Walter McClure Carves First

Interesting Letter From Noted Ath-lete and Warrior Tells of Hattles Which Put Waterloo and Gettys-burg in Skirmish Class.

TNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, 9. - (Special.) - Captain Walter McClure, whose ability as a distance runner while a member of the university track team won for him the right to be one of America's representatives to the Stockholm Olympic games in 1912, has carved the first notch on his pistol handle in his service against Boche. He is now in France with the 26th Infantry and has been under fire in the first line trenches twice. McClure downed his first Hun white

with a raiding party in the Ypres sa-lient and he tells of the experience in a letter to Karl W. Onthank, secretary to Fresident Campbell. "I also vis-ited Ypres, walked out where No Man's Land was 75 yards wide and succeeded in carving a notch on my pistol handle while there," he wrote. "I'm not particularly proud of this last. I have only mentioned it once here but it was a raiding party and all of us had to get hury." I had no desire to be taken. busy. I had no desire to be taken prisoner and see Berlin while on bread-and-water diet." McClure's letter fol-

I guess I've been rather neglectful Intely, but all have suffered equally, Right now I am more or less at peace with the world. Had a fine letter from Kent Wilson (another university student) yesterday. He is near here, but I don't know the town. Will try my best to see him.

Dest to see him.

"The Colonel has placed me in command of a new company just formed. I now have 250 Swedes Irishmen, Indians, etc., all green as grass, but mighty willing. Picked out O'Mars, formerly lightweight champ of the Pacific Coast, as my man 'Friday,' and censored a letter to a girl friend in Astoria, so you see I feel more at home. These men are the first ones I've seen in over a year that I could talk intelligently to about God's country.

ligently to about God's country.
"We are going up to the Verdun front shortly. I suppose the reason the Colonel gave me the new company was to get them in shape for it. He said I could maul them in shape quicker than others when I set up a howl about leaving the best company in the regi-

"Don't know whether I wrote you while I was in the Ypres salient or not while I was in the Tpres salient or not.

After finishing up the grenade school
I went up to the lines for a week, when
things were lively, and right now no
historian can make me think Waterloo or Gettysburg or other former battlefields were anything but outpost
skirmishes. Here are some of the
things I saw in the 10 miles the English took from the Boches:
"About 10,000 supposed graves and

"About 10,000 supposed graves and about twice that number of dead lying about. Aeroplanes by the dozens. Tanks and big suns, mired almost out of sight in the mud, and the whole surface so pitted with shellholes, varying from 19 to 35 feet in diameter, that a wellpitted smallpox face is beautiful in comparison; not a particle of wood other than fragments of stumps in what was a dense forest; no grass, dead or alive; equipment, corpses of men and horses mixed in the mud, and a few ruins of former villages."

"Spiker," 18th Engineers' Paper, Is Interesting.

Boxer Carl Martin Showing French-men "How It's Done in U. S."

STATTON, Or., March 5.—(Special.)—
A recent edition of the Spiker, sent by Glenn W. Porter, Company E, 18th Engineers, to friends in this city contains many items that may be of in-

published by the men of the 1sth En-gineers somewhere in France and is tremendous energy put into the war." brim full of news and views, humor of being the first paper published by the American troops. Some of the humor is brought out in the following from the January Spiker under caption, "Why Worry?" by Don H.

There sin't no use of crabbin' if the bacon There sin't no use of crabbin' if the bacon an't well done.

The see, the kitchen fire went out and got lit we fer fun:

If the blacults ain't just like the kind your mucher used to make.

With the stuff he's got to mork with they're the best the cook can bake.

If you bruke a rooth when eatin' beans when on a rock you below.

Remember they're Navy became you have.

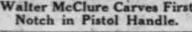
Remember they're Navy beans—you know the Navy's full of grit; If they fed you food too rich and good they fear you'd overeat, rave and swear and pull your hair unless your morning coffee's awest. Don't start a light and kick and bits 'cause France you're too damn short or tall or fat or thin for it.

Federal Arsenal Guarded by Electrified Wires.

