

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.

Jack Rose has been heard from in France. He is now in Co. G. 104th ammunition Train, 29th Division of the American Expeditionary Forces.

Fred Kerr has written his mother Mrs. J. F. Kerr that the 65th U. S. Artillery is now stationed at Limoges, France. This is a city, perhaps, 150 or 200 miles south of Paris. Alvin Miller is at Contres France. His parents received letters from him this week.

George Damm wrote Sunday from Camp Kearney, at San Diego, to his parents here. He will be in quarantine again several days. He writes that about 40 out of 250 did not pass the physical examination at camp Lewis. He asks for the address of John Kister and Paul Blaschke.

Leslie Grazer, of the U. S. Engineers, at Camp A. A. Humphreys, writes his parents here that his company is expected to move soon—probably this week. He also says, "Tell Bill (Nibler) that those cigars were good, and smoke like more." He describes a ball game with a local team, in which the soldiers put over a score of 24 to 0 on the locals.

Sergeant Albert Lamb, Co. I, 162nd Infantry (Third Oregon), of Donald has written his parents from Contres, France, which is a small town about 30 miles east of Tours. His station is in the wine grape country, where strawberries and asparagus are also grown in great quantities. Sergeant Lamb wrote June 8, and in closing said, "Three days more and we will have our gold service stripe for six month's foreign service."

Fred Armstrong and George Damm passed through here last week Wednesday enroute to Fort Kearney from Camp Lewis. The former was one of the "overhead" men at the Northwest Steel Company's shipyards—a job 40 to 60 feet in the air with only a 4-inch board to walk on. The company wants to get him exempted as an indispensable shipyard employee, hence it is possible that Armstrong may be ordered back. Fort Kearney is near San Diego, California.

Kelly Field (Texas,) July 6—"Just in from work. Was put on K.P. today. Expect about 20 days of it. That's what the other fellows got", writes Ed. White. I went into San Antonio the Fourth, but you can't turn around in that town without a fat-pocket-book. I received a package of cookies and candy from Una Temple, Pythian Sisters, of Aurora. Tell them many, many thanks. The cake was mighty fine. I also received the papers, and was very glad to get them. I don't need any dish wipes, gun rags or towels. I don't have any rifle to handle any more. If I ever get to France, will have only a revolver to carry."

Gordon Westburg writes his parents from the Presidio, San Francisco, where he is in Co. K. 63 Infantry. He writes, "We have 175 men in Co. K. We drill about 7 hours a day, except Saturdays and Sundays. We are well fed, and certainly had a dandy feed to-day noon—steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, butter, white bread, coffee, cake, and ice cream. The biggest part of the boys were gone so we had about three helpings apiece of ice cream. We have wheat bread every meal, coffee twice a day, and butter once a day. The Presidio is surrounded by San Francisco and the Bay. Larson and I took a hike through the town last night. He used to live here and knows the city. We walked down market street and through Chinatown. I met Labert Whalley on the street. He knew my face but could not recall my name until I told him. He said Benson is here and gave me his address. Whalley is in the field artillery at Camp Fremont. The old Oregon building on the Fair grounds is right east of us. The Oregon building is occupied by the Knights of Columbus. We were there Friday night to see a movie. The weather is cool here. I slept cold the first few nights but now I wrap my two blankets around me like an Indian and sleep fine. We get as finicky as dudes in the army. We keep our shoes polished like mirrors and we shave every day. We pick threads or specks of dirt off each other. If one turns out for reveille or drill with a coat pocket unbuttoned or his hat on crooked he is not dressed."

In another letter Westburg writes: "The Presidio is right across the bay from Angel Island (and Angel Island is a devil of a place). There isn't much there except sand and wind. The fellow who named it got his wires crossed. On the Island they examined us, vaccinated us, outfitted us, wrote our insurance and classification and sent us over here. The officers here treat us fine. We have good eats, and sleep in barracks. The officers take pains to explain everything."

