

DAILY ROGUE RIVER COURIER
 Published Daily Except Saturday
 A. E. VOORHIES, Pub. and Prop.
 Entered at the Postoffice, Grants Pass, Ore., as second class mail matter.

ADVERTISING RATES
 Display space, per inch.....15c
 Local or personal column, per line 10c
 Readers, per line..... 5c

DAILY COURIER
 By mail or carrier, per year...\$6.00
 By mail or carrier, per month... .50

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SOLDIER LETTERS

April 29, 1918

Dear Folks at Home:

I received no letters from home last week but did receive an Ashland Record and a few Couriers, which I enjoy. Yes, I will be glad to have the Courier regularly; although I don't know many people around here it is interesting anyway as it seems to give a brief resume of state and national affairs as well as of local happenings.

You doubtless know that every company usually has some kind of a mascot. Our squadron has been without one ever since losing the Texan pup on the St. Paul, which by the way turned over recently at the dock. However, we are making up for lost time now. The squadron has about completed raising a fund of 1,000 francs with which we intend to adopt two French war orphans as mascots for the period of one year by the plan outlined in the Stars and Stripes, the official newspaper of the A. E. F., which I am sending you under separate cover. As you will notice in that paper that many squadrons are doing the same thing and it is really a splendid idea.

Recently our commanding officer picked up a baby wild boar somewhere near here, and is keeping it for a mascot. It is about the size of a cat and has such a large head that it almost balances on its front legs. It has quite long hair, almost fur, which runs in light and dark stripes down its back and some of the boys keep it nice and clean and it is quite cute. They feed it out of a bottle although it is strong enough to follow the boys about, however, it dare not show much speed as it is constantly in danger of taking a nose dive. Two weeks ago our captain shot a wild boar. They get to be about as heavy as an ordinary hog, I think, but are much longer legged and more active, and I guess are rather formidable if cornered.

OLIVER MORTON,
 400th Aero Con. Squad.
 A. E. F.

Camp Sheridan, Ala.,
 May 15, 1918.

Dear Cousin:

Your nice letter reached a very busy prospective soldier in the midst of preparations which will be followed in a short time by good byes to Montgomery from the 47th division.

We surely have been pushed the past month. I actually haven't had time to look at my French book, so I suppose I'll just use arm signals and trust to the Lord that the Frenchies will understand. However, I don't think we will see France very soon. It seems that we will have to combine with drafted men to bring our regiments up to war strength.

The boys in all the camps are anxious to get over there and have it over with. For the ones who come back—that great things are in store for them. It certainly will be over before very long. If my little bit only leaves me there in a heap with some of the other fellows—even that won't be so worse. I believe with all my heart that not many more of us will go over, and that the infantry "with dirt behind their ears" will shoot their way to Berlin in spite of gas and bayonet and shell; in spite of submarine or aeroplane. We've got the best shots in the world. Give us one fair shot apiece to our million and a half—and the war will be on its last legs—so will Bill Kaiser.

Say, it's so blooming hot here that they make us double time with gas masks on to see how much we can stand without smothering to death. Did you ever see a gas mask? They make a fellow look like a cross between the devil and a deep sea diver,

and, like a trombone or any other horn, they have a mouthpiece—to breath through, not for talking purposes. They also have a real nifty set of nose clamps inside which shut off any attempts to inhale through the "snoot." They would be death to hogs. Also they differ from "fit the form" clothes since they fit the face—so tightly that a fellow has no trouble in "keeping his face shut." If you haven't any pictures of the monstrosity which is to keep us alive I'll try to get a snapshot one of these days to send you. We have to put the things on in 6 seconds or less. If more, we journey suddenly to the land of never—never. It's a beautiful thought, but they don't sell round trip tickets to that place. When I go the long, long trail I'd rather look a little less like a devil. Look bad enough as it is.

The saddest part is that we too (have) need the band in the front line trenches to wake us in the wee small hours. There's enough without it, so as the "noise" leaders of the "Y" says, "Now, boys, lets have it without the band."

Please give the boys a word of cheer from their comrade in misery when you write. Tell them to be-aware of the infantry. It's tough on corns.

