

## Writes About Trip to Europe and Sights There

FRANK WICKMAN, FORMER EMPIRE MAN, GIVES ENTERTAINING STORY OF HIS JOURNEYS IN THE OLD WORLD.

Frank A. Wickman, a brother of Mrs. R. J. Montgomery of East-side, and of Andrew V. Wickman of Empire, has written The Times from Berlin, Germany, a most interesting story of his European trip. Mr. Wickman has attained considerable fame at Berkeley, California, as a musician. He is now completing his course and when he returns will be one of the best artists on the Pacific Coast. His letter, which will be of interest to his hundreds of Coos Bay friends, as well as educational to all who read it, is as follows:

I suppose some of my Coos Bay friends would be interested in hearing about this part of the world. I left San Francisco June 29, and came east via the Canadian Pacific. Stopped off at Portland, Seattle, Victoria and Vancouver. Victoria is as English as any of the small cities you see in England. Also stopped off at Glacier, Canada, and at Banff, which to my mind is one of the most beautiful resorts in America. While at Glacier I went up to the Illidennal glacier, which was most interesting. The Canadian Rockies are magnificent and contain some of the finest mountain scenery in the world. It is surprising the number of Americans one meets over here, that know practically nothing of our scenery at home. I met an enthusiastic California booster who had never seen Lake Tahoe nor Yosemite Valley. It doesn't seem possible, but you meet hundreds in the same boat.

From Fort William I crossed Lakes Superior and Huron to Point McNicol. It was a most interesting trip on a beautiful lake steamer, much larger than our Coos Bay steamers. From Point McNicol I went down to Buffalo, via Toronto. Spent a day at Niagara, which everyone should see before coming abroad. From Buffalo I went to Rochester, N. Y., and from there to Charlotte, where I took passage on one of the magnificent St. Lawrence river boats for Montreal. The trip down the St. Lawrence through the Thousand Islands and to Montreal is very beautiful. Montreal itself is a very interesting old city. It is a typical old French city. In fact, I got on a street car, the conductor of which could not speak a word of English.

The next stopping place was Keene, N. H., where I spent a day with friends. Then came a week in and around Boston. Motored with friends all over the state of Massachusetts. Massachusetts has such wonderful roads. It was indeed very interesting seeing all the historical places I had so often read about. The New England States are full of interesting landmarks, especially to the student of American history.

From Boston I went to Newport, R. I. Newport is without exception the most beautiful spot I have seen. The magnificent summer homes (they are virtually palaces) of America's great millionaires, surrounded by their magnificent gardens and set up on a magnificent bluff overlooking the broad Atlantic, is a picture never to be forgotten.

Took the Fall River steamer for New York, where I spent five days. Just a little disappointed in New York, probably on account of the dullness of the summer season. There is a great number of interesting things to be seen in New York.

I sailed from New York July 27 on the steamer Olympic. Had a very fine and pleasant trip all the way across. For once I was free from sea sickness. I had often thought on my trips up and down between Coos Bay and San Francisco if it was possible to build a steamer large enough to free me from seasickness. They have succeeded and she is truly a wonderful steamer in every way.

Arrived in Plymouth on the sixth day, where we stopped long enough to put off some passengers and the mail. Plymouth is a very quaint English seacoast town and a very important naval base for England. My, but it did seem good to see land after six days of nothing but water.

From Plymouth we crossed the English channel to Cherbourg, France, where the Paris passengers disembarked. Cherbourg is also a very important naval base for France. Recrossing the channel, arrived at Southampton early the morning of the seventh day. Friends invited me to motor with them from Southampton up to London. It was a delightful trip

of 82 miles, and a most pleasant introduction to the beauties of England. The brick walls, hedges, and thatched roofs were new and interesting to me.

Remained three days in London, which of course, was much too short a time to see such an important city. Made the best of the time I had, and saw the House of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, Buckingham Palace, British Museum, London Bridge, Tower of London, and the many interesting squares and monuments so numerous in London. Took a boat trip down the Thames to Greenwich, which was most interesting. The Thames embankment is justly noted for its great picturesque.

From London I went to Brussels, crossing the channel via Dover and Calais. The channel trip is noted for its severity, and it was no exception the day I crossed, but the crossing took only an hour, so I did not have time to succumb. I now appreciate fully the often discussed "white cliffs" of Dover. From the middle of the channel, due to the peculiar clay formation, the cliffs have almost a chalk white appearance. From Calais to Brussels is a five-hour journey by train. The ride through France and Belgium was so enjoyable. Every inch of the ground is under cultivation, being divided up into small farms. The methods of farming are the same as were used by their fathers and grandfathers. You see more women than men working in the fields. Oxen are used for heavy farm work, more than horses.

Brussels is charming. It is well named "The Miniature Paris." The people seem a free and easy pleasure-loving sort. Brussels is full of interest for the tourist. The royal palace is one of the few beautiful royal palaces in Europe. It has been recently built, so looks new and imposing. The royal palaces as a whole are very disappointing as to the exterior. I think we Americans are apt to forget they have many of them been standing for hundreds of years.

