

Aurora

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Wounded Hubbard Man Visits Aurora Relatives

Jay Coyle, who was here last week to visit his cousins at the home of Mrs. J. F. Kerr, has gone to Camp Lewis where he hopes to receive his discharge soon. His mother lives at Hubbard where he stopped over enroute from a San Francisco Military Hospital to Camp Lewis. He was wounded in the arm last summer and has also suffered from rheumatism several months. His cords of his leg drew up and it took the combined strength of three men to straighten them and push the knee cap into place. He is still lame.

He has much of interest to tell his friends, though he does not like to talk for publication. He knew most of the Aurora boys. He stated that all that went into battle fought bravely. Though scattered through several regiments, he thinks 25 Company 1 men have been killed and many wounded. He himself was placed in a Michigan regiment, and went over the top repeatedly. He spoke in glowing terms of the courage and gallantry of Bill Marsh, Carl Haman, Jonas Deetz and Edwin Deetz, and many others. He stated the last he heard of Carl Haman (Butch) he was on guard duty in his native town. He has a great admiration for the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and the K. of C., but little use for the Y. M. C. A.

Mr. Coyle mentioned many peculiar incidents which show the strange situations that was always bring about. When two regiments met in the shock of battle, a young American soldier was about to kill a big bewhiskered German, who shouted "Don't shoot, don't shoot, I am your father!" It was true. A German born American citizen visiting in Germany when the war broke, was forced into the Hun ranks, only to narrowly escape death at the hands of his American born son in the ranks of the Yanks.

This is only one instance of the thousands of startling situations brought about by the war.

Mr. Coyle was wounded on the Chateau Thierry battle ground, and gassed as well. From here he was sent to a Paris hospital. Prior to this, he one day passed through a French cemetery where he saw the marked grave of Jonas Deetz—the first he knew of his death. The same day he accompanied Edwin Deetz to the cemetery and pointed out the grave. They compare the number with the dead soldier's record number and found it the same. Three days later Edwin Deetz 30 miles to the front was killed by a Hun sniper. His brother Jonas had been terribly wounded by a high explosive shell. His legs and arms were badly mangled. He died a few hours later.

Mr. Coyle declares there is no doubt of the atrocities committed upon women and children by the Huns. He saw evidences of it himself—women with ears cut off and children with hands cut off.

In one advance, his company came upon a German machine served by women who were chained to the gun. The women raised their hands and cried "kamerad", but opened fire when the Americans had lowered their guns. They had to shoot the woman operating machine gun before she would quit. She was downed with a flesh wound in the leg.

WHERE IS "BUTCH"?

The report that Carl Haman is now doing guard duty in his native town in Germany is doubtless a mistake, as his native town is Chenitz in Saxony, which is not in the part of Germany occupied by the Allied or American troops. It is possible that he may be at Mainz, in Hesse, where he was stationed several years ago while serving in the German army. His mother is said to live at Chenitz.

LEGISLATIVE PARAGRAPHS

E. W. ROBINSON—Made his first appearance Wednesday as a part of the lobby against Senator Huston's bill taking the rate-making power away from the public service commission. Robinson was in distinguished company hobnobbing with Franklin T. Griffith of the Portland Railway Light & Power Co.; John A. Laing of the Pacific Power Co.; Ben Day, chief counsel of the Southern Pacific; Judge Chas. H. Corey of Portland, and C. E. Wells, of Hillsboro, president of the Oregon local telephone association.

LA FOLLETT—Alec not only pares the cheese, but he votes against bills to give soldiers and sailors preference in public employment. There now seems to be no doubt that "Alec" is "Bobs" cousin. Such a vote is worthy of the Bolshevik!

SALARY RAISES—Bills galore are appearing to raise the salaries of state and county officers. Public officials should be paid fair salaries but no more. There are exceptions, of course, but in general public officials are paid all they earn—and often more. As a class, they are good "askers". The outstanding fact is this: \$5000 men don't seek \$2500 jobs, but \$2500 officials are always seeking raises to \$5000.