Let 'm sing—"Hurray for Dixie"
 —I want to go back to Oregon.

Your rookie friend,
 POL.
 CORPORAL BEN H. STORMONT,
 Co. F, 148th Infantry,
 Camp Sheridan, Ala.

Way to Test the World.

There is one way for every man to determine for himself whether the world is growing better or worse. All he has to do is to ascertain whether the number of people who agree with him is increasing or diminishing.—Houston Post.

Sewing Machine Aid.

Take a board that will fit easily in the machine drawer and drive finishing nails in it at regular intervals about two inches apart. Put your spools of thread on these nails, with numbers up, arranging white thread on one side, colors on the other and silks at the back.

All kinds of Commercial Printing at the Courier Office.

LEAGUE CONVENTION THOROUGHLY ENJOYED

The tenth annual Epworth League convention of Klamath district has proved most successful from a spiritual as well as social standpoint. Friday afternoon's program was most helpful. The convention theme, "Keep the League Fires Burning," was emphasized throughout the convention as each must fill his own place as well as the places left vacant by our soldier boys. The devotional service and talks were especially helpful.

The reception Friday evening was alive from start to finish. A number of introduction games as well as others soon made everyone enjoy the convention the more as they were soon all acquainted, and judging from the chatter, everyone had a good time. Miss Catherine Lerow and Edith Brown gave a very pleasing gipsy song in costume. The refreshments consisted of punch and wafers.

As the sun was rising Saturday morning the young people made their way to the city park for a sunrise prayer meeting, which was led by Miss Catherine Miller. This was a very impressive service, long to be remembered by all. Soon the smell of coffee, sausage and eggs called the hungry Epworthians to breakfast.

Group prayer meetings were led by May Lindley of Medford, Georgia Williams of Medford and Vivian Isham of this city. Each group found a convenient spot for a quiet time with God. The lesson "Render Unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God those things that are God's," was applied to the present day, our responsibility to our government and our God.

The business meeting followed. The officers for the new year as elected are: President, Joseph Bateman, Medford; first vice president, Minnie Kincaid, Ashland; second vice president, Kathleen LeRaut, Wilbur; third vice president, Dora Herman, Grants Pass; fourth vice president, Lyle Perrin, Roseburg; secretary, May Lindley, Medford; treasurer, Ernest Jeffery, Talent, and Junior League superintendent, Miss Tooker, Ashland. "The Big Drive" by the president, Mary Tinker, of Medford, the round table talks and the department meetings filled the morning.

In the afternoon the visitors were shown around the city and ended the afternoon with a hike up a hill west of the city on the Merlin road.

Supper was served at the church and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Miss Helen Fifield was toastmaster. Vivian Isham represented the home chapter, as president while the respective presidents responded. The old and new cabinet also responded. Rev. L. Myron Boozer, Rev. B. A. Finch and Rev. Melville T. Wire, were guests, all responding.

A patriotic pantomime under the supervision of Mrs. Sam Baker ended the evening with a sober thought. Rev. Melville T. Wire preached

the convention sermon on the "Race of Life." It was especially helpful to young people.

The installation of officers and the communion service filled the afternoon.

The Epworth Leaguers gathered again at 6 o'clock for the regular devotional meeting led by the president, Miss Tinker. Dr. J. C. Rollins of Medford gave a patriotic address on "Work." The individual life was brought out as most important. The roll call of the soldier boys, 96 in number, was a most solemn service. The convention song, "Keep the League Fires Burning," a song sung throughout the conventions and closed the session. Many of the Leaguers heard Dr. Kerr later in the evening.

The home chapter deserves much credit for the success of the convention as well as the untiring efforts of the district cabinet.

Those present were: Ashland—Jean Anderson, Josephine Barber, Minnie Beaver, Edna Stennett, Minnie Kincaid, Medford—Bessie Jackson, Georgia Williams, Blanche Snots, Joseph Bateman, Mary Tinker, May Lindley, Curtis Darby, Mr. Meeker, Roseburg—Lois Geddes, Margerite Horney and Lyle Perrine, Wilbur—Leo Holgate, Kathleen LeRaut, Edith Brown, Talent—Ernest Jeffery, Gold Hill—Susan Starna, Alice Johnson, Ina Gardner, Eleanor Blyer, Central Point—Verona Brenner, Joy Hamyuck, Gertrude Wiley, Iris Marshall, Donald Brenner.

