

# Letters From Our Soldier Boys

**BURGESS F. FORD  
WRITES FROM FRANCE**

Somewhere in France,  
October 3, 1918.  
Stayton Mail:

It has only been four months since I last saw Stayton but it seems like ages.

The other evening while in a very prominent city purchasing special supplies for the men, I accidentally met three men whom I knew in Oregon and all left with Company M of Marion county. One was Leroy Gard who went to school to me for three years at Estacada and stayed at our home during his first year at Willamette University. Another was Ferris Abbett whom I knew when he was a very small boy, and the third one was Cole Cole the famous pitcher of Stayton. I do not know how glad the boys were to meet me, but if they received as much good out of the meeting as I did I am sure they were made very happy. Outside of these three men I have only met one other man I know, and that was ex-Mayor Griffith and cashier of the Bank of Jefferson.

Since coming over here I have done almost every kind of work, and I have always done it willingly regardless of where duty called

me. I have worked from far back in the training camps to clear up and beyond the front line trenches in time of battle. I wish I could tell you what I have seen and heard with my own eyes and ears, but I will have to postpone this till I return.

I do know however that the Y. in general is of great benefit to every man in the army, especially when he is near the front. I wish that I could just be with you one evening to tell of some of my experiences. But I want to assure you of one thing and that is that your Stayton representative here is doing his "dead level" best to make good.

Many of times each day do I think of the Stayton folk and especially do my thoughts go back to the boys and girls in both the grade and high schools of Stayton. How I would enjoy going in tomorrow morning and shaking hands with every last one of them. Those high school students are the best bunch of students I have ever had the privilege of teaching, so you can readily see how I became so attached to them.

Whatever you do be sure that my paper is sent to me regularly.

Yours very truly,  
Burgess F. Ford.

**STANLEY L. STEWART  
AT CAMP HOLABIRD, MD.**

Stanley Stewart, one time cashier of the Farmers and Merchants Bank here, now with Uncle Sam's boys at Camp Holabird, Md., says his chances for going across the pond are slim:

Camp Holabird, Md.,  
October 28, 1918.

Mr. W. F. Blakely,  
Stayton, Oregon.

Dear Sir and Brother: Your letter of the 23rd with certificate of membership inclosed has been received. Needless to say it is highly prized and will be made use of. My chances of going "over the top" are remote as the work I am engaged in will likely keep me in this camp until the end of the war. I should like very much to see service overseas but it seems to have been decided otherwise so I am getting what satisfaction I can out of being a small part in the affairs of this camp which are of great importance in helping win the war over there.

With kindest personal regards,  
I am, Fraternally yours,  
Lieut. Stanley L. Stewart.

# HUNS DESEGRATE FRENCH CHURCHES

Unbelievable Vandalism Committed in Chateau-Thierry.

## DESPERATE NEED OF FATS

Remove Every Candle and Even the Bits of Partially Burned Candles From Churches Before Evacuation—Whenever They Could Not Carry Vestments Away They Fouled Them in an Unspeaking Manner.

Proof that Germany is more desperately in need of fats than ever before was gathered in Chateau-Thierry when the French cure in charge of St. Crepin's church in that quiet little city returned to the ruins of his parish a few days ago.

Before the Germans abandoned the place to the storming Yanks they removed every candle and even the bits of partially burned candles from the church, and, in addition, took the candles which the nuns used in the Hotel Dieu, their little hospital there. The cure says the Huns must have secured about 400 pounds of candles in the two religious edifices.

In addition to stealing all the candles, the Huns stole the sacred vessels from the church and chapel, took away the bronze candlesticks which had been there for years, and even cut the leather from the interior of the big pipe organ and carried that away. The pipes of the organ were twisted so that the instrument was rendered useless, and the vestments of the cure and his assistant were fouled by Ludendorff's hordes.

