



OH looket here! My, wasn't Santa good!  
He gave me all the presents that he could.  
That's 'cause I always kept so neat and clean—  
On Sundays dresst just like a fairy Queen.

I minded darling Muzzer ev'ry day;  
Was careful of my dresses when at play,  
And held my Gran'ma's yarn when she did knit,  
For that's the way I did my little bit.

And when my Dad came home from work each night  
I tried to please him with my tiny might;  
Always brought his pipe and paper, too,  
So he could smoke and read it thru and thru.

Dear Santa Claus, in Toyland, heard 'bout me,  
'Cause my Muzzer said he said, said he,  
'I'll just give that sweet and 'bedient chile  
The very things she's wanted all the while."

So see this pretty, sparkling Christmas Tree  
And the toys and things he gave to me;  
When you're good like me and try to please  
Santa Claus will give you toys like these.

## 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.

Alvin H. Lorenz, Co. E., 117th U. S. Engineers, wrote from France, November 12, to his brother Louie and Luther Lorenz at Needy as follows: "My Dear Brothers—I have received several letters from you since I wrote you last. But you know we have been very busy ever since we went on the 'lines' and haven't had much time to write, and often when we did have spare time, stationery and envelopes were lacking. I suppose great rejoicing is now on in the states since the armistice is signed. I can imagine about how it is and wish I was there to get the news as you do. Nearly all of us wear a happy smile and talk of what we are going to do when we get back to the old U. S. A. At present we are north of Verdun, something like 50 kilometers, quartered in a town called Bar-les-Buzancy, but don't expect to remain here long. We came off the lines near Sedan on the ninth when our Division was relieved. We engineers were kept busy here during the advance keeping the roads open. The Germans (Huns) blew out all bridges and railroads in their retreat and even placed mines in the roads so repairing was rather difficult.

Perhaps it will take sometime to get things straightened out so we can come home, but no doubt American soldiers will be coming at a lively rate, once everything is satisfactorily settled—rather expect we shall be some of the first, considering we are the "Veterans" and have done our just part on the "lines". We may have our Thanksgiving and Xmas dinner here; but will surely be home for Easter.

There are numerous rumors as to where we are going next. I haven't any idea so don't know which to believe. Well boys I'll write again soon as I find more news. Love and good wishes all. I am always your brother.—Alvin.

Kenneth B. Grimm has resigned from the military and has returned from Camp Humphries, Virginia.

Paul Blaschke writes his father, from France, that he landed in Scotland September 13, making the trip across on an English ship, on which the food was poor. English box cars took them from Scotland to an American rest camp (so-called) in England. The freight cars look to him like a string of 10mher-wagons. The "eats" were better after arrival in France. After some drill, he was called for service at the front but the same day a case of spinal meningitis appeared in camp, and he was quarantined, and later was sick himself but is now out of the hospital.

The latest report of the war department indicates that the 126th Infantry, to which Carl (Butch) Haman and Will Marsh belong, is a part of the army of occupation. In that case, Butch will be right at home among former friends but present enemies.

Fred Armstrong, whose name recently appeared in the casualty lists, as wounded arrived in New York, December 12, according to letters received by his parents Mr. and Mrs. U. S. Armstrong.

Charles Kerr, on the battle ship Arkansas, writes his cousin Miss Louine Kerr, November 26, that the Arkansas was among the ships drawn up to receive the surrender of the Hun navy in the Firth of Forth, Scotland. He wrote that the Arkansas had sunk one submarine during its war service. Twelve men had died from the influenza aboard his ship.

Mrs. N. C. Wescott has received letters from Mrs. George Von der Hellen, at Corvallis, stating that her husband Major Von der Hellen, who was on his way to France when the armistice was

signed, has been ordered back to San Francisco. Major Von der Hellen is a son of ex-senator Von der Hellen of Medford. He and Mrs. Von der Hellen were formerly in the Philippines where they were friends of Mr. and Mrs. Wescott then in the service of the Philippine government.

Letters from Fred Kerr, written November 11, said that he is just out of a three day action, with no sleep for 72 hours. His regiment, the 65 Artillery, C. A. C. is among those named for an early return to the states. He has been in some of the fiercest artillery fighting of the war.

Oregon contributed some hundreds of her stalwart sons to Engineer Regiments, motor transport companies, hospital units and other unattached contingents which were quickly sent to France and into activity. Of these units little information is obtainable. Announcements affecting them have not been made and relatives may be obliged to await the receipt of letters to learn where they are and when they are coming home.

The 162nd Regiment (formerly the Third Oregon) is reported to be still held in as replacement regiment. The following is now said to be the general order in which demobilization will be accomplished. First, development battalions; second, conscientious objectors; third, Spruce production Division; fourth, central training schools; fifth, United States Guards; sixth, railway troops; seventh, depot brigades; eighth, replacement camps; ninth, combat troops.