Maynard H. Harris Writes of Mill. tary Life at Rock Island

THE majority of the second ordnance class from the University of Oregon are in training at Rock Island arsenal with the expectation that they will leave about the middle of March took their early training at the uni- about 36 cents. Beefsteak costs about versity and were sent to Rock Island 28 cents per pound." arsenal for intensive training prepar-atory to work with the expeditionary forces. Maynard H. Harris, son of Mrs A. H. Harris, of Rose City Park, wrote to his mother of conditions as follows. The Mississippi is frozen over solfdly and in straightaways it gleams like felly and in straightaways it gleams like hig. wide patches of bright steel. On the turns the toe is piled up some places as much as 20 feet high. We boys have walked across a number of times, going to Davenport, Ia. The weather has been very cold, but it is clear now, with heavy frosts at night, bright sunshine during the day. Most of the snow has gone, and in places we of the snow has gone, and in places we

trees, many of them everywhere, and white graveled roads like a great city park. In fact it looks like a great parl except for the buildings. The manufac turing buildings are placed in an en-closure of electrified wire and every-thing is guarded closely. Some of the big gray stone buildings are eight to 10 blocks in length, and there are score of structures on the island. I haven't had opportunity to go through many of the buildings, but from what I have stready learned here we can get a pretty good idea of the efforts being made to get munitions across to France. Our officers are 15-year real Army officers, and they all are truly men. Coming in the capacity of instructors





America's Best Footwear. Offering

Every shoe bearing the trade mark Queen Quality, honestly handled and properly fitted by a reliable store, carries a
-Double Guaranteemanufacturer and dealer stand behind every pair. Women of America! Buy Wisely! Buy the Best! Look for the Queen Quality trade mark on your Spring Shoes.

> The beautiful painting Liberty at the left will be shown in thousands of store windows this month. It is also shown on the cover of the Spring Style Book. Every American should see this inspiring work of art.

Thomas G Plant Company Manufacturers Boston

terest to Oregonian readers. Among they don't require the deference other them are the following:

"Carl Martin, F's doughty honer, is showing 'em in the big city of — ulously clean and where a struggle is how fighting is done in the States. He made to keep out dust and iron out fought a few rounds with an unnamed wrinkles. An unbuttoned button here fought a few rounds with an unnamed adversary on one occasion and has given exhibitions of has-punching for the edification of his admirers and the surichment of his pocketbook.

The coaching skill of Gil Dobie, the winard of coaches, has been carried far across the seas and was distinctly noticeable in the charge that both D and F companies have displayed in the games which they have played. The offsnsive of both teams (football) has offsnsive of both teams (football) has been carried played and the games which they have played. The offsnsive of both teams (football) has been carried played in the games which they have played. The offsnsive of both teams (football) has been carried played in the class are

"Generally the boys in the class are offensive of both teams (football) has been remarkable for the amount of time available for whipping teams into shape, a fact that has counted much, as the scores indicate."

The Spiker is the little 8-page paper published by the men of the 18th Englished by the m

French People Still Cling to Ancient Customs.

North Bend Boy Surprised at Lack of Cultivation.

M. Hellar, of North Bend, Or.

Parts of the letter are as follows Parts of the letter are as follows: edge. That is the habit of looking for "It is rather hard to get used to things good associates. I have noticed that over here after being accustomed to the it is the high school boys who are leadmodern improvements of the United States. It is pleasant, though, to see the strange sights. They have street-cars about the size of those in Eugene, and the railroads, engines and cars look

like those in the construction camps.
"I was rather surprised when I landed, for I expected to see the highest of civilization. I find, however, that we have them beat by far in the States, both in industry and neatness. The things manufactured here are very cheap. The women and children wear wooden shoes, and you should hear the noisy clatter of those wooden shoes on

the cobble stones. "The United States soldiers are surely looked up to here; not only for their uniforms, but our \$33 a month looks good to them. One can get a will leave about the middle of March looks good to them. One can get a for France. This class, numbering 52, bottle of light wine for 2 francs, or

Portland Boy-Recommended for Training Camp.

Raymond Hill, Former Employe of Oregonian, With U. S. Marines.

RAYMOND HILL is a Portland boy, formerly an employe of the business office of The Oregonian, who is ness office of The Oregonian, who is with the United States Marines at onto something with one hand and try-Bremerton. He has recently written a ing to eat with the other. We never letter to Portland in which he says as a submarine all of the way over. that he has been recommended by the ficers' training camp at Quantico just

Aberdeen Ships Music to Soldiers. ABERDEEN, Wash, March 9 .- (Spe cial.)—A shipment of nearly 200 phonograph records collected here by the Salvation Army will be shipped Monday to France for use on machines in the Salvation Army buts there,

Education Means Much to Americans in France.

