

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.

GLEN R. JACK WRITES

A letter from Glenn R. Jack, now in the wireless service on a big troop transport, to his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Jack, reveals some most interesting information which military necessity does not allow the Observer to publish. Suffice to say, however, it is information which would give the Huns no satisfaction. He also says, that he could tell some very interesting things about the "subs" and his experience on one of his trips but that it isn't best to write such things. Other parts of his letter, which we are allowed to publish are quoted below:

"When my schooling at Harvard was completed I was chosen to go on a transport which is one of the most responsible wireless jobs in the navy. After remaining in New York three days, I was suddenly ordered to be ready to depart in 15 minutes, and with the aid of a pal I was ready in the specified time. A government tug took me alongside the biggest thing I have ever seen setting on water. It was an American transport. I reported aboard and was assigned to a little room adjoining the wireless shack. That is on the lookout deck and there are nine decks below us. It took me two days to learn the way below to "chow" and back again. Next day we began to load on troops, and landed at some port in France in 8 days. This was the big ship's sixth round trip.

The wireless work is very interesting. We do little sending but much listening—especially for war warnings. We hear and copy many strange languages—messages from Spain, Holland, France, Norway, Germany, England, Canada, and hear many new Codes and calls from ships to sea.

The destroyers that convoy us do great work. They are using depth bombs so effectively that they have put the fear of God into the "subs." The destroyers travel "like the devil" but they are so small that often all you can see is smoke and they are so well camouflaged that at a short distance they look like a big wave.

Many of the homes in the French port where we landed look like Castles, and are probably centuries old. The farms nearby are the prettiest I have seen since leaving the Willamette Valley. The French people are nice and treat us Americans fine. Notwithstanding the four years of war there, you can buy a better meal in France for "tres francs" (75 cents) than in New York for the same money.

I will be glad to see the Statue of Liberty again and get my feet on something that doesn't roll and pitch like a Ford, and where the floor is not a deck and the windows not port-holes, and you don't have to stand with your legs two feet apart. Sometimes it gets rather lonesome on these midnight watches, but we keep awake and keep our nerve by thinking of friends at home, so don't be surprised if you get letters like this once-in-a-while when I get in Port. I never felt better in my life and haven't been sea-sick a day."

A June 3 postscript says, "Here at last. Fire trip. Not a bit sea-sick. U. S. A. looks good. 18 days round trip."

Chester Rooklidge, well known here, has joined the navy and has gone to Bremerton for assignment. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Rooklidge.

Leslie Grazer, who enlisted not long ago, has been heard from at Fort Humphries, Virginia. He is in the 24th U. S. Engineers. It is expected that his regiment will be in France in a short time. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Grazer of this place.

A letter from Albert Ehlen on board an American battleship, at San Diego, brings the news that his ship was about to sail for some South America port. It is reported that the ship will be in San Francisco by July 4. Albert likes the ship board service better than shore service.

Fred Armstrong, who has been working for the Northwest Steel Company in the shipyards for over a year, was called to the colors this week, at Camp Lewis. He registered from Clarke county, Wash., though his parents, Mr. and Mrs. U. S. Armstrong live here. He is a skilled workman in his line.

R. O. Jack of Needy was here Saturday on business. He reports that Glenn McGee, who last year left the employ of Miller's Garage to enter the Signal Corps wireless service, has secured a transfer to another branch of the service where his knowledge of gas engines will be of value to the government. Many friends here will follow his fortunes with interest.

John J. Rose, writes from Park Field, Memphis, Tenn., that he has secured a transfer from the aviation service to the Infantry. In the aviation corps he faced a long course of training in this country. His transfer to the Infantry hastens his departure for France where he is anxious to meet the Kaiser's hordes face to face.

Chas. Kerr, on the W. S. S. Arkansas, at Fort Monroe (Hampton Roads), Virginia writes W. H. Nibler that he still poking around feeling fine and dandy, and wants Bill Ehlen to know that "after the fracas", he will be ready for a bear hunt. Referring to business conditions, he says, "I suppose the auto business is one that is pretty nearly up against it. The people must be hanging on to their money until after the war—and you can't blame them either! I am in the gunner's division, working in the armory. I like it fine. We have a fine lot of officers."

