

BUTTER WRAPS

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TERMS, CASH ONLY

AMERICAN SPIRIT RELIED ON TO WIN.

In the light of succeeding events it is interesting to recall the confidence with which the United States Food Administrator viewed the gloomy outlook in July of 1917, when this country had been in the war for less than four months and the Germans were steadily sending the western front nearer and nearer to Paris.

"Even though the situation in Europe may be gloomy today," he declared in a public statement, "no American who has knowledge of the results already obtained in every direction need have one atom of fear that democracy will not defend itself in these United States."

SMITH AND TUCKER DODGE THE SHELLS OF THE HUN

Caring for Wounded not a Safe and Restful Occupation—Busy Days.

First Lieutenant C. H. Smith and Sergeant Elmer Tucker, doing field hospital work with the 361st Infantry, rubbed elbows with Death for many days on the western front prior to the armistice. This is the hardest kind of service, as men engaged in it are fought without being able to fight back. Lieutenant Smith has sent home to Mrs. Smith what amounts to really a thrilling narrative, although in bald diary form. He and Sergeant Tucker have been nearly always together. The Leader prints below the record of only a few typical days, selected at random from the diary. It is evident that these two Weston soldiers have seen war in its grimmest aspect:

September 25 and 26—Moved to Very to fill gap during day. Barrage thrown over by our guns was something terrific. A continuous flame half circled the horizon and the roar of the guns was constant, rising and falling in volume like waves or a varying wind. Although we were two or three miles behind the lines, guns were firing from all around us and for miles back. When we went over No Man's Land about noon it was some scene of desolation. It looked as though it would be impossible to crowd in more distinct shell holes. The trees were all cut down. Nothing but short bushes remained for at least a mile and a-half back of the main front line trench of the Germans. Their trenches were wrecked. Little narrow gauge railways they had been using for three years or more to keep up their supplies were destroyed by the shells. It looked as though human life were impossible in such an Inferno, yet a few machine gunners were encountered by our doughboys when they went over the top. Most of the Germans were done for, though, and no very serious resistance was met with until they reached a point between Very and Epinonville, where machine gun nests and snipers held up the rush, when the Second Battalion went into action the second day. We lay at night in cold trenches in the Forest De Hesse, without overcoats or blankets, being part of the division's reserve. In hurrying up to the front on September 26 we got lost in the woods with a company of machine gunners and wandered considerably, so that when we joined the battalion at Very that night the hiking and the dysentery I contracted from exposure just about had my goat. As we marched out to start for the front we were under fire in the Forest De Hesse. Just as the Medical Detachment, almost at the end of the column, was passing a crossroads, German airplanes overhead signalled their artillery and about four big shells whizzed by us, striking some 50 yards beyond. I sure wanted to lie down, but couldn't very well set such an example to the boys, so busied myself hustling them out of a ditch back down the road.

September 30—All ambulatory patients were started back at daylight. Hospital corps men were all in. Band detail worked fine. Many badly wounded litter cases, fractures, abdominal and chest wounds, shrapnel and high explosive over entire body. Our troops advanced some three quarters of a mile and were withdrawn last evening to 200 and 300 yards in advance of station. Shelling along road and through timber every hour and more frequently during day. One shell came close enough in the air to jostle me, falling about 30 yards away and wounding one boy on the road. Covered windows with tar paper and had candles and fire at night. Dr. Coleman argued strenuously as to necessity for having station in such a trap so near the front but consented to stay over. Relieved in morning after usual barrage during night. The 316th Engineers sent company up to help evacuate wounded. Also made use of supply wagon to get out one load.

October 9—At set hour regiment advanced. Sent with Field Artillery detachment and two litter squads for each battalion. Attack began just as I reached Third Battalion—Sergeant Tucker with me. Detachment left, and Elmer and I started back to other detachments left up the draw from Gesnes. Suddenly a big shell swished past our heads, striking and bursting about twelve feet from us. I fell—too late, of course, to do any good—and as I dropped I saw Elmer falling on his face with his back to the shell. I saw a mass of stuff striking him as he fell, and a lot of mud covered me. I felt sure Elmer was done for. But he was as lucky as I; after the usual exchange of quer-

ies we got up and went on, attributing our good fortune to the soft ground the shell struck in—burying itself too deep for the fragments to properly scatter. Rotted detachment out of their holes and started on in single file—shells simply raining on hills on both sides of us with a generous sprinkling in our valley. Suddenly I looked back at the detachment following in time to get glimpse of a commotion as a big shell passed between two of the men, burying itself not four feet away and failing to explode—a dud; another example of the chances of war, as we could have expected not less than a dozen casualties had it exploded. Just then enemy machine gun bullets fired from long range began falling over the hill very near our feet. They sing much like the sparrow's cheep. Fired long distances they describe an arc like artillery fire and it is possible to clear a hill crest and fall near its foot or even on its side. So I decided it was about time to get the men down, else I wouldn't have any detachment. We scattered along a bank about three feet high at foot of hill and waited until barrage ceased.

The Local Flu List

Among the Spanish influenza cases in Weston and vicinity reported this week are the following:

Five at the Marion O'Harra residence.

Eight at the William Gould residence. These patients are Ray Gould and the families of Ed. Tucker and Sidney Tucker.

One at the E. L. Woods residence in the country. Mr. Woods himself is the patient and his condition is reported to be quite serious.

Two at the J. F. Snider home—the unlucky ones being Leonard and Zaida Snider.

Four at McBride Bros.' farm on the Wild Horse—Mr. and Mrs. T. L. McBride and their little son, Lawrence, and P. A. McBride.

Seven at the G. H. Sams farm on Dry creek—Mr. and Mrs. Sams and five of their seven children.