The hall of justice, built on top of a hill, is considered one of the finest buildings in Europe. I enjoyed the Brussels picture gallery more so than any gallery I have seen in Europe. It is not as long as many galleries, but every picture seems a masterpiece.

The Grand Place, a sort of city square, in which is located the Hotel de Ville, is the most interesting square I have seen. Every building is of a wonderful architecture, and so unique. Much gilding is used in the exterior decorations and the effect is very fascinating. The churches, statues and boulevards of Brussels are all beautiful.

Antwerp is only a half hour's trolley ride from Brussels. Spent only a few hours in Antwerp. I went through the famous Antwerp Cathedral and saw the two world-renowned Rubens' pictures of the "Descent from the Cross." Antwerp teems with historical interest.

From Brussels I went south to Paris. It would require pages and pages to try and mention the many wonderful attractions of Paris. I saw it quite thoroughly. Went through the historical Notre Dame Cathedral, the Pantheon, La Madeleine, Trocadero, the world-renowned Louvre gallery, in which one could spend weeks. Luxembourg gallery and many other places too numerous to mention. Attended a performance of Rigoletto at the Paris Grand Opera House, which is considered the most beautiful building as to interior decoration, in the world. It is truly very magnificent.

My next stopping place was Cologne, where I went through the Cologne Cathedral, one of the most wonderful architectural mar-

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Finally came Berlin, which was most welcome after two months of gadding about. Berlin like Paris and London requires columns to do it justice. Such clean streets and such a wonderful lighting system is to be found in no other city in the world. As long as I have been here, even now every time I go out, I can't help exclaiming at the wonderful cleanliness. The streets fairly shine, they are so smooth. Four large arc lights suspended in the middle of the street, to every block. Berlin is modern in every respect and lacks much of the fascination for the tourist which other European cities possess. Miles and miles of apartment houses, all five stories high. They must be built five stories, not more and no less. The picture galleries, museums and palaces of Berlin are all interesting and good.

I spent a few days in Dresden recently. Dresden is very old and very picturesque. The Dresden picture gallery containing Raphael's world-famous Sistine Madonna (the most valuable painting in the world) is considered one of the finest galleries of today. While in Dresden took a side trip to Meissen, noted for its famous o a medieval castles. The royal porcelain factory is also in Meissen and was most interesting. I spent a day in Saxon, Switzerland, which contains some marvelous mountain scenery.

I spent last Monday at Potsdam, a suburb of Berlin, which is the military center of Germany. I went through the far-famed Sans Souci palaces and gardens while in Potsdam. The Sans Souci palace was built by Frederick the Great in 1745-47, and is still in its original decorations—a marvel of beauty. Also went through the new Sans Souci palace, used by the present Kaiser as a summer palace.

I am hard at work at my music, practicing from four to six hours daily. I am studying with Victor Heine, the man I worked with in Chicago for three years. Berlin has wonderful advantages for the music student. The world's greatest teachers are here, and there are hundreds of concerts given here every season. One has several concerts to choose from nightly, and it is sometimes perplexing to know which one to attend. There are hundreds of American students here.

There is an erroneous idea in America that music study is cheap in Germany, and other European centers. I came over with somewhat that idea, but soon had it knocked out of me. Living is as expensive, and in most cases more so than in our large American cities. Lessons from the best teachers are very expensive. In most cases ten dollars an hour. It is mostly Americans who can afford to pay that. Concerts and a few of the luxuries such as cabs and taxis are cheap. Clothing and other necessities are equally as high as in America. If the conditions were better known throughout America, there would be many less cases of stranded Americans. Too many people judge conditions as they were many years ago. Living in our country was also much cheaper some years ago.

I don't know just how long I shall remain over here. At least three years, and probably five, or six. Expect to come out to the exposition in 1915, and will then come back to Berlin via Honolulu, China, Japan and India, and the Mediterranean countries. I came over here with the intention of remaining until I have appeared with some of the big orchestras. That requires a great deal of study and preparation. I have been guaranteed three orchestra appearances providing I remain three years. So it looks as though my ambition will be realized. Mr. Heine also expects me to play in recital here in Berlin.

I hope everything is flourishing in good old Coos, and that I will be able to come in by train in 1915.

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#### Of The First National Bank of Coos Bay

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RESOURCES.	
Loans and Discounts	\$206,414.72
Overdrafts	103.12
Bonds, warrants and securities	62,692.99
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	25,000.00
Real estate, furniture and fixtures	80,000.00
Cash and sight exchange	149,208.61
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$623,419.44</b>
LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	\$100,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	11,419.71
Circulation, outstanding	24,000.00
Deposits	488,000.73
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$623,419.44</b>

In addition to Capital Stock the individual liability of Stockholders is \$100,000.00.

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#### of FLANAGAN & BENNETT BANK

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At the close of business, September 4, 1912.

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	\$466,311.87
Banking house	50,000.00
Cash and exchanges	307,895.44
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$824,207.31</b>
LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	89,553.87
Deposits	704,653.44
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$824,207.31</b>

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