

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.

Aileen Snyder has just received a letter from Jack Rose, who is in France with the 104th ammunition train, 29th division. He saw service in the battle of the Argonne Forest, where the Americans defeated first the Austrians and then the Prussian guards. Rose says the latter were good fighters, but the Austrians no soldiers at all; but that neither could stand the onslaughts of the Americans. He hopes to return home soon or to be sent into Germany with the army of occupation. He sent many cards with beautiful views of various parts of France.

Gordon Grimm arrived home on Tuesday afternoon from overseas service with the 363rd Field Hospital corps, recruited at Portland by Dr. Sellwood, who was later advanced to major, and Dr. C. T. Smith of Salem was their captain when the corps went overseas. Gordon was looking fine.—Hubbard Enterprise.

In a letter to Geo. Wurster, written October 31, Haman says, "We're just coming out of a 19-day's battle, and believe me, George, there was sure something doing this time. It was a hot one. Just the same we got the 'old Fritz' on the place where we want him and a little more besides. Ed. Deetz lost his life this time and the oldest of the Marsh boys got wounded. I met him on the battlefield. One morning, in the front line, we got orders to clean out a boche machine gun nest (we did it, too) and as I was looking for a shell hole, to take a few minutes rest from the German machine gun bullets, I found a real German gun-out with three Germans in it, and plenty of cigars and cigarettes and eats. I captured the whole outfit. I took all the cigars and cigarettes and eats with me, and that night, believe me, we got a real German lunch.

I am on a seven days furlough here in a big city and am taking a good rest after five months of fighting, getting ready for the next battle. I hope the war is over soon and we get a chance to meet once more again. Tell all my friends 'hello' for me."

Walter Tooze, Sr., has just received a letter from his son Lieut. Lamar Tooze, in France, who expects to leave there soon. He says, in part:

"I leave the 10th on my seven days' leave to Paris. I don't expect to remain there the full seven days because I really believe the division will move before I could stay my leave through. I feel that it will be a fine vacation for me. Think of being able to sleep 'til nine in the morning and read and see a movie. I have been in the back woods so long that I know I'll be a regular iavhawker when I get to a real city. "It is believed that this regiment will be mustered out at Camp Kearney near Los Angeles. I rather hope so because I'd like to see California. I understand that there's a bill before congress giving two months' pay to all men of the expeditionary forces when they are discharged. They certainly ought to give us a little better end of the deal than the men who stayed at home because we certainly have been through Hades in the last few months."

December 19, 1918, Corporal Carl Haman (Butch) writes from Hunmerick (Germany) on the Rhine as follows: "Dear familie Wescott—I just got a little time to let you know that I am still alive and I feeling just fine. I hope the same from you all. Well, the days we have longed for and prayed for are here now—the days of peace. I wish you all a Happy New Year. Let's forget now—but cover up all the last year's agony, for peace has come. What a birthday this has been for me! What a Christmas this will be for everybody! Some day we will have some dinner party and I shall tell you of all the arms and men at my fireside. Well, we got the German 30 kilometers behind the Rhine, and I guess that's our finish and we all be home soon!

The weather is very rainy now. I been getting along fine over here. The German people are very good to us. We were across the Rhine December 13, at 11 o'clock. Everyone feeling fine and every man wants to go home now.

I want to tell you that I have felt the presence of the peoples of Aurora at my side through times of strife and hardship I could not forget. I received several letters from peoples of Aurora, right in the front line, and every one was a real sunshine to me. Tell all my friends, 'Hello', for me, please."

Christmas Day, he wrote a card from the same place saying:—"My dear Mr. Wescott, I just received 3 Aurora papers, on Christmas morning, and you don't know how glad I was to get those. Thousand thanks for it. Everything K. O. so far.—'Butch'."

The war department announced Friday that Clarence L. Stevens of Macksburg has been released from a German prison camp. The Monday before Mr. and Mrs. Stevens had a telegram announcing their son's arrival in New York, which indicates that the department were a trifle tardy with their news. His parents hope that he will be home soon.