Many Temptations Abroad.

A MONG the former Jefferson High School boys in France is Steve Wilcox, who is with the machine gun stunts, company of the 162d Infantry. He recently wrote a letter to the principal of Jefferson, Hopkin Jenkins, parts of which are given here:

"I am not a marked success when it

are required to write one kind of letter here, for we are prohibited from writing anything military. About all that we can do is to let our friends know of our condition, and of course, we can write of personal matters. "Members of the machine gun com-pany are getting along fine. I am not in a position to speak for the other boys because I have not seen them for me time. Our work is interesting.
"I received your Christmas message and it certainly made me drift back

to school when I read it. You do not know how much good it does to be able to sit down and think of the dear old school and the many friends I had "There is something about the education that one receives at Jefferson that means more to a boy when he is away from home, than the book knowl-

ing the cleaner and better lives in France. I am thanking my lucky stars that I was able to go to dear old Jef-There are many temptations over here for the boys, but I believe that that will never be equaled by any other set of men from any nation in the

It is a reputation the folks at

Heavy Sea Renders Voyage Real Exciting.

home will be proud of."

Brooks Boys Write of Observations Across the Atlantic.

TVAN FRUITS is a Brooks, Or., boy who enlisted in April and is now or the U. S. S. New Orleans, which left Bremerton, Wash., last Stimmer. recently wrote a letter to a Portland friend, parts of which are given here The letter was written at sea and was dated January 18, 1918. "We went to Gibraltar this trip and stayed for a week," he writes. "It was surely some trip, one storm right after an-other. For 17 days we could not sit at our tables, but had to stand up and Gibraltar is surely a strong fort, Just one large rock two or three miles long, with thousands of guns on it. Of course ficers' training camp at Quantico just as soon as Congress grants the increase of the corps. He says that it may be several weeks before this takes place and that headquarters may not approve his appointment, but that he is "living in hopes."

Will thousands or guns on it. Of course with the cannot see but a few. The rost of them are hidden, and besides they have barbed wire entanglements all over, so that it would be impossible to capture it. The rock is almost straight up one side. The town of Gibraltar is an oddly arranged place. The streets are on different terrage levels and are just one side. n different terrace levels and are just way, and in some places you have to waik up a flight of stairs in order to get to the next street.

Most of the people are coldiers and sallors, American, English and French.
The civillans are Africans, Spaniards.

The civilians are Africans, Spaniards,

They ask American sailors four or five times as much as their articles are worth and we have lots of fun jewing em down. I suppose they sting us a

You should see the boys coming back to the ship with their arms full of silks and things for their mothers, sisters and girl friends.

Spanish actors do the dancing and the went right in on top of a couple of fel-lows. There was some excitement for a while as everything was pitch dark comes to writing letters," he says. "We

and everyone was sliding and stumbling

Old Portland Friends Meet Again in France.

J. W. Clock, 18th Rallway Engineers, Writes of Pleasant Reunions.

France, though in widely divergent ranche, though in widery divergent fit to drink.

ranches of the service, are recounted "We had a fine time Christmas, with in recent letters received from Bugler

elf. Sundays they make melody in Y" huts.

"Holcomb, the basso in our quartetwe call him 'Pinky' for short—just in-forms me that we are to sing in the headquarters hut tonight," writes the ougher. "It is getting to be a regular occurrence for us to sing at night. We are now the recognized quartet of the

Do you remember Tom Greer? I met him on the street the other day and had uite a talk with him. Met his brother Washington street.

another month I will have reached the proportions of a middle aged gentle-

and will also send some other trinkets. Say 'Hello' for me to any of the old bunch you happen to see." Bugler James W. Clock is the son of and Mrs. James A. Clock, of Portland, and has been in Frane since September 1, 1917. The 18th Engineers were among the first 20,000 American troops to arrive on French soil.

German cap to send back as a curiosity,

By the way, I am trying to get a

Clydes Phillips has returned to his a few days in this city with his brother, States Navy and is stationed at San Diego. He expects to go on some ship as soon as he gets back to San Diego. He says that he is enjoying the life very much and that they have plenty of good things to eat. At night they stay in the Canadian building at the fair grounds.

