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A MOTHER'S PROMISE TO HER SON

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

My Dear One—I'm writing this very, very small and on the thinnest of paper, so that tightly folded it may slip into one of the olive drab pockets of your new uniform without encroaching for the tiniest part of an inch upon all the new things that you must have there—the passports and identification slips and photograph, the knife and pen and writing pad, the lists and numbers and names and ciphers, the address book and the thin manual you have been studying so hard and the slim little Bible, for this letter is a part of your equipment, too, or at least I like to think that it is.

I'm going to tell you in it just one or two of the things we've been trying not to say in these last days. You've said to yourself, haven't you, that there were possibilities that I, thank God, hadn't seemed to think of. You've marvelled gratefully, haven't you, that I could say goodbye with dry eyes and talk about what we should do when the war is over. My dear, there is nothing—nothing—that can happen to you that I haven't foreseen in every detail since May, since the very beginning of it all. I know that some of our men are not going to come back. I know—as I write this in the room you love—that your fingers may fumble for this little piece of paper in some dreadful hour, a month or two months or six months from now, just to read it over once more for the last time, just to feel in your fingers out there in a shell lighted battlefield something that I have touched—for goodbye.

Just as you planned I planned, and I said to myself: "When the time comes for us to part I shall make him a promise." Dear one, this is my promise, and I make it for the term of your own—for the duration of the present war.

I promise you that while you are away, whether it is months or years, nothing except what I can give you and give all the others shall fill my life. I promise you that I shall devote myself, here in safety, to the work of making what you do easier and stronger and safer for you. I promise you that I shall give—and give and give—for the Cause! Not the money I can spare, not the time I have left when everything else is done, but all the money, all the time, all the energy I have!

Your whole life has been altered, has been set to sterner and graver music. So shall mine be. You will know self denial, privation and fatigue while the war lasts. So shall I know them. Even if black news comes, even if the blackest comes, I shall remember that against your brave heart this promise is resting, and I shall go on. And while there is one man among our million and among the millions of our allies who needs clothing and nursing and comforts and solace for your sake I shall not fall him.

Perhaps in God's goodness this note will come safely back to me in the olive drab pocket, and we will smile over it together. But, remember, until that hour comes I shall be always busy filling my own small place in the great machine of mercy and as truly under the colors over here as you are over there. God bless you!

WHEN A CUP OF COFFEE TASTES LIKE A MILLION DOLLARS

He Got His Cup and Then Went on—to Death.

Through the establishment of the line of communication canteens in France the American Red Cross is setting records in serving hot coffee, cocoa and sandwiches to the troops. One of these refreshment units made another new record recently, serving more than 50,000 meals in one week. At another cup of coffee was served every ten seconds for a period of two consecutive hours.

In a single week these lines of communication canteens often serve 80,000 American and French soldiers.

Soldiers in Box Cars.
Do our soldiers and their allies really want this form of Red Cross service? A letter from a young American aviator, a 1917 graduate of Princeton University, is probably typical. It might be added that this man has since been reported killed after bringing down a German Tauba. "A 50 mile train ride over here," he said, "instead of taking a few hours may take days. When we stop at a Red Cross canteen you can bet that a cup of coffee tastes like a million dollars."

It is not always possible for a regiment to provide sufficient food and hot coffee on these long journeys, where the men must often be packed standing into unheated box cars ordinarily used for carrying horses. So imagine for yourself the warmth, the cheer, the comfort that piping hot coffee and good sandwiches bring to our boys after a night on such a journey! You can just bet that it stiffens a man's courage. Your Red Cross is handing out this renewed courage by the piping hot cupful.

IRVINE CLAGGETT'S MEMORY IS GOOD

(Portland Oregonian.)

Trading an ox-team for the land that lies between East Stark street and Holladay avenue, and extending from Grand avenue to the Willamette River was one of the boyhood experiences of Irvine Claggett, who is in Portland in connection with settlement of the Caruthers estate.

