

LESLIE TOOZE'S DEATH SAID EVENT OF WAR

Oregon Twins Separated at Ecclisfontaine.

TWO EAT AT SAME MESS

Salem Lieutenants, Captain Ponda and Colin V. Dymont Gather at Meal Before Great Battle.

BY COLIN V. DYMONT, American Red Cross Searcher With the 91st Division.

FOURTH ARTICLE. Not a great many letters were written as the 91st moves up the front. Paper was almost as scarce as delicacies. The Red Cross provided what they could get, and not far north as Gondrecourt a little could be bought in the French stores, but generally speaking, stationery was exceedingly scarce at the front. Just before the Ninety-first went into action the Red Cross contrived to distribute 25,000 sheets of paper with envelopes. That looks like a large quantity, but when 35,000 sheets and only 12,500 envelopes are to be divided among 25,000 men not every cousin and aunt is sure of a letter. Nor is every mother, more is the pity of it!

Relatives of the 1st dead, and relatives of wounded who have not been heard from for months, and relatives even of men who have been neither killed, wounded, sick, missing nor absent from duty frequently say to the writer that the last letter received was dated during September, always prior to the 25th of September. Such letters were written during these marches. Censorship was then strict. Somewhere in France was as specified a place of writing as was permitted; there was no chance even to say "Eastern France," and every letter was read. Those who have letters written during September should treasure them long. They represent, often, difficulties little understood in the west. Some of the ingredients that enter into the composition of a good letter are a table, a chair, light, heat, paper, pencil, envelope, time and freedom to speak. On the way to the front the men of the 91st never had tables or chairs; no light except daylight; no heat; sometimes not even a French pencil, and a French pencil is scarcely as good as nothing. A little time, and no liberty to write of the things of which they wanted most to tell those at home.

From the Valenciennes area, described in the previous installment, the men had one of the hardest of their night marches. The weather was good, but the distance was long. The area to which they went was just back of the Forêt de Hesse. Those who care to trace the course of the division on a map should locate Clermont, in the department of the Meuse—Clermont-en-Argonne, as the French call it. From September 17 to 20 the towns of the Clermont region first saw American soldiers in numbers, though there were few civilians left in these battered places to see them. The only time when any part of the 91st touched the Argonne forest was in this area. Two infantry regiments, in two steps just northwest of Clermont, were right in the forest itself. The 316th sanitary train, with its hundreds of California, Portland and Seattle men, near Lavoy. Division headquarters were at Autrecourt. Froidos, Rarcourt and Auzerville are other towns of the neighborhood.

Americans Court Danger. The 34th infantry, mostly from California, lay on a steep sidehill in an orchard near Aubreville. They were the men nearest the actual front, held by the French seven kilometers, or between four and five miles, to the north. The small brown pup tents were supposed to be camouflaged, and the Californians rustled branches and bushes from all directions. A few green leaves over a tent makes it seem to the German aviator just so much foliage. Few Germans ventured over, however, for the allied planes resented, like so many hornets, any attempt of the boche to find out what was coming behind the French lines. The Germans of the air did not come into their own till the battle began.

On the 19th the 91st saw its first air fight. Americans are really well disciplined, except when they meet something to see. If the salvation of the world depended on his keeping his six feet out of sight when something he had not seen was happening, the west soldier would throw salvation away. Had Fritz ever got close enough, he would have seen thousands of upturned faces, though most of the men did try to look from some place of partial concealment. Four years of war had made the French different. Curiosity made the Frenchman court danger in the fall of 1918, and hence his mixed feelings toward the "crazy Americans."

