

## 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.

George and Andrew Miller, writing "Dads Christmas Letter", from Bozouille-sur-muese, France, November 24, declare they are glad that Uncle Sam set aside a day for the A. E. F. to write a letter to "our dear old dad." "As the lid is off the censorship", they say, "we are going to write you quite a letter. You can easily locate our town. It is four miles south of Neufchateau. On the map it may appear as "Boz", but its full name is Bozouille-sur-muese.

We are in grand health and like the country fine, tho it does not compare with the dear old U. S. A. We have had some wonderful trips the past few weeks. We have visited Nancy, Toul, Void, Commercy, Sampigny, St. Mihiel, Verdun, Domremy. The latter city is the birth place of Jeanne d'Arc.

We went up to Toul on auto trucks. Toul is 38 kilometers (30 miles) from "Boz". It is a very ancient town, and strongly fortified. It shows much evidence of bombs and air raids. Many buildings are completely destroyed. The beautiful Cathedral was a target for the treacherous Huns.

Nancy is a beautiful city which has suffered terribly from the very beginning of the conflict. In peace times it has 150,000 people—but much less now. It has street cars and fine hotels. It is 45 miles from Bozouille. We were there the day after the armistice was signed. The people were happy for the first time in 4 years. Thousands of people were in the streets, yelling, dancing, singing. They were happy because they knew the conflict was over, the Hell in which they had lived for four long weary years had ended, and Heaven was once more smiling upon them. Only these wonderful people could have endured such an awful four years. Poor France has bled, but she has bled for the freedom of the world.

Verdun is 75 miles from here. This once large and beautiful has been completely wiped out. It is hard to realize that any civilized nation could be guilty of such a crime. The wonderful Cathedral and College Marguerite and their high towers were used as targets by the Huns. We have some pictures of this city in ruins, and of "No Man's Lands," dug-outs, trenches, barbed wire entanglements and the underground city of Verdun. Will bring them home next spring! This underground city is 14 miles long and was built many years ago. People lived there and had all their big places within the inclosure. Outside the gates of this world-famous city is a huge cemetery in which are buried only the aviators of France and America. How many bodies rest there is not known, as some were buried under heavy shell fire and no record was kept.

We are pretty busy with hospital work helping Uncle Sam take care of his patients. Since peace seems assured, we are longing for our home and the good old U. S. A. We hope there will be no luke-warm Americans there when we return. Having done only our duty as American citizens toward our good government, we feel and know that as far as money is concerned we could have done better in the ship yards at Portland. But what does money amount to, after all, compared to what Americans (and the Allies) have been doing here? It was up to us all to play our parts in the game against the Hun. We have played the game and have beaten the Hun at every turn. We would not exchange our experiences here the past year for all the money in the world. Kaiserism, dear dad, is dead forever, for it was a curse to humanity. Now the war is over, those who are left expect to come back to the best country and government on earth just as soon as conditions permit. Not all of us can come at once but we hope to be among those who come soon.

Uncle Sam has large holdings here—great warehouses, hundreds of miles of railroads, railway yards, wharves, factories, and everything on an immense scale, so it may be a long time—years—before all may return, but keep up your good spirits, dear parents, and every thing will turn out fine. With love to all the dear ones at home, your loving sons,—George and Andy.

Arthur Anderson, of the 45 U. S. Artillery band, writes from Guित्रse, France near Bordeaux that food is very dear there—especially fruits, etc. Bananas sell 2 for one franc (20c), eight small pigs for a franc, and everything else in proportion. In the restaurants there is no sugar. But the American soldiers are fed well. On Thanksgiving they had a "big feed". He speaks also of the wooden shoes that make the footsteps of people sound like a herd of horses on a hard pavement.

Edgar White writes that the "flu" has been troublesome again at Kelly Field and in San Antonio—but is now under control again in both places.

Sgt. Ira W. White wrote his parents November 12, "The war is over, so the sav. Of course every one feels good over here, and I can easily believe that you had a great time at home (over the good news.) The French certainly feel good, and have a lot more to be thankful for than we".

