

MEN "HERE" AND "OVER THERE" WRITE LETTERS TO HOME FOLKS

Criticism of Troops is Answered by Soldier.

Vancouver Boy Defends American Force in France.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Gertrude Atherton, of New York City, published in the New York Times, September 10, 1917, an article in which the American forces in France were severely criticized.

The item was sent to Corporal Clarence O. Bunnell, this city, who pointed the Engineers, Company E, organized last Summer in Portland. He is now far from the front in France.

He wrote to his mother, Mrs. H. M. Bunnell, of 514 Franklin street, under date of December 8, 1917, and said: "Dear Mother: Gertrude Atherton's letter, which you so kindly enclosed, has caused me some comment in camp circles. I have no doubt there is some ground for her contention, but to judge the American forces, as a whole, to be a set of egotistical brats is unreasonable, to say the least. It must imply a total lack of acquaintance on the part of the writer with the people who are in the trenches."

"This, there are a few overzealous fellows in our midst who let their ego, combined with ignorance, get the better of their judgment. These are the ones bound to offend. The only thing we can do is to try to curb them and on our own part make earnest apologies to the French people."

"As to our manners, our is a very large and liberal country. Every district has its own set of manners or customs. This is from Boston, Boston is horrified at the manners of the man from the Pacific Coast. The man from the Pacific Coast is greatly amused at the Bostonian's comment upon his manners. These are the things we can do to try to curb them and on our own part make earnest apologies to the French people."

"We are mostly a bunch of earnest, well-meaning young men, anxious to do our bit, not for France alone, but for humanity. We have a few money grubbers, but they are very few. We are very efficient, and a very great respect and admiration for our soldiers. We must certainly object to their conduct, but what the world wants most, and needs, is an early peace, and to reach that point we must have a great abundance of men."

"This has been our war as much as that of the allies since the start. Most of us realize that the war is a debt we owe them—a debt we shall never be able to repay."

"With the exception of one or two drunken men, which are absolutely unavoidable in a wide open country, I know of some but the most friendly relations between the Allies and the Germans. They are fighting and we are spending, but now most of us are short of funds and have allotted letters than half our pay, so that it is extremely difficult to get any of our boys out of their way to procure tobacco for the Pells, tobacco being a scarcity with the Frenchmen."

"What our boys need is not a sarcastic railing, but to some of them a little sound and kindly advice would be a boon. This they are getting and those who do not heed are feeling the curb of discipline, for we have a very efficient corps of officers, who, being on the ground, know how to cope with the situation."

"To my notion we have, as a salesmen would say, been a bit overvalued by our country's contribution on this side."

Oregon Soldier in France Praises Y. M. C. A.

Head River Boy Says Organization Provides Comforts.

HEAD RIVER, Or., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—The weather encountered in France, according to a letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Thomson, of the East Side, from Alfred Thomson, member of an engineers' regiment now a part of the French expeditionary corps, is very good. He writes that it has rained a little, misted a little and that about three times he and his comrades have had a glimpse of the sun.

Young Mr. Thomson's letter is in high praise of the work of the Y. M. C. A. He writes: "The Y. M. C. A. has set up two tents with stoves in them, since we arrived. This makes it very nice for us boys, as we have a place to go in the evenings to warm up a bit and write a few lines, if we choose. The Y. M. C. A. is certainly going to play a great part in the success of the war. I am going to start a French class soon, and I think I will take this in. I may not learn very much, but every little helps. I think I will be able to speak a few words before I come back."

"Our Y. M. C. A. manager here read us some news that was certainly good. One of the items concerned the raising of the United States to raise \$3,000,000 for Y. M. C. A. work; that the campaign had closed with a total raised of \$4,000,000. I think it is wonderful to hear this good news, for the Y. M. C. A. is doing more for us boys than you people can imagine. They are giving us boys the best."

"The Y. M. C. A. provides us with amusements of many kinds. We are going to have an entertainment this evening. Of course, the boys have been asked to help, and as a whole they have responded. In other ways too numerous to mention the organization is helping us."