### Fat Shortage Acute.

In the presence of Rev. Father James Horton, principal of the Marist college, of Atlanta, Ga., who is now a volunteer chaplain with the Knights of Columbus, German prisoners recently stated that they had been given orders to collect every bit of fat they could to be sent back to Germany. The prisoners admitted that the shortage there was more acute than it had ever been.

Father Horton, through the Knights of Columbus, supplied the French cure with candles, sacred vessels and vestments for his church and the nun's chapel, so that services could be held in those places for the French who have returned to the ruins of their homes in Chateau-Thierry.

As an expression of his gratitude to the Knights of Columbus the cure gave Father Horton the honor of saying the first mass held in the church since the Germans were forced out of the city. Hundreds of American soldiers stationed there crowded in the old and battered church last Sunday, and after Father Horton finished the mass the cure delivered a special sermon in English, in which he hailed the American soldiers as the saviors of France.

### Churches Desecrated.

"I have visited several other churches in the sector from which the Germans were recently driven by the allies, and I have found that the Huns have desecrated all of them. In one church they appear to have deliberately broken a number of beautiful stained glass windows which had escaped in spite of the bombardment. Whenever they could not carry vestments away they were fouled in an unspeaking manner and they even planted bombs in the interior of a pipe organ in one small church, evidently in the hopes of killing some of the people when they returned to their parish," said Father Horton.

The Knights of Columbus are aiding many of the French cures in restoring the ruins of their churches and the cures are reciprocating by turning over the buildings to the K. of C. chaplains to hold masses for the American soldiers in the field.

### FAILS TO DOFF HAT

Minister Suffers for Lapse When National Anthem is Played.

Louis F. Hoppe, a young Baptist minister, was greatly humiliated on Main street, Chattanooga, when he failed to remove his hat while a minstrel band was passing playing "The Star-Spangled Banner." A zealous patriot knocked off the minister's hat, and as it was promptly readjusted another bystander sent the headgear whirling to the sidewalk again. After his arrest the clergyman declared his patriotism, saying his act was one of carelessness, but he is being held for examination.

### Electricity on Thrashers.

Kansas farmers having electric lines to their farms are doing their thrashing this year with electricity and saving money. They have formed co-operative associations and bought or hired a motor and transformer, running cables direct to the field. The result—a 50 per cent cut in help, no danger from fire, and the work is done cheaper and a little quicker than with the steam machines.

### Enlists After Six Attempts.

Six times within the past two years Paul Cooley of Ripon, Wis., who was employed as a telegraph operator, attempted to enlist in the army but was barred because of his age—fifteen. Finally when he reached the seven-year mark he went to Canada, joined the Royal engineers and is now confined in a Canadian hospital with a broken arm.

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## Aumsville News

Mrs. Tony Perkins is reported on the sick list.

A few cases of influenza have been reported around here.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Fuson made a business trip to Salem Tuesday.

Mrs. I. E. Linnville was in town shopping Wednesday.

Mr. and Dean Wright and son Allen of Boise Idaho are visiting at the home of Mrs. Wright's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Hein.

Mrs. Millie Martin is at her home again after several days nursing at the home of Mrs. J. E. Towie.

J. C. Peterson of Graham was a week end visitor at the E. C. Peterson home of Shaw.

Miss Opal Phillips, who for some time has been at the Good Samaritan hospital in Portland, was visiting at the home of her parents Sunday and Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Peterson and son Darrel of Mill City were visiting friends and relatives of this place Sunday.

H. P. Jensen, who was reported on the sick list, is doing better at the latest report.

Will Morris and family were guests at the John Brinkman home Sunday.

Mrs. M. E. Eastburn is engaged in housework at the Geo. Clymer home at Turner.

## Mt. Pleasant

Miss Bessie Shank and Hal Shelton motored to Albany Wednesday.

Messrs. Arnold Senz and Frank Laux were week end visitors at Albany.

Miss Cora Ray of McMinnville is visiting home folks this week.

Miss Grace Shank returned home from Salem Thursday, where she has spent the past two weeks.

