

BATTLEFRONT IS DESCRIBED FROM OBSERVATION PIT

Lieut. Thompson Tells of Seeing American Shells Strike in Midst of German Troops.

SHELL FIRE IS ACCURATE

Uncomfortable Feeling Encountered When Enemy's Shells Are Bursting Close Overhead.

"We seem to be much more than holding our own at last," writes Lieutenant P. A. Thompson, who has been serving in France with headquarters troop, Third army corps, under date of August 30.

"An illustration of the difference in morale of the two armies is shown when, in an attack pulled off north of us a few days ago by our troops in conjunction with some British tanks, five Scotch bagpipers went over the top riding on top with their bagpipes going full blast. Four of them came out of it unhurt, and one was killed.

"How do you think the boys get following these tanks into action? Just 10 to one would have been easy that afternoon. On the other hand there have been numerous instances lately where the German machine gunners left behind their own retreat of their armies have been found chained to their machine guns so that they could not run away.

Dense Traffic on Roads

"Have just made an interesting trip to the front lines with a captain of the intelligence department and thought it might interest you. We had an early lunch, armed ourselves with our steel helmets, gas masks, field glasses and automatics, climbed into the old Ford jitney and were off. You would have to see the traffic on the roads here before you can realize the amount of hauling necessary to keep an army supplied with the accoutrements of war. Ammunition comes first and then the thousand and one other articles needed from sugar and hay to rubber cement for repairing observation balloons. We passed hundreds of trucks and cars of all descriptions, wagons, carts, artillery, machine gun carts, infantry on the march with their full equipment (both French and American) civilians coming back into the captured areas with their little all on their backs or in wheel barrows or on little carts and in places the traffic was so dense we could hardly progress at all. At every cross road is an American and a French military policeman for regulating the traffic, all the same as New York, and believe me their word is law.

Burlap Walls Resemble Trees

"As we neared the front, the traffic became less and less and truck trains took larger and larger distances between vehicles in order that one big shell, should it land squarely, would not do too much damage. Topping a rise that overlooked the river—which is now the dividing line between France and Germany—we entered onto a piece of camouflaged road. On either side of the road is a line of poles some 10 feet in height and these, hung on wires, is a broad band of green and mottled yellow burlap, cut into strips that wave in every breeze, and from a distance of a mile or two it is almost impossible to tell these burlap walls from the surrounding grass or woods.

"In places instead of the burlap was a brush wall, made by cutting bushes and twining them into the wires which connect the poles. Of course, the enemy knows the road is there, but it is rather hard to locate its exact course and he cannot see what traffic is passing along it. I was rather thankful that a light rain had laid the dust as dust makes a very good marker for observers and quite often calls forth a little artillery fire.

Sits Tight in Danger Zone

"The almost incessant exchange of compliments between the opposing artillery was growing louder and louder as we slowly drove down our army road and already the biggest part of our fire was coming from behind us. We could hear the whirr and whine of the big shells far over our heads and believe me, the sound is neither pleasant nor one which you are likely to forget in a minute. However, the captain had not yet donned his tin hat and appeared to be thoroughly at ease so I just sat tight and appeared (I hope) to be entirely at home.

"As we dropped closer to the river we approached a little village, or rather what had been a village, but which was now nothing but a heap of crumbling stone walls and torn up

streets. A sentry waved us down to a stop at the edge of the village and informed us that Fritz was shelling the road at the lower edge of the town rather violently, at which information, the driver, rather hurriedly donned his tin derby and I reached for mine at the same instant, but the captain seemed rather unconcerned, so I hesitated a moment. But that was it. It is about the most comfortable feeling you can imagine to have that rather heavy tin derby where you know there's likely to be shells flying.

