# VARIED EXPERIENCES OF OREGON BOYS ARE TOLD IN LETTERS

# French Women Are Lauded by Portland Soldier.

### Pathetic Incidents Impress Captain E. C. Sammons.

No one is idle in France-and they are all cheerful about it-even the dogs are doing their bit. This is the Impression of the country acress the seas as set down by Captain E. C. Sam-mons, son of Mrs. May J. Sammons, 69 East Eighteenth street.

Before the war Captain Sammons was assistant cashter at the United States National Bank, leaving there to enter the first officers' training camp at the Presidio. Minus previous mili-tary experience, he won a Captainey He is a former member of The Orego-nian news staff.

"July 14 was celebrated in this little town with an impressive ceremony," he writes, "In each commune each widow or mother who has lost a husband or son in the war during the previous year is awarded with a diploma or proclamation

"After church services nearby all the people in the village were as-sembled in the square and the Mayor, assisted by an American Colonel, pre-



Captain E. C. Sammons, of Port-land, Who Writes Interesting Letter From France.

sented these poor sorrow-stricken women their pieces of paper. Think of it, there were 27 in line! And this in a village of 1000 persons. It is said that 100 have been killed in the war to date and another 150 from the village are at the front.

"France is at war. I know, I've seen. I saw these wonderful women march up silently, sadly, but I dare say proud-

"It was after he was gone that I gathered the things by his bedside— things that had been removed from his Late Lieutenant Lambert Mother Here Receives Last Letter Written by Her Gallant Son.

Wood True Inspiration.

HUN PLANE.

Company, 148th Field Ar-

things that had been removed from his uniform pockets. "How interested your son was in each of you and how proud he was of his marine corps! Most worthy, too, was his pride in those marines, for they have been fighting valiantly and have done excellent work. "I have been twice to visit your son's crave where he lies in a beautiful spot

"I have been twice to visit your son's grave where he lies in a beautiful spot chosen for the little cemetery, and in the company of other brave and hon-ored American men. Flowers were there and fresh ones are brought al-most daily by the French women and children in living expression of their affectionate appreciation of our men. "You have given so tremendously in giving your son to bring right and jus-tice to the world! I cannot hope to bring you comfort, but maybe the gried will be less hard knowing that the boy was attended with love, with nursing and medical care.

and medical care.

Silk Canvas From Hun Plane

Brings Message. Novel Letter to Parents Written by Portland Boy in France.

regiment after our magnificent fight for nearly 40 days was the greatest honor he ever expected to have. "The hardships and dangers we en-O NE of the novel letters from France is that recently received by the \*

parents of Leonard A. Pinard, a Port-PORTLAND BOY WHO WROTE LETTER ON WING FRAGand boy who formerly worked for the Northwest Steel Company. It is writ-MENT FROM DESTROYED ten on a fragment of silk from the wing of a German war plane, brought lown by French airmen.

down by French airmen. The young soldier is with Headquar-ter's Company, 148th Field Artillery. He is the grandson of Oregoh pioneers and his home is at 524 Rhone street. "We have been on this line for nearly a month now," he writes, "and are surely seeing a lot. Being a motor out-fit, we get around quite a bit, and are always on the move. We are holding positions now where the Germans were driven out on one day and we came in driven out on one day and we came in the next. They had to leave in a mighty big hurry, and left lots of ma-terial behind them, also lots of dead Germans and horses they didn't have time to bury. There are lots of newly made German graves.scattered around here, each with its little cross and the inscription, 'For the Kaiser.' "The woods are full of German dug-

outs, and it is very interesting to go through them. Rifles, blankets, and all kinds of stuff, souvenirs enough to fill a battleship, are scattered everywhere. (They generally leave a sol-dier's heimet on his grave.) Tell Dad I have a dandy German rifle I picked up, and that I would like much to get it home

> Leonard A. Pinard, of Headquarters Co tillery.