Y. M. C. A. LOSS GREAT

It is estimated that the loss to the British Y. M. C. A. since the German drive on the western front in buildings, equipment, supplies, etc., is more than \$200,000. Scores of huts have been wiped out by shell fire.

NATIONAL TRADE MARK FOR U. S. MANUFACTURE

Washington, May 27.—A national trade-mark for protection of American goods abroad and to insure a high standard of quality will be available for the use of manufacturers in the United States when congress agrees on bills now pending to authorize the department of commerce to design such an emblem and regulate its use.

"Made in Germany" goods and the insidious propaganda accompanying that notorious mark will be combated after the war by the American sign, standing for an honest product and square dealing to all.

The trade-mark will be pictorial or symbolic, recognizable in all countries regardless of the language spoken. The printed mark "Made in U. S. A." which some manufacturers have been using, was found to mean nothing to millions of foreigners, the Chinese for instance, who speak only their native tongue. American consular officials frequently have urged that "Made in U. S. A." should be written on the goods also in the language of the country where they were to be sold.

"American goods, rather than Americans and their persons, are to be the correct means of winning friends for this country," in the opinion of officials. "The national trade symbol if properly exploited and used should enable us to reach markets and people as we have never before done."

KEEPING CLEAN OVERSEAS

A million and a half cakes of soap went overseas in one Y. M. C. A. shipment for American soldiers.

WRIGLEY'S



—is the great war-time sweetmeat.

—the benefit, the pleasure, the economy of a 5c package of WRIGLEY'S

—has made it the favorite "sweet ration" of the Allied armies.

—send it to your friend at the front:

—it's the handiest, longest-lasting refreshment he can carry.

CHew IT AFTER EVERY MEAL

The Flavor Lasts



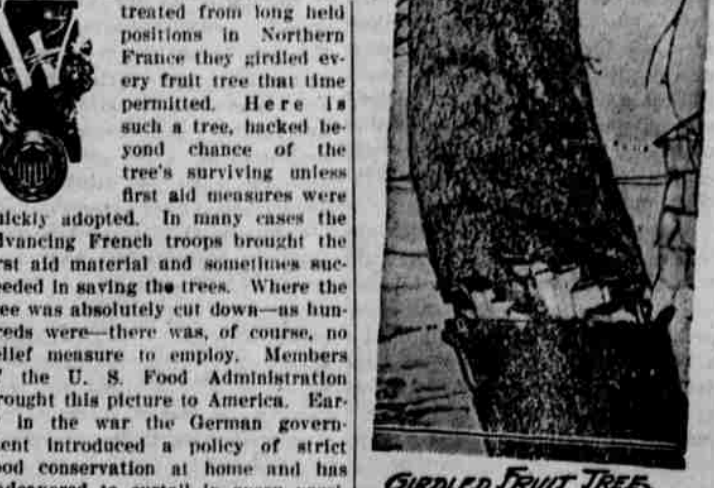
GOODYEAR Tires

C. L. HOBART CO.

DESTROY FRENCH FOOD SOURCES



FRUIT TREES OF NORTHERN FRANCE DESTROYED BY RETREATING GERMANS



GIRDLED FRUIT TREE

WHEN the Germans retreated from long held positions in Northern France they girdled every fruit tree that time permitted. Here is such a tree, hacked beyond chance of the tree's surviving unless first aid measures were quickly adopted. In many cases the advancing French troops brought the first aid material and sometimes succeeded in saving the trees. Where the tree was absolutely cut down—as hundreds were—there was, of course, no relief measure to employ. Members of the U. S. Food Administration brought this picture to America. Early in the war the German government introduced a policy of strict food conservation at home and endeavored to curtail in every possible manner the French and English supply. U boat warfare and destruction of farming property are parts of the same campaign.

America is today the greatarder of the allied nations. Out of our food stocks we must save enough to feed our European associates in this war.