

LETTERS FROM SOLDIER BOYS

Some From France and One From Texas

Interesting Letters From the Boys Who Are in the Service

With the Colors, April 14.

Dear Sir—

This finds me at Kelley Field flying school. Am not flying but am in charge of the propeller department at the flying school. You can see it is difficult for me to stay away from wood working. I have been making propellers ever since I came down here, that is two weeks after arriving at San Antonio, Texas, and I expect to carry it on for awhile longer.

I have not received my commission yet, but hope to before long. We have had a mild winter of it down here, a little cool during December and January, but not enough to be called winter. There is something that is objectionable at times and that is the dust storms.

The barracks, hangers and shops are surrounded by flying fields on all sides, and as they just finished last fall they are but a bed of dust, and where there are from 100 to 150 planes flying every day there is but little room for the grass to grow.

So far I like the work down here fine. Of course it is a little monotonous, as we are partially isolated from the civil life in town.

I have gained 25 pounds since I came down here and I have been working considerably harder than I did in civil life.

Well, the Kaiser is hammering hard, but we are going over some of these days with several thousand aeroplanes and take Germany behind his back. At any rate we are not coming back until we have him locked up and put out of business whether it takes a year or ten.

How is Independence? How are things at the High School? I understand no manual training has been taught there this year. Well, it is not the only place where the manual training teachers are in the army.

Are the Barrick boys and Fletcher still in town? Since coming down here have met many O. A. C. boys, some as officers, some as cadets in the flying school and others in the ranks.

Sincerely,
Corp. Theodore Ellestat.

Somewhere in France
April 10, 1918.

Dear—

I was out in the country the other day. They sure have lots of pretty country here and farming land. It is fun to see them farm. They have one great large horse and one real small one strung out on a plow.

It looks like rain here this morning. The boys who were here last summer say this is the prettiest country in France.

I am going to school over here taking a course in French. I am learning a little and can talk quite a conversation with the French. Harry is not with me now. I am on detached service but see him quite often. How is my dog.

Another letter from the same party, dated April 7, says in part:

I think the rain is over. It looks good. The sun is out and the streets are drying up, but it takes a long time for them to dry. They are not like ours. They are very narrow and very rough. They have no smooth pavement. It is made of rocks laid side by side. The buildings are not high, mostly two stories. I have not seen Lee Jordan for

three months. I hear from Harry S. and lots of the boys and they don't say anything about any of the boys being ill, so I guess everybody is O. K. Neil Buchanan.

The following letter has been handed the Monitor by one of its readers:

Camp Greene, Charlotte, N. C.
April 7, 1918.

I am getting along fine. I was made sergeant the first of April and will be getting my sergeant warrant on a few days and will send it to you as soon as I get it. The Fourth Division paraded in Charlotte yesterday at Liberty Day celebration. The Fourth Engineers marched right after the General's staff.

It started to rain here today. In this country the sun will be out so hot one can hardly stand the heat and in five minutes it will cloud and rain.

We are about one hundred miles from the coast. Three of us boys hired an auto and went out to Myers Park, Electric Park and the Country Club. They have fine buildings mostly built of brick. Earl Peterson.

PRES KURR OF O. A. C.

Makes Eloquent Plea for Food Conservation

W. J. Kerr, president of the Oregon Agricultural College, delivered one of the most interesting and instructive addresses ever heard in this city along the line of the necessity for conservation of our food supplies in order to be able to feed the armies of the Allies and their people.

He quoted facts and figures that proved beyond a doubt that every ounce of food conserved would find ready use and urgent need on foreign soil. His address was a masterpiece and one that every citizen should have heard.

It has not yet been brought home to us the actual need that is confronting us, and the facts that "Food will win the war." is becoming more evident every day.

MOTHER'S DAY SUNDAY, MAY 12

Prof. Patterson of Eugene Will Have Charge of the Services at Christian Church

A morning sermon on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12, at the Christian church has been arranged and Prof. Patterson of Eugene will deliver the morning talk. We understand Mr. Patterson is a good speaker and is appreciated wherever he is called.

MUSICAL PROGRAM PLANNED SOON

Two Pleasant Entertainments are Promised the People Here the Coming Week

Miss Mary F. Irvine of Albany, is one of the best musicians who comes to our city, and the announcement that she will give two musical events next week are very pleasing to the music loving community.

On Saturday night, May 11, she has secured the 1st theatre for a May Pole dance and under her direction a pupils recital will be given the following afternoon at the Presbyterian church.

Mrs. Joanna Beard of Albany, who has a beautiful voice of excellent training and range, will sing as a part of the entertainment.

LADIES CLUBS ORGANIZING

War Saving Plan to be First Effort Made

Ladies Clubs Organizing Under the Council of Defense Plan in Independence

Mrs. Winnie Braden, County Chairman of the Woman's Council of Defense of Polk county, met with the different club and lodge presidents in independence the first of the week and took up with them the matter of perfecting a ladies auxiliary to the Woman's Council of Defense. Mrs. B. F. Swope of the local council called together Mrs. O. A. Kremer of the Pythian Sisters, Mrs. Geo. W. Conkey of the school board, Mrs. W. J. Clark of the Parent Teachers Association, Mrs. Carbray of the Camp Fire Girls, Mrs. Mattison of the Presbyterian Needlecraft Society, Mrs. O. D. Butler, vice president of the County Council, to plan for a further organization of all clubs at a later date. Saturday was selected and every club of the city was to be included in the permanent organization plan.

