

ASHLAND TIDINGS

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R. O. CROWDER, Editor
OFFICIAL CITY AND COUNTY PAPER

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MOTHERS' DAY WAS

A dispatch from "somewhere in France" where the 65th artillery is billeted, the regiment in which many Ashland boys are taking part in the world war, tells how Mothers' day was observed by the olive-drab clad Americans, who for the first time spent this observance in a foreign country.

An order signed by General Pershing came out from general headquarters that Sunday, May 27, should be observed as Mothers' day throughout the American expeditionary forces. The chaplains of the regiments, preached on the heroism of motherhood, and of the American motherhood that sends its sons even 11,000 miles across the seas, to the mothers of the 65th artillery have done, to fight for the future on foreign soil.

The men wrote "Mother's letters," which so marked, have precedence over all other postal matter in Europe and in the states, and will be expedited through the postal channels with the greatest possible speed, that the mothers of America may know what their sons were doing and thinking on Mothers' day in France. Mothers' day, or Le Fete des Meres, as the French say, was a gala occasion in the little town where the bulk of the men of the 65th artillery are stationed. The band came over from its neighboring billet, and furnished the music for a church service and a concert in the afternoon.

Chaplain A. K. Mathews, standing on an ancient stone wall, beneath the sycamores that border the public place, or square, preached to the regiment of their mothers, "the bravest soldiers of all time," he said. He called upon the men to remember their obligations to the women who had given and suffered more, far more, for them than they were giving for their country. Men think more of their mothers and of their God here than they do at home, because they are farther from the former and nearer the latter, perhaps, and the sermon had a tremendous effect upon the men, calling them to a realization of their most elemental obligations.

In the afternoon the band gave a public concert in the square. The French populace, a large portion of which had heard the morning's church service, was out in a body and applauded happily the American airs and popular and patriotic songs which the band played and in which many of the men joined. The citizens here are very enthusiastic about the troops and give them every courtesy and kindness. It was the American's turn to be impressed; however, when the band, in concluding, swung into the inspiring thunder of the Marseillaise. The men, in tribute to the anthem of an ally, came to the salute. The French, the many women and the old men, in their smocks and sabots, bowed their bare heads like the peasants in Millet's Angelus while that song, throbbing with the spirit of the French republic, sounded through the cobbled streets, the tiled cottages and the old-world town. The town has changed in no detail, save through the work of the Americans, since it heard that noble song at the time of its inception; the beginning of the great travail of the birth of the French republic, which we now call La France Immortelle.

At parade that night the people came again. The mayor of the town, Lieut. Colonel B. H. Kierstead, commanding the local detachment, for permission to give the men flowers. That, granted gladly, the little girls of the village passed along the olive-drab files and pinned a button-hole bouquet on the coat of each man and officer, and brought to the lieutenant colonel a huge bouquet as large as a white tree. Then a speech by the mayor and thanks by the commanding officer, and the Marseillaise followed by the Star Spangled Banner, ended the ceremony.

On the whole, Mothers' day was one of inspiration to the men and of a closer welding of the friendship between the French population and the men who have come overseas to try to repay in a measure that which America has owed since the days of Lafayette and Rochambeau.

63,300 DRAFTED MEN
CALL TO COLORS
The men of whom 1261 are to be needed, will be sent to schools and colleges for training. The enlistment date was set for July 1, but the call will be held open for volunteers until June 21. If on that date enough are not obtained, boards are authorized to draft the remainder needed.

Requisitions from the draft to complete the 3,000,000 total by August 1, General Crowder said, have been made. Of these, 3,000,000 will be draft registrants, and the other 3,000,000 will be volunteers.

General Crowder approved the general principle of the bill introduced by Senator France, extending the registration ages from 19 to 24 years, thereby providing additional men for military and industrial service. He did not, however, approve the age limits fixed in the bill.

After outlining the plans of the war department for additional calls, General Crowder said that at the present time one would be exhausted by the end of the present year, unless unless ages limits are extended and another registration held, it will be necessary early next year to call men in class two and probably even thereafter in class three, who are in the reserve.

Final figures on classification of the first registrants totaling 8,889,447 were given. The registrants were shown to have been divided as follows: Class 1, 2,438,729; class 2, 508,666; class 3, 1,427,870; class 4, 3,483,226; class 5, 1,839,856.

General Crowder submitted figures showing the progress of the draft this year. A total of 1,337,512 men, all from class 1, will have been called by the end of July, divided by months as follows:

January, 23,288; February, 83,779; March, 132,484; April, 174,777; May, 268,239; June, 233,354; July, 299,000.

MOTHER FIRST IN MIND
OF WOUNDED SOLDIER
The spirit of the mothers of America hangs over the Marne, as the machine gunners, infantrymen and artillerymen—fight to save Paris and turn the tide in the most critical moment of the war, writes a correspondent with the American armies on the Marne.

