

# "SPIKER" A YANKS' ORGAN

PUBLISHED IN FRANCE BY BOYS OF 18TH ENGINEERS.

Filled With News, Both Comic and Pathetic—Some Sons of La Grande There.

As there are not a few fathers right here in La Grande who have sons now in France, members of the 4th Engineers, a necessary section of every army, for without the engineers to build railroads and bridges, to carry ammunition and food to the boys on the firing line, it would not be possible to carry on the war one single day, the following excerpts from "The Spiker," published by the boys of this regiment, may be of great interest to them, as well as hundreds of others throughout the state, who knew these young men at work on many railroads of Oregon just a few months ago.

Company C's claim to a record in steam shovel work by digging 50 cars after supper between 6 and 7:45 p. m., has aroused the interest of men of F Company, who contest the claim.

If C Company made a record by digging 50 cars in an hour and three quarters, with a mile haul, Captain Hauser wonders how F Company's feat would be characterized. Here is the ground upon which F Company contests C's claim:

The record day's digging at the S— pit was 702 four-yard cars for ten hours, an average of 70.2 per hour. And that was done with an average haul of 4600 feet. The work was done with a Model 60 shovel, in a cut from three to eleven feet, and the fill at the dump averaged three feet.

That week F Company's crew dug 3117 cars for a five-day run, or an average daily run of 623 cars for a ten-hour day, or better than a car a minute for almost a week.

Captain Hauser will wager that the record will stand, anywhere, under similar conditions.

Taps include Lightning Bugs? Does the order, "Lights Out," apply to glow worms? Private R. E. Stine, of C Company, wants to know. Recently Private Stine captured two "lightning bugs" single handed and imprisoned them in a glass jar.

He put the jar under his bunk and after taps had blown the other night he set the gilded creatures and their glass cage on a shelf at the head of his bed. Instantly a roar went up. "Put out that light," "Taps is blew," "Put out the censored, censored, censored light, so's I can go to sleep." But Private Stine came back with "Why don't you tell me to hang a blanket over the moon? These here animals are glow worms, and 'taps' means nothing in their young lives." "Shine little glow worms, glimmer." This was softly hummed from a dark corner of the hut. The glow worms kept glowing and have continued to glow every night since.

Meanwhile several stickers for military propriety are scanning the field regulations to see if there is anything relative to glow worms shining after "lights out" has sounded.

Soon after the landing of Company F in France, it lost three of its best men—not from bullets, but from disease, of one nature or another, and, strange, too, out of the entire 18th Regiment, these were the only losses sustained.

Captain Hauser, of Company F, at the time of the burial of the men, delivered the following tribute to their memory:

It is with no little difficulty that I address you on a subject probably nearest our hearts and yet paradoxical as it may seem, one we would all be glad to avoid.

In the month of December alone, we lost three more men from our company, William Hancock, December 2, tuberculosis; Herman Saupé, cerebrospinal meningitis and pneumonia, on December 27, and lastly, December 31, one of the boys we all loved and admired best, Gerald Barrett, in a train accident. This brings the sum total of our mortalities up to five, and it can be attributed solely to a freak of fate that the only five deaths in this regiment of Eighteenth Engineers Railway, have occurred in the ranks of Company F. This is one of the inexplicable things of life and while addressing you in the mess hall the other night the happy thought struck me that inasmuch as death had claimed five of our best boys, we had taken them all from the best company. This is certainly a consistent way of looking at it, and although it may sound too egotistical, the circumstances furnish us a justifiable pardon for thus relieving our feelings at this time. We know we have the sympathy of the entire regiment in our run of hard luck. It has been expressed to us in so many different ways and forms especially strong by officers and enlisted men of E Company, our brother Company from Portland.

Every one will admit that the spirit of F Company has been developed to such a high degree, as evidenced by the success attained at everything we have tackled—that our esprit de corps can never be broken and we cannot be discouraged. While we are at a loss to understand why these calamities should be visited on us, let us resolve that they should only serve to cement the rest of us closer together and build up our organization to with-

stand any future shocks we may be subjected to.