The men's council and the women's council are to cooperate and work together so as to eliminate all duplication of work and the women's clubs will take over all the activities of the women in this national war work.

The first work the clubs plan doing is to organize into a war saving society all aid societies, fraternities, Red Cross organizations and all clubs of every nature having ten or more people associated together.

LADIES TAKE NOTICE

Independence Branch Red Cross Has Received Shipment of Materials

The Independence Branch of the Red Cross has received quite a shipment of material and it is desired that as many ladies as possible do work at the Red Cross rooms.

Special days for all are Tuesday and Friday of each week. Come and do your bit.

IN MEMORIAM

Another bright link is added to memory's golden chain forever to remain untarnished, by the death of my faithful old friend, John

For forty years or more he was the same staunch friend, always wearing a smile of the best welcome when we met at his home, and now he's gone, and the circle of living old friends is getting very small. For over forty years they have been passing away—the pioneers of Oregon—one by one, and I am still left to contribute to their faithful memories. I'll miss the friend at the dear old home that has been there so long.

but even in death thou wilt live for the boy of thy heart of years ago—Francis is still here to make the golden circle complete. And now to thee, once more, dear old friend, I'll bid a last adieu, and the flowers of Oregon spring time are here to deck thy grave—fitting emblems of a good, true and faithful life to country and to friends, and on thy tomb should be engraved:

"Faithful to Country and to Friends. He Sought for the Right and Won"

Albert O. Yates

CITY COUNCIL MEETS IN REGULAR SESSION

Pay Bills, Elect a New Marshall, Accept Proposition for Vacating Street

The city council met in regular session Wednesday evening with Mix, Damon, W. H. Craven, Bohannon, B. F. Swope, recorder, and A. J. Tupper, marshal, present.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved, showing petition to vacate F street as petitioned by the Oregon Milling Company, allowed.

Ordinance introduced vacating street as proposed, but laid over for a larger attendance of council.

Claims allowed as follows:

Jas. P. Morgan, for labor	\$ 1.50
Al Obergson for labor	80.00
M Graves for gravel	1.90
A. J. Tupper, salary and com.,	65.00
Oregon Power Co., light, water	214.06
B. F. Swope, recorder fees	7.60

Resignation of A. J. Tupper as city marshal read and accepted and application of Frank Arrell for marshal was received and he was elected until January 1, 1919, at \$65 per month.

The scouts of Wolsey, S. D., aided an invalid woman by carrying fuel and water and doing chores about the house, and have often wheeled her to church.

The scouts in Conyers, Ga., put a War Savings stamp display ad in the paper and have sold several thousand dollars worth.

In Waterbury, Conn., the Rotary club furnished 60 auto trucks, and 240 boy scouts collected piles of books set out for the army camps.

The test of a man is in what he is able to do. Rhinestones sparkle, but they don't cut glass.—Milwaukee News

K. OF P. HAVE VISITORS GALORE MONDAY

Grand Chancellor Leslie E. Crouch, Grand Keeper of Records and Seals Walter G. Gleason and Ed M. Lane of Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 1, Portland came up Monday evening to help put on the Third rank in the local lodge hall. Brother Lane took the leading place and Brothers Gleason and

HARRY LAUDER'S ADVICE

Harry Lauder is being serious these days. The famous Scotch comedian is subordinating his comedy to the all-embracing demands of war. Along with his work for his injured soldiers' fund and the Y. M. C. A., Lauder is making an earnest appeal to Americans to prepare for the next Liberty Loan. General subscription is the theme of Lauder's message. Here is what he says:

Liberty is the dearest word in any language. It is the thing the Germans are fighting to take away. It is the one big thing we must fight to keep.

What have you done to help win the war? What are you doing to preserve liberty?

Every Sunday 500,000 Germans in the United States sing songs of pulling the trigger; they are talking of you—of the United States. What are you doing to do about them?

Right now our answer must be—BUY LIBERTY BONDS! We have given that answer once, twice already. But we must make it again and again as need is. We must turn our dollars into silver bullets. That is the way we can become shareholders in the Bank of Humanity. Our part is to provide the wherewithal, since we can't do what the boys out there are doing.

Back in France I saw battalions of young fighters marching along and chanting a song—any old song—right into the mouth of death. They knew where they were going. They were fighting to save LIBERTY. And they are calling on you to help them, you back here.

Our part is easy compared with theirs—but it is OUR PART and it must be done. Put your money into Liberty supports. Sign up as shareholders in humanity's bank.

MONDAY IS STAMP DAY

All Independence Stores Give Stamp Discount

Thrift Stamp Day Monday, May 6, and Special Offers Made By Merchants

To stimulate the sale of Thrift Stamps and help win the war the merchants and business men made an agreement to give a five per cent discount on all goods purchased at their stores Monday, May 6, which discount is to be in the nature of Thrift Stamps presented with the payment for the goods purchased.