# Huns Retreat So Fast Leave Half Equipment Behind, He Says.

"Old men, tottering with age, old, wrinkled and toothless women and youngsters of all ages and descriptions—they all do thair part. I have seen women at work haying, carrying loads that would potchly stump me, husky as I am. Our average American girls would coll- lapse under such conditions. "During the long evenings, one does "During the long evenings, one does "During the long evenings on their so fast up to now that they leave hard new new retreated for the splendid work. "We have been at the front since I is of ast up to now that they leave hard new new retreated so that would is presented to the splendid work. "We have been at the front since I is splendid work. "We have been at the front since I is splendid work. "We have been at the front since I is splendid work. "I was talking today with a French age. "And we have been on the move half the time. Our infantry has been all the time. Our infantry has been all we can do to keep up with them. We are splendid advances out ho to keep up with them. We are splendid to the splendid work. "I was talking today with a French Captain who trained Colonel McAlex-ander's regiment before entering in the lines. He praised his work to the splendid advances out ho of Solssons, July 18," the letter says. "His death was in- advancing with such speed that it is splendid to the splendid advances out ho to keep up with them. We are splendid to the splendid advances out how officers and his men. His conduct "During the long evenings on their to now that they leave half the time. "During the long evenings on their to now that they leave half the time so fast up to now that they leave half the splendid to the splendid t

to please me. I slept on a real bed with such a downy mattress that I dreamt of floating on a pure white cloud and bumping into the sun. I awoke to find madamoiselle opening the shutters and the morning sun shin-ing in my face. She said the air was so fine in the morning that it would be a crime to sleep with a closed shut-ter. Guess she was right

THE last letter written by Lieutenant Lambert Wood, killed in action July 18, has been received by his mother,

L. Wood, prominent physician. He went class think we are wonderful to come across with the first American expe- to fight for their beloved France.

"Still out, thank heaven, hope we get a long rest," the letter says, "we need it. We have had many wonderful things said about us by the great Gen-eral, by the conventions of Mayors of French towns we saved and by states-"Our own Colorations of Mayors of the same state of the sam

with joy. There is no white bread in France except that for our troops and the French people place a higher value upon it than we do on cake at home. Theirs is real war bread and not make-beliave." men. "Our own Colonel, a distinguished soldier, said that to command the Ninth believe.'

French Villagers Praise

American Soldiers.

Tribute Paid to 65th Artillery When Town Is Left.

# Oregon Soldier Dies in California Camp.

### Star on Masonic Honor Roll at Salem Represents Chester Wilcox

sideration. "A French officer told me that girls in France are encouraged to become ac-guainted with American soldiers and admire the United States so much that it almost amounts to love. The better class think we are wonderful to come "There is a set of the polysical examination of the state state of the polysical examination of the passed the "There is a set of the polysical examination of the passed the "There is a set of the polysical examination of the passed the "There is a set of the polysical examination of the passed the "There is a set of the polysical examination of the passed the "There is a set of the polysical examination of the passed the "There is a set of the polysical examination of the passed the physical examination of the physical examination of the passed the physical examination of the physic monia

Mr. Wilcox was a graduate of Lincoln High School, Portland, and Oregon Ag-ricultural College, where he specialized in poultry husbandry. His work at the State Hospital as manager of the poul-try plant was a distinct success. Be-fore his death he was offered the man-agement of a large stock and poultry ranch in California.

Mr. Wilcox was engaged to be mar-ried to Miss Nell Sykes, of Salem, an O. A. C. classmate, and the marriage was to have taken place after his ré-

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W ORTHY tribute It is that when the Sixty-fifth Artillery, Coast Artillery Corps, came to leave a village in France, where it had been billeted for three months, the municipality issued a farewell message of cordial good wishes.

The text of the farewell greeting has been sent home by Caryl Heslin, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Heslin, Fairview, Or. The young man was formerly an Oregonian carrier at Fuirview. He is now with the Supply Company of the Sixty-fifth Artillery.

In enclosing the farewell address he says, "We've sure been treated fine by the people here. The old people have treated us like a part of the family, always watching over us and taking care of us when we came in hot and tired or sick."

Characteristic paragraphs from the tribute of the French to this bunch of American fighters follow: "Our children will never forget you large boys who stayed with the chil-dren and took them into their arms and gave them caresses and bon bons, and no doubt these children brought sweet

"Our young ladies will keep sacred turn from the service. Funeral cere-monies were held in Salem.