Mrs. Edward Dimbat Dies.

LONG BEACH, Wash., March 9. (Special.)—In the death Tuesday night of Mrs. Edward Dimbat, Long Beach oses one of its most loveable women, a devoted wife mother and neighbor Indians (the English Indians), and have will be in Portland tomorrow,

Candy and Cakes Expensive "Somewhere in France."

Portland Boy Says Soldiers Have Been Kept on the Move.

There is one theater in Gibraltar and 66T suppose you wonder what has be-L come of me," writes Ray Fordyce to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. our way over one of the worst Fordyce, of 1851 Bayard street. "Well, storms that I ever saw blew up and a I am in France, somewhere, am feeling big wave came down the hatch and line, and hope you and dad are the I am in France, somewhere, am feeling

"I have been moving around quite a lot, and have seen some of the country, but France is nothing compared with the United States of America. "Wood is scarce here, so scarce that in some parts they cut the limbs off the trees instead of cutting the whole tree down. All the buildings are stone with slate or straw roofs, and the floors 'Candy and cake are so high that it

Meetings with old Portland friends in long for one franc, or 17½ cents. Wine and beer are cheap, but they are not

a big dinner, turkey and all the good J. W. Clock, of Company F, 18th Rail-way Engineers, who has given a hearty and surprised "Hello!" to some of the Third Oregon troops. Bugler Clock is a member of his company quartet, which is composed of frank Greene, of Aberdeen, Wash.; J. V. Dustin, of Eugene; Private Helcomb and had on this side of the pond." With Ray Fordyce "somewher rance" is his twin brother, Roy "somewhere in

Tacoma Boy on Tuscania When Torpedo Hit.

George F. Rauh Tells of Being Adrift in Boat Six Hours.

TACOMA, Wash., March 6. — (Special.)—George F. Rauh, Tacoma note a talk with him. As the state of days and Bob Haymaker a couple of days ater. It seemed just like walking up boy in the 20th Engineers, had a thriiling experience when the Tuscania was "Am still in the phone service and ling experience when the Tuscania was blowing calls. Same old routine from 6 sunk. In a letter to his parents, Mr to 10:30, with three meals a day thrown and Mrs. P. J. Rauh, he dscribes how in. These I could not do without, for my appetite is enormous. Twenty additional pounds will testify as to that! In another month I will have reached the transport had been to a lifeboat another month I will have reached the transport had been to a lifeboat Howard B. Merrell in a letter to his transport in the transport had been to a lifeboat Howard B. Merrell in a letter to his transport had been to a lifeboat Howard B. Merrell in a letter to his brother E. W. Merrell is asys: "Our he sat on the rail of the ship and and with 40 others was adrift hours before being landed at Randelsown, Ireland, With him is Cooper, Tacoma golfer and manual training teacher. They were smoking below deck when the Tuscania was hit nd each sprang for his station. he saw was Cooper. He said they had

> Irish people. Rauh wrote that trouble was experienced with the cania lifeboats and a number of fatali-ties resulted from that. William E. Farrar, who was saved from the ship, has written to his mother, Mrs. James Pook, describing his experience. Cooper is the son of Frank B. Cooper, superintendent of the

een treated wonderfully well by the

American Soldiers Take War Seriously.

Seattle public schools.

Librarian at Camp Cody Notes Character of Reading Called For.

EUGENE, Or., March 9.—(Special.)— The American soldier boys are taking seriously to the business of war, as evidenced by the fact that a very She is survived by her husband and large percentage of them are reading sight sons and daughters. Interment along lines which will aid them in their along lines which will aid them in their

ward Day, formerly pastor of the Uni-tarian Church in this city, who re-cently entered the war library work and who is stationed at Camp Cody, Mexico, where there are men, mostly National Guardsmen from the Middle West.
"Over a third of the 300 or 400 vol-

imes we give out daily consists of non-liction," he states. "During our rush ours one of our number is kept busy ooking up technical works for men.

Certainly the war library work not only contributes vastly to the comfort and delight of the men, but it must ald nealculably in stimulating the intel-ectual life and keeping up the morale of the camp," he states. "To be per-mitted to bear a part in the entertain-ing and disciplining of such men, who are destined for what they are destined a rare privilege which stirs one' life to its deeper depths and summons him to use his utmost resources of strength and wisdom in his work Among the 25,000 men at Camp Cody Rev. Mr. Day states that so far he has

Ireland Most Interesting to Tuscania Survivors.

