

"SOMEWHERE NEAR THE WAR"



THE OREGONIAN has assembled and published in book form—under the title "Somewhere Near the War"—the twenty-six letters from Edgar B. Piper, written from Great Britain and the war zone in October and November, 1918. The requests that the series be issued in a single volume have come from many sources; and the result is a well-printed book of 150 pages, printed on Antique book paper in large type, with wide margins and adequate illustrations.

There is no material change in the text of the original letters as published in The Oregonian. But they have been rearranged and fully annotated.

The nominal price of 50 cents has been fixed. Postage will be additional. The book may be obtained at the business office of The Oregonian or it may be ordered by mail.

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FOURTH LETTER.

THE STORM.
A SEA VOYAGE without a storm would come to be a monotonous affair. We had it to crown the events of many fruitful days. It is not yet over. There was no sudden outbreak. It was the appropriate climax of clamor and sensation which had been building up in the past week.

SOMEWHERE NEAR THE WAR

BEING AN AUTHENTIC AND MORE OR LESS DIVERTING CHRONICLE OF THE PILGRIMAGE OF TWELVE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS TO THE WAR ZONE, WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF THEIR ADVENTURES THERE AND THEREABOUTS.

BY
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 Editor THE OREGONIAN.

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BANKER BLOCKS SWINDLE

CASHIER AT CLIFTON STOPS PAYMENT ON DRAFT.

Farmer Saved From Loss of \$20,000 in Horse Race at St. Petersburg, Pa.

KANKAKEE, Ill.—A telegram from Frank Meents, cashier of the bank of Clifton, Ill., saved Louis Hansen, farmer of Clifton, from being swindled out of \$20,000 in a horse-race game at the hands of a band of swindlers in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Hansen, who had gone to Florida to spend the winter, had hurried back to Illinois to get \$20,000 in cash from the bank. He applied at the First Trust & Savings bank of this city and demanded the money immediately. He was informed that it would require at least two days to get an abstract of his farm and the mortgage arranged, but this was not satisfactory. He went to Clifton and borrowed \$20,000.

He started back to Florida on the first train. Suspicion over the deal caused the bank officers both in Kankakee and Clifton to get busy, with the result that payment on the draft was stopped by telegram before Hansen arrived at his destination.

The story concerning Hansen's close call is the story of the same old horse-race deal that has been netting thousands of dollars to crooks at winter resorts in the south this winter.

Hansen is 62, and owns 240 acres of land. This is the first winter he has spent in Florida.

After his arrival at St. Petersburg he struck up an acquaintance with a stranger. The stranger told him he

was in the employ of the American Turf association and that he had been making his winnings on horse races by means of tapping the wires. The stranger said, however, that he never would use his name in making the bets—that it was always necessary for him to use other parties because his employers objected to the notoriety of his winnings.

The stranger is said to have displayed a lot of money, claiming he had won it by betting on horse races. He always had a correct tip on the winner and the idea struck Hansen as being an easy way to get a lot of good cash. Several small bets were placed. Hansen always won.

Finally the stranger claimed to have him \$140,000. But he must put up \$70,000 and must remain outside of the race for that amount. Hansen agreed to a correct tip on a bet that would net \$70,000.

At this juncture a third man appeared. He, too, appeared to be wealthy. He put himself on a par with Hansen and took the stranger's advice. Everything was set for the \$70,000 bet, which was to be the big killing. The third man readily agreed to put up \$40,000 in cash if Hansen would put up a check for that amount. Hansen agreed to do this. The race was run and Hansen and the two pals won. They agreed to divide the \$140,000 three ways.

All went well until the three men went to collect the money. Then the bookmaker refused to turn over the winnings until he was convinced that Hansen's check was good. The two strangers appeared disappointed that Hansen had neglected to get his check certified. The bookmaker consented to give Hansen until February to make the check good. Hansen got busy at once.

He telegraphed to Cashier Meents of the Clifton bank, asking if he would honor a \$30,000 check for him. Meents was certain that the telegraph operator had made a mistake and that the figure was intended for \$3000. To make sure, Meents telegraphed back to St. Petersburg that he would honor a check for \$3000. Of course this was unsatisfactory and the time was getting short.