Jos. Graham, Jr., writing to his mother Mrs. Jos. Graham from Trimbs, Rhineland, Germany, says: "I have not heard from you in a long time, and wonder what is the reason, though I feel assured all is well. I received an Aurora Observer today. I cannot tell how much I appreciate my home paper. There was lots of news in it. I see where Floyd had been home. I never told you that I was at the front, did I? I was at St. Mihiel and also at Mt. Fancan. I certainly saw some very sad sights, and one of my pals and I had a very narrow escape while doing first aid out on the field, but mother, it is all over now and I am perfectly happy to think that I will at least be home by July 4.

I hope you have better weather than we, for it rains nearly every day or night. Trimbs is an old little German village. The reason we are in Germany is that we are occupation troops. On our way here we followed the Rhine and saw many castles and ancient ruins, among them Ruene Rhinepels and Burg Katy, both near St. Goar. All along the Rhine are terraced gardens."

Last weeks query "where is Butch?" brings a letter from Art Artus, at Montague, California, inclosing a card from "Butch" (Carl Haman) written at Auhausen, Germany, on the Rhine, under the date of December 31, with New Year's Greetings.

The 65th Coast Artillery are expected to arrive in Oregon about February 16. There are over 1500 Oregon men in the organization.

Ira White wrote his sister Miss Glenora under the date of December 27. "We had a big spread Christmas but no tree. There was holly and mistletoe, etc., to make it look like the proper season. I did not receive presents but had the chance to give—and it was more pleasure that way. I gathered what I thought would be pleasing to the French kiddies that didn't get much these times. And one of the boys and I got a small tree and fixed it up for them. It was fun to watch them. It was in every way like Christmas at home, except that they put the things in their shoes instead of their stockings. Santa came down the chimney and all that, but they put out their shoes—the largest pair they could find. Next will be New Year, but best of all, it finds us starting for home. We are packing and making ready to leave on short notice. How does it sound to you that we expect to be homeward bound not later than Jan. 15? I hope Vi will be transferred to this company so we can come home together."

A late letter from Sgt. Victor White says that he will not be transferred to his old company (to which his brother Ira belongs) as he would lose his rank as sergeant if transferred. Hence the brothers may not be able to come home together.

H. C. Ehlen has learned through George and Andrew Miller, of Base Hospital No. 46, that his son Fred Ehlen lies buried at Genise at a little French village in the Argonne region. The Miller boys learned this from two soldiers who knew Fred Ehlen well. Mr. Ehlen wrote some time ago to a lieutenant of his sons' company, for information but his letter was returned marked "dead". A similar letter to the captain of the company and another to "any private" of the company have brought no replies.

A \$25 SHARE of stock of the Aurora Mutual Telephone Company for sale at less than half its face value. Inquire at the Observer Office.

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BROODERS FOR SALE—Two Peep-O-Day, and one McElanahan, all in first class shape. At one-third first cost. F. E. Yergen, Rt. 1, Hubbard. 48-2t.

FOR SALE—Dry 16-inch fir wood, old growth. W. L. White, Aurora, Rt. 3. 48-4t.

FOUND—Umbrella, owner can have same by applying at the Observer office and paying for this notice.

MEN FROM OREGON OFFICIALLY HELD NATION'S CLEANEST

Surgeon-General Blue Wires Fact is Disclosed in First 1,000,000 Camp Reports.

Only Fifty-nine Hundredths of One Per Cent Found to Have Venereal Disease on Arrival at Cantonments.

Surgeon-General's Official Telegram
Oregon Social Hygiene Society, 720 Selling Bldg., Portland.
A tabulation of one million reports first received from camp surgeons throughout the country shows that Oregon leads the country with a rate of fifty-nine hundredths of one per cent found to have a venereal disease on arriving in camp. It is hoped that Oregon can continue vigorous measures in combating venereal diseases during the period of demobilization and thereafter.
RUPERT BLUE.

Oregon men, called to the colors during the greatest of all wars, were physically the cleanest in the entire United States Army.

