

ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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A Letter From France

Mrs. Ray Smith is in receipt of the following interesting letter from her husband: Marcellary, France, Dec. 6, 1918. My Darling Wife:—Well, the lid is off and the sky is the limit so I will try and write you a regular letter this time. I don't suppose you can find this town on the map so I will tell you where it is. It is about one hundred miles south-east of Paris. I will begin at the beginning and tell you where I have been and what I have been doing since leaving Camp Mills. We went aboard the boat Aug. 11, about noon and sailed the next day at noon. Went down the harbor a little way and picked up a few more which were anchored there. They had a large convoy of destroyers, chasers, two airplanes, and one large observation balloon. After we were out about two days everything went back but one destroyer and some of the little chasers. About half way over we met another convoy which made us fourteen boats in all.

We went the Northern route. At one time we were near the coast of Nova Scotia. It was real cold and we saw lots of icebergs.

We landed at La Havre, France, Aug. 24. We were in sight of land nearly all day the 23. We came along the coast of Ireland and England. Nearly all the troops that came over landed in England, but the boat I was on had a cargo for France. All the rest of our convoy but one other boat went to South Hampton. We landed at La Havre about noon and went out to camp that afternoon. Just before we went into the harbor they sighted two submarines. Our destroyer got one, and they may have got them both. I was down in the hold of the ship when they fired the first depth bomb. It sounded just like our ship was torpedoed. There sure was a wild scramble for the deck. I was clear up in the bow just as far away as you could get from the steps, and they were crowded, so I went up a rope that was hanging down in the hatchway. There wasn't many beat me on deck, either.

We only stayed in that camp till the next day at four o'clock. They loaded us on cars, the box variety, and we rode for three nights and two days, and unloaded at La Girs. We then hiked eighteen miles east of that town named Garignay. I stayed there until I was transferred from that division. They made a depot brigade out of the fourth. When I left there I went to Saint Die and was transferred into this division. I am in the eighty-first now.

Saint Die is quite a large town. We were holding a sector there but it was a quiet one. The only trouble we had there was an occasional patrol encounter or a little artillery. I was operating a buzzer there. It is just about the same as telegraphy only we use the international code and it sounds about the same as wireless. That was the forepart of Oct. we were there. We left that front and went to Verdun front. I was at an outpost station there about a mile in front of our front line trenches. They were about forty men stationed there and two signal men. Everything was pretty quiet there till the morning of the ninth of Nov. when we started a drive. We started early and hadn't gone five hundred yards back of the place when I was stationed till they got a few prisoners. They came out of a shell hole with their hands up, reaching for the clouds, saying, "Kamerad." We didn't get far till we found plenty of machine guns and artillery. We advanced slowly all day and slept on the field that night. About four o'clock the next morning the Boer artillery woke us up. I was sleeping fine, too. Three of us slept together, and I was in the middle so kept good and warm. Early the morning of the tenth we captured a town, that is, it used to be, but it had been bombarded till there was not much left. That was the day you wrote the last letter received. You sure came mighty near losing your old man several times that day. We were relieved that evening just after dark, and went back to where we were before the drive started.

Well, that is about enough of that part of it. We left there on the fourteenth and hiked to this place, got here on the third of Dec. I had to laugh when I read your letter of the seventh when you had gotten that false Peace report. We had one over here early in Oct. We were at Saint Die then.

This signal work isn't any

Becoming Famous

From New York exchanges is gleaned the story of the phenomenal success of a little Portland lass, Owena Wolcott, who has taken New York by storm and who is hailed by Gus Edwardes as a child star of first magnitude and a find as great as Lila Lee, now a Paramount film star. Owena is known professionally as Ona Munson. She is appearing in the principal role of "Attatoy," a Broadway production which will be sent to this Coast later in the season. Miss Munson is also signed for an early appearance in pictures.

As a child in Portland, the little maid's exquisite dancing and physical beauty were given praise. Local teachers, who coached her, predicted a professional career for her.

A few months ago, in New York, Gus Edwardes, who has discovered and introduced more child actors and actresses on the American stage than any other theatrical man, saw the little girl at her dancing lesson. He was on one of his tours in search of talent. Owena's youth and beauty and her splendid dancing won his immediate attention and interest. She was engaged at once for the production "Attatoy," which is a big revue, similar to Mr. Edwardes' big musical revue, which headlined at the Orpheum last week, and the other revues which used to bring "Cuddles" as its featured artist. "Cuddles" is now Lila Lee.

Mr. Edwardes refers to Owena Wolcott as another Meritt Miller. He predicts big things for the little Portlander. Her mother, Mrs. O. P. Wolcott, is constantly with her young daughter and they have many friends in New York—former Portlanders, who are sending back accountings of Owena's triumphs.

