



WRITES FROM ITALIAN FRONT

RAYNER GEISENDORFER WAS IN THICKEST OF BIG ITALIAN DRIVE IN OCTOBER.

Bandon Young Man With American Ambulance Corps Sends Mother a Helmet for Birthday Present—Describes Historic Places Where Struggle Raged.

At the Front, With the Italian Army.

Dearest Mother and Father, I'm at the front—at the place where for the last 4 1/2 years the eyes of the world have been turned. "The front" may mean any part of the many ones in Europe, but that same phrase "the front," means only one thing—where men fight and die for an ideal.

While writing I see cannons flashing, star-shells bursting, and shrapnel casting its death on those below and do I hear any noise? It is one incessant boom, boom, boom. A "305" went off then. It is most wonderful—most terrible and yet do you know it seems the most natural thing in the world to be here. Last night the bombardment was simply awful—but enough.

I'm going back several weeks when I wrote my last letter. I know you'll forgive me for not writing. We left our pretty camp on the Mediterranean and started, everyone had to drive something, to where we were going. I drove a big gasoline tank, had no trouble whatever and you know it was my first three hundred mile trip over mountain roads. Oh, what gorgeous scenery! And the ice cold streams. We went over roads that Caesar built. The farther north we got the more war was in evidence. Those who could afford them wore wooden shoes—how funny they sounded clattering over the cobblestones. Old women scarcely able to stand were working in the fields, and made my heart ache to see these old creatures toiling under loads and burdens that would have made me quail. But they only smile and wave to you "C'est la Guens" is their only answer. We passed on and stopped in a town, one day, the name of which has its namesake in an opera, and also a composer's name. The river Po flowed by. Some river! At this spot Caesar crossed against the Gauls and Napoleon on his Campaign. As I could not very well sleep in my tank of gasoline I was put in an Italian Army, the second I've slept in in Italy. Finally we reached the U. S. A. S. base. It is in an old town surrounded by a moat, one of the most famous in Europe. Our boys slept in a castle with 1500 rooms in it. In it and around it were layed all the scenes from Rigoletto. One room contained a ceiling with a hole in it made by Napoleon when the palace would not surrender. Paintings on all the walls—masterpieces. Saw the room where prisoners were executed. Saw rooms where thousands of skulls were placed on the walls. At this place I received 65 letters, the accumulation of two and a half months, also rolls upon rolls of papers and magazines and the boys just simply devoured them. * * * We feel pretty blue to-night one of our boys, mechanic, "went west." I feel it especially as since my transfer from "600" to this detachment for four and a half months he and I shared the same tent. A fine fellow. At midnight last night Austrian and German bombing planes came over her to visit us * * *

October 28th 1918.

Since writing we again moved up the line. My these wonderful Italian Alps—magnificent. The Apennines are part of the Swiss Alps, and seems as though the entire horizon was covered with peak upon peak all clad in snow reaching unto heaven—* * *

We ran of course without lights, but the air is so clear and rarified a small flash—and we saw hundreds of them up above us) signalling—do and dash stood out like glistening diamonds. I know now where these million miles of barb-wire made in the States are going. Talk about your barb-wire entanglements! The devil himself could not get through them. In case of retreat which thank God is a remote possibility, the most awful devil prepared devices could be thrown across the roads in a minute and camouflage! I've seen ships, trains, cars, etc., but camouflaged trees and roads was a new one. One night we stopped in an old house, four floors, big court in back—everything marble steps, stairs, walls, but

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SCHOOL TO OPEN ON DECEMBER 30

State Health Officer En Route to Curry Puts "Flu" Ban Back on Local Schools.

Through the action of Dr. G. H. Douglas, who is acting as assistant surgeon of the public health service of the U. S. government and health officer for the state of Oregon, the city schools were placed under influenza ban Friday noon. Saturday the school board met and decided to set the date of reopening as December 30.

High school students will send in their week's work Friday, December 13, and will be supplied with outlines of work to be handed in the following Friday. No work will be assigned for the week of December 22nd as that is part of the regular Christmas vacation.

Dr. Douglas has closed all the schools in the county. In Curry county he administered serum to a large number of people, a request for serum having been made because of the danger there due to the lack of physicians.