"I have a fine bunch of officers here. To give you an example: One of them saw a man sawing wood without any gloves, so he handed him his kid ones. That is what I call white. We have no flour in our tent yet, but will soon have one—also electric lights. I am going to town tonight to get a pair of cut and a bath. We have no showers yet, but they are working on them now."

"Did I get any Xmas packages? If there is anything I can smoke, eat or use, send it down. And don't forget to tell me, as I'm having fine times."

Corporal Glen, of Oregon, Writes of Crossing.

Portland Boy Says Eating is Main Employment on Transport.

CORPORAL HUGH H. GLEN, Company C, 116th Regular Engineers, now of the American Expeditionary Force, has written to his father, H. M. Glen, president of the Portland Linotyping Company. The letter follows: "We are on the high seas tonight, not a great way off the French coast. Because of instructions from down by the authorities I am not allowed to tell but very little about the cruise, nature of boats, etc., so you'll have to excuse the brevity."

"The weather has been pretty good for the most part and the going good. The ocean kicked up a little for a couple of days, but that passed away and we have had surprisingly good weather since; today especially was fine—as warm a day as one could find in the winter."

"I tell one of an Irishman who suddenly left his place in the trench and went running wildly around No Man's Land. His comrades called to him to come back out of the danger, as the lead was flying mightily frequently and to which the Irishman replied, 'I will not—there's a life in there.'"

"They tell great stories over here, dad, for in spite of all the address this war has brought, it sure has been an abundant supply of wit and humor."

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Former Oregon Carrier Writes of Experiences.

Corporal Byron DeYoung, Serving as Chauffeur for His Colonel, Sees Interesting Sights in France.

CORPORAL BYRON DEYOUNG, former carrier of The Oregonian, graduate of Jefferson High School and more recently an employe of the Elliott House, is serving in France with the headquarters detachment of the Tenth Engineers, the first forestry regiment sent overseas.

Corporal DeYoung is serving as a chauffeur for his colonel, and in this capacity travels widely and sees many of the interesting sights of France. Just at Thanksgiving time he wrote to his mother, Mrs. Cora DeYoung, 414 Church street, a message from which these excerpts are taken:

"No doubt you can imagine how happy I would be to be with you, however, I expect to have a real Thanksgiving dinner myself. There are only a few of us here at headquarters, and we are going up in automobiles. As they are in high altitude I presume we will see snow."

"At present we are located in a large city, in serving in apartments and eating in restaurants. Our meals are very good, and I like French cooking very well. The food is more expensive in France than in the United States. It costs us \$1.50 per day to eat. The Government pays the bill. We are very comfortable here, and we have some good times together. Our regimental office is here, that is why I am here, as I drive for the colonel."

"Just after Thanksgiving day the young soldier-chauffeur wrote a letter to his brother, C. DeYoung, of C. DeYoung & Co., of Portland. Parts of this message are here reproduced: "I am in A-1 condition. Have not had anything worse than a slight cold since I have been in France. I am still driving the machine for the colonel and travel about a great deal. I see some wonderful scenery and also many large cities."

"I hope that this reaches you by Christmas day and it probably will. The weather was very rough Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and it was amusing to watch the boys slide around on the floor, trying to keep their food in their mouths. I am standing by the same time. Charlie Chilton would have to go some to do the stunts they did. I will not be able to write as much as when I was in the United States, as there is very little we can say."

"I arrived safely on the other side of the world and the weather was very good. We have had fine weather ever since we arrived here, but it is difficult to tell how long it will last. We had the pleasure of having a very good dinner on the sea, that is the rest of the boys did, but not myself. I was out on deck, hanging close to the railing. The water was very rough Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and it was amusing to watch the boys slide around on the floor, trying to keep their food in their mouths. I am standing by the same time. Charlie Chilton would have to go some to do the stunts they did. I will not be able to write as much as when I was in the United States, as there is very little we can say."

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French Welcome Americans in Ruined Towns.

