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The Soldier's Mail: How It Is Handled.

The mail service for our army abroad has now been taken over by the army. It is handling a million letters a day that are received in France from this country, and about 300,000 letters a day that are mailed in France for soldiers in France. It has warehouses for sorting mail at French ports. It has railway mail clerks on some 2000 miles of French railroads. It has a central postoffice at Tours, permanent postoffices at various points, mobile postoffices right up to the firing lines and mail orderlies attached to each company of troops.

In the past, when the mail service for the army was under civil control, great delays were caused in the delivery of mail by the necessary secrecy concerning troop movements. Now, under military control, all movements of the mobile postoffices are telegraphed in code to the distributing postoffices and the letters follow the soldiers as they march. All the hospitals notify the central postoffice of the identity of wounded soldiers received or transferred. The central postoffice works with the central record division of the adjutant general's office, where every soldier in the army is card-indexed, and 150 men are there constantly employed searching out addresses. A system has been devised by which delivery may be quickened to "replacement units" who have been scattered among widely separated troops. And various means have been found for overcoming delays due to lack of shipping facilities or congestion of mail at crowded posts.

It still remains true that mail for some 50,000 soldiers in France is delayed because the letters are inadequately addressed. In the future all such letters will be stopped at New York and returned to their senders. It is estimated that 300,000 letters a month have been delayed in the past because the men were in "replacement units." This "floaters' mail" is now being handled expeditiously. The delay due to censorship is not great and it is being reduced.

The army authorities are aware that nothing sustains the morale of a soldier like letters from home. The mobile postoffices now keep up with the troops; the mail is received with the rations at the kitchen, and the whole reorganized postal service is devoted to providing that the doughboy's letters shall reach him as promptly and regularly as his meals.

It's the "Jay" That Makes a City.

Any city or town is exactly what the people who live in it make it. Cities do not grow up—they are built by the enterprise and energy of their inhabitants. A town is no better or worse in any respect than its average citizen. The best thing in a town is its broadest-minded, most progressive citizen; and the most damnable thing

in it is the man who damns his own town.
 Nearly every town has its home-detractor who thinks it smart to call it a "jay" town. Of course, if a man's town is not sporty enough for him he ought to move; whether that would help him or not, it would the town.
 It is not the sports or the sportiness that makes a town. Most towns are made by the "jays" who attend strictly to the Christian-like attitude of their military commanders. "Gay White Way" was a jay, and is yet. Come to think of it and examine the list, it will be seen that every man in art, science, literature, production and commerce in all America today either is or has been a jay.

It is a safe rule that the jay who runs his own business gets along further and is worth far more to any town than the sport who tries to run other people's business.

A town is seldom the result of virgin natural conditions. At any rate it was man who saw the natural advantages. Many a good town has been practically made by one man. But he was a booster, not a knocker.

The first process in the improvement of any town is to convert or get rid of the people who are knocking it.

Normal Schools Are Needed, Vote For Them.

This paper is conservative when it comes to adding an additional tax to burden that property is already carrying, but the education of children is something that appeals to all thinking people more than does the expense of that education.

We will confess that every dollar now raised for education does not obtain a dollar's worth of benefit, yet we are going to plead for the normal schools for the reason that the common education is being neglected for what is termed "higher education," and the only way to have common education is to have normal schools that will train teachers in work suitable for the grades and rural schools.

The cause is far-reaching and so genuine that the Observer calls upon every person interested in the children's education to support the bill on November 5. No school will be established until after the war, the board of regents has determined that fact, and the reason it is being voted on now is because the last legislature, prior to our entering war, placed it on the ballot for the people to decide. Vote it, for it is right. We must have teachers to train the children and we cannot have good teachers without first educating them.

Passing of Tom Paxton, of Baker.

To have a young man cut down in the zenith of his usefulness seems hard indeed, and such was the case of Tom Paxton, city editor of the Baker Democrat, who died last evening of pneumonia.

The newspapermen of the northwest will feel deeply the loss of Mr. Paxton, for he was one of the coming men of this section. Young, earnest, sincere and active, he had laid the foundation for a useful life in Eastern Oregon.

These things are hard for all to bear. It is a time in the world's history when events are no longer small, and even death is not apparently preceded by much warning. So, it was with Tom Paxton. He was taken hurriedly, without warning, and as a result Eastern Oregon people join the newspapermen in mourning his loss.

