

OUR BOYS WITH THE COLORS

News Letters, and Stories of Our Soldiers and Sailors in France, In the Training Camps, On the High Seas, and Everywhere Gallant American Fighters Are Found.

A telegraph from the Miller brothers George and Andrew, Monday night announce their arrival at Camp Merritt, New Jersey, where they may be located for some time—or they may leave soon.

Chas. S. Kerr, now on board the U. S. S. Arkansas, at Fortress Monroe, Virginia, writes his cousin Miss Louine Kerr. He asks to be remembered to all his Aurora (Dutch Town) friends. He describes a boat race in which 8 boats took part at Fortress Monroe, where there is plenty of both work and play.

Fred Kerr writes from France under the date of May 22. He says it is very warm there now. "Old Oregon has nothing on France when it starts to rain." He does not plan on any Christmas dinner in Oregon, as he expects to spend next Christmas with his French girl! Writing to his sister Helen, he tells about the French school near their quarters, where English as well as French is taught—the pupils learn to read English but cannot speak it!

Joaguin Miller, who was at one time in the employ of the Southern Pacific here but who is now "with the colors" at Camp Laurel, Maryland, in the Signal Corps, has written Mrs. J. F. Kerr and daughter Louine that he expects to leave soon for France. He thinks the people of the south and east are not near so patriotic as Western people! He says also, "We have a very nice camp here and fine officers. They treat us fine, but we have been drilling hard. Friday we hiked 20 miles, and this forenoon 10 miles."

Letters have been received the past

week from John P. Graves, in France with the 467 Aero Squadron; from Carl Haman, who has been transferred from Co. I, of the 162nd U. S. Inf., to Co. H; and from Alvin Miller, of Headquarters Co., of the same regiment. All were in fine spirits and form, awaiting their chance at the Kaiser's hordes.

Letters from Fred Kerr last week, to his mother Mrs. J. F. Kerr, inclosed clippings from the "Daily Mail" describing the manner in which a German attack was forestalled. The French prevented an attack by the simple expedient of attacking first. After describing many attacks, charges, bombardments, the article says, "But all this is merely sparring for openings in the big fight that must come." This was a prediction that has come true.

Fred Kerr sends a clipping from a European newspaper describing an incident that amused the American and Allied troops. The clipping says, in part: "The most interesting incident yesterday was the sudden arrival in our lines of a German artillery limber drawn by two panting and exhausted mules, with two German gunners on the seat in a state of mingled anger and alarm. The limber contained, not ammunition, but a bag of letters from Germany which were being taken to the German battery for distribution among its men. But the bursting of a British shell near the mules so frightened the mules that they bolted and never stopped until they got among our soldiers, who jumped up and brought them to a standstill." The letters found prove that great distress prevails in Germany among the civilian population.

Dr. B. F. Giesy and Guy N. Hickok motored to Monitor yesterday to attend a bank meeting. They are directors of the Monitor State Bank.

A. C. Thompson and F. D. Popejoy were here Saturday from Needy, where both are visiting the Wm. Thompson home.

Mr. and Mrs. Emery Howe were up from Portland last week, where Mr. Howe is working during his leave of absence from his work as carrier on Route 1.

Miss Elizabeth Forstner, Miss Lizzie Will and Miss Bertha Starke of Aurora and Lester Will of Hubbard motored to Albany in the latter's car yesterday to visit friends there.

Hundreds of people here made the observation of the eclipse their chief business Saturday afternoon, as they did not care to wait for the next one—which will arrive about the year 2068.

Geo. Scholl and family of Hubbard and Miss Elizabeth Forstner of Aurora motored to Middleton Sunday to visit Leonard Will and family—not knowing when they left here that Mr. Will was very ill with pneumonia.

August Will of Hubbard and Miss Clara Will of this city drove to Sherwood Monday to see their brother Leonard Will who is quite ill of pneumonia. He has been attended by Dr. Starke of Albany.

F. O. Mahan, representing the Salem Fruit Union, was here Tuesday in the interests of the government and the Salem and Marion county loganberry growers, who want to engage hundreds of berry pickers. Anyone willing to pick may get work by addressing the Salem Fruit Union. Picking will begin in 10 or 12 days. 1 1/2 cents per box is paid for picking.

The following been appointed members of the publicity committee of the Polk and Marion county Bridge Dedication, for the towns outside of Salem: J. M. Poorman of Woodburn, L. C. McShane of Hubbard, and N. C. Wescott of Aurora. It is understood that the proceeds realized in connection with event will be turned over to the Red Cross.

Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Popejoy arrived last week from Vallejo California, to visit Mrs. Popejoy's parents at Needy and Mr. Popejoy's people at St. Helens. They motored from Vallejo, a distance of 750 miles, in 3 1/2 days. They will return in a few days. Mr. Popejoy is employed in the navy yard there, where torpedo boat destroyers, submarine chasers, etc., are being built, and almost endless other work is going on.

MERIDIAN

Miss Elnora Pratt has been on the sick list the past week.

Meridian school expects to have an all day picnic Wednesday.

Minnie Bachert visited her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Brewer Sunday.

