

BRIDGES WITNESSES SINKING OF OTRANTO

Former Oregonian Employee Writes of Sea Tragedy.

BAD STORMS PREVAIL

Flagship of Convoy Rammed and Other Vessels Not Able to Assist.

The Atlantic in storm and in isolation from medical aid and help in time of epidemic and death are described by W. R. Bridges, proofreader of the Oregonian, who has joined the war forces of the Y. M. C. A. and just arrived in England, in a letter received here recently by his wife. Mr. Bridges was in the same convoy that the ship carry-



W. R. Bridges, Former Proofreader of The Oregonian, Who Saw Otranto Rammed.

ing the second party of editors, of which Edgar B. Piper, of The Oregonian is a member. Mr. Piper, in one of his letters, described the fearful storm which sunk one of the vessels. "Just a few words to let you know I arrived safely this morning at Liverpool, Oct. 7, after a very trying trip across the Atlantic," Mr. Bridges wrote. "From some cause or other no regimental doctors nor medical supplies came aboard with the troops. Soon after we got to sea an epidemic of Spanish influenza spread through the ship, and with no regular doctors or nurses nor supplies to handle the cases you can imagine our predicament.

Chaplains Not Aboard. "There were no chaplains on board and when some of the poor fellows died, day by day, I was requested by the commander of the ship and the military officer in charge to conduct the funeral services for these brave fellows. I was with most of them when they passed away and mothered them all I could (they are a great deal like children when they are sick, these big strong fellows) and comforted them in their dying hours. They were grateful, poor boys, and I know my efforts have not been in vain.

"One burial we held at night during an awful storm and an officer held a torch while I read the services. The Church of England burial service was used. The only fear I experienced was that I would not last until we reached port.

"Yesterday (Sunday), to make matters worse, just as we were approaching the Irish coast, an awful storm burst and for hours we thought the ship would never weather. The life boats were washed away, doors and port holes blown in as if they were match wood. The saloons, cabins, furniture, everything, mangled men—here, there and everywhere—dishes, food, bedding, all over; up to our waists in water; several men were carried overboard and lost; many very seriously hurt with fractured skulls, broken legs, arms, heads cut and bruised shoulders dislocated and with only the ship's officers to help us. Though so many were hurt I came through without a scratch."

In a letter written on the 15th of the same month he says again of the trip: "Transport Otranto Rammed. "You, of course, read in the papers of the sinking of the transport Otranto, with the loss of so many lives. She was the flagship of our convoy and our ship was running along side of her during the whole trip until we reached the Irish Coast, where the terrible disaster occurred. I saw her rammed and some of the sad scenes which followed made my heart ache. We were in an awful storm and were powerless to help her, and were in great distress

UNITED WAR WORK CAMPAIGN REPORTS

As Received From Oregon Counties Up to 6 P. M. Saturday.

County—	Quota.	Amt. Reported.	Per Ct.
Deschutes	\$ 6,500	\$11,000	169%
Hood River	6,800	10,300	151%
Multnomah	6,050	9,100	150%
Clatsop	20,650	30,000	145%
Malheur	11,400	15,100	132%
Crook	4,150	5,007	120%
Benton	10,600	12,000	113%
Grant	5,500	6,000	110%
Baker	18,650	20,000	107%
Tillamook	8,550	9,098	105%
Umatilla	34,200	35,000	102%
Clackamas	26,700	26,700	100%
Coos	18,150	18,150	100%
Gilliam	5,600	5,600	100%
Jackson (So)	6,950	6,950	100%
Josephine	7,100	7,100	100%
Morrow	6,750	6,750	100%
Sherman	5,250	5,250	100%
Union	15,150	15,150	100%
Wallowa	9,800	9,800	100%
Wasco	13,250	13,250	100%
Wheeler	3,050	3,050	100%
Klamath	10,800	10,000	92%
Linn	22,500	20,000	88%
Columbia	10,350	8,100	78%
Yamhill	18,550	14,761	78%
Jackson (No)	13,900	10,000	72%
Polk	12,700	10,000	70%
Marion	37,650	25,000	66%
Lake	6,350	4,017	63%
Lane	29,800	15,300	51%
Douglas	18,400	9,250	50%
Jefferson	3,050	1,500	49%
Curry	2,550	1,022	40%
Washington	21,550	8,405	39%
Lincoln	4,650	1,500	32%
Harney	6,500	No Report	

ourselves. The tremendous waves smashed our lifeboats on the port side, broke in the doors and our ship was in danger of foundering. The water rushed in in torrents and very soon we were up to our knees in water with everything floating around.

"The ship's officers thought our ship could not be saved and put on their lifebelts. I had not bothered with mine until then—I had been so busy; but when I saw them put on theirs I thought I might as well get one for myself. Just then a man who had been badly hurt called for help and I forgot all about my belt. Fortunately I did not need it for in about two hours our commander steered the ship in smoother waters and we were safe from that danger.

British Officers Brave. "I feel that I must say a word or two in praise of the splendid courage and heroism of the British officers in charge of our ship and the officers and crews of the destroyers who did such noble work for us during the whole voyage. "The American soldiers on board were very brave, not the least sign of fear or panic, each one more than willing to help his comrade, thinking no little of himself. They will make splendid fighters and while America has such sons to fight and die for the land of the free and the home of the brave America will be safe from the abominable Hun."