Letters From Oregon Boys Say Little About Sinking of Steamer.

EUGENE, March 3.—The Tuscania disaster, to which the American newspapers have devoted many columns in printing details, is given little space in three letters received today from Lane County boys who were among the survivors. In each case the writer dismisses the sinking of the vessel by German submarine with a few senences, and then devotes the rest of fairly long letters to descriptions of

Edward J. Burgess, of Noti, in a letter to "Toot" Stingley, of that place gives his account in a single paragraph Hello, Toot: Well, how are you? was on the Tuscania when it was ter

brother, E. W. Merrell, says: "O transport, the Tuscania, was sunk by German submarine. I expect you hav read the accounts in the papers. I lost everything, but did not get wet."
A letter from Ray Rennie, of Thurston tells his parents that the ship on which he was a passenger was tor-pedged, and what a pleasure it was to land in Ireland, devoting the rest of his letter to a description of that coun-

WAR ON RODENTS IS ON

Benton County Plans Big Campaign Against Gophers and Moles,

CORVALLIS, Or., March 9,-(Special)-Benton County is planning a big ampaign against gophers and moles to be pulled off the week beginning March 10. The United States Department of Agriculture is sending an ex pert here to show the farmers how to rid themselves of these pests. Six hundred and fifty farmers have signed an agreement to work next week at the job of ridding the county of these pests and to get as many more to work as possible. The County Court has agreed to furnish the poi-soned balt needed at cost. At least 5 per cent of the grain raised in Westvarious branches of service, according ern Oregon is wasted by these rodents. for men above the supply.

Lane County Boy Engages in His First Warfare.

Mexican Border Is Well Protected, American Soldier Writes,

EUGENE, Or., March 9.—(Special.) in the American training camps is Book borrowers range from the private to General Blocksom, commandant of the cantonment, Rev. Mr. Day Lane County, new in the Aviation Lane County, now in the Aviation Corps of the Army and stationed at San

Antonio, Tex. "There are lots of soldiers along the Mexican border and every little way there is a training camp," he says. "This is the largest aviation camp in the United States. The planes start as

quick as it is light enough to see and fly until dark. Sometimes I can see 30 of them at a time. They are small and carry only two men."

Weather conditions are unsettled in
Texas, according to Anderson's letter. "Sometimes it is as warm as Summer and the next day we nearly freeze," he writes. "Not long ago I was walking my post at night. I was

on guard. It was warm as Summer. I walked onto a rattlesnake. He was full of fight, too. How is that for the middle of Winter?" Andy O'Farrell, of Eugene, writes his father, James O'Farrell, that he has taken part in his first fight, not in Europe, but China. He is a member of the crew of the U. S. S. Monocacy, recently attacked in Chinese waters. "We were on our way up to Ichang last week when 200 or 300 natives opened fire upon us. There are only 49 men on the ship and about 10 or 12

Snails Cooked in Wine Is Much-Sought Dish.

of them were running the vessel, so

Brend and Gosts' Butter Add to

Menu, Soldier Writes.

A RTHUR M. WILSON, son of Mrs. J. A. Wilson, of 510 East Twenty-I seventh street North, who is with Company B. 162d Infantry, "somewhere in France," has written an interesting letter home telling of some of the happenings "over there."

"The Y. M. C. A. hut surely is a wonderful place," he says. "It has three large rooms and one small one, containing a gymnasium, reading-room, writ-

g-room and a canteen. "We are learning quite a bit about the French language, and what we know surely comes in handy, when we have an opportunity to use it other day several of us went i restaurant where you eat what they want to give you and not what you may want to order. The first course was sardines, the next, snalls cooked in wine, and then bread and goats' butter. Then we had tripe, French fried po-tatoes, salad, and for the last course we had an apple. The apples over here

are dried up and small.
"I am writing this in the Y. M. C. A. hut and a girl is singing. She has a very good voice. We have been enter-tained by several celebrities, among them Julia Marlowe's husband."

Aberdeen Mills Need Men.

ABERDEEN, Wash, March 9 .- (Spafal.)-Two hundred jobs in mills and ogging camps in Aberdeen and the vicinity are vacant according to ployment agencies of this city. increasing of crews in camps and at the shippards is keeping the demand