One of the Keiling boys wrote from France recently that he is right up at the front where the big guns roar. A big German shell struck the mess tent of the Engineer's Company to which he belongs and scattered it all over Northern France.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. White this week received letters from their sons in France, now at Contres. Victor White writes that for three weeks the boys received no home letters, but the last of June he received 11 letters in two days. He says he had a nice little surprise in the shape of a letter from Walt Colvin. Ira White writes of many things interesting, and says, in closing, "A year ago now we were afraid we would not have the chance to get over here, and now we have seen half a year here. Time does surely fly. I have not bet anything on what the next six months may bring, but if I don't get back in plenty of time for the next election, there will be a bigger army than we are up against to make it otherwise."

Henry Colvin, on the U. S. S. Villalobas, at Shanghai, China, wrote his sister Miss Elsie Colvin under the date June 4, says that his ship is due to go up the Yangtze River to Hankow again six hundred miles from Shanghai, and perhaps may go up further as there is some trouble going on up there, and that he may get a chance to fire a cannon at the "chinks". He acknowledges receiving a big cake sent by his mother Mrs. H. L. Colvin and says, "All the fellows said they wish she would send another, and one of them said to tell her make one in a wash tub so they could have enough. I cut the cake into 16 pieces. I got only the crumbs". After asking many solicitous questions about the folks at home, he includes the interesting question, "Who is going to teach school there next year?" And who can blame him for asking?

The little Girls Sewing Circle will meet with Mrs. G. M. Baldwin on July 27th. Ben Dreier who is making his annual visit at Newport is receiving marked benefit from the ocean breeze. The cheery sound of building is not hushed in our vicinity. Geo. Welch is putting up a new commodious barn which is a decided improvement to this place. In the report sent to the local papers of the ice cream social given for the Red Cross on June 29th mention was omitted of the sum received for the most valuable gifts presented to the Rummage Sale for that evening. This was a handsome walnut sideboard given by Mrs. Chas. Stevens which was disposed of by raffle and which brought over \$28.00 the fortunate ticket holder being Miss Merle Whiteis.

MAKESBURG.

The mother's Club although composed largely of women who are busy in the Red Cross—still holds its own, the members being unwilling to give up an organization which has brought as much social pleasure besides the satisfaction of having accomplished some good into their lives. The next meeting is to be at the home of Mrs. Potratz Jr. on the afternoon of July 18th.

The Red Cross Auxiliary met at its rooms in the Sutherland building on Wednesday, July 10th. A supply of hospital coats sent by the Oregon City branch of the Portland Red Cross Chapter furnished work for at least two meetings. Our treasurer in an interview with the chairman of the Oregon City Branch received a commendatory account of the work done by the Makesburg Auxiliary which was most gratifying to its members as well as to their friends.

Mrs. John Lettenmaier was among the shoppers in town yesterday. Pete Hunt is hauling in wood getting ready to ship a large quantity to the Portland market. Andrew Kocher of Canby was a visitor in Aurora yesterday. He has many life long friends here.

Mrs. Geo. X. Gooding and Mrs. Wm. G. Gooding were East Butteville visitors here Tuesday afternoon. E. J. Snyder, of the Will-Snyder Co., has been building a barn this week on his farm near town. Being unable to secure carpenters to do the work he donned his overalls and began the job himself.

The Salem Statesman quotes the American Economist to prove that we need a Republican Congress. While the latter may be something to be desired, the American Economist is poor authority to quote even to Republicans. It is the paper which the Oregonian yesterday termed "the high-priest of protection and the hand maiden of treason".

The attorney-general has ruled that city elections must be held upon the same date as county and state elections, but that separate ballots, separate boards, etc., must be provided, as the elections are actually separate elections. In Salem the county clerk and the city recorder co-operate by having the elections in the same room so as to save the electors the trouble of visiting two polling places. Doubtless the same arrangement may be made here for the city election this fall on Tuesday, November 5.

Those who have subscribed for thrift stamps it is suggested that payments should be made early in the month in order to facilitate the work at the post office where payments are made, by not crowding all the payments into the last days of the month.