Chester Giesy, Base Hospital 46, A. E. F. writes under Nov. 24:—"This is 'Dad's Letter Day' over here, so I will write a few lines." And then he proceeds to write a 125-line letter of which the following are parts:

"We sailed from Hoboken July 10 on the steamer Manchuria, 'an American boat,' and landed at Brest on the 21st. The boat carried 5000 soldiers which made it pretty crowded. We had a fine trip with three rather stormy days. After a week in a camp 5 miles from Brest, we took freight cars (about a third smaller than ours), and traveled two days and a night, 40 men in a car, to St. Agnon. This is the place where Al Miller was near. Had I known it then, I could have gone to see him, for we stayed there 5 days.

At St. Agnon we got aboard another train and traveled a day and a half and got off at a place named Longes, a good-sized city and waited there 4 hours. Half a day more brought us to our present place which is Bazolles Sur Muese, on the Muese River. The town isn't very big but we are only three miles from Neufchateau, a fine place where we often go. Not far from Neufchateau, is Doremy, the birth place of Jeanned'Arc. I have been there a number of times.

Then up a little closer to the front are Toul and Nancy, both fine cities. Nancy is called "Little Paris", and is some place! I have not been in Paris yet, but am expecting a 7-day leave and will try to go then. A little further on is St. Mihiel where one of the last battles was fought, and then comes Verdun. This city was so completely destroyed that the French had to build an underground city where they have streets, stores and even hospitals. About 15 miles from Verdun is Metz. If you get a map of France you can see pretty near where we are located. When we get our 7-day leave we are going to Nice, France, which is a fine place down south. I expect to go with the Miller twins and want to go to Paris and other fine cities. Hope to see Al on our way. As this is the 24, this letter should reach you, dad, just before Christmas, so I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Pay your Electric light bill at the Aurora State Bank.

### Safety First

Don't allow children to touch the lighted tree.

Don't remove presents from the tree while it is lighted.

Don't leave anything highly inflammable near the tree.

Don't set the tree up haphazardly. Be sure it is securely fastened so it will not tip over easily.

Don't blow a candle out. The flames might be carried against a dry branch and set fire to the whole tree.

Don't fasten any tinsel ornament near any lights on the tree. If one should ignite the blaze would spread all over the tree.

Don't forget to fasten the candles securely to the tree if candles are used. Also avoid placing them under another branch.

Always have a wet sponge convenient to the tree. A candle often burns up too quickly, and the sponge could be used to extinguish it.

Don't leave the tree until you are sure the lights are all extinguished.

and never trust the work of extinguishing the lights to children.

Don't light the tree after it has stood in a warm room for three or four days. It becomes so dry it will burn almost as quickly as powder.

Don't trim the tree with cotton to represent snow. Use an asbestos preparation which looks like cotton. This applies particularly to those who illuminate their trees with candles.

Don't light the trees with anything but electric bulbs, if possible. Where it is impossible to use electricity never leave the lighted tree alone and never allow children in the room unless accompanied by a grown-up person.

Don't set the tree up near upholstered furniture. The danger of sparks setting it afire is great. A piece of such furniture might smolder for hours without being discovered—probably not until the family has been in bed some time.

### The Bootblack's Christmas

"I'm rich! I've got a dollar all my own  
To spend for Christmas—been a savin' some  
Since Fourth July, a little at a time,  
Doin' odd jobs, swearin' off on gum  
An' now what shall I spend it fer? My stars!  
The show case is full an' heapin' up  
With presents fer to give the folks you like.  
There's Mammie, now—she'd like a chinny cup;  
I know she would—poor little sickly thing.  
She cried one day because she had to drink  
Out o' that mug that's cracked like anything.  
Yes, I'll buy that for her. Now, le'me think—  
That's twenty cents, an' I'll have eighty left.  
An' Billy's crazy for a top to spin;  
I'll get him one—that's ten cents more—  
now what.  
I wonder, shall I buy for Jim?  
Guss he'd like a jackknife best of all—  
I'll get one, an' a good mouth organ too.  
That's my pard—he's got a crippled  
runnen dad that beats him black and blue.  
I've got forty left, and mother  
wants—  
I know she'd like a thimble—her'n is old.  
An' full o' holes and bent all out o' shape.  
I wish I could get one of solid gold.  
I wouldn't be half good enough for her.  
Not if 'twas edged with diamonds an' around;  
best mother ever lived—I tell you what.  
The ain't many kids so lucky's me! I'm bound!  
I've got twenty left—I'll buy some gum  
An' candy an' peppern and some apples too.  
An' I'll be Santa Claus and have some fun  
A durn't stockin's Christmas eve—tell you  
Th' ain't no picn in this livin' world.  
That's half so jolly as the one there'll be  
When all the kids come shiverin' round  
the stove  
On Christmas mornin'. When they come  
to see  
Them stuffed out stockin's hangin' on the wall,  
Oh, how I'll holler, "Merry Christmas!"  
Then  
How surprised they'll be! Yes,  
Merry Crismus all!  
—Harriet Francene Crocker in Buffalo News.