Enemy Had Exact Range

"While we remained there two shells burst in the road below us, and waiting until the next one arrived we made a dash for it between shells and managed to get through in plenty of time before the next one arrived. They certainly had the range on that piece of road. At least two out of three shells would hit it squarely and tear a hole in it a couple of feet deep. We passed on down behind a small knoll and left the car and proceeded on foot. I was much relieved when the captain finally donned his helmet. The knoll extended in a sort of ridge almost up the river bank and was covered with small bushes and trees, affording up the roads and streets. I had a few glimpses of Boche soldiers fitting by some openings and exposed places. It is wonderful how a thousand men can hide themselves on such a small area. It is a case of necessity, however, as anything showing is certain to draw the fire of snipers.

"All the time we were in the tree the shells from both sides were screaming over our heads in a regular never forgotten. And when some of the big ones would come unusually close it was all I could do to keep from ducking my head. Just before we climbed down, one of our batteries landed on a German ammunition dump a half mile or so behind the lines and for a few minutes we hid ourselves on the July celebration at long range. The dump evidently contained fireworks of all kinds as well as ammunition, for we saw rockets, the glasses, rockets and flares and smoke bombs and such, exploding in every direction.

Gets Dent in His Helmet

"After leaving the tree (I could have stayed there all day) we sneaked by various crooked and always hidden ways down to the river bank and down the river some half mile or more where we visited some more of the captain's observation posts and located places for others. You couldn't see any soldiers in any direction, but to test the eyes of the Boche we had only to stick your helmet over the top of the trench or show yourself at the edge of some woods. They have some good shots, as I can testify by exhibiting my helmet with a dent in it where I poked it up to see what would happen.

Observation Balloon Attacked

"Big sausage shaped balloons belonging to our men hung above us with their tiny baskets hanging below them. Off about a mile from us we heard a violent burst of machine gun fire immediately followed by every anti-aircraft gun on the American side of the river, and a Boche airplane came from high in the air in an almost vertical position, diving for one of our balloons, both machine guns on his plane going at the same time. He must have started his fire a bit too soon, because when only a few hundred feet above the balloon, when it was a fine target, he stopped firing and beat it back over the German lines at 200 miles an hour, with about a thousand guns roaring at him. He was, however, apparently unharmed, but a couple of days later I had the pleasure of seeing one of our aviators bring down a German balloon. The observer calmly climbed over the side of the basket and dropped in his parachute to the ground, some thousand feet below, and landed with ease in an open field in plain view.

"The average American over there is well fed, well clothed, and except for the very natural longing for home and the home folks, seems to be the same as here. Care-free sort of man he is at home, and above all things, he doesn't want anyone at home to worry."

VOTERS OF PORTLAND DENY SALARY RAISES ASKED BY TEACHERS

Majority Against Unofficially Is 428; Little Interest in the Election Manifested.

Teachers in Portland schools were denied the requested salary increase by a substantial majority in Tuesday's school election. Complete unofficial returns from the 62 school precincts showed a vote of 1873 favorable to the increase, with 2301 opposed, a majority of 428 against. Little interest was manifested in the election as is indicated by the vote which is only about one-third of a normal vote in school elections.

The proposed salary increase amounted to \$20 a month to teachers receiving less than \$3000 a year and carried with it an additional tax levy of 8 of a mill with which to provide the additional \$230,000 necessary to meet the increase.

Members of the board of education were not opposed to the increase in salaries asked for, in fact, they recognized the merit of the request. The board is limited to a tax levy of six mills and at present the fund available is insufficient to meet the salary increases.

The ballots will be officially counted by the school board late this afternoon.

Travel to and From Scandinavia After War to Be Heavy

Anticipating improved economic conditions in Scandinavian countries following the war, many are preparing to return to their native lands. Others are planning to send for relatives in Europe with the intention of making their homes permanently in this country. Bookings for Europe reported Tuesday by Dorsey B. Smith, manager of The Journal travel bureau, include Ole Nikolai Lerkaugster of Rainier, Jacob and Hans Leirvaag and Conrad Sigero of Astoria, all to sail from New York December 10 on the Hellig Olav for Trondheim, Norway.

Mr. Smith has daily inquiries from people who wish to send for their relatives in European countries and is forwarding funds or transportation that will bring many new residents to the Northwest as soon as passenger traffic on the Atlantic becomes normal.