Henry Colvin, on the U. S. S. Villalobos, writes from China a very interesting letter to Glenora White. He says, in part, writing November 10: "I received your letter and package today and was very glad to get both. We don't like the river because its all just alike. We don't travel much. We steam along a couple of days, then we anchor for a month or so. But we sailors are over here for a purpose all right. Some of our boats have done battle with the chink. (Probably refers to scraps with river pirates). I would like to shoot some of the big guns. They say it is "some sensation". I'll bet the Huns don't like the music of our big guns. But I guess this war will be over before you get this letter, if it is not already. Maybe Ira and Victor will get a chance to see Berlin. The marines sure know how to fight. They belong to the navy. I think the navy is doing its part all right."

Writing Nov. 11, from France, Sgt. Victor White, says it was then cold rain and foggy. "The fog is so heavy you can see no more than 50 yards. Today is the day our FRIENDS the Huns are to jump on one side of the fence or the other. I have a good hunch as to which way they will jump, so I don't suppose there is much chance of going up there (at the front) though I wish there were."

He writes that he has not received the Observer for some time, adding "I surely miss it, too."

November 20, he writes, "Cold biting winds and a heavy fog. I am afraid Camp Mills will not have anything of this part of the world for a place to spend the winter. We hear all kinds of rumors as to what we are going to do. Some say we will be in the states by February and others say we will be here till next September. It would not surprise me if the latter were correct. Last Sunday the French celebrated the regaining of Alsace-Lorraine. It was some celebration here. Two old drums and two or three battered old horns for a band. Some music! One of the Woodburn fellows here told me about the death of Nibler".

Mr. Halvorson, a former automobile dealer of Salem, who for a year has been in charge of 1500 motor trucks for the Y. M. C. A. in France, has just returned to Salem. He says: "On the way to Paris my last trip I saw the 65th coast artillery, made up almost of Oregon men. Those I happened to dine with were from Eugene and Corvallis and other towns along the valley. They were between St. Dizier and Chaumont and were marching to the coast. At the time they expected to dine with the president on Christmas day and sail yesterday. They will probably land in New York about January 6."

Mr. and Mrs. Marsh have received a short letter, the first in two months, from their son Will Marsh who had been in a hospital two weeks but was hoping to get out in another two weeks. One of his fellow soldiers wrote recently that young Marsh had been wounded in October, hence it is probable that the same wound was the cause of his hospital "vacation".

Alert Ehlen came in yesterday from San Francisco on a 10-day furlough. He is stationed at Mare Island.

Fred J. White, who has been visiting his parents on an eight-day pass, left Tuesday night for Camp Lewis. It is probable that he may be among those discharged this month or next.

Ulysses Giesy is home from the Mare Island Electrical school on a short furlough.

**DR. de LESPINASSE**  
DENTIST

Trullinger Bldg Phone United 6319  
HUBBARD, OREGON

**DR. B. F. GIESY**

Physician  
and Surgeon

Both Phones  
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Aurora, Or.

## HOW LAPLAND GOT ITS NAME

Danish Chronicle of the Twelfth Century First Used Term "Lappia," From Which It Is Derived.

The origin of the term "Lapp" is obscure, according to "Through Lapland with Skis and Reindeer," by Frank Hedges Butler. The Swedish historian, Johannes Magnus, writing in the sixteenth century, called the land Lappla, following Saxo Grammaticus, the twelfth century Danish chronicler. Other writers called it by the Latinized name Lapponia. In the seventeenth century the region was known in England as Lapland, in Sweden as Lapmarkia, mark being Swedish for land; in Denmark and Norway as Laplandia or Findmarkia.

Several ingenious etymologies have been suggested, both in ancient and modern times. Some derive the name from the Swedish Lapp, rags, "from their (the Laplanders) coming into Swedeland every year with rags lapt about them" others from the Swedish laepa, to run or leap, from their skill in sliding swiftly over the frozen snow by means of skis.

Sheffer, the Swedish professor whose "Lapponia" (1673) was translated into English and published in Oxford in 1674, wrote of the "art they have by which with crooked pieces of wood under their feet like a bow they hunt wild beasts and glide along the ground, not taking up one foot after another as in common running but carrying themselves steady upon the frozen snow, they move forward, stooping a little." Old historians often called Lapland "Scridfinnia," derived from "skrida," which in Danish and Swedish means to slide.