On this orchard sidehill the writer met many of the 91st, were looking forward to action. He first saw Major Hal Rasch (then Captain Rasch), of Portland, sleeping contentedly in a long cavern, the cavern being used as a shelter from shellfire and air raids. On the bottom was much mud and some water. The roof was scarcely man's height. The air contained not an atom of Pacific coast ozone. Major Rasch, however, was sleeping as soundly as ever he did in the fine Turkish bath of the Maitland club. In the same cavern, on blankets in the mud, were Capt. MacKay of Seattle (then Lieutenant MacKay) and Lieutenant Hamilton of San Francisco. Presently Major Rasch, of Portland, came to the cavern's mouth. Orderlies brought in savory food that was eaten in uneasy surroundings. Rasch, MacKay and Hamilton all fought splendidly, and all survived the great war.

Separation of Twins Sad. Down the hill, after mess, came the Tooze twins, Leslie and Lamar, of Salem, Or.—boys inseparable from babyhood; together in public school, together in high school, together in the same courses in the University of Oregon, together at Harvard in '17, and now in the fall of '18 lieutenants together in army companies in the 34th infantry. Though not in the same company, they still contrived to sleep under the same blankets and to eat at the same mess. One of the saddest things of the war was the separation of the two Toozes when Leslie met death near Ecclisfontaine. His glorious end was to come in less than ten days. So one might go on telling how officer after officer and man after man lived for a peaceful two days on the hillside near Aubreville, and in the Argonne timber itself, two miles away, and up and down the Aire river valley. The papers of Montana and Utah, Idaho and Wyoming, Washington, Oregon and California, have paid their individual tribute as they died. Those who lived are returning, and their tributes are coming. When Seattle, for example, welcomes the 91st infantry, that will be a day of days. Yet after September 13, 12,500 men were wounded or killed in this regiment alone, and few of those will march in the Seattle parade.



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In colors green, seal brown, pearl, fawn, olive. Men's Spring Caps \$1.50 to \$2.50

Ben Selling Leading Hatters Morrison at Fourth

Sale of Boys' Two-Knicker Suits!

Tomorrow I propose to outfit scores of Portland boys with these Regular \$12.50 and \$13.50 Belted Suits With Two Pairs of Knickers For \$9.85

My regular stock of boys' suits at these two prices! You save exactly \$2.65 or \$3.65 on every suit! Tweeds, cheviots, cassimeres, mixtures—all tailored in the best manner. Every age, from 7 to 18 years.

Boys' \$1.25 Blouse Waists Only 85c

The remainder of the stock from last Saturday's sale. Absolutely new, crisp waists in the newest stripes, both light and dark. Chambrays, percales, madras; all ages, from 6 to 16 years. One of the best boys' waist specials I ever have offered.

Boys' Shop, Second Floor.



Ben Selling LEADING CLOTHIER Morrison Street at Fourth

leading into it carried a strange procession. Of all the sights of the war, the traffic up the main road to the front was among the most wonderful. Can one who has not looked on make himself see in fancy the never-ending miles of war material—horse-drawn or gas-driven miles of guns, ration wagons, truckloads of infantry, bridge and trench supports, ammunition, ambulances, horse feed, gasoline, hospital supplies and a dozen odds and ends of things? Now a long line of camouflaged cannon, hauled by horses ridden by blue-clad French; now a more active, jaunty line of supply wagons driven by khaki; French coming out, French going in; staff cars passing by straggling Americans, lamed by the last long hike and solemnly hunting their companies; a veritable pot-pourri of war, yet seldom disorderly. The trucks often met grief, sliding over the edge of the well-crowned French road. After a rainy night, the morning would show one every few rods, lopsidedly clinging by two wheels to two feet of highway.

March Is Short.

Two or three days of this novel sight and the division moved on once more in the next to the last march before it saw action. The march was a short one. There is still about it Headquarters moved from Autrecourt to Vincourt, three kilometers back of the southernmost jut of the Forêt de Hesse. The 316th sanitary train moved into the Bois de Parois, a part of the Forêt de Hesse. The 316th engineers, the 34th and 34th machine gun battalions, and the 34th, 34th and 34th infantry regiments moved into the forest itself. The 316th ammunition train, the 316th supply train, the 316th military police, the 316th signal battalion, an S. U. unit with ambulances, and minor units were scattered on duty. It was September 20 when the division moved into the Forêt de Hesse.