RAISING FUNDS FOR FAR EAST

The great war has freed the Christians and Jews of the Near East from religious and political persecution—but their homes are in ruins, their lands laid waste, their cattle and implements stolen or destroyed, and 4,000,000 of them actually starving. Freedom is dear, but their present condition means death before spring unless relief be extended at once. The American committee for the Relief of the Near East, headed by Wm. H. Taft, is asking for \$30,000,000 to save the 4,000,000 people of the noble little nations that have so long kept the faith and borne the burden of Moslem persecution, torture and massacre. They are in immediate danger of death from the diseases of war and hunger. Dr. Prudden, of Oregon City, is in charge of the campaign in this section of the state. The government has approved the work and Department of state transmits the funds by cable.

County Commissioner Goulet was here Monday, accompanied by Lieut. Benton Killen who has just returned from France, where he was in charge of a section of the Motor Truck supply service, charged with getting food and ammunition to the front. Lieut. Killen was ordered home in charge of 150 sick and wounded men, shortly after the signing of the armistice. He is now out of the service.

STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ORDERS EQUALIZATION OF SCHEDULE

MUST BE READJUSTED.

Mr. Robinson, Mgr., Has Long Felt Change Must be Made—Working on Rate to Conform to Commission's Order.

Public Service Commission of Oregon
Salem, Oregon.
Jan. 2, 1919.

Mr. E. G. Robinson, Manager
Molalla Electrical Co.,
Canby, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

Our attention has from time to time been called to the existing electric service rate schedules of your company. There are certain elements in the makeup of those schedules which, in our opinion, introduce unreasonably great discriminations between various individual customers, and which in the ultimate development of the business of the Company may prove decidedly impractical.

The first item which occurs to us is the present combination of residence and business lighting under one schedule which does not include any consideration for the variation in installations which may be operated by individual customers. This order that you may have in mind the Commission has always held the opinion that in cases of widely varying installations such as you must have in your commercial lighting business, it is impossible to provide equitable rates for the customers without basing the charge for commercial lighting in some way upon the connected load or demand to be served. The combination of both residence and commercial lighting business under one rate on the other hand does not permit the establishment of a residence lighting rate with such characteristic as to provide for the most extensive use of the service either for lighting or cooking. Such a combined rate absolutely prevents the establishment of a single residence lighting rate which will provide also for the economic service of cooking or heating equipment, without unnecessary duplicate meter and service installation on the part of the Company.

The most apparent discrepancy in your present rates, however, arises in Schedules D and E for power service. It is our understanding that these two schedules have been in part applied literally as they are worded, that is, that the various blocks in the rate have not been considered as cumulative. This interpretation of these schedules leads to absurd and unreasonably discriminatory results inasmuch as it is possible for one customer, who uses more energy than another to receive a smaller total monthly charge for the service. Rates enjoying this feature are ordinarily known as "step rates" and have been generally condemned by this and other Commissions and by all practical utility operators.

As in the case of commercial lighting, it does not seem to be possible under ordinary conditions to provide an equitable rate for the service of power customers which does not take into consideration on a reasonable plan the demand placed upon the system.

We would call your attention particularly to the necessity of exercising care in the application of off-peak power schedules, especially with the smaller utility the establishment of an unusually low off-peak service rate may be very damaging to the operation of the Company, inasmuch as it is the tendency for all power customers to request service under such a rate, whereas their operations are not of the character for which the concessions given in such a schedule were originally intended.

We are giving you these ideas in ultimate elimination of the discriminatory features of your tariff, particularly with regard to the power rates which we believe are entirely impracticable and not such as to distribute the costs of operation equitably over the various customers.

You will remember that this matter has been discussed with you at various times, and it would be our suggestion that remedy be applied as soon as possible, in order that the

Company might avoid future complications.

Yours very truly,
Public Service Commission of Oregon
By E. W. WRIGHT, Sec.

