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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1918.

OREGON WEATHER

Fair, warmer southwest portion, Thursday fair and warmer, gentle northerly winds.

THE PENALTY OF FRIGHTFULNESS

When British pressure along the Somme compelled German retirement a year ago the Germans laid waste the country they abandoned with a thoroughness which called to mind the ravage of the desert horseman who boasted that grass never grew again where once his horse had trod.

They wrecked every house and every barn, fired every hay or straw stack, cut down great avenues of century old trees, drove copper nails into thousands of fruit trees, filled up wells, dynamited roads, and left the land behind them blasted by destruction so complete that the labor of years could not restore it.

The chance of war, last spring, led to a German drive over this ravaged territory. Today the Germans retire across it for a second time, and find retreat inconvenient. There is no shelter in the stricken country, no houses about which to organize little centers of resistance, no clumps of trees to screen trenches or machine gun nests, no roads along which weary men may retreat with facility.

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QUALITY FIRST

The smiling country-side has become a desert, a German-made desert, across which orderly retreat is much more difficult than systematized advance.

Germany's economic aim in war becomes more apparent with every passing month. Germany went to war for loot, and for the chance to loot the world. That chance has passed, and now the Germans, sullenly retreating, are looting as they go. They undertake deliberately to lay such a blight upon the land they surrender that it will be worthless to those who pour out blood and treasure for its redemption.

Their experiences in wasted Picardy should warn them. One cannot war against nature, against man's improving handiwork, and not pay the penalty. For four years now the German people has warred on civilization. Civilization will be re-venge, even as ruined Picardy today revenges itself upon its oppressor.

The disregard of treaties, the sacrifice of non-combatants on land and sea, the brutality of the battle field and the prison camp bring their reward. The German will be an out-cast among his fellows long after the peach trees of northern France bloom and bear again.

"The war is now a race between Hindenburg and Wilson," said Lloyd George last spring. Well, you couldn't expect much speed from a heavy, puffy fellow like Hindy, when matched with a slender college athlete like Woodrow.

Just wait till they put that tax on servants. There'll be many an old guy who will tell you he is just practicing up on his golf strokes, when he's really out in the back yard beating the rugs for mother.

COMING EVENTS

- Aug. 19-Sept. 6—Josephine county teachers training school.
August 24, Saturday—Pomona grange will meet at Fruitdale.
Aug. 24, Saturday—Registration day for men reaching age of 21 since June 5. Registration at courthouse.
Sept. 9—Opening of city schools.

SOLDIER LETTERS

The following is an extract from a letter received from Chas. Dana Ament:

"Was up in the trenches Sunday before last and watched Fritz's lines for a while through a field glass. A small town was situated between our positions and theirs, and if you have seen pictures of ruins you may imagine the appearance of a whole town of them. The church steeple was only a skeleton of rock, and the walls were not as high as a fence. To the right of the town a once beautiful stone bridge was only a streak of broken rock laying between piers, while further to the rear a fine steel bridge on the railroad leading to a certain German metropolis had been blown to the valley beneath. Large 'dubs' (unexploded shells) lay here and there and the ground was a veritable checker board of craters. Back of me on the road I had just traversed Fritz was dropping high explosive shells in a vain effort to locate a battery which was evidently doing very destructive work to his positions behind the lines. Overhead several of our planes sailed slowly up and down the lines while Fritz peppered away at them with his anti-aircraft guns. Pieces of sharpnel would sing to earth here and there and we did not dare watch these operations for fear of getting one in the face, and our 'tin lids' proving useless. We spent most of the afternoon in a machine gun nest and towards evening had supper with the boys. Our meal consisted of pork and beans, mashed potatoes and some bread pudding with dried apples in it, and coffee. Later we tramped back to camp with a battery of crack American gunners sending the high explosives and gas shells screeching overhead as 'peace proposals' to the kaiser.

"We had movies in the Y the other night. I think they were produced in about 1905, and after witnessing the complicated modern plot, the whole reel could be figured out after about ten feet of film had passed. The machines are run by French boys of about 16 or 17 years, and generally some one of our boys have to get up and fix the machine and get it going about every few minutes. Of course every window has to be covered, and with a tent packed full of men and the air blue with tobacco smoke you may well imagine the pleasure an ordinary mortal just over from the states would get out of such an entertainment. However, we old 'veterans' enjoy it to the fullest extent. The other night while at the show a gas

alarm was given and of course a lot of us had left our gas masks in the barracks. There followed a mad rush for them and a great polishing of goggles, and then we went on with the show, the signal to put them on not having to be given.

"B. W. Coutant ran across Dwight Jewell the other day and talked to him awhile. I expect to look him up the first chance I get, but he is camped about 10 miles further back and that is quite a hike for a short jaunt."

JOSEPHINE WHEAT MAY BE USED IN FEEDING

In answer to a letter as to the disposition of wheat raised in Josephine county the county food administrator has received the following from M. H. Houser, of the food administration grain corporation: "Our reply to this is that the small lots of grain you mention should be either handled locally by the growers of same for feeding purposes or the small lots pooled into carload lots and consigned to the food administration grain corporation for the account of the several shippers."

The basic price is \$2.20 for No. 1 wheat at Portland for bulk wheat. (Basic price varies according to variety.) A premium of 9c per bushel will be paid for sacked wheat basis good order sacks.

No. 2 3 cents under No. 1; and No. 3 wheat at 7c under No. 1.

From the above instructions I understand the grower of wheat can sell his wheat for feed or for milling purposes at his option.

SAM H. BAKER, County Food Administrator.

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FIRST PHOTOGRAPH OF AMERICANS IN CANTIGNY BATTLE



This is the first authentic photograph to reach the United States showing the Americans in the battle of Cantigny, their first really important conflict with the Huns. The first men to go over the top are seen leaping to the attack, while their companions in the trenches await the command to follow. Within 45 minutes the Americans had obtained all their objectives, taking many prisoners.