The Forêt de Hesse is about eight miles in length and averages three in depth. Its easternmost reaches are scarcely ten miles from the Argonne forest, and the Argonne forest is merely a part of the Argonne. When the battles of the 91st are mentioned as having been fought in the Argonne, the Argonne district is meant. The division had much fighting to do in woods, but none of the woods was a part of the Argonne forest proper, in which the 34th and 37th, 2nd divisions were fighting on the opening day of the drive.

Not fewer than three divisions lay hidden in the Forêt de Hesse from September 20 or 22 till the day of the jump-off. They were the 35th, from Missouri and Kansas, on the left; the 91st in the center and the 37th, from Ohio, on the right. East of the 37th was the 7th, largely from Pennsylvania.

Again the western men set up pup tents. The Forêt de Hesse was huddly, but the night was chilly; but the woods were beautiful—perfectly beautiful—with their green-leaved deciduous trees, their many mosters and their thick carpet of ferns. How many a man enjoyed that last week of his life! Many of those who read this may remember receiving letters dated between September 20 and 23. The men were in writing mood. They would come almost running when they saw the Red Cross giving out paper. Orders were strict in the woods. The allied front lines was the northern edge of Hesse. Were Fritz to learn that 75,000 men were preparing to leap at him, with another 75,000 at their right and another 75,000 at their left, then divisions to the right and left of these, by some bold stroke he might spoil the plan of attack. So fires were taboo, except a smokeless sort of fire prescribed for the kitchens. Men must not venture out of the woods. Officers going beyond a certain line toward the front must put on French uniforms. Touring cars must not go into the woods by day, and even truck traffic was moved at night as far as was possible.

Men Eat Jam Before Drive.

Food was quite good. There was the inevitable "slim gullion," made of canned beef; there were also canned beefsteaks; there was also corn waffles. The men often tired of the endless succession of beef in one of the three forms described, but the quality of it was good; bad beef rarely if ever came into the 91st, and the good beef was usually well cooked. Potatoes, rice and prunes, one canned vegetable, such as tomatoes or peas, and a coffee comprised the rest of the diet. A scarcity of water was the principal drawback of the cuisine. Then men, hardened by the trip northward, their systems craving for additional nourishment because of the strain, could sometimes have ten more, but actual hunger was absent, except for sweets and tobacco. There was a hunger for these that never could be appeased.

The Sunday before the battle the writer sat at mess with Panda of San Francisco, captain of Company K, 34th infantry; Lieutenants Leslie and Lamar Tooze, and some other officers. "I'd give a thousand francs if I could get some jam for my men," Panda suddenly said. "Why, I'll get y-u some," said the writer, in a moment of rashness, never supposing that Panda carried the thousand francs. Plump went a thousand-franc note on the table in front of him. Hearing of what had happened, Griffin, captain of Company F, produced a twin

BETTER MAIL ROUTE ASKED

Sheridan Resident Desires Co-operation for Improvement.

Improvement of the Salmon river star mail route so that a striving community will not be cut off from communication with the world during the winter months is urged by M. Petersen of Sheridan in a letter to the state highway commission. Mr. Petersen is a member of the State Chamber of Commerce and has for years championed the cause of good roads in the Grand Ronde district.

"I hope the counties, state and federal government will co-operate to provide a road that will permit all-year travel," he writes. "The people there will volunteer labor and money to assist in the clearing off of the right of way and grading."

HOOD RIVER PLANS DRIVE

Committee Meets to Arrange for Victory Loan Campaign.

HOOD RIVER, Or., April 11.—(Special.)—"Busy? Sure, but we'll finish the job."

Such was the sentiment of Hood River orchardists expressed to L. P. Hewitt, district field manager of Hood River, Wasco and Sherman counties for the victory loan, who was present at a conference of Hood River county committeemen. Despite the busy season, for merchants as well as orchardists, all but three of the district captains for the county were present.