Mr. Robinson, of the Molalla Electric Company, who is a practical man in the electrical business of more than 20 years experience has long realized that these rates are unjust to a number of larger users and has long felt the necessity of a readjustment. This does not necessarily mean an increase in rates, but a readjustment that will probably lead to a decrease in rates, winter and a slight increase of rates in summer thus tending to equalize the income of the company and the lighting bills of the patrons.

Mr. Robinson will work out a rate which will be along the lines the public service commission has deemed just, reasonable and will not be discriminatory.

WOODMEN ADOPT RESOLUTIONS

At the last meeting of the Woodmen of the World of Nessmuk Camp, No. 661 adopted the following resolutions of sympathy and consolation:—

IN MEMORIAM

Hall of Nessmuk Camp, No. 661
W. O. W., Aurora, Oregon:

Whereas the Allwise Ruler of the Universe has called to higher life Lewis Everett Grazer, a member of this camp, it is hereby Resolved that the members of the Camp tender to the bereaved family and relatives our sympathy in their sad loss; that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the records of the camp, and that a copy be given to the Aurora Observer for publication.

Geo. E. Oglesby,
Franz Kraxberger,
N. C. Wescott,
Committee.

GOOD ROAD, SAYS CULVER.

In a letter to the editor of the Observer, county roadmaster, W. J. Culver states some pertinent facts concerning the pavement laid by Marion county on the Salem-Silverton road, denying very emphatically the assertion of the Salem Journal that the pavement "looks as if it would last but two years." Mr. Culver writes the Observer as follows:

"You called my attention to some unfavorable comment made by another newspaper in this County regarding the durability of the pavement that has been laid by Marion county. In view of the facts the statement is amusing; for the pavement is giving first class satisfaction and will be good for many years; it has been laid at a very low cost as compared with the prices paid for patented pavements.

In 1915 Marion County laid about three miles of asphaltic concrete pavement, which is not a patented pavement; the width being 14 feet and the depth 2 inches; in 1918 4.75 miles of the same pavement was laid; the width being 15 feet and depth 3½ inches; before the pavement was laid the roadbed was graded and where gravel was not already in place a layer of gravel and crushed rock was laid, was then wet and well roled before the top was put on. The expense of the work in 1915 was 67 cents per square yard and in 1918 56 cents per square yard. The county has been to no expense for repairs; when repairs become necessary as will occur with all kinds of pavements the work can be done at low cost. Asphaltic concrete pavement is one of the best kinds that is used and when laid from 2 to 4 inches deep on a firm base will stand heavy traffic for many years. The need of a hard surface of some kind on the main roads throughout the Willamette Valley is squarely before us; like our friends in Clackamas County, the Marion County Court has been trying to find some kind of pavement that can be laid at not to great a cost and to find out what the actual cost of such work is. I can assure you that they are very well satisfied with the result of the trial both regarding the cost and durability."

Sadler & Krous have announced a four day sale to begin Friday January 31. Many articles have been reduced in price during the sale.

Observer

Louis Nebert

Late Influenza Data From State Health Board

The State Board of Health has found during the influenza epidemic, that three days after unusual gatherings of people there is always an increase in the number of influenza cases. Every Tuesday shows an increase as the result of Saturday and Sunday minglings. December 28, three days after Christmas gatherings and January 3 and 4, three days after New Years festivities. Hence it is shown that there should be no unnecessary or unusual gatherings. The investigations by the state board show that dances are dangerous places to spread the influenza. They should therefore be prohibited during the epidemic.

Another striking feature of the epidemic is that it seems to run in waves about three weeks apart. It is believed that this is due to the fact that the most of the severe cases during a wave are able to be up and around in about three weeks and that they are unconscious carriers and spreaders of the disease causing the next wave. Therefore in addition to a 10-day quarantine following the resumption of normal temperature, recovered patients should not come in contact with unexposed persons, unless they wear masks, for a period of two to three weeks.