It is of the mothers the men in the line are thinking. It is to the mothers that messages from the wounded are being sent. The chaplain leans over the incoming stretchers and asks the soldier if he wants a message sent. The first words of the reply almost always are "tell mother."

One boy who was seriously wounded said: "I've been sort of a wanderer for the last six years. I guess the folks thought I was good for nothing. But now I wish you would write mother for me and just tell her I made good."

Thoughts of what their mothers would have them do have buoyed them up in the hospitals, as these same thoughts have made them the terror of the Marne.

The marines have made all their attacks with full packs, weighing 30 pounds. These packs were shot clean off the backs of some, with the bearers escaping entirely or with only a slight flesh wound.

A sergeant from New York had the chin strap of his tin hat shot off and he only received a slight cut on the face. I saw marvels in tin hats among the men who participated in these fights. Some of them had been pierced by machine gun bullets without the wearer being touched. Others had their knives fairly ripped off and their crowns dented like eggshells. In most cases the wearers got only slight scalp wounds, if any. These men were the most brave of the brave.

ASHLAND RIVER BOAT CO-OPERATION

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up. The wounded remonstrate strongly against being shunted into a hospital. At the field hospitals they are practically all object to being removed farther to the rear.

The fight hasn't been taken out of the Americans by their wounds. One ambulance brought in a heroic and three marines. They evidently had been in some sort of an argument, for despite the fact that they were all badly wounded, one of the marines invited the Hun to "hop out and fight."

The interference of the attendants was not required to keep the bottle from accepting.

Owing to the constant fighting, few officers or men, either in the line or out, know the day of the week or the date. Many bets are made on this. When an American flag is shot to pieces by enemy cannon or musketry in most instances it is allowed to

slow to pieces while being perpetually "mistaken" on an office building staff or in any other place, it has been desecrated. This was the flag day declaration given out by the western department of the army in an educative effort to secure greater respect for the national ensign.

The declaration proclaimed the flag to be a sacred thing, which must be treasured and treated with reverence at all times. It urged that the army and navy regulations covering its use be generally accepted, and that every owner of a flag go through the lowering the colors each day.

Second only to the flag is the national anthem. It must be considered also that in these times the national anthems of the allies have taken on a new significance, also. When the Star Spangled Banner, God Save the King and the Marseillaise are being placed or sung all must arise and stand at strict attention. If they are men they must uncover and remain uncovered until the last note is reached.

Renew Shabby Varnished Surfaces
You can easily make marred or shabby varnished surfaces bright and new. For floors that are worn and scuffed use Acme Quality Varnotile—Floor Varnish. Woodwork and furniture should be varnished with Acme Quality Interolite. Window sills, doors and exterior surfaces are given a durable finish with Acme Quality Sparkote or Exrolite. There's an

ACME QUALITY VARNISH for every purpose. A floor varnish that's tough and durable and made especially to be walked upon; varnishes for automobiles and carriages, woodwork, furniture or any surface that can be varnished, either indoors or outdoors.

Tell us which you need.

Swenson & McRae
Ashland, Oregon



EVERYMAN'S PLEDGE
America shall win this war!
Therefore, I will work, I will save, I will sacrifice, I will endure, I will fight—cheerfully and to my utmost—as if the outcome of the struggle depends upon me alone.

LEADING AND GIVING
It will be well for our people to get a correct line on the various calls that are being, and will be, made on their purses before this titanic struggle is fought to a finish.

We must get the distinction between giving and lending. In the first place we might state that our government has not asked and will not ask for one cent of gift money. The extent of its call is for loans, and for loans on which it purposes to pay fair rates of interest. The man or woman who buys government bonds does not sacrifice for the cause in the sense in which we usually employ the word. At the most, his action entails but a temporary inconvenience, in diverting his means to different channels from those in which he is accustomed to employ them. In the end he has the full worth of his money—the soundest securities on earth—the promises of the U. S. government to pay back new cash to him.

But there are calls being made that entail direct giving. The activities of the Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, etc., are for money from which there will be no financial return. These calls must be met and met fully and cheerfully. Why should we support these great causes? Because they constitute the great humanitarian agencies in the grim machinery of war. Their work is to remedy the physical hurt and undo the moral hurt that must inevitably result from war. An army without the Red Cross would be unthinkable in this humanitarian twentieth century. The horrors of war, at its best are great, but without the ministrations of the Red Cross our armies could not endure.

Likewise, without the civilizing influences of the religious and social organizations, the morals of our troops would suffer deeply. Their minds must be diverted from the grim duties of slaughter, and they be brought always to see behind the dark clouds of war, the silver lining embodied in the ideal peace conditions for which they contend.

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