Forest Mills and family accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mills, motored to Silverton Sunday to visit their uncle Oscar Phelps.

Mr. and Mrs. Hayland, Mr. and Mrs. Cornett and son Edwood of "The Prince Walnut Orchard," visited at Forrest Mill's place Saturday.

Handsome Service Flag Will Be Dedicated

The beautiful service flag made by the Third Oregon Auxillary for presentation to the Aurora community will be unfurled and dedicated Friday night at the Aurora Band Hall, in honor of the 78 gallant boys of Aurora and its five mail routes, who are now in the service of their country on land and sea. Grant B. Dimick will make the address of the evening, and the Oregon City quartet who made such a hit here last spring will be here, and there will be other pleasing features. The families of those in the service are specially invited and the general public are extended a cordial invitation.

Those whom the service flag is designed to honor are:

L. D. Marsh
Wm. Marsh
Victor White
Ira White
Alvin W. Miller
Carl Haman
Fred Ehlen
Fred Kerr
Wm. Keilling
Louis Keilling
Ruspor Giesy
Homer A. Armstrong
Alvin H. Lorenz
Gordy Frederickson
John P. Graves
Samuel Gribble
A. W. Gribble
Henry Colvin
L. H. S. Paige
Frank Ritter
Charles Harnack
Henry Hendrick
Edwin Deetz
Jonas Deetz
Albert Ehlen
Charles Kerr
Waldo E. Rothenberg
Fred Norton
Wm. Reynolds
Lewis Mitts
George Luebben
James McClintey
James A. Miller
Ulysses Giesy
Andrew G. Miller
George W. Miller
Edgar M. White
Chester Giesy
Walter Keesling
Benj. Stoner
Leslie Grazer
Wm. Flick
Wm. Gibson
Pat. Gibson
Wm. Etzell
Ray Stevens
Raleigh Bowers
Wm. Devorschak
Wm. F. Kiel
Elmer M. Clemens
Gordon Westberg
Floyd Eberman
Clarence Bents
Jos. Graham, Jr.
Verne Sandberg
Edmund Victor Sweet
Glenn Kunkle
Albert Smith
Robert A. Burnys
Ervin Miller
Allen Gribble
Elmer Shultz
Chas. Radcliffe
Paul H. Stewart
Glenn Richardson
Harry Stonehouse
Walter Bellah
Fred Bellah
Elijah Kinyon
Lee Slyter
Chas. Hart
Clarence Stevens
Wm. Robt. Mullican
Percy Hart
Kenneth Grim
John J. Rose
J. E. Haines
Clarence Hickok

Shall We Believe It?

It is announced this morning from Salem that bids for the improvement of the Salem-Aurora portion of the Pacific Highway have been called for and that the contract will be let June 22.

A number of families including that of Geo. X. Gooding, A. D. Yergen, Wm. Dentel and Fred Dentel made a trip to Estacada Sunday.

HUBBARD BOY IS DROWNED

L. M. Dimick, the 16-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. George Dimick, of Hubbard, was drowned in the Pudding River two miles east of that town Tuesday afternoon about 3 o'clock while in bathing with some other boys. He stepped into a hole made by a gravel dredge. He could not swim, and Ralph Simms, who tried to rescue him, was pulled down by the drowning boy three or four times, and was forced by exhaustion to give up his attempt to rescue his friend, whose body was recovered two hours later.

The drowned lad is survived by his parents, two brothers, Wiley Dimick at Sherwood and Harley Dimick at Mare Island with the U. S. Marines; and a sister Miss Merle Dimick of Hubbard.

LOCAL PEOPLE ORGANIZE FOR BIG W. S. S. CAMPAIGN

About a dozen people responded to the Mayor's call for a meeting Tuesday night to organize for the big war stamp campaign which begins next week to last until June 28. Mrs. Diana Snyder, Guy N. Hickok, and N. C. Wescott were named to act with Chairman Sadler as an executive committee.

While no figures had been then received from the state and county chairmen to show the Aurora school districts quota, it is probable that upon the basis of \$20 per capita, the district will be required to buy war stamps to the amount of \$8,000 to \$10,000.

As soon as full information and details are received the executive committee will meet to complete the organization.

DAIRY MEETING AT NEEDY

There will be a dairymen's meeting at Needy, Saturday afternoon, June 15, at which a program of much interest to dairymen and farmers will be carried out.

Some of the timely subjects for discussion are hay making, and the judging of dairy cattle. There will also be good speaking by competent dairy authorities. Ice cream will be served free of charge. All farmers and dairymen are cordially invited.

A. F. Will of Dallas was a business visitor here the first of the week.

Will trade 22-inch collar for 24-inch. Inquire at Observer Office.

H. L. Colvin of Union District, was a business visitor in Portland Tuesday.

Mrs. Daws, mother of Mrs. W. F. Prah, has been very ill from an attack of erysipelas.

Miss Etta McGuire of West Woodburn was a guest at the home of Mrs. J. F. Kerr recently.

Leslie Grazer is another Aurora boy who has volunteered for military service, though considerably under 21.