As to vaccines, the state board believes them of considerable value, in preventing extreme severity and advises re-vaccination every 6 weeks. It states that out of 33,439 persons inoculated by 94 Portland doctors there were 15 mild attacks of influenza, 75 severe, and eleven deaths. The same doctors reported on 4,780 cases of influenza in persons not inoculated; 3,503 were mild, 1,146 severe, and 146 deaths.

As influenza is being spread by utensils used in eating and drinking, all dishes, cups, glasses, knives, forks, spoons, etc., used in public places, and in all private homes where there are cases of influenza, should be thoroughly sterilized by boiling 15 minutes.

W. W. Sporalak was among the Union people here Sunday.

YOUR INCOME TAX

The income tax this year will reach without doubt nearly all workmen, farmers, shopkeepers and merchants. All may not have to pay the tax, but all unmarried person (man or woman) who earned \$1000 during 1918 and every married person who earned \$2000 must file an income tax return. Hence it is up to the reader to sharpen his pencil and figure out at once his net income for 1918. Blanks have not arrived, but as soon as they are ready the collector of Internal Revenue will make it known through the Newspapers. Watch out for them, and file your return as soon as possible.

Ben Weller one of the pioneer residents of Wolfer Prairie, was transacting business here Saturday.

A list of the fire losses of the Farmers' Fire Relief Association during 1918 shows a total loss of \$10,576.28 during that year. The insurance was in force December 31, 1918 was \$7,297,369.

A. M. Fry last week found five new empty hot water bottles, tied together, in the road beneath the Southern Pacific trestle, which leads to the Fry Bros. farm. They had probably been thrown from a train, fearing, perhaps, as the train was about to enter Clackamas County, that Sheriff Wilson might grab the train parties, and the bottles which gave off a strong odor of whiskey.

FRUIT TREES AND ROSES

We still have due us from two good nurseries, the following nursery stock which we will sell at the prices named: 150 apple trees at 15c; 50 pear trees at 20c; 25 grafted Franquette walnuts at \$1.00 to \$1.50; 35 seedling Franquette walnuts at 30c; 75 plums, peaches and prunes (not Italian) at 15c; 40 apricots and cherries at 25c; 200 gooseberries and currants at 10c; and a number of roses and ornamentals at 35c to \$1.00 each.

Ask us about them at once, because we can not hold them much longer, as they revert to the nurseries soon.

A. H. GIESY

THE RELIABLE MERCHANDISE STORE

Established

1898

Saturday Special

Peanut Butter

Pound 20c

WILL-SNYDER CO.
THE STORE OF MERIT

HOURLY SALES

For Saturday, Monday, Tuesday

Saturday	Between 1 and 2 P. M., 1 Gallon Can Dark Corn Syrup at	85c
Saturday	Between 2 and 3 P. M. 24 Cakes Easy Washer Soap for	\$1.00
Saturday	Between 3 and 4 P. M., Pint Bottle 30c Catsup, at per bottle	18c
Saturday	Between 4 and 5 P. M., Men's 10c White Handkerchiefs, each	4c
Monday	Between 10 and 11 A. M., 15c Raisins at per package	10c
Monday	Between 11 and 12 A. M., 6 Spools Bow String Thread at	25c
Monday	Between 3 and 4 P. M., 5 Boxes Ohio Blue Tip Matches	25c
Tuesday	Between 10 and 11 A. M., all Gingham at per yard	26c
Tuesday	Between 11 and 12 A. M., Cream Rolled Oats, 4 lbs for	25c
Tuesday	Between 1 and 2 P. M., Good Fine Straw Broom, \$1.10 value at	89c
Tuesday	Between 2 and 3 P. M., Pound can Crescent Baking Powder	19c
Tuesday	Between 3 and 4 P. M., 11 lbs. Granulated Sugar	\$1.00
Limit—\$2.00 to each person		
Tuesday	Between 4 and 5 P. M., 20 per cent Reductions on all Coffees.	

SADLER & KRAUS