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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."

AMERICA'S DEBT MUCH LESS THAN GERMANY'S

Pessimistic Americans who view with alarm our increasing national obligations may derive a great deal of comfort from a comparison of the financial condition of the United States contrasted with that of Germany.

The total resources of the United States are estimated at about \$250,000,000; our annual earnings are estimated at about \$50,000,000. Our national debt, including the third Liberty loan, may be put around \$12,000,000,000.

Before the war our government was spending about \$1,000,000,000 a year. When the war is ended, interest charges, less the interest collected from our loans to our allies, government insurance expenses, and other necessary expenditures growing out of war may conservatively be estimated at something like \$1,600,000,000. We are confronted, therefore, when peace comes, with raising only a couple of billions a year revenue, a slight task for a nation of such tremendous wealth, resources and capacity.

The resources of Germany before the war were estimated to be \$80,000,000,000. The annual expenditures then of the imperial government were about \$800,000,000. Her debt now is \$30,000,000,000 and her resources and man power have been severely impaired. After the war she is confronted with additional expenditures growing out of the war to the sum of \$4,000,000,000.

The interest of her war debt, even if the debt grows no larger, will be about \$1,500,000,000. Although she is miserably in her penions to private soldiers and their families, \$1,000,000,000 a year would hardly suffice to pay even small pensions to her injured and the families of her soldiers who have been killed. Her war debt must be paid some time and a sinking fund of 5 per cent would add \$1,500,000,000 to her annual taxation. Here is a total increase of \$4,000,000,000 all due to the war.

Of course both the United States and Germany may greatly increase

their debts, but the increases will not change the relative situations.

The German government has drained the German people of their gold, even their jewels and heirlooms, and yet the Imperial bank of Germany now has but little over \$50,000,000 of gold in its vaults.

The United States has made no special effort to obtain gold, has made no call upon the people for the precious metal, and yet today has in its treasury vaults practically \$2,500,000,000 of gold coin and bullion.

Every Piece of Meat From the

East Side Market

Is a Good Piece.

That's the only kind we handle. Wholesale and Retail. FISH ON FRIDAYS.

OYSTERS AND CRABS IN SEASON. James Barrett, Prop. Phone 188.

IDEALS THAT INSPIRED JULY 4th CELEBRATION

New ideals that inspired the recent July 4th celebration were outlined clearly to the division on public information by Miss Josephine Roche, director of work with the foreign-born. She said:

"We proclaim a new Declaration of Independence for the whole world, which all people will share, instead of America alone. We have always been proud of independence day and the ideals that brought it into being, and on this particular Fourth, 1918, if the women of 1776 could be here they would realize that their descendants have not drifted away from these ideals and that the Americans who have come more recently to this land have been drawn by the same vision of freedom which the founders of the republic had.

"These great groups of our foreign-born are the people who have been fighting for centuries for democracy and liberty in the old world just as our ancestors fought here. A wonderful faith in America, a trust that they will here realize their ideals and find for their children a better chance, bring them to us. We are beginning to understand we have as much to learn from them as we have to teach them, and that altogether we must work for the realization of our ideal America.

"Never has there been such an 'all-American Fourth' or one which expressed so truly and fully the intent of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. From all quarters of the globe America has drawn to herself loyal citizens bringing her the best from the old land. New faith and strength will leap in the hearts of those peoples fighting in Europe against autocracy and terrorism, when they learn the tidings of this Independence day on which their former countrymen so overwhelmingly reaffirm the pledge of America to the oppressed of the world."

With another credit of \$100,000,000 to Italy and \$9,000,000 more to Belgium the credits advanced by the United States to our allies now total \$6,380,000,000.

SOLDIERS' LETTERS

The following letter was received by Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wagner of Oak street from their son Carroll, now attending the officers' training school at Fortress Monroe, Virginia. He is a native Ashlander, and is a graduate of the University of Oregon. He enlisted in the artillery last spring at San Francisco, and was recently appointed to the officers' training school.

Dear mother and all:
Have just read your good combination letter and was mighty glad to hear from home. Mail deliveries are not very efficient or speedy here and mail comes in in bunches every few days.

Our crowd came into this camp with a rather preconceived and influenced notion as to what the place was like, for nearly everyone who has been here seems to think it is his honor duty to knock the place. The epidemic of "crabbing" appears to me to be sort of a chronic disease, but there is no use catching it if you will take a little anti-toxin in the way in keeping in mind what you are here for. It is true that the fare, and especially in the Specialists' School, is not what it was at Fort Scott; and there is little for an ordinary enlisted man to do in the way of entertainment. Nearly everything is high, especially amusements, and the civil population is sort of antagonistic to the soldiers and sailors. The reason for this I do not know, but I have heard it explained as a lasting result of the Civil War—this being one of the areas which suffered and the remembrances have been passed down. Niggers are everywhere and most of them look to me like characters to be watched.