Three at the Ralph Tucker farm—Mr. Tucker and two children.

Harris and Cole Contribute

The Central Loyalty Committee of the Umatilla County Patriotic Service League takes pleasure in announcing to the public that both Higby Harris of Milton and A. A. Cole of Pendleton have contributed to the United War Work Fund in accordance with their ratings, Mr. Harris subscribing \$100 and Mr. Cole \$75. Both took this satisfactory action on Wednesday, December 11, after giving the matter more thorough consideration. The committee believes that their previous refusals were not inspired by disloyal sympathies but rather through lack of understanding of the needs and purposes of the funds and through failure to appreciate the responsibilities of the individual citizen in times of national stress.

Good house, barn, chicken house, etc., and 4 acres for sale. Frank Skinner.

PORTLAND REALTY FOR SALE

or trade—A fine, modern, 7 or 8 room house, hard wood floors, French doors, shower bath, den, two fireplaces, sleeping porch, mirrors in bedroom doors, and cement garage in terrace front, in Laurelhurst, Portland; value \$8500.

Also a nearly modern 5 room cottage with fireplace, bath, cement cellar, near Montavilla line, Portland; value \$2500.

Also a nearly modern 5 room cottage, cement cellar, bath, electric lights, on corner lot, near Union line to Vancouver, Portland; value \$2000.

F. D. WATTS, Weston, Oregon.

BREVITIES

Sam Banister was in town this week from Enterprise.

Expert dentistry—prices reasonable. Dr. Spongle, Athena.

See me for special prices on Model Ninety Overlands. Dr. Kennard.

T. J. McCarty was in town on business Saturday from Burbank, Wash.

E. E. Faust and family have moved to town from the uplands to reside during the winter.

That Ford Roadster, like new, going at \$538.00, and on Goodyear tires. Watts and Rogers.

J. E. McDaniel left this week for the neighborhood of Connell, Wash., where Mrs. McDaniel is teaching school.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hyatt left Monday for their home at La Crosse, Wash., after a visit with friends and relatives here.

I have left my books and accounts at The Farmers Bank of Weston, where these indebted to me will kindly call and settle. J. F. Snider.

Mrs. W. L. Rayborn and children have moved back to their home in the uplands, where they will remain until the flu epidemic subsides in Weston and school starts again.

Elvin Charles Winder, the infant son, aged six months, of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Winder, died December 6 of tonsillitis at their home on Reed and Hawley mountain. The remains were brought to Weston for burial.

Mrs. J. M. Compton and daughter, Mrs. Della Marsh, returned Monday evening from Walla Walla. Mrs. Marsh has recovered from influenza, and all the patients in the George Waddingham household are either convalescent or improving.

The following officers of Weston Lodge No. 58, I. O. O. F., were elected at a recent meeting: R. H. King, noble grand; John Barnes, vice grand; A. A. Kees, recording secretary; J. E. Stanfield, financial secretary; S. A. Barnes, treasurer.

The carburetor of E. C. Rogers' Hudson car has been wheezing and whistling of late, as though afflicted with the flu, and his nephew, Worth Watts, determined to investigate. Removing the carburetor, he found therein the lifeless remains of a baby bat. By the way, as it were and in a manner of speaking, it should be no means inferred that Councilman Rogers has bats in his belfry because one was found in his carburetor.

Dr. McKinney, Weston's busy medico, has not only been treating the many local cases of flu with marked success, but also has a large number of patients at Adams. He has direction of the emergency hospital there into which the town hall was converted and which accommodates some twenty cases. Up to Thanksgiving day Adams had no flu cases, but now there are more than thirty in the community. The spread of the epidemic is ascribed to a certain Thanksgiving dinner and family reunion and to a house dance. Both were attended by visitors from other points who were coming down with the epidemic.

Have You Kept Your Pledge?

Have you kept your pledge to buy War Savings Stamps? Have you purchased as many of these baby bonds as you can this year? If not, do so at once. Umatilla county has not yet reached its yearly quota and the time for making up the deficiency is short. Fulfill your pledge today.

R. T. BISHOP,
County W. S. S. Chairman.

GIFTS HERE

In Endless Variety

conveniently arranged, in every nook and corner of this great store. These afford delightful evidence that the holiday season is on in earnest. Beautiful gifts—practical, useful, pretty gifts.

JEWELRY

Jewelry is always acceptable—a pretty ring, brooch, cuff links, scarf pin or chain. Ours is a guaranteed line—good quality, moderately priced, complete assortment.

GLOVES

for men and women. Big, warm Auto gloves; kid gloves, service gloves, acceptable as well as useful. Priced from 85c to \$3.00.

A Suit for Christmas

This is to be a season of useful gifts, and what could be better than a suit or overcoat, maskinaw or sweater?



Neckwear for Men

Our line never contained so many pretty selections as we are showing this year—all new designs and patterns, attractive—just what you have desired, from which to select his Christmas ties.

Georgette Crepe Waists

Many have already made selections, and we have taken from the racks waists that will make glad both the giver and the lady receiving one of these pretty and colorful garments. New selections have been made for the holiday trade, and we are confident you will find what you want in this assortment.

IVORY CUT GLASS HAMMERED BRASS DAINTY STATIONERY
SLIPPERS HANDKERCHIEFS BLANKETS
DAINTY COMFORTS ROBES

Weston Mercantile Co.

Join

All you need is
a heart and a dollar

Tires and Tubes

IN BIG VARIETY. COME
IN AND LOOK OVER
OUR STOCK

Store Your Car

WITH US—LOTS OF
ROOM

WESTON AUTO CO.

C. H. Nelson