Consequently Hansen jumped upon a train and hurried back to Illinois, determined to get the money so he could pull down his winnings. He arrived in Kankakee several days ago and applied at the First Trust & Savings bank for a loan of \$18,000. He wanted the money immediately, claiming he was going to purchase an orange and grapefruit grove.

He was told that the bank had no objection to making him the loan, but that it would require at least two days to get an abstract of his farm and the mortgage drawn up. Hansen was extremely nervous. He could not wait. The estate was about to be closed up, he said.

"If you don't let me have the money,

I CAN GET IT FROM FRANK MEENTS, WHO HAS KNOWN ME FOR 40 YEARS," SAID HANSEN.

At Clifton, Hansen asked for a loan of \$20,000. Meents gave him a draft and saw him depart for Florida.

In the meantime Cashier Meents, after a sleepless night thinking of the deal, decided to act.

When he telegraphed to St. Petersburg and stopped payment on the draft, he also telegraphed to Hansen on the train and notified him that payment had been stopped on the draft.

JUDGE SETS PRECEDENT

Father of Child Must Pay \$4 Per Week for Support.

CHICAGO.—A decision by Judge William N. Gemmill in the court of domestic relations, the first of its kind, upheld by the appellate court, may result in great benefit to babies born out of wedlock. The court found a man to be the father of a child, though not the husband of the mother. The woman has a husband. The man was ordered to pay \$4 a week to support the child until it becomes of age.

It is the law that if a child is born out of wedlock the mother can get only \$50 from the father and the payment may be made in ten years, in small installments. Judge Gemmill has maintained for some time that the sum is not enough to feed a child properly, much less clothe it and give it other necessary care.

The case was that of Helen Kolkman, 1525 Osgood street, and George Rupp, 2515 Burling street. The child was born January 2. Mrs. Kolkman has not seen her husband for five years. The court held Rupp, whom it ruled was the father, under the law must support the child or be arrested for contributing to its dependency.

The case will be appealed.

FLAG PANTS CAUSE ARREST

Wandering Musician Must Serve Month for Theft.

LONDON.—Carlo Mendosa, a wandering musician, was sentenced at Bury St. Edmunds to one month's hard labor for stealing signal flags from the Great Eastern railway. He said he had his trousers torn off by a dog, and was wearing an overcoat until he broke into a hut, took the flags and made trousers from them.

When arrested Mendosa was wearing the flags, made up as trousers, one leg green and the other red.

Read the Oregonian classified ads.

FRANCE DEMANDS RELIEF

ENDING OF GERMAN MENACE FOR ALL TIME SOUGHT.

Disposition of Left Bank of Rhine River One of Big Problems of Peace Conference.

PARIS.—Frenchmen who hear what foreign newspapers say of them feel hurt at times. They know that they have been attacked and that their territory has been invaded and devastated for hundreds of miles by the same race of people that has been invading the same frontier dozens of times in the past thousand years. This time the French have had to endure the first and chief brunt of war four years and a hundred days. One able-bodied man out of every 30 men, women and children of their population has been killed outright; as many more have been disabled through wounds or sickness, and the very women, children, and old men at the rear have been overworked, while those of the invaded front have been outraged and deported into slavery and worse. Foreigners may forget; Frenchmen cannot forget. The overwhelming feeling that has been burned into their consciousness and memory is, first of all—Germans must not again invade France.

All Frenchmen, without any exception, gladly accept any league or partnership of nations that will prevent war—but they wish to see what material guarantees such a league will furnish them against another German invasion. They are unwilling to demobilize or disarm or make any peace until it is made materially impossible for Germany to invade France. That and not disguised imperialism or desire of territorial annexation is the whole question of the Rhine in the minds of Frenchmen.