"Buy your flour, feed and poultry supplies of the Hubbard Creamery Co., Hubbard, Oregon."

### MARKET REPORT

Egg per dozen, 70c  
Butter, 2-lb. roll \$1.10  
Spring Broilers 24c  
Ducks, 18c to 20c  
Turkeys, old, 25c  
Jeese 15c  
Old Roosters, 14c  
Stags 14c  
Hens, 22c to 24c  
Beans 7c to 8c  
Casarca, 13c  
Lard, 30c  
Potatoes, \$1.10 to \$1.50

## THE AMERICANIZATION CORNER

QUESTIONS REGARDING THE NATURALIZATION LAWS  
AND CITIZENSHIP FULLY ANSWERED  
IN THIS COLUMN.

No American Citizen need be told in these days that the Americanization of the whole allied-born mass of residents among us is of immediate and vital concern. Hence the Observer, wishing to do its share toward accomplishing it, has made arrangements with the United State Bureau of Naturalization by which its readers may have questions concerning their individual and citizenship rights answered free of charge. The subjects covered are naturalization laws, filing declaration of intention (first papers), petitions for naturalization (second papers). Knowledge of government required of applicants, places where free public school classes in English and citizenship may be found, the free distribution of "The Students Textbooks" to foreigners, and questions of citizenship rights.

The Observer will be glad to secure answers to all inquires of every character and invites its readers to ask any questions they wish. Questions should be addressed to the "Americanization Column", Observer, Aurora, Oregon. Such questions will be answered directly by letters by the "Bureau of Naturalization" and also in these columns. The person making inquires must sign their name and address as evidence of good faith.

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USE  
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### The Man of the Hour



America's  
food pledge  
20 million  
tons


The benefits of our food-saving campaign that was a vital factor in the winning of the war were not all these we fed. We have at home a new appreciation of food that will prevent it ever being wasted again by those that have come to understand the religion of saving and the place that food occupies in our new, world-wide human relations.

J. H. Kraus of Marks Prairie was a business visitor here Friday.

On account of issuing the Observer a day early this week, many articles and the membership of the Red Cross Auxiliaries have been omitted. They will all appear next week.

**THE NEW WEST MAGAZINE**  
"Building The West"  
Established 1910—For the development of Western industries, agriculture, mining, oil, and other attractions. Of interest to the Western investor, farmer and sightseer. Printed on high grade paper with copper half-tone illustrations. Yearly \$2.00, copy 20c. Sample 10c. 3 back numbers 25c. Send now. The New West Magazine, 211 Walker Bank Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah. 1094 White Bldg., Seattle, Wash.; 700 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich. Address nearest office, or place your subscription through this newspaper.

## SHUBERT WANTS ALL THE SKUNK YOU CAN SHIP



1918 ABSIZE	Nº1 EXTRA LARGE EXTRA TO AVERAGE	Nº1 LARGE EXTRA TO AVERAGE	Nº1 MEDIUM EXTRA TO AVERAGE	Nº1 SMALL EXTRA TO AVERAGE	GOOD UNPRIME AS TO SIZE & QUALITY	POOR UNPRIME AS TO SIZE & QUALITY	THESE EXTREMELY HIGH PRICES QUOTED FOR IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT
BLACK	12.00 to 10.00	9.00 to 8.00	7.50 to 7.00	6.50 to 6.00	5.00 to 2.50	2.00 to 1.25	
SHORT	8.50 to 7.50	7.00 to 6.00	5.75 to 5.25	5.00 to 4.50	4.00 to 2.00	1.50 to .75	
NARROW	7.00 to 6.00	5.50 to 4.75	4.50 to 4.00	3.75 to 3.25	3.00 to 1.50	1.00 to .50	
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Liberal Assortment	Nº1 EXTRA LARGE EXTRA TO AVERAGE	Nº1 LARGE EXTRA TO AVERAGE	Nº1 MEDIUM EXTRA TO AVERAGE	Nº1 SMALL EXTRA TO AVERAGE	Nº 2 AS TO SIZE & QUALITY	Nº 3 AS TO SIZE & QUALITY	FLAT, HAIRY AND DAMAGED AT HIGHEST MARKET VALUE
COYOTE	HEAVY FURRED, CASSED OPEN AND HEADLESS	28.00 to 23.00	20.00 to 18.00	16.00 to 14.00	12.00 to 10.00	9.00 to 6.00	3.00 to 2.00
MUSKRAT	WINTER	2.75 to 2.25	2.10 to 1.85	1.70 to 1.50	1.30 to 1.10	1.25 to .80	.50 to .40
	FALL	2.20 to 1.80	1.80 to 1.80	1.50 to 1.20	1.00 to .80	.85 to .60	.35 to .25

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