Such is not the mere boast of any citizen of this state, backed only by a high sense of local pride, but it is the established record of the United States Army, communicated to the Oregon Social Hygiene Society by Rupert Blue, Surgeon-General, thus giving it the greatest possible weight.

As will be seen by perusal of the foregoing telegram from Surgeon-General Blue, a tabulation of 1,000,000 of the first reports received from camp surgeons places Oregon in the lead with a rate of fifty-nine hundredths of one per cent (which means less than six men to the thousand), or, compared with another wire from him, this state's standing is but a fraction lower than 18 times ahead of the state with the highest per cent of infection, which was eight and nine-tenths per cent (eighty-nine men to the thousand).

This constitutes one of the grandest and proudest records of the whole war period and, great as has been this state's part in all patriotic endeavors, nothing could fill the hearts of its people with a higher degree of pride than the official acknowledgment from the National Capital that Oregon's men stood far and away above all others in clean manhood.

"That the work of the Oregon Social Hygiene Society, carried forward for but seven years, should produce such magnificent results, is a subject of the most gratifying kind to the entire Board," said Executive Secretary Cummins. "Every one of the men who have worked so hard to bring about the result regard this official notification from the Surgeon-General as a complete vindication of the program sought to be carried forward in this state. That the public will respond to sane, clear facts, rightly presented, is also demonstrated beyond doubt. Educators, who have assisted greatly in the work, may well feel that young men under their tutelage will absorb the benefit to be derived from information along physiological lines, rightly administered. Parents must now see plainly that their children should have the truth as to their physical beings and that, having this, untold good will result."

"Future generations, following, are bound to demonstrate the benefits of Oregon's clean manhood, as set forth officially," commented A. F. Flegel, president of the Society. "This record cannot be overestimated. It is a glorious achievement."

"The full significance of the official announcement from Dr. Blue is difficult to grasp," said Adolphe Wolfe, treasurer of the Society. "Dealing as it does with human life and morals, it is, in a larger sense, more important than many other achievements, not to detract one whit from any of them. At the outset, many good people doubted the ability of the Oregon Social Hygiene Society to accomplish worthwhile results. I think now, however, no further comment need be had. Surgeon-General Blue's telegram is sufficient."

Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Field, division surgeon of the 91st Division at Camp Lewis, has officially credited the splendid record made by Oregon men to the educational work that has been and is being done by the Oregon Social Hygiene Society.

MARKET REPORT

Egg per dozen 35c
Butter, 2-lb. roll 70c
Spring Broilers 25c
Ducks, 25c to 30c
Turkeys, old, 25c
Jesse 20c
Old Roosters, 17c
Hens, 25c to 26c
Beans 7c to 8c
Cascara, 13c
Lard, 30c
Potatoes, \$1.15

WALNUT IS WANTED.

There was a time when the walnut tree stood very high in popular favor. In the mid-Victorian period its wood was eagerly sought and widely utilized. They made household furniture out of it, and stair rails and doors and many other useful things, says Cleveland Plain Dealer. A walnut bedroom set was the pride of the housewife. Skilled wood carvers conjured in black walnut, and the cleverest joiners matched and shaped it. Then came a revulsion in favor. Walnut was pushed aside. It languished in attic and in woodshed. It fell a victim to the rude handling of the junkman. The treasured walnut bed gave way to mahogany or maple, or brass or iron. The trade in walnut lumber was wrecked. Now, by a strange twist of time's steering-gear, walnut comes to the front again. The government wants walnut. It wants a great deal of it. It wants it for gunstocks and airplane propellers. Walnut is the ideal wood for these important purposes. Even a single walnut tree is welcomed by the munition and airplane makers. Patriotic woodmen are asked not to spare that tree, if it happens to be a walnut. The man who sacrifices a tree for government uses has the proud satisfaction of knowing he is helping to complete a Hun-destroying gun, or to propel an equally destructive airplane.