May it also serve as a guide for our actions in the future, so that the unworthy things we might be held accountable for should some familiar disaster abruptly confront any one of us, be reduced to a minimum.

If we will consecrate our future standards of living and actions to their memories, then these five wonderful boys who gave their lives for their country.

their country—The company F Honor Roll, Meecer, Gramps, Hancock, Saupé, and Barrett—will not have died in vain.

KENNETH D. HAUSER, Captain 18th Engineers, Railway, Commanding Company F.

## VILLA'S STEPSON JOINS UNITED STATES CAVALRY

Manchester, N. H.—William Ceraco, aged nineteen, who says he is a stepson of Villa, the notorious Mexican bandit, has enlisted in the United States cavalry here.

Ceraco says that three years ago, during the border uprising, Villa shot his father and married his mother. Ceraco came north with the New Hampshire troops when they returned from duty on the border.

He says that he likes the United States so well that he has decided it is worth fighting for anywhere and was very anxious to know when he could get "over there."

## FOR ARMY SUPPLIES

Build Warehouses to Cost \$218,000,000.

Permanent Structures Are Being Established at Chicago and Other Places.

Washington.—Warehouse construction, completed or in process of building, planned to facilitate the speedy handling of materials at storage points for use of the army, involves an expenditure of approximately \$218,000,000, the war department announced.

When completed the projects will provide about 33,800,000 square feet of warehouse space, additional wharves and piers and improved harbor berths at various points.

With few exceptions, the war department announcement says, the projects are permanent structures of concrete, brick and steel. The building is being done under the supervision of the construction division of the army.

Warehouses have been completed at Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Hoboken, Jeffersonville, Ind.; Port Newark, N. J.; Americus, Ga.; Chicago, Dayton, O.; Richmond, Va.; San Antonio, and Middletown, Pa. Construction is under way at New Orleans, Boston, Brooklyn, Chicago, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Newport News, Little Rock, Ark.; Schenectady, New Cumberland, Pa.; Columbus, O.; Charleston, S. C., and Norfolk, Va.

## 13 SONS, 17 GIRLS IN WAR

John Ward of North Carolina Has 35 Children—Boys in Army, Girls in War Work.

Raleigh, N. C.—John Ward, a negro of Goldsboro, has thirteen of his eight-teen sons in the Ninth and Tenth United States cavalry, while his seventeen daughters are busy with war work. The facts are vouched for by Sheriff R. H. Edwards of Wayne county, of which Goldsboro is the county seat. Ward also probably holds the record for quadruplets, says Sheriff Edwards, who gives the record thus:

Ward was born April 21, 1856, at Goldsboro. He has married three times and his last wife is now living. His first wife bore him fifteen children, four at one time twice, three at one time twice, one at a time once. His second wife bore him two at one time twice, three at one time once and five one at a time. His present wife has borne him eight, one at a time. His first wife lived six years and three weeks after marriage, his second wife eight years and six months. The number of boys is: By first wife, eight; by second wife, five, and by third wife, five. Of those now in the service seven are by the first wife, five by the second and one by the present wife. Another son has served in the cavalry, but is now living at Wilson, N. C.

## SMASHES HIS GERMAN RAZOR

Going to Buy Instead One That Bears a United States Brand.

St. Paul, Minn.—"Made in Germany." These words inscribed on a brand new razor purchased the other day by Traffic Patrolman Thomas Brown, whose station is at Fourth and Washburn streets, so enraged him after his attention was called to it by Dan Costello that he smashed the "Hun" razor against the court house wall.

"I wouldn't shave myself with any of those —! —! razors if I had to of those —! —!," said Brown.

"Now I'm going to buy a good razor and it's going to be marked 'Made in U. S. A.' and don't you forget it," were his parting words.

Pathway to Knowledge. Ignorance seldom vaults into knowledge, but passes into it through an intermediate state of obscurity even as night into day through twilight.—Coleridge.

Optimistic Thought. The greatest saints have their time of faintness.



A Great Net of Mercy drawn through an Ocean of Unspeaking Pain. The American Red Cross

## Out of the Trenches for a Breathing Space



Contributed by James Montgomery Flagg.