Monday is National Thrift Stamp day over the whole of the United States in accordance with a plan adopted by the National War Savings Committee.

The government has asked by circular bulletin that every business man in the United States work for the sale of stamps on this day, and the Independence stores decided that they would help to impress the idea on the public by making a discount on every article purchased from them on that day.

It is also suggested that in making change that every person take at least 25 cents of their change in Thrift Stamps, thus helping this world movement for the success of the war.

Oregon must do her part. Oregon always goes over the top. Polk county must help and our boys call on our people to see that Polk does her share.

A MEMORIAL AT RICKREALL

Sunday, at 2:30 for Boy Dying in France

Memorial Service at Rickreall for Soldier Who Dies in France

A telegraphic report received at Rickreall April 30, announced the death of Private Benjamin J. Hill in France from cerebro-spinal meningitis on April 25.

Mr. Hill was a member of Company I, and is the first Polk county boy to die in France. He was 26 years of age and a son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Hill of Rickreall.

Plans have been perfected for a big memorial service at the grove in Rickreall, Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, in his honor.

Governor Withycombe and D. V. Poling were invited to be present and participate in the exercises and have accepted the invitation. The Dallas band will furnish music and it is to be made a county memorial event.

Death brings its realization of the grimness of this cruel war but the determination to win for democracy and justice is not dimmed by the awful toll that will come to us, and every soldier that gives his life for his country makes for his community a life sacrificed for freedom a home saddened that liberty may live and flourish in America.

A GOOD OPPORTUNITY

A Good Man is Available for Polk County as Agricultural Agent

Up in Malheur county one of our best investments is a county agricultural Agent. There are several classes of County Agricultural Agents and we have seen some that should be clerking in a penny store but there are good men available if you can get them.

It has come to us that A. R. Chase, county agent of Wasco county, could be induced to come to Polk county. This man is one of the best men of the class in the state and would be a big asset to the county.

He is recognized for his boys and girls club work and at the present time when conservation, increased production and the winning of this great war is everyone's main endeavor such a man as Mr. Chase would be a valuable addition to our county.

We would like to see a little effort made to see if our county court would not investigate this matter.

THE POLITICAL MELTING POT

The Senatorial Situation and Pres. Wilson

Supporting the President in all Measures, State the Democrats

West has constituted himself the Presidential Democrat of Oregon, but if we remember correctly when President Wilson was in a little difficulty with our George Brother West telegraphed to Chamberlain congratulating him on his stand. Was this supporting the president? If you will remember leading Democrats over the state took the presidential view and were bitter in their accusations against Chamberlain but how about West?

One of the closest men to Wilson in Oregon is Will R. King. He has come out for the Democratic nomination. He is a president Wilson man. He helped carry the West for Wilson in his first campaign. He was rewarded for his efforts by a position of importance and has his headquarters at Washington, D. C.

McNary, the Republican incumbent, has not always stood with Wilson. In fact on one occasion he stood with La Follette and when the senate was acting on H. R. 4280 to finance the war, La Follette made a dozen attempts to defeat the measure by amendments and substitutions and eleven times McNary followed La Follette's leadership and voted with him. La Follette has issued a statement showing the roll call on his program and the name of McNary appears with that of La Follette in every roll call as above stated, with the exception of one. Others of the fifteen or more who followed La Follette's lead were not of the Presidential supporters and this was a particular measure supported and favored by the president, and which La Follette was attempting to defeat.

President Wilson has frequently recommended that men be retained of the opposite party when they were supporting him in his measures of war policy, but no word has come from Washington asking the people to support McNary in preference to Stanfield. No word has come from Washington asking the Democrats to vote for West. The White House has been as silent as the tomb, which is the usual policy where the man who is out for office cannot be depended on.

Stanfield and King are both men of character and force. I do not believe either would follow a Pacifist like La Follette. I believe both would be satisfactory to President Wilson. Wilson wants big men, men of action and energy, who think in millions and can see a financial benefit that requires big brains to see it.

Stanfield offered his entire wool clip at prevailing prices to the government before he had decided to make the race for U. S. senator. He did not dispose of his holdings to middle men and speculators but kept a part of his clips in his own possession that a supply could be had when needed by the government. He realized that by holding he might be subject to regulation and that his full supply might be conscripted but he was public spirited enough to hold in face of these facts, that a good quantity could be delivered in an emergency. This is not profiteering. Profiteering is holding for profit and with the idea of hoarding the supply.

Co. "B" Home Defense Guard of Buena Vista met again last Saturday evening and received their first few instructions in military tactics such as forming, roll call, saluting and other preliminary duties. Hereafter they will meet Friday evenings at 7:30 P. M.

Clubbing Offer: Two for Price of One

In order to place the Monitor on a strictly Cash in Advance system, we have decided to club our two papers for a limited time at the price of one. Two weekly papers for \$1.50

The Monitor The Western Youth

A home paper with County News A strictly boys' and girls' newspaper

Regular Price Regular Price
\$1.50 \$1.50