Splendid is the vision it raises. Over and over again people have asked themselves the question: What good can come out of this war commensurate with its awful cost? Why does God permit this war? Is another form of the same question. More and more it begins to appear that there may be an answer to it, says Baltimore Sun. If from this war shall arise a new civilization, in which strong nations shall no longer be free to wrong weak nations, in which people shall choose their own rulers and their own forms of government and shall not have them imposed upon by force, in which there shall be a common standard of right and privilege for all peoples and nations, and the assertion of right shall not be "haphazard and by casual alliance," but there shall be a "common concert to oblige the observance of common rights," if such a civilization is founded upon this bloody struggle, then it will not have been fought in vain.

America is fully able to say what shall be the peace terms without assistance from Baron Burian. The mothers of this country are not giving their sons to die upon the battlefield only that Germany may be given opportunity to gather her resources and recuperate her forces for another conflict. The end of this war must be the end of Prussian militarism—the end of the Kaiser—and the end of the autocracy which he has created in central Europe, says Houston Post. These demands will be the beginning of the peace terms; and America will listen to no others until these be attained.

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 States 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 inquiries 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.

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Balloons and Pigeons Were Used to Carry Mail During Siege of Paris in 1870-71

Although airplanes were unknown in 1870, balloons played an important part in the siege of Paris, relates a writer in New York Evening World. So closely were the Prussian lines drawn about the city that communication with the outside world was cut off. The military authorities called upon the aeronaut Durout to make a balloon flight from Paris. Carrying 250 pounds of letters, he made the attempt, and after a flight of three hours landed at Evreux, far beyond the zone of Prussian control. A regular mail service was then established, and though many flights ended in disaster, it continued until the surrender of the city. It was in this way that Gambetta, the statesman, made his escape from Paris to Tours, where he recruited a new army, which offered a desperate but vain resistance to the invaders.

L. P. Swan, the pioneer Champoege miller, now of Donald, was here on business Tuesday. He says all milling wheat being restrictions have been removed by the government.

Mrs. J. F. Kerr received letters yesterday from her son Fred now at Camp Dix, in the 65th Coast Artillery. He expects to be in Oregon in a few days.

ALBERS CONVICTED

Henry Albers, the millionaire miller, was found guilty on two counts of the indictments against him, and acquitted on five counts. The maximum penalty on each count is \$10,000 fine and 20 years' imprisonment, though it is not probable that the maximum will be imposed. Judge Wolverson has granted 30 days in which Albers may appeal. The verdict is no surprise to most people, though it evidently was the rich miller.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Smucker were Oregon City visitors Wednesday.

John Gahler Jr. and L. P. Spagle of Needy were business visitors in Oregon City Monday.

Mrs. Diana Snyder returned last night from a month's visit with her sister Mrs. Jesse Johnson at Bend.

Leslie Grazer, of the 216th Engineers is now at Camp Lewis, where he hopes to receive his discharge in a short time.

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BLACK	12.00 to 10.00	9.00 to 8.00	7.50 to 7.00	6.00 to 5.00	4.50 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 4.00	3.50 to 1.50	1.25 to .75
NARROW	6.50 to 5.50	5.00 to 4.25	4.00 to 3.50	3.00 to 2.50	2.50 to 1.25	1.00 to .50
BROAD	4.00 to 3.00	2.75 to 2.25	2.00 to 1.80	1.60 to 1.40	1.25 to .75	.50 to .25

	NO. 1 EXTRA LARGE EXTRA TO AVERAGE	NO. 1 LARGE EXTRA TO AVERAGE	NO. 1 MEDIUM EXTRA TO AVERAGE	NO. 1 SMALL EXTRA TO AVERAGE	NO. 2 AS TO SIZE & QUALITY	NO. 3 AS TO SIZE & QUALITY
LIBERAL ASSORTMENT						
MUSKRAT WINTER	3.00 to 2.50	2.25 to 1.75	1.60 to 1.30	1.10 to .90	1.00 to .75	.50 to .40
FALL	2.30 to 1.90	1.80 to 1.60	1.50 to 1.20	1.00 to .80	.85 to .60	.35 to .25

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