What I say about the place is merely by way of interesting notes and not that I have picked out these things to complain of. It is necessary for me to be here for a time and as there is absolutely nothing gained in cultivating a dislike for your surroundings, I intend to make the best of what disagreeable features do exist.

In the first place our fare is what I consider moderately good, and I know much better than that in the Specialists' School. Our quarters are very good and I think I have one of the best locations in the whole barracks. I have my bunk on the second floor porch of the large brick building and under some large sycamore trees. It is nearly always cool there except in the late afternoon when the sun shines in. It is very pleasant there at night and last night it seemed good under a sheet and two blankets. My bunkmates on the porch are all good scouts and we have a good time in what little there is for such things.

About the camp itself I could write almost a book but it can be summarized in one word as a "hum-dinger." The man who invented the word "intensive training," certainly had this camp in mind. "Up and at 'em," "On your toes," etc. are expressions which give the general atmosphere and the instruction comes at you in rapid fire order. Practically your every move and breath is regulated from 5:45 a. m. until 10:45 p. m. We be unto him who is a second late or who deviates from regulations one point. Your uniform and appearance must be just so for each and every formation. There are ten roll calls every day and about eight different details concerning uniform which must be attended to. When to go out with ties on, ties off, hats off, shirt on, shirt off, hat on, fatigue clothes on, etc., is enough to keep you figuring about half the time. Every morning there is a detailed inspection of quarters. They go over lockers, bunks, etc., with white gloves on and when they find dust, the offender's name is published on the bulletin board. I got called the other morning for having my pillow about two inches out of line and even though that is not a very serious offense, I do not intend to let it happen again. Yesterday morning we had to stand a real inspection and much to my surprise I got by with a compliment.

Over half the men in the company were called for dirty rifles, but the inspecting officer said mine was a very good looking one. It should have looked O. K. for I spent every spare minute for about three days polishing it.

The camp is arranged for a process of elimination and at every turn there is a screen or an obstacle which is placed there for an eliminating factor and which will be your undoing if you do not get by or over it. For general instruction and experience in every phase of military life we are divided into regular companies, with commissioned officers in charge. It is their duty to find out everything about your character, ability, adaptability, etc., and believe me your every move is watched. They do not spy on you but have means to determine your every trait and disqualifying characteristics.

and if such thing be found—out you go. The academic part of the camp is handled by another corps of instructors, all commissioned officers who know their business and most of whom have had experience instructing previous camps. It is necessary to keep your grades high in all subjects, and there are exams nearly every day, most of them written. This week has been spent on seacoast guns, including everything concerning the nomenclature, construction, care, service, and drill on 12-inch disappearing guns and all channels of communication thereto, and a general subject called Orientation, which includes the French military system of gunnery, surveying, topography, field fortifications, camouflage, etc.

There are now 1,200 men in the camp, and there are accommodations for but 800. It is rumored that there is a list of 200 now being made up for shipment elsewhere, and it looks as though there is to be no mercy shown those not thoroughly qualified. Our captain says this is to be a "cut-throat" camp, but someone is going to step lively before they get me. Herbert Alford is here, but I have seen him but about two minutes as he is in a different company. I have also heard that Den Newberry is in the camp some place. Lynn Mowatt is in the same building as I am, but I seldom see him. Have seen Bob Wagner several times and he always seems to have something to do. No one around here has much time for loafing, but I do think those in the training camp have more to do than any other. Up half an hour earlier and it's a cinch we have more night work.

There are dozens of things I would like to write about and things which I think would be interesting, but this will do for a starter, and I will try and tell something about the things outside of the fort and moat next time. With love to all,

CARROLL.

Mrs. C. T. Payne of this city received the following interesting letters recently from her son, Homer, who is with the 52nd aero squadron. He is now stationed at Hempstead Field No. 2, Long Island, N. Y.

Somewhere in Mississippi

July 13, 1918.

Dear Mother and All:

We are speeding northeast. You, of course, know where we are going, but I can't say in this letter. It is 11:45 and we only had breakfast a half hour ago. We came through Louisiana yesterday afternoon and last night. The country along the way was real pretty. Dense forests of cypress and undergrowth higher than the telegraph posts. It certainly is a fine sight after being in Texas so long. The southeastern part is good because there is plenty of water to keep the fields green.

