

THE STAYTON MAIL

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Secretary Baker Urges Letters With "Home-touch" For the Boys

WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

My dear Mr. Postick:

The eyes of the world are upon our soldiers overseas today not more for what they have done than for what they are now called upon to do. Before them lie the tasks of helping to rehabilitate the devastated lands of France and Belgium and of making sure that the victory in which they have so gloriously shared shall be a permanent one.

This means that we may not expect soon to have them all with us here and to greet them face to face. The postponement of their homecoming will be often uppermost as well in their minds as in ours. They will yet meet and must overcome many difficulties without either the incentive or the excitement lent in the past by the activities of war. They need our help and encouragement now perhaps more than at any other time since they left home in order that they may be inspired and strengthened to maintain that fineness of character, manner and conduct which has earned for them such universal respect.

I believe that among all the influences which may be focused upon this object, the strongest and most far-reaching is that which emanates from home letters, and I therefore urge the mothers, fathers, wives and sisters of our soldiers overseas to express themselves earnestly in their letters as their share in seeing that the high standards which America represents both here and abroad shall be constantly upheld.

Cordially yours,

Newton D. Baker
Newton D. Baker
Secretary of War.

Mr. Raymond B. Postick,

Chairman, Commission on Training Camp Activities.

jd.

AMERICAN EFFICIENCY.

General Pershing's recent war report gives us a history of the work which the American army has done in France. The report is a concise and soldierly document, evidently without trace of exaggeration. But reading between the lines we see the high courage of our American boys clearly revealed. The general closed with a wonderful tribute to the patience and heroism of his officers and soldiers.

The work which the Americans have done in the war is far more than military experts foresaw as possible in so short a space of time. It was not to be expected that a body of young men drawn from peaceful civilian life and with a training brief though intensified, should be able to prevail wherever they were used against Germany's seasoned troops.

Their success can only be attributed to the national American character. The American is resourceful. He has initiative and is full of latent possibilities. As Kipling says, he "turns a keen, untroubled face Home to the instant need of things."

If he undertakes a new job he uses his mind upon it, applies the principles of his last work, so far as they are applicable, figures it out and becomes master of it.

Great efficiency doubtless arises from the drilling of men to some one set task. But it is not the efficiency of the American, which comes from his innate adaptability and the use of his reasoning powers.

Our young Americans took hold of war as they would of any other new work. Inspired by glowing patriotism, they attacked its difficulties and mastered them. They brought to war the American idea that "the job had to be done and it was up to them to do it."

The page of history for 1918 will show how our boys carried out their idea. General Pershing's words are none too strong: "Their deeds are immortal and they have earned the eternal gratitude of their country."

THE FARM TRACTOR.

Do you know what the farm tractor has done for us during the last year? 35,000 farm tractors, now used in America, have enabled the farmer to produce magnificent crops in the face of an unprecedented shortage of labor and a shortage of horse-power.

These tractors are replacing 1,500,000 horses and mules, and 250,000 men who are now in the army. They prepare the ground for our food crops and later cultivate and harvest them. They increase the efficiency of our farm machinery.

The man who has driven one old Dobbins or two old Dobbins laboriously up and down the furrows is in a position to realize the virtues of the farm tractor.

When a man's neighbors call him a "gentleman farmer" it generally means that he is not much of a farmer. But when they speak of him as a farmer and a "gentleman" it generally means that he is excellent in both respects.

We shall be glad to take back our 2-cent postage rate next July. But it would be mistaken economy to hold back our Christmas cards so as to take advantage of it.

Don't forget to renew your subscription to the Red Cross. She will continue to be "The Greatest Mother in the World" to the suffering people who need her.

With what joy and satisfaction shall we take down the service flag from the window and lay it away as a record or relic?

President Wilson did well to test the freedom of the seas before he spoke for them.

What more sensible present could be given than a good trunk or Suit Case?

--OR--

One of those splendid Java silk mattresses--better than either felted cotton or silk floss--ask to see them.

--OR--

A table or floor electric lamp with beautiful silk shades in blue, gold or pink.

--OR--

A nice 60-piece set of American china dishes. We have a splendid stock to select from, bought direct from the makers so that you can fill in broken pieces at any time.

--OR--

Why not buy mother that Axminster rug she has been wanting for so long?

--OR--

Get Sister that Tennessee Cedar "Hope Chest" she has had her eye on ever since Jack has been a regular caller.