Locations were desired to determine certain points in the contested Caruthers property rights under legal proceedings. Mr. Claggett designated the spot where his father made his first home on coming to Portland in 1852. It was in the Caruthers donation claim. The father, Benjamin Claggett, rented the entire 640 acres, extending from the site of the old state penitentiary (now the Smith and Watson Iron Works) one mile south along the Willamette, and from the river back to what is now Terwilliger boulevard. Caruthers was not the original owner, but paid about \$1.25 per acre for the land, according to the recollection of Irvine Claggett.

The family of Benjamin Claggett entered on the premises in the Spring of 1853, and the father did much of the iron work and blacksmithing at the penitentiary. Later a man named Ross who had a livery stable on Morrison, near Third, and a Mr. Jacobs, who owned a wagon shop, induced Benjamin Claggett to open a blacksmith shop in their locality. This was at the edge of the settlement as it then existed, and about where Ben Selling's store is situated. The road from the river ran west to the hills, and it was along this road that much of their patronage came.

In 1854 the elder Claggett took up a donation land claim, half a section above the pleasant town of Gresham, and where Pleasant Home station now stands.

Irvine Claggett became the owner of an ox team and wagon, and was engaged in various enterprises when a mere stripling. He hauled gravel for the improvement of Front and First streets, bringing it by ferry from the pits on the East Side. He relates how one man objected to having the "expensive improvement" made, with the result that Claggett secured some log of considerable size and placed a corduroy road in front of the objector's premises.

At this time a man named Caruthers, but of a different family, not related to the South Portland Caruthers, offered to trade the land from Holladay's Addition south to the Stark street road for the ox team. Young Claggett could not title, being under age. He tried to get some one to act for him until he came of age, but was not successful and the deal fell thru. He later planned to take up a claim now known as Marquam Hill, but was too young to file. The property involved in the ox team trade is now known as Wheeler's Addition.

The family lived for 12 years on the Pleasant Home farm. Irvine married and later moved to Jacksonville for his wife's health, and then to Douglas county. In 1867 he settled at Independence, Polk County, and has lived there nearly 51 years. Independence was then a grain-growing center and all was shipped to Portland by boat.

He operated the ferry, opened a warehouse, bought and sold grain and merchandise. Schools were needed, as there were only three months of school in the year for such as were established. Districts were consolidated and teachers employed, among them Judge Martin L. Pipes, now of Portland.

A charter was framed for the town of Independence and city government established. In the school work W. P. Conway, now of Woodburn, aided in the plans. Getting the town started in its legal aspects, Mr. Claggett had the aid of a man named McCord, who later went to Eastern Oregon. He took a hand in securing churches. The Southern Methodist Church was the first established.

Mr. Claggett is a live citizen right now. He is 77 years old and going strong. His reminiscences are most interesting. Coming across the plains in 1852, his party came direct to Portland over the old Oregon trail from Missouri, where he was born in 1841. His parents were from (Continued on Page 4.)

TWO MORE
We add the following names to the South Polk County Service List:
Ernest Williams
Vern Williams
This makes a total of 115.

MR. McNARY IS LAUDED BY SENATOR JOHNSON

Washington—Senator Hiram W. Johnson of California today gave out the following statement concerning the amendment to the food control bill recently introduced in the Senate by Senator Charles L. McNary:

"It is my firm conviction that Senator McNary has rendered the people of this country signal service in calling to the attention of Congress the short-comings of the present food control bill and pointing a clear way for correction of the evils it contains.

"For two or three years the producers and consumers have seen prices steadily advance until we find great hardships falling upon the masses of the people who are unable to earn wages commensurate with the cost of right living. It is my belief that this bill, if passed by Congress, will do great service in lowering the cost of the plain necessities of life by effectually removing the heartless profiteer whose gluttony surpasses human understanding. I believe Senator McNary is doing a commendable work and should have the support of all patriotic citizens who place the interests of the many above the avarice of the few.

"In this bill, as in his career as Senator, Mr. McNary has shown his ability, his vision and his statesmanship. We are grateful to the state of Oregon for having given us such a Senator. He reflects credit upon his state and does honor to the Nation."

SERVICE BANNER TO BE UNFURLED

The Independence service flag will soon be unfurled. It will be dedicated sometime this month, with appropriate ceremony at which time honor and tribute will be paid to the sons of Independence who are now serving their country on land and sea.