We crossed the Mississippi river on a ferry at Baton Rouge, the capital of Louisiana. We got off the train and were welcomed by the citizens. The canteen girls were fine to us and treated us to post cards, gum and cigarettes and soda pop. The canteen is on the lawn at the foot of the ridge on which stands the state capitol building.

About two hours after leaving we were transferred from chair cars to Pullmans. There are 600 men of us on the train in four different squadrons, so this caused quite a delay. We were in the depot about two hours during the middle of the night with our heavy packs on our backs, and believe me, when we did get to our beds we sure went to sleep, as we had had only three or four hours sleep in three nights.

This morning we rolled out at 8:00 a. m., after the best night's sleep I had had in a long while. It was a real blessing to wake up and find I



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was chilly. We are now passing through some more very beautiful country. It is rather level most of the time. The fields are green with verdure and streams, which are plentiful, are covered with a heavy growth of trees. Everything is wonderfully green and with the bright sunshine upon it all, it makes one glad to be alive and able to appreciate the handwork of God.

Right now we are passing through an oak grove. The trees are very thick, hence tall and slender, and the color effect is beautiful. About the only crops here seem to be corn and meadow grass. There are thousands of acres of corn, all in tassel.

The boys are all happy this morning. The reason, or one at least, is the way we are welcomed and given a farewell at Baton Rouge. The whole city was there with their hearty greetings, and all the young ladies to shake hands goodbye. I bet there were as many of the soldiers who had sore hands as there were of the girls.

Am going to close now, mother, as there isn't anything to write of except the country, which I have already tried to describe. Don't suppose I shall get to mail this back very soon.

With love,

HOMER.

July 17, 1918.

Dear Folks:

Now at Long Island, N. Y. Who ever thought a year ago that I would ever see New York City. See it? No, not exactly. Just viewed it is all.

We came in on the west side of the city yesterday afternoon and took a ferry around the city from the Hudson river over and across the Long Island Sound, and then took a train which brought us over here to camp. Arrived late, had supper at 10:30 and went to bed at 11:30.

What I saw of New York was rather beautiful in a way. There was a great deal of smoke and mist, and the sun shining through this gave the buildings a sort of golden color, and to gaze upon the towering buildings for miles and miles was all very wonderful to me. The great Woolworth building, Metropolitan and Statue of Liberty attracted my attention. I didn't, however, get to see as well as I should have liked to as I had to stand guard all the way on the boat. If I remain here long enough I am going to really see the city, then I shall write you all about it.

One of my good friends, George A. Marsh, who had been a good tentmate of mine ever since I left quarantine in Camp Kelly, and who was a good friend of mine while there two weeks, asked me a long while ago when showing me some pictures of his folks, to go home with him if he

ever went back to New York City. Of course I readily accepted the invitation and he nor I never forgot it. When we left Texas he said he was writing home to prepare for two, and as soon as he could get permission this morning he went over to the "Y" and phoned to his sister that we were coming as soon as we can get leave of absence, which will probably be Saturday or Sunday. George is a real nice boy of 19, and also enlisted as a clerk. I don't know whether I have ever mentioned him or not, but I think I have. While in the city believe me, I am going to see all I can.

While coming up, the first state we hit which showed real patriotism was Ohio—no, it was Indiana, when we crossed the Mason and Dixon line at Louisville, Ky., and the Ohio river. After that we were in the United States. One of the songs of the soldiers always love to sing is "My Indiana Home" and of all the states, in the Union I like it the best—better than Oregon, perhaps.

It is the greatest agricultural state we passed through. Oats and corn are the chief products and there were thousands and thousands of acres of each. The prettiest corn I saw along the road, even and green. The same way with oats. One side of the road would be oats in the bundle while across the way in another field they were as green as grass.

In each and every town and little city everybody, women and children from the houses and men from the factory windows cheered and waved us goodbye. I never saw anything like it. Believe me, when one gets welcome like that they know that the nation is backing its boys.

Girls, children and old gray haired men were frequently seen working in the fields, as most of the boys are gone from here.

I will close now and will try to write more after I have seen the city. It is nearly time to go after the mail too. I don't suppose I will get much more mail from here. Probably a few days before we get any from Ellington.

With love to all.

Your loving son and brother,

HOMER.

52nd Aero Squadron, Hempstead

Field No. 2, Long Isl., N. Y.

Every time you stick a thrift or war savings stamp on your card you are mailing money to yourself to be received later with interest. Cashing in these stamps is going to be better than "getting money from home," for with the money comes the reminder that you contributed to the great victory which then will have been completely won.

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