Mrs. Selmer Brown and sisters Elsie and Elda Downing and Master Clifford Downing called at the M. F. Ryan home Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Roy Brenner and daughter were week end visitors at the P. H. Lambert home.

There will be preaching at the Mt. Pleasant church, Sunday, Nov. 10, both morning and evening.

The misses Grace, Verna Roxana, Crystal and Bessie Shank and Hal Shelton motored to Albany Friday. Hal Shelton left Friday evening for Raleigh,

North Carolina, where he enlisted in the tank corps. He left with his usual happy smile, saying he would bring old Kaiser Bill back for a souvenir.

Ves Downing, Ed Smith and Crystal Shank were Sunday visitors at Lee Downing's.

H. R. Shank, wife and son Raymond spent Sunday at the Mrs. Roxie Shank home.

The United War Work campaign is an array of the greatest and most united effort the world has ever seen for the benefit of our boys at the front. The President of the United States has requested each school district in the United States to help the boys to be made happy while at the front by subscribing to the United War Work Campaign, which consists of the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Knights of Columbus, War Camp Community Association, Jewish Welfare Board and the Salvation Army. The allotment for District No. 12 is \$110.00. So please be ready to give your part between the 11th and 18th of this month. Miss Crystal Shank, Chairman.

Mrs. Roxie Shank and daughters Roxana and Crystal called at the Eberhardt home Wednesday.

G. H. Ray was seen splashing through the mud and water on the Mt. Pleasant business street one day this week.

Mrs. Hedry Senz returned from Albany Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Linn Lambert were Sunday visitors at the P. H. Lambert home.

## Union Hill

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Lincoln were Salem visitors Friday.

Mrs. W. H. Mollet, Ralph and Ethel and Mrs. C. C. Carter were Stayton visitors Saturday. They were accompanied home by Miss Bertha from where she has been visiting her cousins Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Crabtree and family.

Mrs. W. H. Tate and daughter Edna were Stayton callers one day last week.

E. C. Carter has rented the Chas. Darst farm. They have moved into the J. J. Staiger house near the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Rabens and son Elmer were Stayton callers Saturday. While there they called on Mrs. Rabens' parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Corman.

Mr. J. A. Lincoln made a business trip to Turner Saturday.

Mr. John Worden called at the Chas. Peters home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Neal were trading with Sublimity and Stayton merchants Monday.

The road district of this community has been making some wonderful improvements on the roads the last four weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Branch and family spent Sunday with Mrs. Branch's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Peters.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Rabens and little daughter Myrtle of Stayton were visiting at the W. H. Rabens home.

Elmer King and son Jasper have been looking after stock on their ranch the first of the week.

Mrs. J. King and family were visiting relatives in Union Hill Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Stevely and family motored from Salem Sunday, and were renewing old acquaintances, having formerly lived here.

Ralph Mollet and sisters Bertha and Ethel called on Mr. and Mrs. John Steinberger Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Lincoln were Silverton callers Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. J. Phillips and Mr. and Mrs. B. Bower were in Stayton Monday on business.

Miss Clara Heater called on Miss Nivien Heater Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Heater and daughter Vivian spent Sunday at the D. Potters home.

A number of Union Hill people were in Sublimity and Stayton Tuesday.

## Silver Creek Falls

Mr. and Mrs. John Kimsey motored up to their home at the Falls Thursday to spend a few days.

Messrs. Jesse and Alfred Brown and Leonard Peterson were Silverton visitors Wednesday.

Ray Miles spent Wednesday night with home folks, returning to Silverton the following day, where he is staying to have his hand treated daily. Some time ago he injured his hand on a saw at Silver Falls camp and has been having serious trouble with it since blood poison set in.

Mrs. John Peterson and Miss Elizabeth Wilkens spent Sunday afternoon at the Lew Peterson home.

Mrs. Lew Peterson called on Mrs. John Peterson Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Lang received word that their son Fred has arrived safely overseas.