The Observer cannot refrain from editorially wishing two of our best young people, Mr. Charles Ramsey and Miss Irene Murphy, who were joined in holy wedlock Wednesday evening, the best that a kind providence can bestow. They are exceptionally worthy people and belong to the solid, substantial element of society. La Grande is proud of them both and commends them to the people of Boise with the finest recommendation possible to give to young folks who have always done their best in everything undertaken, and who are entitled to the respect and good fellowship of all right thinking people.

Giant Flagpole Wrecked.
 Camp Lewis—What is said to be the longest flagpole in the world, 369 feet long, was wrecked Sunday while being hoisted into place. Several attempts had been made to place the pole before,

AROUND THE EDGES

He was a soldier with some business acumen, he was. Among the drafted boys who left Union county, he walked the streets waiting for the train to arrive. Many people were on the streets and this young doughboy, with more initiative than most men, saw our Japanese bulldog, Togo, at the corner of Lilly's hardware store. "Boys," said the recruit, addressing a number who had gathered around him, "I don't mind going to war; I don't mind leaving my fine old bull pup," and with that he stroked Togo's worthless brow. "I think boys," the doughboy continued, "I will raffle him off and then I'll quit thinking about him." With that he led Togo into the Silver Grill and for over an hour sold tickets on the "most wonderful Japanese bull pup that ever chewed a strap or ruined a flower bed." The pockets of the soldier were filled with money when he announced the sale of tickets closed and the raffle took place. One of the Bean boys, who was also going to war, drew Togo. With affectionate embrace the boy who conducted the raffle bade Togo goodbye, took his money and boarded the midnight train for the military camp. The fact that Togo is the Observer's bull pup caused us to look up all the details of this transaction and later caused us to call on Mrs. Bean of South La Grande, identifying our pup and asking her to release him which she gladly did. We think a great deal about the boy who promoted the raffle. He is some chap and if we ever meet him the best cigar in the city is none too good for him. That boy, when the Yanks overrun Berlin, will grab the Kaiser's castle the first thing and will have a retinue of Boche servants brewing him the best beer in the wrecked Empire. He will have everything he sees and may demand that the statue of Blomarek be reduced to souvenirs for him to sell to tourist after the war.

Aside from attending to public business as a county commissioner Ouel Galloway farms a little on the side and raises some very good bull calves for the market. He also sells automobiles and occasionally talks Molins tractors when his partner, Hal Reese, is either in Grant county or Washington state. Ouel was in La

Grande Friday proudly proclaiming that his fall farm work was never so well up for winter due to the excellent weather, and also waving the banner of good cheer for next year's crops. "Never knew it to fall, when the Grande Ronde starts its winter like it has this year, that an enormous crop is sure to follow. No, I did not come here the same year Uncle Ben Brown came, but I am somewhat of a pioneer and I am a weather observer for true. I can stand on the hills around Elgin and prognosticate until every citizen on Cricket Flat will believe me to the extent of making winter preparations on my word.

"My advise is always good, for I tell them to get in lots of wood and hay. If the winter is mild, they have plenty left over and are happy, and if it is a hard winter, some one will say 'that fellow Gal-

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N. K. West & Co.

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Exclusive Agents
Hart Schaffner & Marx Suits and Overcoats.

Cold weather needs of the Highest Quality, always at as low a price and often lower prices than you will find elsewhere

Men's Sheep-lined Coats \$10 to \$20	Wool Dress Goods, a big variety..... \$1.00 yd. and up
Men's Wool Mackinaws \$9.00 to \$15	Heavy Weight Coatings \$2.50 yd. and up
Men's Leather Vests \$10	Outing Flannels, all colors 23c yd. and up
Men's Heavy Wool Pants \$6.00 to \$10	Women's Union Suits \$1.25 to \$5.00
Men's Union Suits \$1.75 to \$10	Cotton Blankets, heavy weight \$1.50 to \$4.50
Men's Wool Socks 50c to \$1.00	Wool Blankets, full size \$7.50 to \$12.50
Men's Lined Mitts, Gloves \$4.50 to \$12	Comforters, best quality \$2.75 to \$6.00
Men's Wool Stag Shirts \$4.50 to \$12	Indian Robes, fast colors \$2.75 to \$12.50
Men's Wool Shirts \$2.75 to \$8	Wool Batts, full size \$3.75 to \$5.50

Gold Seal Paces, Arctics, Rubbers—all styles. The lightest and best wearing rubber footwear made; also Alaska Socks for Rubber Shoes.

loway knew what he was talking about.' But seriously, things are coming fine with the ranchers. We are all in good shape for the snow and our land is getting in fine condition for a bumper crop next season.