OLD SOLDIER WAS A LIFE LONG OREGONIAN

Alexander Osborn, Who Died Here Monday Was Survivor of the Whitman Massacre in 1847.

The death of Alexander R. Osborn occurred here Monday of this week at the age of 73 years. Born in Utah on August 5, 1848, while his parents were en route from Illinois to Oregon, he arrived in the territory while in his infancy. He spent all his life here; was married and reared a large family of boys and girls. He was a survivor of the Whitman massacre in 1847. He joined the Baptist church in early life and remained a faithful member through life.

The deceased is survived by three sons and four daughters; five sisters, two of whom, Mrs. M. O. Stenert and Mrs. M. O. Stoppel, of Cottage Grove, Ore., were with him and cared for him during the last few days of his life.

The deceased served his country during the war of the Rebellion, having been a member of Company F, First Oregon Infantry. He had been a member of the G. A. R. for many years and was chaplain for the local Post at the time of his death.

The burial was conducted yesterday in charge of the G. A. R., the following comrades acting as pall bearers: J. W. Felter, R. F. Shannon, W. A. Greek, J. W. Fauidt, C. B. Zeek, Antle Henry, W. F. Kennedy and C. M. Trubull. Interment was in the G. A. R. cemetery.

DALE BARKER DIES WHILE AT COOS BAY

Fireman on Tug Kihyam Contracts Pneumonia and Dies at Mercy Hospital—Burial Here

The death of Dale Barker, aged 34 years, occurred at Mercy Hospital North Bend, at 2:00 A. M. Tuesday, December 10. The body was brought to Bandon and buried the following day.

Mr. Barker had been employed for the past three months as fireman on the tug Kihyam. Last week he accompanied the tug to Coos Bay to bring over some barges for the Moore Mill & Lumber Co. It was necessary to remain there several days awaiting favorable weather. While there Mr. Barker became ill. He was taken to the hospital immediately but continued to become worse until the time of his death. It is thought that pneumonia was the immediate cause of death although the deceased had for some time been suffering from heart weakness.

Deceased was born in Philomath, Benton county, Oregon, and came to Bandon with his mother when three years of age. He lived here until about 9 years ago when he went to Bend, Oregon, where he engaged in the automobile business. About a year ago he returned to Bandon and for a time was interested in the machine shop at Garoutte's garage.

He leaves a wife, who before marriage was Mabel Giles, daughter of John Giles, and one son, John, six years old. Deceased was a step-son of Sam Barrows.

Burial services were conducted at K. P. cemetery, by the Knights of Pythias, deceased being a member of that order, Rev. W. S. Smith officiating.

"All You Need Is a Heart and a Dollar"

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States and President of the American Red Cross, has summoned every citizen of this Country to the comradeship of UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE RED CROSS,—

AND WHEREAS: Membership in the American Red Cross is an evidence of loyalty,—

AND WHEREAS: The American Red Cross is on the eve of the greatest year's work in its history, supplying aid and material encouragement to American soldiers on duty in France, Russia, Siberia and in this country; taking care of the dependents of soldiers in this country by means of Home Service; aiding in the reconstruction of Europe by assisting returned soldiers to positions; providing help and encouragement to wounded soldiers, and in other ways assisting the World to recover from the results of the War,—

AND WHEREAS: It is desired that every adult citizen become a member of the American Red Cross that all may feel they have a living part in the work of the Society,—

NOW THEREFORE: I GEO. P. TOPPING, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BANDON STATE OF OREGON, do hereby proclaim that the week of December 16-23 be devoted to the purpose of securing membership in the American Red Cross and do urge every citizen to join the Red Cross and to assist in promoting universal membership in that organization.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND this 7th day of December, 1918.

GEO. P. TOPPING Mayor of the City of Bandon

ATTEST J. W. MAST City Recorder.

Every adult citizen in Oregon is to be asked to join the Red Cross or to renew his membership during the Christmas Roll Call, which will be held the week before Christmas Dec. 16-23.

Membership to the Red Cross costs \$1 a year.

There will be no receipts given this year, the proof of membership being the signing of the Red Cross Roll and the wearing of the 1919 button.

Red Cross leaders wish every wearer of a Red Cross 1919 button to ask every non-wearer: "Where's your button?"