L. D. Marsh writes from Tours, France, to his mother, Mrs. James R. Marsh, that by one of the general orders, soldiers may now give the name of the towns in which they are stationed, and send such post cards as may be bought there except that those in the Advance section may not state their location. He does not think it will be learned where his brother Will Marsh is, for he is somewhere at the front exchanging compliments with "Fritz" and his gang. "You folks probably know as much about this town (Tours) as I do. The other day I went out to Vouray and saw where they make the famous Vouray wine, and saw the mountain filled with caves in which people live. It is interesting to see the smoke stacks pop right out of the ground."

News has been received of the safe arrival in France of Base Hospital 46, the unit to which belong George and Andrew Miller, Wm. Flick, and Chester Giesy. The latter, however, is supposed to be still at Camp Merritt, N.J.

MERIDIAN

Binger Giesy is moving on the Frank Yergen place.

The Bevans family of Hubbard visited at Albert Pratt's Sunday.

Amos Lais loaded a car of lumber at Aurora last Tuesday.

Forest Mills recently sold a team of horses to a party from Dundee.

Genevieve Campau came home from Mt. Angel to spend her vacation with her parents.

Mrs. Forest Mills received word that her son F. M. Phelps has left Camp Lewis for France.

Mr. and Mrs. Forest Mills and family visited Mrs. Mill's daughter Mrs. Ralph Ackley of Portland Tuesday.

Meridian is planning a big picnic to be held in the grove at the school house to celebrate the Fourth of July.

J. C. Brewer and grandson Charlie Bachert have been picking cherries at Victor Andersons during the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Phelps and family of Molalla and Mr. and Mrs. V. Berg and son Carl were visitors at Forest Mill's Sunday.

Mrs. Carl Potwin has been quite sick the last few days. She was unconscious last Wednesday and Dr. Weaver was summoned to attend her.

Matt Bann and Forest Mills solicited their part of Meridian district Monday for the U. S. S. pledges, and reported nearly everybody as having signed.

MACKSBURG.

The Red Cross Auxiliary held its regular weekly meeting at the rooms in the Sutherland building on Wednesday, June 19th. Hands were busy though hearts were aching at thought of the departure of our boys for the training camp before we should meet again. Plans were formed for the ice cream social announced for the evening of Saturday, June 29th, which it is hoped may bring a generous sum of money into the Red Cross treasury. No pains is being spared by the Committee Mrs. John Hepler, Mrs. Ferdinand Kraxberger and Mrs. J. E. Wells to make the social an enjoyable one, and we hope that everyone who comes may feel compensated for the time and effort expended in attending this patriotic affair. The rummage sale at the social bids fair to be an interesting one, some valuable articles have already been donated and others are promised.

The Mother's Club held its regular session on Thursday and will meet next with Mrs. Potratz, July 18th.

Self Binder for Sale—Inquire at the office of the Aurora Observer, Aurora, Oregon, 16

Town Topics

J. A. Hise of the White district was here Tuesday on business.

Every dollar you waste stabs an American soldier in the back.

Arthur Brockart was among those in the city from Needy Tuesday.

John Whitworth was in town Tuesday from his home north of the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Boege were passengers on the north bound train Monday.

Michael Brennan of the Butteville district was a business visitor here Tuesday.

Frank Spierb was transacting business here Tuesday, coming in from his home south of town.

Mrs. Herbert J. Miller has returned from Portland where she has been visiting her parents for two or three weeks.

Miss Eugene Moshberger and Mrs. B. F. Giesy, and their children motored to Newberg Sunday on an afternoon picnic.

Among those in the city this week were Geo. X. Gooding, Jack Bevier, Mrs. M. A. Gardner, John Pugh, Sr., and W. J. Miley.

FOR SALE—Kale Plants; also sweet and sour cherries, 3c a lb. Black driving mare, 8 years old, weight about 1000 lbs. H. W. Watkins, R. 2, 16

Hermes Lodge, No. 56, K. of P. of Aurora, last week contributed \$30 to the Pythian war relief fund, which now totals more than \$1,000 000.

E. J. Snyder, chairman, Oscar Wilson and W. G. Gooding comprise the Pythian committee which has charge of the arrangements for the big patriotic Pythian celebration on Saturday evening July 6.