Specialty Shops to Aid Santa Claus In Christmas Rush

Emergency aid to Santa Claus was agreed upon by more than 100 members of the Greater Portland association at the Portland hotel Tuesday night. The meeting was attended by representatives of specialty shops and it was unanimously decided to open these establishments the three evenings immediately preceding Christmas. A letter from the state council of defense was read before the meeting announcing the lifting of the ban from holiday buying.

The city council will be asked by the association to pass an ordinance prohibiting the use of grotesque and poorly illuminated street signs, and a petition, prepared and signed by those present at last night's meeting, will be presented at the city hall today. The petitioners claim that many signs now displayed are a blemish on the beauty of the downtown district and are in other ways objectionable.

The semi-annual report, read by J. Wenger, manager of the association, showed a balance of over \$2000 on the credit side. President E. H. Jaeger presided at the meeting.

Forest Grove Will Hold Union Service On Thursday Night

Forest Grove, Nov. 27.—Union services of all the churches will be held in the Congregational church Thursday evening. Rev. Mr. Ebert, pastor of the Methodist church, will give the address. Special music will be given by the choir, under the direction of Mrs. E. E. Williams. Patriotic songs will be sung by the audience for about one-half hour before the service.

Nine More Men Are Declared Eligible to Enter the S. A. T. C.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Nov. 27.—Nine more men have been declared eligible to induction into the S. A. T. C. here. This makes a total of

NEED FOR FURTHER FOOD CONSERVATION IS TOLD AT MEETING

County Representatives of Food Administration Told U. S. Must Help Feed Europe.

Taking advantage of the conference of county representatives of the state food administration held Tuesday at the Portland hotel, whose attendance included many women who had served on the women's committee of the Council of Defense, Mrs. Charles H. Castner, chairman of that committee during its existence, called the women of the conference together during the afternoon for an exchange of ideas. She took the opportunity to express her appreciation of the loyal way in which the women stood by her during the existence of the committee.

W. A. Milne of the food administration gave an inspiring address on conservation. Mrs. Fred G. Schilke, president of the Congress of Mothers, urged the continuance of the registration of babies between the ages of 6 months and 6 years. Miss Ava B. Milam, state chairman of home economics for the food administration, urged strict conservation in order that the people of Europe may be saved from starvation. Mrs. Edith Knight Holmes urged greater use of milk, especially in the feeding of young children. Her address was seconded by Miss Lillian Tingle, who suggested the establishment of milk stations on college campuses where students may have a drink when they want it. Miss Harriet Wood, representing the Junior Red Cross; Mrs. A. F. Flegel, representing the Congress of Mothers; Mrs. Jennie M. Kemp, Mrs. William MacMaster and Mrs. Frances B. Clark of Burns spoke briefly.

33 out of the 38 recently declared civilians because of incomplete induction papers who may complete their muster. Lieutenant E. W. Hills, personnel adjutant, desires these men to report at once and arrange for the completion of their induction which must be made prior to December 1. The nine men now declared eligible to the induction are: J. G. Beck, Corvallis; O. L. Ireland, Baker; W. P. Hubbard, Corvallis; O. E. Moreland, Portland; H. A. Myers, Visalia, Cal.; E. C. Spray, Cottage Grove; J. L. Spriggs, Portland; R. M. Versteeg, Portland; Raymond A. Dowdell, Mitchell, S. D.; P. A. Holmes, Enterprise.

Prominent Yakima Man Among Those Killed in Action

Yakima, Nov. 27.—Lieutenant France C. Johnson, only son of Mrs. Mary D. Johnson of Zillah, was yesterday reported killed in action in France. The family moved here after the death of the father, Judge Johnson, prominent in territorial days and in the early development of Alaska, and settled on a fruit ranch in the lower valley which the mother and son brought to a high state of cultivation, making it one of the show places of the valley.

Lieutenant Johnson was one of the first men sent from the valley to an officers' training school and he graduated from the Presidio, got his assignment and was sent abroad. He is the second commissioned officer from this valley to die, the first being Lieutenant Dow R. Cope of the aviation service.