There are over 248,000 Red Cross members in Oregon. Everyone, it is expected, will renew membership, while it is hoped to add 100,000 new members.

But there will be no quotas issued. The aim is to enroll every adult. That means that the aim in view for every city and town is at least one out of every three men, women and children in the community.

Wilbur E. Coman is state chairman for Oregon for the Red Cross Roll call and Hermon E. Witham, State manager, Miss Getta Wasserman being Executive Secretary. Portland is introducing a novelty in the campaign by having an exclusive all-woman organization from the leaders down to the last worker.

Because of the campaign there will

NO NEW CASES HAVE DEVELOPED HERE

Contagion Seems to Have Let Up in Bandon—One Patient From Sixes.

The past week was a clean one for Bandon as far as contagion is concerned, not a single new case developing. It is now more than two weeks since the diphtheria cases were first quarantined and no new cases have developed; the one chicken pox case is still the only one and the "flu" seems to have missed this place for the time being at least. The only new case reported in this vicinity during the week is that of Miss Anna Hughes, who was brought to Emergency hospital yesterday from her home at Sixes in Curry county. She had just arrived home from Portland when she took sick. Today her condition is reported very favorable.

BIESCKE BOILS BEANS? BACHELOR HOUSE BURNS

Went to Town to Get Bacon for the Pot When House Catches Fire Which Destroys Everything

A five room house, recently purchased by J. C. Page, located west of Jackson avenue, near the ball park, burned down Saturday, shortly after noon. An overheated stove was thought to have been the cause. The place was being used as bachelor quarters by Ed Biescke and Alton McCue. The former had built up a fire in the kitchen range shortly before noon and put a pot of beans on to boil. He went to town after some bacon to put in the beans but stayed longer than he intended. In the meantime the house caught fire. It had such a start by the time anyone discovered it that nothing was saved.

The house was valued at about \$1200 and was insured for \$750. The occupants lost all their belongings, including their clothing and bedding.

Mrs. Louis Sponcil of Craine's Camp, has been dangerously ill of pneumonia.

ONE DAY SERVICE GOES INTO EFFECT

Better Mail and Passenger Service Between Bandon and Portland After Next Tuesday.

A change in the Southern Pacific time schedule affecting the local passenger and mail service, goes into effect Tuesday, December 17th. The change is in compliance with the request of business interests in Coos county. It will give Bandon and lower Coquille section one-day service to Portland. It will likewise give Curry county much better service.

The Coos Bay train leaves Eugene at 7:15 a. m., connecting with train No. 53 which will carry a standard sleeper to Eugene, arriving at North Bend at 12:55 p. m.; Marshfield, 1:10 p. m.; Coquille, 3:20 p. m.; Myrtle Point, 3:25 p. m.; Powers, 4:45 p. m.

Returning leaves Powers 7:00 a. m.; Myrtle Point, 8:00 a. m.; Coquille, 8:32 a. m.; Marshfield, 9:45 a. m.; Eugene 3:45 p. m.; Portland, 9:15 p. m.

The southbound train will be held at Marshfield from 1:10 to 2:15 p. m. The local train service between Marshfield and Powers remains as at present.

The Steamer Charm will leave Bandon at 5:30 a. m., connecting with the train for Portland. It will also carry the mail. The Charm will meet the incoming train at Coquille and bring passengers and mail down on the same evening, arriving here about 6 o'clock. The traveling public is requested to purchase railroad tickets at the Bandon office on the evening before leaving in order to eliminate all delays in the morning.

Day Service to be Off for Two Weeks

Lack of Fuel Because Mills Will Not Be Running Given as Cause—Revives Old Question.

There will be no electric day service beginning Monday of the coming week and lasting until, after the first of the year, according to Jack Kronenberg, manager of the Bandon Power Co. The reason for the shut down is that the mills will not be in operation during that time and there will be insufficient fuel supply to operate the lighting plant both day and night. The day power was off for similar reasons nearly all of last week.

The power situation is a serious one, as its uncertainty is causing much inconvenience and financial loss to those who are equipped to operate their machinery by electric power. The general public was under the impression that the day power difficulty was settled last Spring when, after a hearing before the State Public Service Commission, a 25 per cent increase in both day and night power and lighting rates was granted in order that day service might be continued. It was argued by the company that the day power revenue was by far less than the cost of the service.