Mr. Woodward, wire chief of the Pacific states Telephone Co. at Oregon City was here Saturday working on the switch board of the Aurora Mutual Co. and putting in repeating coils, which aid in reducing line noises.

It is not enough to deplore what the Germans have done. That will not hurt the Germans; they don't care what you think of them. Help your Government to fight them. That is the only thing that counts with a German. When you save and buy War Savings Stamps you attack a German in the place where it hurts.

Arthur Frederick Anderson, Edward Koch, Grover Harms, Abraham Root Hepler, Frances A. Brusch, all of Aurora, or its mail routes, have been called to the colors by the Clackamas county local board and will leave for Fort McDowell at Oregon City July 5. Charles Frederick Blosser of Hubbard is called for the same date.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kraus and little son Francis Kraus attended the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Cooper at McMinnville Saturday. The event was also the yearly family re-union of the Cooper family. John Francis Kraus, 6 months old, was the youngest member of the clan, the eldest being D. J. Cooper, 82, of the Dalles.

Thomas Hunt and wife and two children of Broadacres were injured Saturday when the car in which they were driving was run into by an Oregon Electric train on the branch between the main line and Woodburn. The engine of their car went dead just as they were on the Oregon Electric track. Although none of the occupants of the car were seriously injured, the car itself was completely destroyed.—Salem Journal.

A pleasant surprise was given in honor of Grandma Zimmerman Sunday afternoon when a large number of her friends and relatives gathered at the home of her son R. W. Zimmerman, where she is now making her home. The afternoon was spent in singing, music and friendly converse. At four o'clock the guests assembled in the dining room where a delicious lunch was served them. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Chris Zimmerman, Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Kie, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beck, Mr. and Mrs. George Kraus, Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Dentel, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Ritter, Mrs. Margaret Stauffer, Mr. and Mrs. William Kraus, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Yoder, Mrs. Chas. Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Ritter, Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Ritter, Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Zimmerman, Mr. and Mrs. Erbsland, Mrs. Chris Ziegler, George Wolfner, Grandma Zimmerman, Mrs. Christina Stauffer, Grandma Yoder, Miss Louisa Miller, Miss Mary Zimmerman, Miss Elizabeth Fostner, Miss Druce Yoder, Miss Lucile Ziegler, John and Forest Ritter, Miss Lela Rue, Miss Bessie Barth, Ethel, Richard, Lyle and Wayne Ritter, Allie Zimmerman, Albert and Harry Yoder, Henry and Roy Zimmerman, Misses Edith, May and Alleta Zimmerman.

FOR SALE

New and second hand lumber, various sizes in good condition, also span of grey mares, weight 1400 lbs.—Charles B. Miller, Rt. 1, Box 1. (16-1)

"Political Yarns"

The insinuations of the Hoff crowd that Judge Ryan's reported intention either to ask for a recount or to run as an independent candidate this fall for state treasurer is an attempt to induce Hoff to retain him as deputy state treasurer are regarded here as pure fiction. While Judge Ryan may become an independent candidate, it is not believed that he would even consent to remain as Hoff's deputy.

After being confined at his home for seven weeks by a siege of malarial fever, W. A. Jones, one of the Marion county state senator-elects is on the streets again. Mr. Jones also has made one trip to his ranch since leaving bed. He has lost some of his avoirdupois but is taking on strength.—Salem Statesman.

WAR STAMP MEETING

Frank Davey of Salem and Joseph Hammerslys, deputy county attorney for Multnomah county will speak at a patriotic W. S. S. meeting at the Band Hall Friday night. Both are inspiring speakers. Miss Kent of Woodburn will play Xylophone selections, Albert Egan of Waconda will sing, Miss Violet Olson of Woodburn will sing and play her own Ukulele accompaniment and Miss Lorraine Lee of Portland will sing. The bills announcing the meeting inquire, "Are you for Uncle Sam or the Kaiser?" Your presence will be your best answer. Those who are not with Uncle Sam are against him. The occasion will be a celebration of the Completion of the Aurora school district's quota. Up to last night (Wednesday), \$4500 had been raised, leaving but \$1000 more for Thursday and Friday. Don't fail to attend this meeting and help to celebrate the victory.

Mr. and Mrs. Solon Kinzer and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Watson of Needy were here yesterday on business. The Needy district raised about \$2000 in the War Stamp campaign, up to Tuesday night.