## NO DANGER OF IRON FAMINE

Methods of Extracting Ore Will Keep Pace With Demand That Is Bound to Be Enormous.

That iron is the very basis of our industrial civilization will be admitted by the thoughtful, and many of our greatest supplies of iron ore are being rapidly depleted because of the increased per capita consumption of iron the world over, an increase which is destined to be greater in the future when the races in Asia and Africa increase their consumption of iron. These conditions of increasing consumption and decreasing reserves have often in the past, particularly about the beginning of this century, been used to create a scare, on the ground that our supplies of usable ore were being so rapidly depleted that their exhaustion would occur within two or three generations.

This is a preposterous point of view, asserts Chemical Engineering, because as we lower the percentage of iron in the rock which we call "ore" the quantity of such ore increases at a rate out of all proportion to the decrease in iron content, and as we use leaner and leaner ores technical improvements will be made which will minimize any tendency to increased cost of production. The same thing has happened in gold, silver, copper and other ores, and today copper ores are being worked with only 1-15 per cent of copper in them.

## Dog of Noble Traits.

My dog is a model of morality. He neither dissembles, lies, steals nor tips. There is no scintilla of hypocrisy in his nature. He is my congenial comrade and confidant, my rollicking romping companion, my never-failing chum. He has never betrayed a single trust reposed in him, nor has he ever, for an instant, faltered or wavered in his loyalty to me. His sincere friendship is as reliable and unremitting as the attraction of gravitation, his loyalty is as constant as the pole of the magnetic needle to the pole.

He cannot be coaxed, bribed or otherwise influenced to betray me or to turn against me. He is the ever-willing, alert and obedient servant of my every beck and nod. He would at any time lay down his life in an effort to shield mine without asking a like sacrifice on my part. Such are some of the sterling traits of character evinced in the everyday life of my devoted, trusty friend and comrade.—J. W. Hodge, M. D., in Dumb Animals.

## Leadville's Interesting Spots.

The table where Josh Billings wrote his stories of mining camp life, the hotel where Texas Jack died, and the gambling house where a millionaire miner lost his fortune on the roulette wheel, are some of the places the pioneers of Leadville, Colo., delight to point out to visitors.

One of these landmarks is the Variety theater, where Charles Vivian, founder of the Elks, entertained the gold miners of early days. Vivian went to Leadville for the benefit of his health and was always surrounded by a congenial crowd of the camp's elite. When he died there, he was buried in the shadow of Mt. Mammoth, among the pines, and the funeral was said to be the largest in the history of Leadville. His body was later removed to the East.

## Then Perhaps She Felt Better.

A stupid young man, supposed to be crackbrained, who was slighted by the girls, very modestly asked a young lady if she would let him spend the evening with her.

"No," she angrily replied, "that's what I won't."  
"Why," replied he, "you needn't be so fussy; I didn't mean this evening, but some stormy one when I can't go anywhere else."

## "Seen and Heard"

The city of Canby has appealed the case in which Peter Hornig was awarded \$4750 damages for personal injuries received at the city pumping station.

A rural carrier's examination will be held January 25, 1919, at Oregon City to fill a vacancy at this place. Examination for Marion county positions have heretofore usually taken place at Salem. For further information apply to the postmaster at Aurora.

## Town Topics

Pay your electric light bill at the Aurora State Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Miller were guests of Mrs. Miller's parents at Portland Christmas day.

Business Cards, Statements, Bill-headers, Receipts, Notes—everything printable, we print.

W. L. White was a business visitor in Oregon City Monday.

Mrs. Henry Boege was among the ladies shopping here this week.

Rev. L. S. Mochel will preach at the Presbyterian church Sunday at 10 a. m.

Geo. Armstrong is ill with the influenza at the home of his father, U. S. Armstrong.

Mrs. Jos. Graham and daughter Mrs. Chas. Reger were among the Butteville people here this week.

Mrs. James Ogle of Portland was here this week visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Ogle.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Will gave a Christmas dinner which was a re-union for many of the Will family.