Representatives of the Company declare that they have been unable to secure sufficient fuel to put in a reserve; that as soon as they received the raise in rate the price of wood at the Moore Mill raised from 75c to \$1.25 a cord; that the transportation costs from the mill to the plant had increased; that the company is suffering financial loss under present conditions and cannot comply with the conditions of the recent hearing.

The problem will likely again be put up to the State Public Service Commission. Manager Kronenberg states that the company may ask to go back to the old rates and discontinue the day power. It is quite certain that such a move will be fought by the users of day power and those who have the best interests of the community in general at heart.

Married at Coquille

Ralph Thom and Miss Stella Shield were married at Coquille the forepart of the week. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Shields of Bancroft. She recently returned from Portland where she had been employed for several months. The groom is a civil engineer, who for the past year or more has been employed with the county roadmaster's crew. Both have been reared in this community and have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

DELLA GOES HARD ASHORE

LITTLE GAS SCHOONER BEACHED WHEN CABLE BREAKS AT PORT ORFORD

Left Coos Bay Saturday and Battled Heavy Storm En Route to Gold Beach—Crew Almost Gives Out—Dropped Anchor at Fort Orford But Cable Did Not Hold.

The Port Orford Tribune of yesterday has the following:

The little gasoline schooner, Della, went ashore at 5 o'clock Monday morning in the Port Orford harbor, and lies on the beach between Battle Rock and the old wharf, in almost the exact spot where the steamer Bandon came ashore a year ago last spring.

The Della came out of Coos Bay Saturday loaded with 19 tons of freight for the Peoples Company at Gold Beach. Besides Capt. J. M. Woodworth and Engineer Dave Colvin, Ed Prince and Victor Anderson were on board. When off Cape Blanco that evening a southerly storm was met. The wind increased until the little boat was wallowing in the trough of the sea. She could not be held either before the gale or into it, and four pumps, two run by the engine and two by hand, had to be kept going constantly to keep her from foundering. The seas were sweeping her deck and the crew were soaked to the skin. Several tons of freight in the after hold were thrown overboard to relieve the struggling craft. This condition lasted about 12 hours, the wind dying down near noon Sunday, and Capt. Woodworth said that had it continued to blow a few hours longer he and his men would have been too worn out to have continued the fight and would not have been here to tell the story, and as it is he compliments those with him very highly for coolness and tenacity in sticking to their jobs.

The wind subsided when they were off Bandon, but the bar was too rough to cross, so she headed back for Port Orford arriving here at 10 o'clock Sunday night. It was too dark to find a harbor buoy, so her anchor was dropped. The crew was tired out and went to sleep. During the night the wind came up again, and Monday morning she broke her cable and came onto the beach. Engineer Colvin heard the cable break and had gone in the engine room and had started the engine just as she struck the beach. She now lies well up on the sand, her machinery and freight having been removed, and the hull will be repaired and launched.

The boat was loaded mostly with gasoline, grain and flour, with a scattering of miscellaneous merchandise. The gasoline has been saved, the grain is mostly lost and the 100 sacks of flour are considerably damaged. A lot of canned goods has been saved, while there has been quite a loss in dried fruit, tobacco, etc. It is impossible to estimate at this time what the loss will be, but it will run into several thousand dollars. Both the boat and the cargo belong to the Peoples Company and were not insured. C. H. Buffington and C. J. Marks came up from Gold Beach yesterday and are looking out for the interests of the company.

Capt. Woodworth says they were fortunate in having an open harbor like Port Orford to run to, even if they did slip their anchor as otherwise he and his crew would probably have been in Davy Jones locker at this time.

Influenza Serum Free

Health Officer Dr. E. V. Leep announces that he has received a supply of Spanish Influenza serum from the State that will be furnished free to those who desire it.

Little Billie Sellmer underwent an operation today to have tonsils and adenoids removed. He is getting along nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Wells arrived in Bandon today from Corvallis. Mr. Wells has not yet decided what he will do in the future.

WORLD HONOR ROLL

Mrs. C. R. Anderson, Oakland Cal. R. B. Young, Bandon. Arthur Ellingson, Coquille. Mrs. J. Bowers, Bandon. H. O. Nettleton, Bandon. Dave Morgan, Bandon.