--OR--

Get Father one of those big comfortable reclining Morris chairs. Upholstered in leather craft. Just the thing for him these evenings when reading about what our President is doing "Over There."

--OR--

Well, just drop in and see what a lot of Sensible things we have in our line for Gifts.

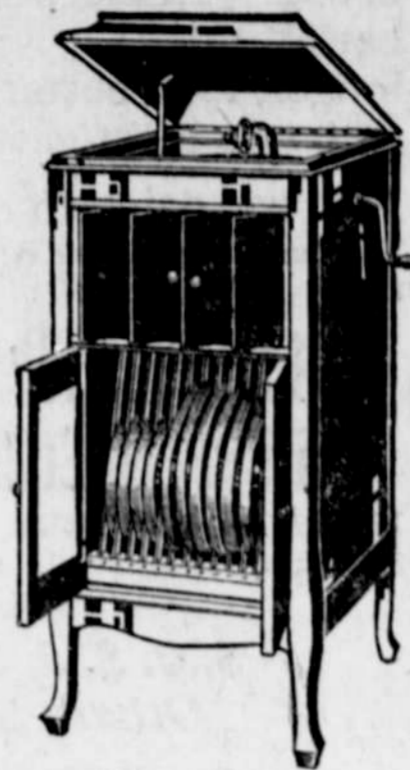
CHAMBERS
AND
CHAMBERS

467 Court Street
SALEM, OREGON

A Happy Christmas For Everybody

COLU MBIA
Phonographs

A HOLIDAY STOCK that is FIRST IN VARIETY and QUALITY, and FAIREST IN PRICE



The Phonograph
"For the Home"

DON'T put it off too long; come early to select your Christmas Purchases; we shall be less crowded, and better yet, our stock will be unbroken. While our line of Holiday Goods is yet complete, it must diminish very rapidly as Christmas approaches. Our latest novelties and choicest bargains will be first to go, and while we shall use every effort to meet all demands for duplicates, we can not expect to secure them in many instances during the holiday rush.

C. A. LUTHY Jeweler
STAYTON, OREGON

CHRISTMAS SPECIALTIES

Where and What to Buy

HENDERSHOTT carries the largest and most UP-TO-DATE stock of goods suitable for Christmas Gifts in this part of the County.

HE HAS ON DISPLAY

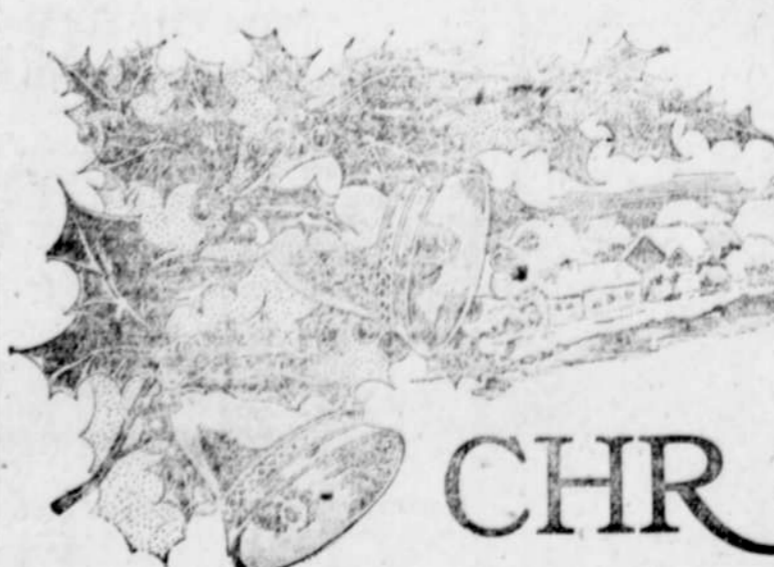
Patriotic Stationary
Service Stamps
Calling Cards
Fountain Pens
Good Novels
Rose Beads
Pocket Books
Post Cards

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M
Y
A
S

High Grade Cigars
High Grade Chocolates
Cream Mixed & Plain Candy
Nuts of all kinds
Seasonable Fruits
Christmas Cards
Post Card Albums
Etc. Etc. Etc.

And a thousand and one things not mentioned that Will make nice Christmas Gifts.

J. A. HENDERSHOTT, Prop.
Stayton, Oregon.



Make it a
RED

CROSS
CHRISTMAS