Owena, or, as she is now known, Ona Munson, is taking dancing lessons from one of New York's best ballet dancers and is studying French at a school of languages. In an interview in a New York paper Mr. Edwardes refers to Ona Munson as the "Phoebe Snow of the stage." Another critic says: "Ona Munson's debut aroused a furore. Her style of terpsichorean work is that of Adeline Genee, the Danish danseuse, whose popularity has not been equaled since she returned to London several years ago."

In this connection it is interesting to know that when Adeline Genee danced in Portland several seasons ago little Owena Wolcott was given an audience with the great ballet artist, who saw the little girl dance and predicted for her a career as a dancer. He even gave her a course of written instructions and offered to keep in touch by correspondence with the progress made by Owena. For several years Owena has been guided by letters from Genee how best to continue her dance studies. Owen's father, O. P. Wolcott, resides at 258 Twelfth street.—Journal.

more dangerous than anything else connected with war. We go along with the company attached to, and as for being careful goes. I was very much so. When the machine gun bullets would get too thick I could run a mouse out of its hole and get in his place. I lay down once and they got to coming close, so I happened to think I had a cigarette in one of my pockets, so I took it out so that I could get lower down. How is that for careful? We found one of our men digging himself a hole with his mess and spoon and his name is Smith, too. Well I had better cut this out or the censor will get disgusted and throw it all away. Goodbye for this time. —Your ever loving old man, Ray.

Residents of St. Johns having taxes and city liens to pay in Portland can make their payments without inconvenience by availing themselves of our services. We will pay same and secure your receipt without inconvenience to you. Fee, 25 cents. References: Any St. Johns Bank.—Peninsula Title, Abstract and Realty Co., by H. Henderson, Manager; 402 North Jersey street.

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From the Oregon Voter

A quaint humorist who enjoys appearing to work for any number of measures but who really is interested in only a few, D. C. Lewis has had the faculty of getting exactly what he wanted from each of the previous sessions of which he has been a member. Often his fellow-members entirely failed to discover what it was he really was working for. When asked for publication what was his greatest act or achievement during the 1917 session he replied: "My nominating speech naming Joe Singer for Sergeant-at-Arms—it was a gem."

Representative Lewis was born in New York but grew up on an Iowa farm, where he plowed corn and pitched hay while it wasn't raining and during showers studied hard enough to prepare himself for entrance to the Iowa State University and later graduated from the Law Department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor—in 1882. He then moved to Pratt County, Kansas, and was elected prosecuting attorney, making a record that won him appointment as assistant attorney general to clean up a part of Western Kansas of bootleggers and gamblers.

He located in Oklahoma in 1889, the year the territory was opened, and practiced law there until he came to Portland in 1911. In Oklahoma City he was general solicitor of the Frisco Railroad for five years. His first work in Oregon was as right-of-way buyer for the Oregon Electric when it was headed for Eugene. He happened to choose St. Johns, then adjoining and now a part of Portland, for his residence, and interested himself in the annexation movement, becoming a candidate for the 1915 legisla-

ture in order to get through the laws needed. He won in the legislature and led the annexation campaign before the people so successfully that the merger was accomplished. In the following session he also secured legislation bearing directly on the industrial development of the peninsula section, although his most intense apparent activity was for radical prohibition and other measures. Under the camouflage of picturesque oratory he harbors genuine ability and considerable shrewd common sense.

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As the Oregonian Sees It

The light is dawning slowly on the American mind as to the refusal by Chairman Hurley, of the Shipping Board, to permit building of ships on foreign account in American yards. It is part of a plan, which appears to have approval of President Wilson, to force France and Great Britain into a league of nations.

David Lawrence, the well-informed staff correspondent of the New York Evening Post, at Paris for the peace conference, says that the President and Mr. Hurley are "canvassing the shipping situation, which embraces numerous phases of world-reconstruction," and he adds:

The problem which Mr. Wilson must decide is to what uses American shipyards are to be placed, and he has not determined whether our facilities will be needed to build a large American Navy and merchant fleet—assuming that no agreement be made with respect to a league of nations—or whether America can afford to open her shipyards, as well as her other resources, to the world, feeling that there be no discrimination abroad against American industry, or other barriers, because all countries will have agreed to act in a league of nations with equal opportunities.

If this rather significant generalization as to the Presidential attitude leaves anyone in doubt he may learn from another Paris dispatch, dated December 26, the real relation between the league of nations, with its guarantees of freedom of the seas, and America's shipbuilding and merchant marine programme.

The help of America's vast

High School Notes

The girls of the different classes have organized indoor baseball teams and are now engaging in inter class games on every Monday and Thursday. The girls' hopes are high, as there has been considerable talk of establishing an interscholastic indoor baseball league. It is believed that if a league is established, the James John girls will have a good chance of carrying off the championship.

Football letters are in the hands of the Manager, and will be given out at the first assembly. The following men have made their letters: John Wulf, Richard Girt, Max Stenns, Herman Schroeder, Tell Willikson, Harlan Hiatt, Donald Schafer, Paul Chatterton, Sherman Cochran, Harry Lane, Lawrence Johnson, Plover Jessup, Jessup is now at Mare Island serving in the Marines), John Ohm, Clarence Toole.