36 Farmers wrote this Advertisement for PLYMOUTH TWINE

FOR over twenty years I have been a user of Plymouth Twine. When I ran out of Plymouth I used other twine. This gave more or less trouble, but I have always found Plymouth Twine of uniform thickness.

In the thousands of pounds I have used I have never found a poor ball. It works equally well in a corn or wheat binder. Plymouth Twine is free from knots and snarls. It stands up in the twine ball until all used up. It never gets tangled. It will bind more straw per pound than other twine. It is the best in the long run. The most economical twine the farmer can use.

36 TWINE USERS.

EVERY statement in this advertisement was taken from letters written by actual users of Plymouth Twine—by men who are up against the same difficulties that you meet. They find that Plymouth helps them. It will help you.

G. A. EHLEN, Aurora, Oregon

MACKSBURG.

Arthur Lantz and Miss Inez Christine were married last week and are to make their home in Portland.

The Little Girl's Sewing Circle is to meet with Mrs. G. M. Baldwin on the afternoon of Saturday, June 15th.

Henry Nofziger who was taken ill with smallpox several days ago is very sick now and causing grave apprehension as to the results.

Mrs. Rex Russell of Portland visited her father and mother Mr. and Mrs. Carl Boeche of this place last week taking her mother with her on her return. Mrs. Boeche returned to her home at the end of the week.

The Mother's Club had a very pleasant session on Thursday last at the home of Mrs. Henry Walch. Mrs. Roberts, a sister of Mrs. Walch, was present with her children. The Misses Louisa and Minnie Heinz were also visitors.

A wandering pigeon having on its leg a tag inscribed E. B. 16-4747 flew into John Hepler's yard about two weeks ago. The wanderer is well cared for and will be cheerfully given up to one who should prove himself the rightful owner.

The hot weather is welcomed by all the ranchers as being favorable to the extermination of that arch enemy of the grain—the green aphid—this insect is now formidable in number than ever before in the memory of the earliest settler. We know not whether this may be why we have so many more birds than usual nor can we tell how much more seriously the wheat might be damaged were it not for these little feathered friends who are consuming destructive pests, while delighting our eyes with their splendid plumage and our ears with their tuneful songs. These little benefactors, however, seem to claim reward for their service and are taking the few strawberries left to us by the late frosts and the early drouth, but so many years have passed without any failure of this crop we are content in the hope of a plentiful yield in 1919. Meanwhile the corn is growing magically in the early heat and potatoes give every promise of a fine crop. Our last strawberries seem likely to be replaced by our extra supply of the wild blackberry, whose graceful white blossomed vines are covering the blackened stumps and logs, trailing over fences, climbing the highest posts and even creeping over the sides of the ditches along the roadside.

The Red Cross Auxillary held its usual meeting in the Sutherland Building on Wednesday, June 5th. Work was continued on hospital clothing which is

to be finished and delivered at headquarters before June 15th. The sum of \$25.93 was received from the Eby District Social Committee as the portion kindly allotted to us from the proceeds of a social held in the Eby school house on May 25th. A vote of thanks for this favor was promptly taken. At this meeting a letter from the Secretary of the Oregon City branch of the organization was read. This letter advised as that heretofore all work would come to us from Seattle, cut and prepared for sewing. This is to secure perfect uniformity in the size and shape of garments and is also to be a saving of money by purchasing all material in large quantities at wholesale price. The Junior Red Cross of Macksburg in charge of Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Ferdinand Kraxberger met also at the Auxillary rooms on Wednesday, June 5th.

Mrs. Steinbach Dead

Mrs. Catherine Steinbach, aged 85 years, died Tuesday at the home of her son Wm. Steinbach. The funeral takes place this afternoon at one o'clock at the family residence, with interment at the Aurora cemetery. Mrs. Steinbach was one of the early members of the Aurora Colony and came to Oregon about 1863.

She is survived by two sons Wm. Steinbach of Aurora and Adam Steinbach of Portland; and by three daughters, Mrs. Kate Beck, Mrs. Sofia Keil, and Mary Steinbach all of Aurora; and by two brothers W. M. Miley of Aurora and Henry Miley of Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Ehlen and children and Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Wurster motored to Portland Wednesday evening.

Mrs. F. L. Miller attended the annual session of the Order of the Eastern Star of Oregon, at Portland Tuesday. Mrs. Mabel Settlemeier of Woodburn, has been elected Worthy Grand Matron of order for the ensuing year.

If the Hubbard Mennonite leader who intimated that his people may leave the state if they are not let alone in the matter of Liberty Bonds, War Stamps, etc., wants a straight tip on a good place to re-settle, let us suggest Texas, where 45 Mennonites who refused to work in any capacity connected with the army were sentenced to 25 years imprisonment. Sentences of life imprisonment were imposed originally, but were commuted to 25 years.

It is reported that many of the Mennonite people of the Hubbard section do not approve the attitude of their local leaders in refusing to contribute to the Red Cross war funds. There is no reason why any government is obligated to protect any class of people who refuse to support it in its hour of peril. Upon the nation's political, social and industrial liberty, and its power to maintain such liberty, depends the religious liberty of the Mennonites and all other religious sects in this country. What is not worth fighting for is not worth having—not even one's religion!