Student Inductions Halted. OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Nov. 16.—(Special).—No more men will be taken into the student Army training corps until further notice, according to a telegram received at the College by President W. J. Kerr, from the War Department committee on education and special training, Washington, D. C. The status of men whose induction was started before the order, but not completed, has not been decided.

Queen of Bavaria Dies. AMSTERDAM, Nov. 16.—Queen Maria Theresa of Bavaria died on Tuesday according to the Tagblatt, of Munich.

MALHEUR DAM STARTS

CONTRACTORS INSTRUCTED TO START WORK ON PROJECT.

New Era of Prosperity Looked For on Project as Result of Recent Order.

VALE, Or., Nov. 16.—(Special).—Contractors have been instructed to start work on the dam by which water is to be stored for irrigation, and new life has been infused in the Malheur Valley district. In the district now there are about 12,000 acres that are partly irrigated and consequently the crops are only partial crops. These are the main crops, but all grain, especially corn, yields well. Vegetables and fruits can be successfully raised. During the winter there are more than 100,000 sheep and 20,000 head of cattle wintered here. There are now about 25,000 acres of wooded and no Government land covered with sage brush which will now be thrown on the market for sale. Already the inquiries are coming in from all parts of the country relative to this land and Vale is expecting and making preparation for a great influx of settlers in the Spring.

EDITING CLASS HAS PAPER

First Number of Oregon Exchanges Will Appear Soon.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Nov. 16.—(Special).—Preparation is being made for the first issue this term of Oregon Exchanges by the editing class of the school of journalism. The paper, which contains items about newspaper men all over the state, is published by this class of seven girls. Prominent newspaper men of Oregon contribute articles for each issue. The class has chosen as editor for the first number Bess Colman, of Portland. Elizabeth Ammler, of North Yakima, Wash., will be managing editor, and



CRASHING THROUGH TO BERLIN

or "Why the Allies Won"

Helen McDonald, of La Grande, circulation manager. Oregon Exchanges is a monthly publication, and this first issue will probably be off the press by Thanksgiving day.

Singular Eleventh-Hour Coincidence Reported.

Wedding Anniversary Exactly Same as That of Peace.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Nov. 16.—(Special).—An unusual coincidence was reported here with the cessation of hostilities in the great world war at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. At just that moment 53 years ago Mr. and Mrs. James H. McFarland, of this city, became man and wife. "Probably such a coincidence never occurred in the history of the world and probably never will occur again. At least, Mr. and Mrs. McFarland are certain that it never will again occur with them. This is not the only peculiar thing in the lives of this couple, who are now aged 73 and 71 years, respectively. Both came across the plains. They grew up together, went to school together and their postoffice address since marriage has never changed. They live on a portion of the do-

nation claim taken up by Mr. McFarland's father, John W. McFarland, and of the six children born to them all are living. They are Mrs. W. W. Chrisman, Charles, Wilbur, Frank, Warren and Miss Myrtle, and all are residents of this community. All members of the family are enjoying good health and Mr. and Mrs. McFarland report the happiest anniversary of their married life.

LONGER SCHOOL DAY URGED

State Superintendent Would Make Up Lost Time.

SALEM, Or., Nov. 16.—(Special).—School from 9 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon, only those holidays allowed that are authorized by law, an hour at noon for recess for all grades except the first, and school open on Saturday mornings when it is deemed essential to round-out the work, are suggestions offered by State Superintendent Churchill in a letter being sent over the state relative to making up for lost time in the schools because of the influenza ban. He also warns against loading up the pupils with too much work. The only occupations open to women a century ago were teaching school, dressmaking and keeping house. Phone your want ads to The Oregonian. Main 7070, A 6955.



How to make a Soldier happy

Suppose you were in an American Training Camp. Suppose you had just come in from a long hike to find that the "Mail-man" had left you a fine box of Owls or White Owls. You'd know you had a real friend, wouldn't you? So why not send your "Soldier-in-America" a box of Owls or White Owls? Or better still, why not send him a box regularly—every so often. You couldn't pick cigars that would give more real dependable pleasure—first pop out of the box—or last. And why? Because the dependable fragrance of Owl and White Owl is guaranteed by a leaf-reserve always worth nearly \$2,000,000.

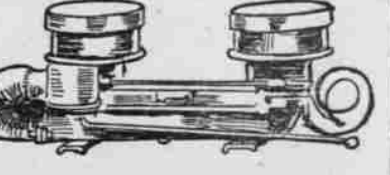
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Happy After 20 Years

"I must write and tell you I am getting along fine. For 20 years, that is over half of my life, I have spent in poor health and suffering from severe gas in stomach and indigestion. Mayr's Wonderful Remedy has entirely restored me. I also know of several others who have taken it for the same trouble and are now well again." It is a simple, harmless preparation that removes the catarrhal mucus from the intestinal tract and allays the inflammation which causes practically all stomach, liver and intestinal ailments, including appendicitis. One dose will convince or money refunded. For sale by druggists everywhere.—Paid Adv.

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