The following pupils who recently wrote the Eighth grade examination here have passed and their diplomas have come: Nettie Cochran, Leona Will, Loraine Grazer, Paloma Keil, Diana M. Snyder, Walter Uppendahl, Kenneth Bents, Lester Cole, Irene Armstrong, Esther Armstrong, and Theoda Gribble.

City of Clubs.

London has the name of the world's greatest club city, but as a matter of fact, in this respect it is poor second to Havana, Cuba. The clubs of Havana are larger, more numerous and more powerful than the clubs of any other city in the world. Everybody in Havana belongs to a club. There is one club there with 45,000 members. Out of a population of 350,000, it is estimated that the total club membership exceeds 125,000. No other city can even approach this proportion.

Household Waste as Fertilizer.

Chemical analyses of the ash of household wastes, made at the Connecticut agricultural experiment station, show that there is marked fertilizing value in such common refuse as banana skins, orange skins, grapefruit skins, lemon skins, apple peelings, cantaloupe rinds, potato peelings, pea pods, bean strings and stems, tea leaves, coffee grounds, egg shells, bones, peanut shells, tobacco, fruit stones, etc. These are recommended for fertilizing home gardens.

Large Consular District.

The Antung consular district comprises the southeastern section of Manchuria and is about twice as large as Vermont. It is mountainous throughout; its sparse population is almost entirely rural; and, except a 60-mile section of the South Manchuria railway that traverses it in the south, and the Yalu river, its eastern boundary, the only means of communication with interior points is by crude native carts and pack animals.

The zealous and impassioned workers for the German Kultur who kindled the fire of an alien propaganda in America are beginning to learn that Americans—not Huns—rule America.

War Stamps are not a children's game. Their purchase is just as essential to the government as Liberty bands. This district is still short of its quota, and unless we are to stand branded as money slackers, some "tall" hustling must be done during the next 24 hours.

When one of our soldier or sailor boys makes the supreme sacrifice we say he died doing his duty. When one of us over here buys an interest-bearing Government security we want to be called a patriot. Let's buy War Savings stamps to help our country—not for a little transient glory in the eyes of our neighbors.

It is reported that the minister of the Zion Mennonite church has given "instructions" to his congregation concerning the attitude they are to assume during the war, but which he has refused to make public at the request of the local committee on war activities at Hubbard, where, it is said, the people are becoming incensed over the refusal of the sect to assume its share of our war burdens. The Mennonites are reported to be boycotting that town, which of course, is a Christian-like thing to do!

The Department of Agriculture declares there is no question that the acreage and condition of the wheat crop indicates a billion bushel harvest. The only limiting factors from today forward are weather and labor. The weather is in the hands of Providence unless our pro-Hun friends prevail on the Kaiser to usurp the functions of the Almighty; but the labor is the responsibility of the people. There is not enough labor to harvest the crops in grain regions. It is the plan of the government to mobilize men and boys of farm experience everywhere to aid in this great work. In Kansas 100,000 harvesters, men of every calling and kind, have left their town affairs for a time to flock to the farms for the very same reason that their relatives and friends joined the colors—to play their part in winning the war. Kansas towns "shut up shop" that Kansas may harvest its own crops with its own labor. It is an inspiring picture of patriotism. In every state and every harvest, or crop emergency, this is the safe and certain patriotic solution of the farm labor problem.

H. L. Bents, Dr. Giesy and Zeno Schwab, members of the school board, drove to McMinnville yesterday on school business.

The H. L. Bents family and the Chris Giesy family picniced Sunday at the "Ten-acre-tract," near the Stoner farm.

Geo. Damm left Sunday afternoon for Oregon City where he entrained with the Clackamas county contingent, for Camp Lewis. His parents Mr. and Mrs. John Damm, have received no word from him yet.

Mrs. Guy N. Hickok is in McMinnville where her mother is quite seriously ill. Mr. Hickok's sister is here during her absence.

Mrs. E. G. Carpenter was a Portland visitor Tuesday. Mrs. Fay Carpenter, who has been visiting her parents here, returned to Portland with Mrs. Carpenter and Mrs. A. D. Lorenz.

The Telephone exchange will be closed July 4, from 11 a. m. to 5 p. m. to give the operators a chance to celebrate, like other loyal Americans.



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