Marshal Foch himself has pointed out that the river Rhine is a natural barrier capable of defending France against German invasion. At the source, Switzerland intervenes and has army enough to intervene, although her military authorities wobble in their neutrality during this war. At the mouth, Holland has left a lasting impression of pro-German sympathy, going as far as disguised active aid. Belgium has been a victim of German invasion and Luxembourg, as if she were not France, from Alsace and Lorraine, will guard her own part of the Rhine. So the real, the acute, the burning

question before the peace conference concerns the left bank of the Rhine in Baden and what is still called Rhenish Prussia.

What solution can the peace conference give to such a question? These Rhenish provinces will gladly be freed from Prussia, but they are bound to gravitate toward a German confederation and the Germans are still what Tacitus said in Roman times—"a people of prey." It is clear that the military frontier in the way of any future German invasion must be the Rhine. How is this to be constituted and secured? That is the question.

Until this guarantee, making German invasion materially impossible, is secured by something more than the mere constitution of a league of nations making promises to each other, France will have to keep up her military power and guard her frontier against invasion. How far the material internationalization of the Rhine can be made to give the necessary guarantee has now to be discussed by the peace conference. The river Danube was effectively internationalized with its own sovereign commission before the war, but this was powerless against invasion. It is the same with the river Pruth. With war, neutral Holland shut off Belgium from the river Scheldt, which was open to her by international treaty in peace. Holland and Switzerland had also international rights along the whole course of the Rhine—and Germany disregarded them in war. Now the question is more serious—and for France it is a question of life and death.

PUNCH PRINTS INTERVIEW

Star Reporter Calls on Editor of London Times.

LONDON.—Not to be outdone by Lord Northcliffe, who is generally credited with having landed the Times interview with President Wilson, Punch has sent out its "star" reporters to interview the editor of the Times.

The result, printed in Punch, is 95 per cent detailed description, including the editor's awesome back, the door mat, the coat peg, etc., and five sentences direct quote of that august personage.

18-Pound Ham Part of Feast.

CHICAGO.—An eighteen-pound ham was the "piece de resistance" at a farewell banquet tendered Judge James Donahoe of the stockyards police court yesterday by members of Truck Company No. 18 of the fire department, which the jurist leaves after a year's

station and the attaches of the court. No. 18 included the judge's staff tenure. The affair was a surprise of balliffs and clerks as guests of party arranged under the direction of honor.

Would You Write This?

ONLY those who have suffered the misery and torture of kidney trouble and have found their way back to health can appreciate the feeling of gratitude and desire to help other sufferers that caused Mr. E. A. Shanholzer, Konantz, Colo., to write the following letter to Foley & Co.:

"I am writing this that some one who needs it may see it. I was troubled with my kidneys and bladder sometimes I could not walk or ride, and I had to get up as often as twenty times in one night. A man asked me if I ever tried Foley Kidney Pills. He persuaded me to try a 50c bottle and to my surprise I found they helped me wonderfully; so I went back and got a dollar bottle, and then another, and I do believe they will make a well man out of me. Sincerely yours,"

If any reader of the above letter is suffering as the writer was suffering, and profits by Mr. Shanholzer's action, will he not feel it his duty to pass the helpful message along?

Foley Kidney Pills

Help overworked, weak or deranged kidneys and bladder by their tonic, invigorating, healing action. They have been used successfully for kidney trouble and bladder ailments by men and women for many years. They are made of the highest-grade medicinal ingredients and contain no habit-forming drugs.

Kidney trouble manifests itself by various symptoms—backache, rheumatic pains, lumbago, stiff or swollen joints, sore muscles, floating specks before the eyes, etc.—the result of impurities and poisonous waste matter remaining in the blood stream because the kidneys are not doing their proper work of eliminating the disease-causing elements by keeping the blood stream pure. If suffering from kidney trouble, why not try Foley Kidney Pills? For sale everywhere.

HOW TO AVOID DIPHTHERIA

If your child has a cold when diphtheria is prevalent you should take him out of school and keep him off the street until fully recovered, as there is much more danger of his taking diphtheria when he has a cold. When Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is given it quickly cures the cold and lessens the danger of diphtheria, or any other germ disease being contracted.

A delight to the palate; a comfort to the nerves—

INSTANT POSTUM

instead of coffee.