The Ciceronian Society at its last regular meeting decided to suspend its constitution and bylaws for the coming school year and to place the affairs of the club in an emergency committee of three. This committee will try to stage a few events, such as a mock trial or a banquet for the members in order to hold the interest of the old members and to influence those who are not members to join. When the school is again running in good order the club will resume its regular meetings.

The "Tumalum," the semi-annual paper, published by the school, has gone to press and is expected to be ready for distribution in a couple of weeks. Subscriptions to the "Tumalum" are taken by nearly all members of the Student Body as well as by a great number of outsiders. St. Johns people are urged to take out subscriptions to the Tumalum which can be purchased, the two issues, for the sum of sixty-five cents from Mr. Fletcher principal of the school, or from the treasurers of any of the classes. Subscribe now and show that you are still interested in our affairs.

Friday will end this school year and also end the examinations. During this year many difficulties have been experienced by both the faculty and the students. The faculty have had a hard time trying to arrange the courses so that most of the work which was missed, owing to the closing of the schools because of influenza, can be made up. The students have had a still harder time trying to do the full term's work in such a short time. Many of the teachers have reported a number of unusual promises made to them of late by the students. These mostly are promises to buckle down to hard work the coming semester providing the teachers agree to help the promises through.

Have you put your coin in the 'Belgian Babies' bottle yet? The James John Student body has adopted three Belgian children. Funds to support them are secured in the following ways: Many of the registration rooms have bottles, in which pennies, nickles, dimes and even quarters are put. The coins are forfeits. Any one breaking the following rules is obliged to put a coin in the bottle: Chewing gum, coming to class late, whistling or disturbing the class in any manner. Sandwich sales are being held and the proceeds of which go to the Belgian relief fund. The sandwich sale under the auspices of the Fifth Term Class on January 15th netted \$4.80.

The Sixth Termers' sale on Wed. January 22nd, added \$5.20 to the fund. The boys did the advertising and the girls made the sandwiches and sold them.

Basket ball is now the rage. Our team lost the first game of the season by the score of 17 to 18, because of the serious loss of John Wolf, who was ill at the time of the game, and of John Ohm, Richard Girt and Harlan Hiatt, who were not permitted to play. Christian Brothers were our victorious opponents. The score at the end of the first half was 8 to 6 in James Johns' favor, but owing to the fact that our team which was then on the floor had not practiced much together, good team work was lacking. Johnson, Toole and Turnbull starred for the school. Wulf was again on his feet for the Columbia game which ended in the score 19 to 31 in Columbia's favor. Wulf, Toole, Johnson and Girt starred for the school. James John showed a very great improvement over the last game.

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New Revenue Measure

The pending revenue measure which will probably be passed within a very short time provides increased taxes on cigars, tobacco and cigarettes. Every dealer in these commodities will be required to inventory his stock on the day following the passage of the Act and to pay additional tax on such stock covering the difference between the tax paid under the present Act and that provided by the new Act. There will be certain exemptions allowed, but this matter, as well as the new rates, has not been definitely determined.

Every dealer should arrange to keep posted as to the date of the passage of the Act and take his inventory on that day. Blanks for the purpose of filing inventory and return will be furnished by Edwin A. Miller, Collector of Internal Revenue, Portland, Oregon, as soon as they are received from the Department at Washington. It is possible that arrangements will be made to distribute these blanks through the post offices in Oregon, but any dealer who does not receive his blank should apply for it to the Collector at Portland.

Extended to St. Johns

The Visiting Nurse Association, which has worked unceasingly since the outbreak of the influenza epidemic, is making an appeal for more nurses and more equipment. In the past two months the work of the association has increased 200 per cent, according to Mrs. Marion Crowe, superintendent. Sixteen hundred visits were made to patients, 800 of whom were cared for entirely free of charge. Four hundred visits were paid for by the patients and the remaining 400 partially paid cost.

The work has been extended to the St. Johns district, a much needed service. One nurse gives her entire time in that section. Another nurse could be well employed there.

The association visits all sick who apply, or who are sent to it, without consideration of ability to pay, and, while competent bedside care is given to the patients, the nurse has the added obligation of preventive work in health education.—Journal.

Construction to Start

Lewis I. Thompson, architect, 91 North Tenth Street, has completed plans and specifications and is proceeding with the construction of a clubhouse to be built at St. Johns by the Portland Woolen Mills for employees of the company.

The structure will be of brick construction 90x125 feet in dimensions, two stories high. Provision is made for a large auditorium to seat between 500 and 600 people, equipped with a stage, cafeteria, dressing rooms and various amusement features. The cost will be about \$25,000 when completed.

The excavation and foundations have been completed and work on the superstructure will be started immediately.

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