TURKEYS 40c to 45c

At Frank L. Smith's, 228 Alder street: Very choice geese, 35c to 40c; Ducks, also choice, 35c to 40c; Smith's own chickens, 30c to 35c; Holiday roast beef, 15c; 15c; 20c; Farm pork ribs, 15c; 25c and 30c; Sausage, absolutely fresh, 15c; Beefsteak, all choice cuts, 15c to 25c (Adv.)

Thanksgiving and War Savings Stamps

We are thankful for our land. We are thankful for our homes. We are thankful for our industry and civilization. We are thankful for our boys. Make their hearts glad and their courage strong by buying more War Savings Stamps. C. S. JACKSON, State Director.

Lieut. Larrabee Was In German Prison

Lieutenant E. P. Larrabee, who is mentioned in the list of prisoners at Karlsruhe, Germany, is a son of C. X. Larrabee who, for nearly a quarter of a century, owned Holladay's addition and for whom Larrabee street was named. C. X. Larrabee nor any members of his family ever resided in Portland, their home being in that portion of Bellingham which was laid out as Fairhaven and which Mr. Larrabee also owned.

WHY ACCEPT GRAY HAIR? It Is Unnecessary

Most women would laugh at the person who suggested having the teeth pulled out because time had impaired their usefulness; or not caring for the skin because maturity and wrinkles usually go together.

Yet many middle-aged women sorrowfully accept gray hair as inevitable, when proper care will hold its dark, youthful color indefinitely. Q-ban Hair Color Restorer is a delightful toilet preparation for restoring gray, streaked with gray or faded hair to its youthful color and lustre. It is not a dye. It simply brings back gradually and naturally the original color and beauty of the hair. Does not stain the scalp or rub off. Does not interfere with shampooing or waving. Eradicates dandruff. Easily applied. The makers of Q-ban have been known for a generation as specialists in the treatment of the hair. Sold by all reliable druggists everywhere on Money-Back Guarantee. Price, 75c. (Ad)

A WORLD AT PEACE Makes This Thanksgiving Day At Once an Occasion of Great Joy and Great Gratitude To Be Fittingly Observed With Due Measure of Both Store Closed All Day Thursday



Santa Claus Will Arrive In Portland Thursday Watch for Him in Your Neighborhood Santa has chosen Thanksgiving Day as the day when he will arrive in Portland from his home in the Northland. Thursday he will drive through the city for boys and girls to see him. Watch for him in your neighborhood. Look for Santa when you hear the sleighbells.

He Will Be at This Store Beginning Friday He wants all the boys and girls to come and visit him in our Sixth Floor Auditorium. You'll find him in his own house. Go right up and speak to him—he has a royal welcome for all. He would like you to write him a letter and tell him what you want for Christmas. You can deposit your letter in Santa's own mail box adjoining his house.

He Will Give a Plaything FREE to every child under 7 accompanied by a grownup who visits him between 10 A. M. and 12 M. Friday morning. Be sure to get one of these interesting toys. Their Frank Co. EST. 1857 THE QUALITY STORE OF PORTLAND THE STORE OF THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Thanksgiving Dinner and Supper With Dancing in Arcadian Gardens at Multnomah Hotel Dinner and Dancing 5 to 8 P. M.; \$1.50 per person Supper and Dancing 9 to 12 P. M.; \$1.50 per person WEBB'S FAMOUS JASS BAND Reservations will be received over phone; Brdwy. 4080 or A-6787

NERVOUS PROSTRATION May be Overcome by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound - This Letter Proves It. STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE AND ASK YOURSELF THIS QUESTION: "HAVE I BEEN TO THE LIBERTY THIS WEEK?" AT WHAT YOU'RE MISSING - "FATTY" IN "THE SHERIFF" AND NORMA TALMADGE IN "THE FORBIDDEN CITY." TO REASON AND TAKE THIS TIP: BEAT IT TO THE LIBERTY—THIS DOUBLE STAR SHOW IS SURE A "PIP." UNTIL SATURDAY MIDNIGHT!