In the victory campaign Hood River county will not endeavor to go over the

COMPANY TO REORGANIZE

General May Confers With Captain Staffin at Dallas.

DALLAS, Or., April 11.—(Special.)—In a recent visit to Captain Conrad Staffin of this city Adjutant-General May, commander of the Oregon troops in France during the war, brought up the subject of reorganization of old company L of this city into the new national guard organization of the state. Members of company L believe that a larger company of soldiers can be organized in Dallas than before the war.

Captain Staffin says he himself has no aspirations for the captaincy, as he already has served the state and country several years in the guards. General May stated that independence wants a separate company and has 80 men signed up for service, but that the county is too small for two separate organizations and Dallas, having an armory, would be the place selected.

RED CROSS WORKERS MEET

Conference Representing Northwest Now on in Seattle.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, April 11.—(Special.)—Dr. George Rebec, director of the Portland division of the University of Oregon; John C. Almack, acting director of the extension division, and Karl W. Onthank, secretary to President Campbell of the university, have gone to Seattle to attend a three days' conference of Red Cross workers representing Oregon, Idaho, Washington and Alaska, closing Sunday.

The future of the Red Cross organization will be discussed, with particular reference to its programme of public health nursing, home service, junior membership and training for various lines of work. The university has been asked to prepare a statement on the resources for this training offered by this institution.

TACOMA PLANS WELCOME

Homecoming for Members of 91st Division Being Arranged.

TACOMA, Wash., April 11.—(Special.)—A mass meeting will be called within a day or two and the wheels set in motion for a civic celebration to honor the returning heroes of the 91st division, who are expected to arrive in Tacoma in relays covering a period of several weeks, beginning some time late this month and extending into the middle of May.

The first action of the council in undertaking the homecoming welcome of the division was to appoint Lieutenant Colonel Harrison Grey Winsor, Tacoma's ranking officer in the Washington National Guard, to take general charge of the arrangements.

TACOMA TEACHERS TO GO

Instructors Apply for Positions in Other Cities.

TACOMA, Wash., April 11.—(Special.)—Many Tacoma teachers, eager for a wage increase, are applying for positions elsewhere, despite the fact that the board of education probably will make the salary advance on April 23. The attorney-general has ruled that the board can make the increase retroactive to September 1, 1918, and it will be necessary to take immediate action for next year's contract must be signed by May 1.

MARGUERITE CLARK IN THREE MEN AND A GIRL

Also Pictographs Mutt and Jeff A Scenic

Do they walk into her trap? Do THEY! These men were pals, because they ALL hated women. Now, they hate each other! See the picture, and find out why.

The special train to be operated to the St. Johns municipal terminal on Saturday (today), 12th, under the auspices of the Portland dock commission for the benefit of those wishing to attend the dedication of pier No. 1, will leave Union station, Portland, at 1:30 P. M. and return will leave the terminal at St. Johns at 4:30 P. M. Adv.

Special Excursion Train to St. Johns Terminal.

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"CAPTURED BY CANNIBALS"

Positively your last opportunity of seeing the wildest, most ferocious aggregation of Cannibal Brutes ever seen by a white human being.

NEW SHOW SUNDAY

A STORY OF NEW YORK LIFE FROM THE DREGS TO THE CREAM, FROM THE BOWERY TO MILLIONAIRE ROW.



NORMA TALMADGE IN "THE PROBATION WIFE"

EVERY ATTRACTING GUEST'S SATISFACTION

Direction of Jensen-Von Herberg

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The Perfect Easter Remembrance

"CORDIAL CHOCOLATES" AFTER LENT bring the feminine candy-lover the rarest treat imaginable. This handsome lavender package contains an assortment of rich fruits en liqueur—pineapple, cherries, strawberries and raisins—chocolate covered. Ideal for Easter giving. \$1.25 the package.

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