.

Pressed for office space, the War Risk Insurance Bureau, with an army of 600 check-writing clerks recently marched upon the spacious Center Market Dance hall, and began the task of writing out nearly a million dollars in allowances and allotments to the relatives of Uncle Sam's fighting men.

DEATH OF H. A. BOYLE

Recent Arrival In La Grande Succumbs To Pneumonia.

H. A. Boyle, aged 37, died at his home at 1101 L avenue last night. Pneumonia, presumably contracted while living in Payette, Idaho, was the cause of his death. Mr. Boyle has been employed since his arrival in La Grande, a short time ago, in the Kelly barber shop. He leaves to mourn his loss a wife and an eight year old daughter, Thersa, also a father, five brothers and a sister, who live in different localities. A brother and a sister arrived from Idaho this morning.

The remains, now at the Bohnenkamp chapel, will be sent Friday morning to Mountain Home, Idaho, where the funeral will be held.

THIS COUNTY LEADER IN WHOLE STATE

LA GRANDE, SUMMERVILLE AND DRY CREEK ARE CLOSE IN RACE

STATE SUPERINTENDENT COMPILES THE ROSTER

Introducing a Foreword in Appreciation of the Patriotic Work of School Children

Union county stands at the absolute top in the Junior Rainbow movement. State Superintendent Churchill has published a complete roster of the membership in this regiment, containing every name of those who went over the top. This county is ahead in the state. To make the matter more explicit, the actual figures for the leading three counties from the official roster is given herewith:

Union county	161
Multnomah county	138
Marion county	120
The list of districts in which Summerville and Dry Creek made 100 per cent, making up the total of 161 for Union county and their order in numerical membership is:	
La Grande	61
Summerville and Dry Creek	58
Union	32
Perry	4
Kamela	3
Elgin, Cove, Alcega (one each)	3
Total	161

The roster contains the names of all who qualified for the first junior rainbow regiment by selling fifty dollars worth of stamps or certificates and a copy is sent to every member.

It contains the following encouraging foreword by State Superintendent Churchill, viz:

"When the present world war is over and the story of individual heroism, sacrifice or suffering thrills you with pride in what our country achieved, may you find in your name in this roster some evidence that you enrolled for a service that did much toward bringing the war to a successful conclusion."

A FAITHFUL WORKER

Mrs. Beulah Newlin Has Been Busy With War Supplies.

Among the many to whom the term of "doing their bit" is not appropriately applied for the reason that they are doing that and more, too, is Mrs. Beulah Newlin, aged 82. This patriotic matron's output has been: Four pairs socks, two scarfs, twelve hot water bags, two pairs wristlets, twelve pairs short wristlets and one sweater.

WAR DOGS SHOW UP

F. A. Mitchell is a member of the Fourth Engineers and is in France. Mrs. Mitchell was formerly known as Joey Childers and she was a former resident of La Grande. They owned a dog called "Peggy," which became something of a mascot at the Vancouver barracks. "Peggy" got off the train when it stopped in La Grande yesterday, just on a casual visit. Frequent messages back and forth finally located the military canine, which was sent back and is now on regular kitchen police duty at home.

ANOTHER HUNDRED PER CENT.

All the pupils in Miss Anderson's room in the Central school have qualified in the 350 class, making this room a hundred per cent.

E. E. KIDDLE HONORED

The Oregon Journal has the following: "Edward E. Kiddle of Island City, Or., grand commander of the Oregon grand chapter Knights Templar, will be given an official reception tonight by the Washington chapter Knights Templar. The illustrious order of the red cross degree will be conferred. Nelson G. Pike will deliver a fraternal address. A banquet will follow the chapter meeting."

AFFIDAVITS REQUIRED FOR DEFERRED CLASSIFICATION

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The federal employment bureau has issued a statement urging farmers to file affidavits for deferred classification for their farm hands, and warning them that they cannot complain if they fail to do so and the men are taken in a new special draft. "Local boards cannot defer calling such men unless the farmer employers support the men's claims with affidavits. Therefore it is very important that farmers immediately execute and file such affidavits with their local boards," the statement further advises.

IT IS TIME TO GET BEHIND THE DRUMS



The cartoonist of the country have responded to the call for British and Canadian recruits with pictorial aid, particularly with arraignment of the men who claim exemption from the United States draft but who do not volunteer to fight for the flag they claim. The fact that nearly 300,000 Britons and Canadians had asked exemption from Uncle Sam's military service, while less than 20,000 of these have volunteered for Britain, disclosed the fact that 280,000 British subjects in the United States of Canada's military age, so far have furnished less than 20,000 recruits. For the best cartoon the mission will make an award.

The first cartoon is that of Buel in the Sacramento, California, Bee, who years ago fought it at Dawson, as did Major A. Wallace Owen, now commanding the western division of the mission, during the gold rush days of the Klondike.

"I remember that Buel had a wonderful knack of sketching the likeness of people in those days when he was getting his start," said Major Owen, admiring the finished work of the famous cartoonist before him. "Strange, isn't it, that his should be the first cartoon sent in to this mission."