## "They Are Our Boys; Get Ready, Everyone, for a Rush!"

The long train of freight cars whined and grumbled as it strove to stop. In the bowery of a great low building a white capped and gowned woman released a sunny smile and, turning so her voice carried into the building, called out, "They are ours; get ready for a rush."

Inside the building there were more women, all spick and span in white, with faces beaming, handing out good "home cooked" food over spotless tiled counters. Some of the boys fairly ran for the food; others went into the long batteries of baths, throwing out their vermin ridden clothes to be sterilized while they scrubbed their bodies back to a healthy glow.

What luxury it all was—food, tables, chairs, things to read, games to play, paper for writing, a barber shop, a movie theater and good, clean beds! No one ever thought that these hap-

## HEALTH OFFICE FIGURES GIVEN

BIRTHS AN DEATHS FOR TWO MONTHS IN LA GRANDE. BIRTH RATE INCREASES.

A recent dispatch from Salem states that the month of July made a sad record in that city, so far as births are concerned, there being only five births reported by the health officer of that district.

In contrast is the following list of births, as well as deaths, in La Grande for both the months of June and July:

The record of births and deaths, as shown by the records in Dr. Richardson's office for the month of July, shows an increase in the birth rate, as against June, while the death rate remains just about the same.

In June there were seventeen births recorded and ten deaths. In July there were twenty-three births and ten deaths, showing an increase of six births, and the same number of deaths.

The detailed statements for both months follow:

- June 12—Chas. E. Fahn, aged 53 years.
- June 13—Stephen Andrew Day, aged 59 years.
- June 13—Estella Elizabeth Fowler, aged 59 years.
- June 16—Elvin S. Gekeler, aged 53 years.
- June 21—Robert Lee Wakefield, aged 58 years.
- June 25—John Heughan, aged 50 years.
- June 27—Conrad Stroeber, aged 49 years.
- July—Births.
- May 28—To Mr and Mrs Oscar C. Butzeln, a son, at Hot Lake.
- June 22—To Mr and Mrs D. A. Snook, a son, at Hot Lake.
- June 23—To Mr and Mrs Frank Rechia, a son, La Grande.
- June 27—To Mr and Mrs M. Lewis Bidler, a daughter, in Union.
- July 1—To Mr and Mrs Routh H. McKennon, a daughter, in Union.
- July 1—To Mr. and Mrs. Harvey C. Patten, a son, in La Grande.
- July 3—To Mr and Mrs Howard E. Dixon, a son, in La Grande.
- July 4—To Mr and Mrs Wm. G. Fleming, a daughter, in La Grande.
- July 6—To Mr and Mrs Rusk de Lano, a son in La Grande.
- July 8—To Mr and Mrs C. W. Ambrose, a daughter, in La Grande.
- July 10—To Mr and Mrs Claude L. Busick, a daughter, in Union.
- July 11—To Mr and Mrs Giles D. Van Houser, a daughter, in Alliance.
- July 11—To Mr. and Mrs. Hugh

- L. Coanoly, a son, in La Grande.
- July 11—To Mr and Mrs Robt. S. Eakin, a son, in La Grande.
- July 11—To Mr and Mrs Ernest Watkins, U. S. A., a daughter.
- July 15—To Mr and Mrs John D. McKay, a daughter, in La Grande.
- July 16—To Mr and Mrs Vernon Bull, a daughter, in Union.
- July 17—To Mr and Mrs Geo. C. Hanson, a daughter, in La Grande.
- July 21—To Mr and Mrs Thos. McKushler, a son, in La Grande.
- July 28—To Mr and Mrs Lewis W. Smith, a son, in La Grande.
- July 23—To Mr and Mrs Geo. Albert Hughes, a son, in La Grande.
- July 21—To Mr and Mrs Bernard V. Johnson, a son, in La Grande.
- Deaths.
- June 29—Conrad Stroeba, aged 49 years, in Union.
- June 22—Baby Snook, infant, at Hot Lake.
- July 13—Mrs. J. J. Baker, aged 47 years, at Hot Lake.
- July 14—George Phelps, aged 22 years, at Hot Lake.
- July 16—Judson Mevins, aged 77 years, at Hot Lake.
- July 22—Mary Eleanor Schofield, aged 60 years, at Union.
- July 24—Waldo Botsford Bach, aged 37 years, at La Grande.
- July 24—William Weldon McCully, aged 34 years, at La Grande.
- "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp" at Sherry's, tomorrow and Friday. Bring the kiddies and renew fond memories of your youth. 8-21-18



KAISER-ACH VOT PIKERS.