Portland Man Writes of Kindly Reception by Villagers.

I wear the first American Army uniform into a devastated French village is an experience full of unusual thrills and one that could be counted on to bring a glow of national pride to any American heart. Linn L. Reist, writing to Charles J. Schnabel, a Portland attorney with whom he was formerly associated, does the situation full justice. Excerpts from his letter follow:

"It happens that I am the first American in uniform who has been seen here and it makes me quite conspicuous. All the little boys want to shake hands with me and the villagers are very cordial. I am standing by the same time. Charlie Chilton would have to go some to do the stunts they did. I will not be able to write as much as when I was in the United States, as there is very little we can say."

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100 PIANOS AND PLAYER PIANOS TO BE SOLD AT ONCE AT THE LOWEST PRICES Now Known in the Northwest.

The variety comprises new reduced Liquidation Sale Pianos, as also our inventory stock—rebuilt pianos, 1915, 1916 and 1917 models, and used pianos. This is a most opportune sale for piano buyers, when the raise in prices of new pianos of already \$50 to \$100 is considered.

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Table listing various piano models and prices, including Parlor Organs, Square Pianos, Upright Pianos, and Player Pianos.

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Your boy or girl working can save \$15 cash and \$7 monthly, and secure a musical education. This 300-mile, and the piano will be shipped subject to exchange within one year, we allowing the full amount paid. This virtually gives you a one-year trial of the piano you order.

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Schwan Piano Co.

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understand the words, but the acting was very clear. The seats are very inexpensive. I had a good one for \$5.

"Today I received a box of candy and cake from home. Tonight I expect to have a little party, as all the boys are on my trail, and it's up to me to serve the 'eats.'"

MORMON FILM IS OFFERED

Mac Murray Star in Picture to Be Put On at Sunset.

An expose of Mormonism, as practiced by the disciples of Joseph Smith in Utah of the early '40s, will be shown at the Sunset Theater commencing today when "The Mormon Maid," featuring Mac Murray, original Nell Brinkley girl and former Zigfield Follies star, opens an engagement.

"I am in A-1 condition. Have not had anything worse than a slight cold since I have been in France. I am still driving the machine for the colonel and travel about a great deal. I see some wonderful scenery and also many large cities."

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SHORT COURSE IS POPULAR

Variety of Students Enrolled at Oregon Agricultural College.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Registrants in the O. A. C. short course include a variety of students, both men and women. Among the men registered in advanced dairy work is R. J. Donohue, assistant commissioner of the Washington Department of Agriculture, Olympia. He is connected with the division of dairy and livestock and has charge of the veterinarian interest.

Poultry courses are interesting many, including Mrs. Wesley Clark, of Portland, and C. J. McIntosh, of Corvallis. E. R. Edwards, pioneer aviculturist of Corvallis, is registered in poultry short course. E. W. McDaniels, editor of the Coos Bay Harbor, will enter the short course in poultry and in poultry farming and other branches of agriculture.

WAR VETERANS TO SPEAK

Oregon City People Arrange Patriotic Meeting for Sunday Night.

OREGON CITY, Or., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—The first authentic story of conditions on the battlefields of France will be told in Oregon City on Sunday, January 20, when three Canadian officers will address a meeting held under the direction of the Oregon State Council of Defense. The officers are Major E. B. Edwards, lieutenant-colonel MacMillan and Captain E. J. Cook. County Judge Anderson, chairman of the Clackamas County Council of Defense, who is handling the arrangements for the meeting, announced yesterday that it would be held in Busch's Hall at 7:30 o'clock Sunday evening. No admission fee will be charged.

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understand the words, but the acting was very clear. The seats are very inexpensive. I had a good one for \$5.

"Today I received a box of candy and cake from home. Tonight I expect to have a little party, as all the boys are on my trail, and it's up to me to serve the 'eats.'"

MORMON FILM IS OFFERED. Mac Murray Star in Picture to Be Put On at Sunset.

SHORT COURSE IS POPULAR. Variety of Students Enrolled at