Yankees Have Little Fear of

"Our young ladies will keep sacred the memory of your good graces, of your gaisty and of your courtesies, truly chivalrous. "Our poor will also regret the de-parture of those who so generously gave. We love you, we all will re-gret your departing and we will ac-company you with our best wishes wherever you may go. "We all have admired the good har-mony which exists among the offleers

picturesque old chateau-with wide stone steps and ivy-covered walls. I have been in France five months, and while I cannot carry on a conversation and am not thinking of writing a book in French, still I can manage to make myself understood, and that's more than I could do when I arrived. I study warr day" I successful a study **Portland Dentist Promoted** to Captain in Army. Dr. James Harvey Johnson Write DR. JAMES HARVEY JOHNSON. who recently practiced dentistry in Portland, with offices in the Med-

of Work in France.

sioned a First Lieutenant in the United

Captain Johnson writes interestingly

States Army when he enlisted with Base Hospital Unit No. 46, has been

It is next to impossible to get things like hankys over here."
Captain Moore tells of the esteem and real affection in which the French hold the Americans. "It gets under my skin and I thrill like I do when I see our own colors, to hear the shouts of the French. "Vive l'Amerique." he writes.
Private Edward Long Plays
Baseball in England.
"We Had the Time of Our Lives."

Unit

"We Had the Time of Our Lives," Writes Soldier to His Mother.

How they are bringing the good old game of baseball into England, where cricket has hitherto field sway, is related in a latter from Private Edward related in a letter from Private Edward Long, of the 248th Aero Squadron, in

a letter to his mother, Mrs. Edward Long, of 358 San Rafael street. The letter is dated "somewhere in England.'

":Well, we had the time of our lives," writes Private Long of the ball game and were certainly treated nicely Our headquarters were at the best hotel in own a nd we had dinner in the large banquet hall with the Mayors of two towns present, prominent men and women and the Canadian officers' baseball team and our own.

"There was a large crowd on the "Incree was a targe crown on the field when we arrived—I should say about 6000 people, for the gate re-celpts were 5150 at 1s 6d n person. As soon as we came on the field the band played "The Star-Spangled Banner and played "the star-Spangled Banner" and everyone arose with hats off. After 15 minutes' practice the game started, and It sure was exciting, as the score was a tie until the last inning."

Warmly in Italy.

Strewn Streets.

ter received by his father and mother.

of in

termaster's Detachment of the Ambu-"On the afternoon of the day of our College, of this city.

A French village that saw the out-

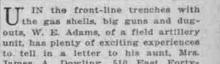
ander's regiment solve the bines work to the lines. He praised his work to the set of Joan of Arc's military expedi-sition against the English has been re-ceived by Mr. and Mrs. David S. Stearns "War is a terrific waste, and many "War is a terrific waste, and many thaid, of the 318th Engineers." Solve the stown of Our average American girls would off
Impage under such codius.
The state state and not be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user weight is based to be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user, weight is based to be step up with user weight is base

American Troops Greeted Alfred J. Young Writes of Flower Chester Wilcox, O. A. C. Gradu-ate, Who Died in Service. ......................

A LFRED J. YOUNG has arrived safely in Italy, according to a let-

Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Young, of this city. Mr. Young was formerly superin-endent of the Barton Packing Com-Santa of Sattle Wolks and Sattle Sea-son's hit on the French stage. Base Hospital Unit No. 46, he writes, pany of Seattle. Following his enlistment, he was sent to Washington, D. C., where he passed several months in Camp Meigs. He is now in the Quar-

has been increased until it is now four times as large as when it left Port-land, and is now serving near the front line trenches, in charge of a hospital with the most modern equipment. Captain Johnson lived in Portland



James A. Dowling, 510 East Fortyeighth street, North. The writer is on of R. L. Adams, of 1232 East Glisan street.

Dr. James H. Johnson, Promoted

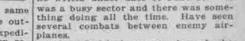
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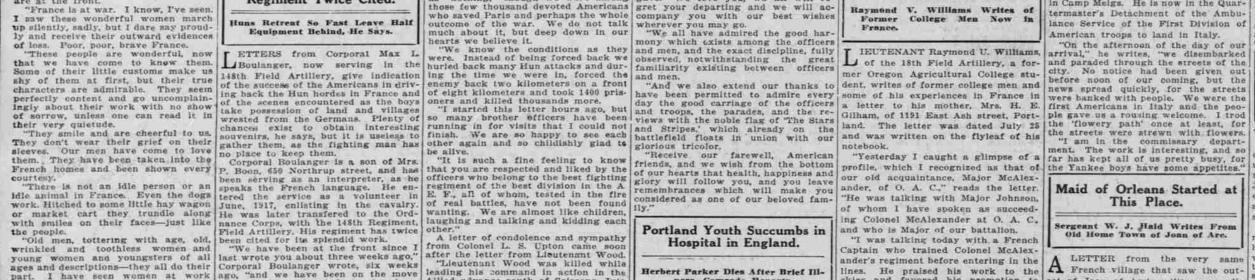
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and literary man of France, whose

Oregon Soldier Tells of Life on Battle Front. W. E. Adams of Field Artillery Has Exciting Experiences.