The water superintendent appeals to the users of water to observe strictly the hours allowed for lawn sprinkling and other irrigation, in order that the water supply may be adequately maintained for domestic uses and fire protection. At one hour Tuesday the water tank and the city well were both practically empty—due to excessive use of water for irrigation. This is a dangerous condition at this season in case of fire, and demands the attention and co-operation of every citizen.

MARKET REPORT

Egg per dozen, 38c
Butter, 2-lb. roll, 70c
Butter Fat, 41c
Spring Broilers 28c
Ducks, 18c to 22c
Turkeys, old, 20c
Jeese 15c
Old Roosters, 15c
Hens, 24c
Beans 6c to 10c
Cascara, 8c
Lard, 30c
Wool, 60
Mohair 45c
Potatoes, \$1.00

Town Topics

Frank Spurb was among the Pacific Highway farmers here Tuesday.

Louis Weibert and Louis Siebert were business visitors in Salem Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beck were here Monday shopping at the Aurora stores.

M. H. Hostetler and family were among those in the city Monday shopping.

Henry Boege was in town Tuesday from his home near the Barlow Four Corners.

George Ozlesby and family were among the Marks Prairie people here Monday.

Senator McNary left Salem Tuesday for Washington to resume his duties in the senate.

H. H. Deetz was among the South Paradise people transacting business here Tuesday.

Otto Krueger was here over Sunday from Vancouver Barracks, visiting friends in this city.

Rev. E. Z. Yoder, of Zion church, was in the city Tuesday from his home southeast of Aurora.

Mrs. L. L. Irwin was up from Barlow Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. E. G. Carpenter.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Giesy and little son were in town Tuesday from their home at Marks Prairie.

Mrs. Herman Abram was among those shopping here Monday, from her home southwest of town.

Michael Brennan was here Tuesday from the Fargo neighborhood on business at the Aurora stores.

E. A. Bennet, of the Capital City Nursery of Salem, was here Tuesday looking up business prospects.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Ehlen and Mrs. Diana Snyder drove to Gladstone Friday evening to attend the Chautauqua.

Mr. and Mrs. William Dentel and Mrs. Chas. Radcliff were among those in the city Tuesday evening from East Butteville shopping.

Joe Resch motored into town Monday from Boone's Ferry in his new automobile recently purchased from the F. L. Miller auto agency.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Weibert, Mrs. Chris Zimmerman, and Allie and Elmer Zimmerman motored to Wilhoit Springs Sunday to spend the day.

U. S. Armstrong of Union, Phil Graves of Makesburg, I. A. Miley of Union, and Fred Keil Sr., were among those doing business here this week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Ehlen and son Allen and Miss Norma Yergen motored to Portland Sunday afternoon and returned via the Gladstone Chautauqua grounds.

TEAM FOR SALE—One light span mares, light wagon, set of harness, one single buggy and harness. On the old Prall Place. S. H. Southard, Aurora, R. 3. (19-4t).

STRAYED—To my place July 10, 1918, black sow and three pigs, which were taken up from my wheat field. Owner can have same by paying damages and feed bill. Victor Berg, Aurora, Oregon.

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A. W. Steinbach was transacting business here Tuesday.

The government regional director of railroads has ordered the Oregon Electric and the Southern Pacific to make physical connection of those roads at Salem, so cars may be transferred from one road to the other.

Guy Lantz was here Monday to complete his Questionnaire. He had to send the document east for affidavits from the owner of the land he leases. He also leases the S. A. Miller place about 9 miles southeast of Aurora.

Mr. and Mrs. Hyde of Oregon City were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Brewer Tuesday. Mr. Hyde is an employe in one of the paper mills and was the victim of a recent accident there, by which he lost a thumb.

Mrs. Ida Yergen, president of the Butteville Pioneer school association, announces the annual picnic of the association at Murray's Oak Grove, Sunday, July 21. This is one of the enjoyable events of the season for the families and friends of the early pupils of the Butteville school.

Mrs. F. J. Morris of Willamette came up from that city Wednesday to visit Mrs. C. B. Brewer and other friends here. Mrs. Morris formerly lived here and hrve many friends here. Mr. Morris now has a good position in one of the Oregon City paper mills.