Walter E. Meacham, secretary of the Baker commercial club and dealer in high grade canines, was in La Grande yesterday speculating on the normal school question and adding his might to put it over for some place in Eastern Oregon. When asked about the city of Me-

A. S. Bennett Candidate.
 Justice A. S. Bennett, of The Dalles, will be candidate for the position in the Supreme Court made vacant by the death of Justice F. Frank Moore, according to the announcement of Harvey G. Starkweather, chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

NOTICE.
 I, the owner of the purse lost night of October 18, give last notice to party that found it. Call at 1707 Jefferson street or phone Black 1642, or immediate steps will be taken to recover same. Full description will be given for same to party when returned.
 10-24-18

CROUP.
 If your children are subject to croup get a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and when the attack comes on be careful to follow the plain printed directions. You will be surprised at the quick relief which it affords.
 Adv.

Combs and tooth brushes of all kinds and manufacture, in large quantities are now in stock and at prices that will fit your pocketbook, at Silverthorn's.
 10-24-18
Silverthorn's
 FAMILY DRUG STORE
 LA GRANDE, OREGON.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

GETTIN' RICH

Did you ever study much about getting rich?

Some people are getting rich, and, apparently, with great ease. Do you know their plan? In many instances here it is:

They commenced by laying aside a fixed portion of their income; this they deposited regularly in banks, where it was allowed to accumulate.

Are you working along this line?

We encourage small accounts, and always give them respectful attention. We are not in the least particular about the size of your first deposit; any size from one dollar up, will be received.

Member Federal Reserve System

La Grande National Bank

HOOVERIZE

YOU WILL, IF YOU BUY YOUR FURNITURE FROM HARRIS FURNITURE CO.—BY SAVING TIME AND MONEY.

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Harris Furniture Store

H. B. HARRIS, Proprietor
 406 FIR STREET PHONE: Red 8171.

New Machinery

We have installed \$6000.00 worth of new machinery; we make bread ready for the oven, 18 leaves a minute. Complete line of Home-made Pies, Cakes, Doughnuts, Snails, Coffee Cakes and Cookies. All made according to government regulations.

DUTLI BAKERY

317 NORTH FIR ST. JUST ACROSS THE TRACK

PUBLIC SALE

THE UNDERSIGNED WILL OFFER FOR SALE TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, AT

WILKINSON RANCH

8 Miles Southeast of La Grande, Oregon

THURS., NOV. 7, 1918

BEGINNING AT 10 A.M., THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY,

80 Head of Horses

12 head 3-year olds; 24 head 2-year olds; 14 head of yearlings; 8 head of colts; 6 head of mules 16 head of work horses. Also 2 milk cows.

1 Derrick	1 Hay Rack
5 Header Boxes	1 6-Horse Gasoline Engine with Wood Saw attached
4 Sets of Nets	1 Feed Roller
1 Deering Binder	3 Jackson Forks
2 McCormick Rakes	1 3-Section Wood Roller
3 McCormick Mowing Machines nearly new	1 Watering Trough
2 Walking Plows	1 Vitroling Trough
3 Gang Plows	4 Trail Tongues
1 3-Bottom Disc Plow	1 Buggy
1 Alfalfa Disc	4 Gasoline Drums
2 6-Section Drag Harrows and carts	1 2 1-2 Horse Gasoline Engine
1 18-Hoe Monitor Drill	1 60-Gallon Vat with Furnace
1 Double Disc	1 Set Blacksmith Tools
1 3-Section Spring Tooth Harrow	5 Sets Harness
6 Wagons, 3 1-4	2 Fanning Mills
2 Stack Racks	Many other articles too numerous to mention
1 Flat Rack	

FREE LUNCH AT NOON

TERMS OF SALE—All sums of \$10 and less, Cash; for sums of over \$10, six-months' notes, with interest at 8 per cent will be accepted. All stock and implements offered at this Auction must be sold.

MIRE & CLARK, Owners.
 T. J. SCROGGIN, Clerk. F. A. MEMENAMIN, Heppner, Or., Auctioneer
 Sale conducted under the auspices of The Farmers' Exchange of the Inland Empire, Heppner, Oregon