The Independence flag will contain between seventy-five and a hundred stars and will consist of those whose postoffice address was Independence at the time of their enlistment.

The flag which will cost between \$15 and \$20 will be paid for by voluntary contributions. Boxes will be placed in several business houses where all will have an opportunity to assist financially.

NO RIGHT TO REQUIRE DEPOSIT ON METERS

The Oregon Public Service Commission has ruled that the Portland Power and Light Co. has no right to demand a deposit when a meter is installed. The same ruling naturally would apply to any other public utility corporation of the same kind which would include the Oregon Power Co.

A large number of Independence people, especially renters, have money "invested" in meter deposits.

"BAD MAN" BREAKS OUT OF STATE PENITENTIARY

Jeff Baldwin, known as a "bad man" at the penitentiary escaped Sunday and as yet has not been captured. The State Guard is assisting in the hunt. Baldwin is supposed to be hiding in the brush between Salem and Orville. This is his second break.



29,000 YOUNG SALMON PUT IN THE RICKREALL RIVER

Dallas—In an effort to introduce salmon in this part of Oregon, 29,000 chinook fry were placed in the Rickreall river and Ellendale creek near here Saturday by the state fish, and game commission. Salmon, it is well known, come back to their home water every four years, and it is believed that by planting these young fish they will return here to spawn. One hundred and seven cutthroat trout were also placed in the Rickreall by the commission.

POLK COUNTY DEMOCRATS TO FILL OUT TICKET

The Polk county Democratic ticket will be completed at the primaries Friday when the following names will be written in: Thomas W. Brunk for representative, I. M. Simpson for commissioner and Fred Suver for surveyor. For state senator, Robert Johnson of Corvallis will get a number of votes in Polk county and probably the nomination.

POLK REGISTRATION

Republicans 4,110, Democrats 2,264, Progressives 11, Prohibitionists 216, Socialists 162, Miscellaneous 237. Total 7,000.

"TIME OF THEIR LIVES" SAY G. A. R. VETERANS

A large delegation of Independence G. A. R. and W. R. C. attended the state encampment at Albany and according to the testimony of the comrades and good sisters they "had the time of their lives." Comrade Bascue said it was the best organized parade he was ever in and he has marched in sixteen of them. He is a member of the state drum corps and this G. A. R. band is always heartily cheered everywhere.

WANTS UNCLE SAM TO OPERATE RIVER BOATS

St. Paul, Ore., May 10—To the Editor—The Oregon City Transportation Co. has taken its boats from the Willamette river and one of our transportation lines is idle. This is a great loss to the valley as the river helps a great deal to control the railroads.

It seems that the retiring company took their boats from the river route for the following reasons: lack of patronage, scarcity of labor, high wages, and the last year of idleness caused by repairs on the locks at Oregon City.

It seems that the retiring company is willing to lease its yellow stack boats to good old Uncle Samuel. Why not make a move on Washington? Write to our very popular young Senator McNary. See the chambers of commerce of the different cities along the river, make a move to save the river route and let business men patronize it year after year. Farmers are tied up by a scarcity of cans. The Willamette river route gives us transportation independent of the railroads.

The government spent a large sum of money last year for the improvement of the locks at Oregon City and it is a pity not to use them.

Very truly yours,
JOHN F. THEO. B. BREUTANO.

ELIZABETH MIXER WINS FIRST PRIZE IN COUNTY

Elizabeth Mixer won the first prize in Polk county offered to the pupil who sold the most Thrift stamps during the month of April. Her total was \$5,010.

Canning Season

is approaching and the far-sighted housewife will this year above all others buy her requirements early.

We advise that you do not delay in buying all of the jars that you need as a traveling salesman told us that only about ten per cent of the glass factories in the United States are running. We have quite a generous supply on hand and are selling Mason's for—

- Pints 85c dozen
- Quarts \$1.0 dozen
- 1/2 Gallons \$1.25 dozen
- Zinc Caps 30c dozen

Yours Truly,

JOHNSON & COLLINS

The Man Without a Country

The Picture that will rouse the nation
A Film for Americans

ISIS THEATRE
SUNDAY,
May 19