CONFIRMED PROOF Residents of La Grande Cannot Doubt What Has Been Twice Proved. In gratitude for relief from aches and pains of bad backs—from distressing kidney ills—thousands have publicly recommended Doan's Kidney Pills. Residents of La Grande, who so testified years ago, now say the results were permanent. This testimony doubly proves the worth of Doan's Kidney Pills to La Grande kidney sufferers.

Ed. L. Bussey says: I had been subject to kidney trouble at times, especially when a cold settled in the small of my back. Dull pains annoyed me and my kidneys got badly out of order. About three years ago I began using Doan's Kidney Pills and from that time on, I have had something on which I could rely. Whenever bothered by my kidneys, it has taken Doan's only a short time to set me right." (Statement given November 20, 1912). On May 25, 1916, Mr. Bussey said: "I am ready to back up every word of my former statement regarding my experience with Doan's Kidney Pills, for I know they have no equal. When my kidneys get out of fix, I take Doan's and they never fail to do good work."

60c at all dealers. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.

## MISSING

## ACQUIRING A PERFECT FIGURE



Most women who have perfect figures did not have them originally. They have acquired them. A woman gradually takes the shape of her corset so the corset produced by the most artistic designer is the right one to wear to secure a perfect figure.

## MODART CORSETS Front Laced

are most symmetrically and artistically designed. They are comfortable, stylish and gradually mold the figure into those beautiful lines that every woman admires and desires.

## PAULINE LEDERLE



Topless Sport Model Look Your Best and Be Comfortable in a "La Camille"

## FRONT LACE CORSET

the only corset with the patented VENTILE

Back and Front Shield Be fitted to the corset designed for your figure. There are

LA CAMILLE MODELS for every figure. They are always fitted by a scientifically trained corsetier. This service goes with the corset—and such comfort.

A full line of the latest models always on hand. Priced at \$2.00 and up.

Mrs. Robt. Pattison Corsetiere Res. 1702 Oak. Phone Red 3221

# Be Fair WITH THE Printer

BUY YOUR SUPPLIES FROM A PRINTING OFFICE THAT PAYS ITS PRINTERS ABOVE THE UNION WAGE SCALE, AND IS A UNION SHOP.

It is the oft repeated story. When People of Union County want Printing that is hard to execute, when they want a job of work done that requires skill, workmanship, careful planning and earnest application, they finally come to the Observer's Job Printing Department.

This office does the work, but in all endeavor, that is the class of work upon which there is little profit, and frequently some loss, because of the intricate nature and time-absorbing features of such jobs.

For instance, when a Telephone Directory is to print or a High School Annual, such as the Mirror, which is just issued, are to be printed, the Observer Job Printing Department is the only office in the county equipped with machinery, type and printers to get out the work. Union county must have and maintain such a printing office, that can do the technical, high class work when it is wanted.

## But--

We respectfully call your attention to the smaller work, which we are abundantly equipped to do and which should, to a certain extent at least, go to the office that maintains a plant capable of doing the hard class of work. In the smaller work there is a profit and we respectfully call upon business firms possessing home pride who know upon reflection, that in order to keep a big plant running it must have all classes of printing. Do not send us your technical, hard printing, that can not be done by anyone else in the county, and then send your smaller work elsewhere. IT IS NOT FAIR. When it comes to prices on smaller work, it stands to reason that this shop can more than compete with any other concern, for we keep a regular force of journeymen printers and pressmen and pay these men above the Union scale of wages.

If you are a believer in well paid labor and want to uphold such principles, send your job printing to this office, where it will be handled at the least possible cost to you, and at the same time you are assured of a good grade of work.

# Observer Job Printing Dept.