Dr. B. F. Giesy and F. L. Miller were visitors in Monitor Monday, the former being interested in the Monitor State Bank. That bank as shown by its recent report is making some remarkable strides in business, and bids fair to become one of the most prosperous of the small town banks in the valley.

Campers were the cause of a fire Sunday on A. C. Snyder's land beside the Pacific Highway near the Oddfellow's cemetery. Mr. Irwin and others put it out, while Mr. Snyder was working a short distance away unaware that some one else was putting out the fire.

Otis Morris was a business visitor in Oregon City yesterday.

Mrs. Bradley came up from Portland this week to visit relatives here.

It is reported that Victor Grimm has purchased a rooming house in Portland.

A. C. Thompson returned yesterday from a visit with friends and relatives in Portland.

J. M. Will went to Woodburn yesterday to attend a meeting of the North Willamette Valley Merchants Association.

Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Leabo, Miss Echo Giesy, and Ralph Leabo motored to Gladstone Friday evening to attend the Chautauqua.

According to figures given out by county clerk Boyer, the Aurora Road District, No. 1, has on hand an unexpended balance of \$1232.56.

Fred White is home from Portland where he has been employed in the shipyards. He has been called to the colors for July 24, and expects to entrain at Woodburn next Wednesday for Camp Lewis.

Additional Editorials

NOTICE

With this issue of the Observer all free exchanges, complimentary copies, and other free copies of every description will be discontinued, in accordance with orders from the United States War Economy and Industries Board, which orders will be obeyed to the letter.

Third payment on that Liberty Bond is due today Mr. Lender. Better pungle up and get ready to buy more.

A friend (?) of the Editor objects to our calling the Germans Huns. That's all right. Attila and his savage hordes, the original Huns, are all dead and they cannot resent the insult.

That Hun nobleman (God save the mark) that wants Germany to collect an indemnity of \$45,000,000,000 from the Allies will discount it to about 30c by next summer.

The Oregonian sums up the school situation in Portland concisely by saying that the teachers boss the board, the board bosses the superintendent, and the superintendent bosses nobody.

A fat hog at the Omaha stock yards coughed up a silver dollar when one of the stock yard men kicked it in trying to make it run in another direction. Now every I. W. W. and every profiteer in Nebraska spends his waking hours kicking hogs, and at night dreams of picking up the dollars.

Jacob Schiff, who six years ago gave \$100,000 to Cornell to promote studies in German culture has asked the trustees of the fund to substitute the word "human" for "German." Like the man who started for the north pole and changed his course to the south pole because the wind shifted.

Some far-seeing men believe that we have only just begun to fight and all thoughtful citizens must realize that the only safe policy is for us to assume that the end is far away and that the struggle will be long and bitter. Any other assumption will endanger victory. All that know is that we must win!

Two Portland men are in jail and three are out under bonds, charged with hoarding from three to four sacks of flour. The maximum penalty for flour hoarding is imprisonment for 2 years and a fine of \$5000. Curiously enough the names of three of the accused hoarders are Louis Kassebaum, Sam Schnitzer, and Hans Ehlers.

The great Hun offensive now in progress recalls a similar one 1467 years ago, in the year 451, when Attila, the leader of barbarous hordes of Huns was defeated at Chalons-sur-Marne, very near the spot the modern Huns are now ravaging France. Chalons-sur-Marne has been mentioned as one of the probable objectives of the present Hun drive, and is only a few miles southeast of Rheims.

The final decision in the matter of prohibition has been postponed in the Senate until August 26. Should the bill pass it may be final blow to the hop industry—putting it out of business completely. Under any circumstances, the uncertainty that prevails will probably be the cause of many discontinuing growing hops, even if the Senate bill fails. Most growers feel that they cannot afford to face the uncertainties of the business much longer.

There may be dark days coming for the friends of freedom. The great struggle will not be won without staggering sacrifices. But through all dark days—perhaps years—let our minds be clear, our bodies strong, our hearts pure, so that when we have finished the horrid task, our nation can wash the blood from its hands and leave no stain, so that America may brush her garments and leave no filth and smoke of battle upon them, and so that she may bare her soul to God, unblushing and unashamed.

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