"The battery is in the rear taking a rest after doing its turn at the front." he writes under date of June 27. "It -110





German Bullets.

not getting as much exercise as when I was in the 'line.' I continue my calisthenics morning and evening and calisthenics morning and evening and atways have an appetite, keep my weight and healthy color. Am get-ting plenty of good food, amid the most cheerful of surroundings, have a good bed and a neat room, plenty of writing material and a host of cor-respondence—so why should I worry? "T haven't any hope of the war ter-minating this year. I think, however, that Spring will see the end. If Aus-tria cracks there may be a blow-up this Fall, but that is doubtful. An-other year is my guess."

other year is my guess."

## Edward Cecil Died Hero With Fighting Marines,

Red Cross Nurse in France Pens Touching Tribute to Soldier That Parents May Know Life Not Given in Vain.

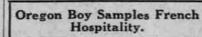
EUGENE, Or., Sept. 7.-(Special.)nurse in France, has written Mrs. V. G. Cecil, of Eugene, a letter telling of the death of Mrs. Cecil's son, Edward.

"Several times during the past few days I have tried to write you concern-ing your son," the letter states. "I feel incapable, but know that you will wish the base and L when the the states and L to hear and I am hoping that you already have received such word that I am not bringing you the first knowl-edge of his death.

with some other American boys to spend the day at the home of a Duke, who lives on an estate about 30 miles from where the company is billeted. It was by request of the Duke's daughter that the boys received the invita-

"It doesn't seem as if a year had passed since we unloaded from the boat and started across England," writes Sergeant Hargreaves. "Time surely does fly. We had three days off around Fourth of July, practically to do as we pleased. All unnecessary duty was suspended, so we did considerable running around. "Last Sunday six of us visited an

Last Sunday six of us visited an old historic tower and estate of some Duke about 30 miles from here. This Duke's daughter (whatever her title might be) requested that a party of American soldiers spend the day as her guests and I happened to be lucky guests and 1 happened to be lucky enough to get in on the party. It was interesting to look the place over and learn its history. There are many such places around here, but we do not have time to do much touring, as we are in the Army now."



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Edwin Francis Cecil, of the Sixth

in France.

United States Marines, a Eugene Boy, Who Made Supreme Sacri-

\* Private L. G. Moyer Proud of City of Former Residence.

J UST before sailing overseas, Pri-68th Engineers, formerly of 481 Skidmore street, Portland, wrote briefly to The Oregonian in praise of this city and its climate as compared with what he had encountered since enlistment.

"First of all I am a resident of Port-land," Private Moyer wrote, "and I am proud of it because of the drives she has made in every war move and be-cause no place I have visited can begin to compare with it for climate, roses, timber, rivers and fishing." Private Moyer enlisted though above draft age. He was first sent to Fort Lawton and thence to Camp Leach, Washington, D. C., where he was as-signed to his present unit. "First of all I am a resident of Port-

Handkerchiefs Are Hard to Get in France.

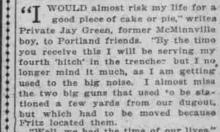
DORTLANDERS who remember C. H. Moore, or Charlie Moore, as he was fraternally called during his stay

................................ here as division commercial superin-

France.

Captain C. H. Moore, Formerly of Portland, Now Acting Major in

"We Are Busy Keeping Fritz Busy," Writes Jay Green. McMinnville Boy Is Serving Fourth "Hitch" in Trenches.



"Well, we had the time of our lives," regiment-two cats and a crow, not to mention the cooties. The crow was caught when young by one of our Frenchmen and now he tags his owner around like a dog. Don't expect to hear from me very often, as we are busy keeping Fritz busy these days."

Boys in Hospital Unit Are Safely in France.

Portland Young Men Report That They Like Country.

Ex-Portland Man Writes of Life in War-Torn 'Land. .............................. 30. The cemetery is on high ground overlooking a wonderful expanse of charming county. There sleep about 50 Americans who have given their

The proof of the second of the



Herbert Parker. Who Gave His Life for His Country.

Admiration for . United States Is Almost Love, Writes J. B. Hulse