Forest and Lotus Giesy were visitors last week at the home of their aunt Mrs. Moshberger at Woodburn.

Geo. Brockart, one of the successful farmers of the Needy section, was transacting business here Tuesday.

Miss Rachel Deetz and Mr. and Mrs. Phil Wiegand were here Tuesday from Paradise shopping at the Aurora stores.

Mrs. Julius Zimmerman and sons, of Albany, made a brief visit here Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Zimmerman.

Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Pierce of Portland were holiday guests at the home Mrs. Pierce's parents Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Becke.

J. E. Loveall, who has been in the Good Samaritan Hospital for treatment of the after effects of influenza has returned home much improved.

Born, December 24, at Oregon City, to the wife of Private Crowley, a daughter, Mrs. Crowley is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Irwin of Barlow.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Kraxberger were here Tuesday from their home at Macksburg. Mr. Kraxberger was here on bank business, as one of the directors of the Aurora State Bank.

A card party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Beck Saturday night was attended by a number of Aurora people. Mrs. L. G. Giesy won the lady's prize, and Mr. E. T. Pierce the gentlemen's.

C. B. Brewer has sold his residence and four acres of land to Mrs. M. V. Davis formerly of Alesa. Mrs. Davis will take possession Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Brewer have not decided where they will make their home.

Edward Muecke returned Monday from a six week's business trip to New York and Washington. He returned by the way of San Francisco. He found the weather cold and snowy crossing the great Plateau.

The Aurora State Bank directors met Tuesday to close up the year's business. The directors are J. H. Miley, I. A. Miley, R. H. Crisell, Guy N. Hickok, Chas. Kraxberger, Dr. B. F. Giesy, and G. B. Dimick.

## 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 inquiries must sign their name and address as evidence of good faith.

Hubbard, Oregon, Dec. 28, 1918—(To the editor)—I see by the newspapers that all restrictions on German and Austrian enemy aliens have been removed by the attorney general of the United States. Does that mean that enemy aliens may now be naturalized?—A. B. C.

Enemy aliens may apply for first papers, or if first papers have already been taken out, they may apply for final papers. But the courts will be very careful about granting final citizenship papers to any enemy alien. No judge will grant citizenship to any person who used the fact that he is an alien enemy to escape military service. And all alien enemies applying for citizenship will be questioned sharply about their attitude and sympathies during the war. It will be the part of wisdom for all alien enemies to postpone all attempts to secure citizenship for a time, until the hard feelings engendered by the war have worn off a bit.

J. J. Sperr was here a few days last week from Oregon City getting in the last of his crops here.

Mrs. Joaquin Miller of Banks spent Christmas here at the home of her friend Miss Louine Kerr.

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Will came up from Portland to spend Christmas at the home of Mrs. Henrietta Will.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Sadler and little daughter Peggy were the guests of Portland friends Christmas day.

Dr. and Mrs. B. F. Giesy and family were dinner guests Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Berg.

E. W. Zimmerman, one of the deputy roadmasters of Clackamas county, was a business visitor in Oregon City Thursday.

W. E. Frazier and family who formerly lived here are now located at Estacado, where he is in the stock business.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Marsh and children were here last week to spend Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Marsh.

Thos. Paige, Grant Plants, Frank Albee, C. C. Oldfield and Geo. Oldfield were among the Meridian people here on business the past week.

Among those in Aurora Monday were Fred Bents of Fargo, John Weninger of Macksburg, W. A. Rogers of Union Hill, and J. J. Wurfel the Barlow merchant.

The cold snap of last week caused the bursting of one of the unprotected war pipes in the building next to the Aurora Drug Store flooding the building before the water could be turned off.

J. E. Loveall was brought home Thursday evening from the Good Samaritan hospital. He is much better, but the influenza affected one eye and one ear, so that he has not fully recovered.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. S. Bents of Aurora were registered at the Hotel Portland, Oregon, Christmas Day, having arrived from San Francisco Tuesday night on the steamer Frank D. Stout.

NYAL AGENCY

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1st—I will give you 40 lbs. of good patent flour in exchange for one bushel of good milling wheat.

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