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NAVY MAN TELLS TALES OF THE SEA

Walter Johnson, Son of C. A. Johnson Has Been Cruising for Raiders in the South Pacific.

C. A. Johnson of Lexington has received the following letter from his son, Walter, now in the United States Navy:

U. S. S. Frederick at some place on the sea.

Dear Father:

I received a letter from you about a week ago but have been out to sea, so could not answer it until now. Under the new rules of censorship I can tell you where we have been at least a part of the time up to October 14.

As you know, Bill Aubrey and I, the only ones from that part of the country, were assigned to the U. S. S. Frederick, which used to be the battleship Maryland. We left San Francisco harbor on the 18th day of April for San Diego. The next day we got orders to go to "cut out by censor". We got back to San Diego May 4, with everything safe. We took on stores until May 6 and when we left, sailing south on May 11. Here we left the fleet and set chase after a ship we thought to be a German raider. We caught up with her at 2 o'clock and as she would not answer our signals, fired two shots. "cut out by censor".

We sighted land on the 13th of May and entered Guatemala bay after proper salutes. We anchored and remained there for two days. We then sailed south for two days and on May 18 entered the Panama Canal. At 9:50 we went through the first locks and arrived at Colon at 4:40 p. m. Here we started coaling and left the next morning and sailed southeast until the 30th, had big dinner and target practice at sea, sailing through the Caribbean Sea on June 2nd. We met two sailing vessels, still sailing south. On the 11th of June we had battle practice, fleet formation south of Cape St. Roque. Here we left the fleet and sailed towards Bahal. On the 16th we sighted a ship, firing one shot at her. On the 18th we cast anchor in Rio harbor.

The Brazilian Admiral came on board and we fired 81 salutes. On the 26th we coaled ship and on the 27th had a smoker on shore. We had a national parade on the 4th of July at Rio De Janeiro. We got under way on the 8th, sailing thirty miles apart and on July 10, at 5:30 p. m. we came together in fleet formation. Moored ship at Montevideo, where I was put on Marine guard. After sailing up and down the coast until the 9th of August, we stopped a sailing vessel and on the 12th stopped two more. On the evening of the 22nd cast anchor in Bahi. Had boat drill until September 3, when we coaled ship and got under way, sailing northeast. Stopped several ships and fired on them when they refused to answer. Stopped another ship and got our mail from a Swedish steamer. On the 22nd we started after another ship and fired on her when she would not answer. On the morning of the 18th we cast anchor in Montevideo. At Montevideo we got stores, coaled ship and sailed. On the 15th of October we encountered an awful storm at sea, all the boys got sick and water run over the decks. Stretched life lines to keep from being washed overboard. Sunday, the 25th, we crossed the equator. At that time I was in the searchlight tower on watch. Entered the Canal at 6:45 of Dec. 4, received 70 bags of mail. I got the box of candy, a Sunday Oregonian and some Gazettes. Maybe you think I wasn't glad to get this after being out so long and on watch nearly all the way. We are in dry dock in Balboa, after we will come to Hampton Roads, probably to convoy.

This ends my tale of the sea so far, but this is what Aubrey and I are thankful for: that we are homeward bound, that the windjammer didn't jam us, that Bahi is not our home port, that we didn't get married in Rio and that the canteen prices can't go much higher.

On Thanksgiving Day the Captain made us the following talk: We have many things to be thankful for. We have worked some, we have played some. We have learned to know each other better and to trust each other more. We were not sunk by a raider. Now it seems we might get a submarine. But whether we meet a raider or submarine or any other enemy craft, let us thank God for the opportunity and go to it, so that our folks at home will know that we are on the job. Be ready. With love from Walter.

HEPPNER POULTRY MEN WON PRIZES AT SHOW

W. Claude Cox, local poultryman and White Wyandotte fancier, won everything in that class at the Dayton, Wash., poultry show, December 12-15. Mr. Cox won first, second and third cockerel; first, second, third and fourth hen and first and second pullet. He also won first pen. Mr. Cox brought home a beautiful \$25 cup for the best pen in the American class, having been the winner of this cup for the third consecutive time. He also won for the third consecutive time the \$20 cup for the best pen of Wyandottes. He becomes the permanent owner of both of these cups.

Wightman Brothers of the Alfalfa Lawn Dairy ranch won everything in the Barred Rock class and won the cup for the best pen in the show.

Newlyweds Return

Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Anderson returned to Heppner Sunday night and are now receiving the congratulations of their many friends. P. A. has also been kept busy passing out the cigars. They will make their home here, where Mr. Anderson is owner and manager of the Morrow County Abstract Co.

Feeding Cattle at Stanfield.

James Johnson, the Range cattleman, spent a few days in Heppner the last of the week visiting at the home of his mother, Mrs. Alex Cornett. Mr. Johnson says range conditions in the John Day country this winter are excellent, there being lots of hay and grass. However, his experience of last year, led him to bringing his cattle out this way for winter feeding this year. He is feeding two hundred and fifty head near Stanfield on the Umatilla irrigation project and says his stock are thriving on the excellent quality of the alfalfa produced there.

HARDMAN DID GREAT WORK FOR RED CROSS

The Hardman branch of the Red Cross gave a very successful dance Tuesday, December 21. The ladies also served coffee, sandwiches and cake to the dancers. After paying all expenses, one hundred dollars were sent to the Red Cross Chapter in Heppner.

The cakes, etc., which were not used, were sold at auction and added about thirty dollars to the proceeds. The Red Cross doll, which was raffled off, netted about twenty dollars and a small clock donated by Mrs. Gaunt brought about five dollars. Bert Bleakman gave ten sacks of potatoes which were sold for \$18.50. Jim Burnside donated two sacks which added \$2.50.

Music was furnished by Ashbaugh and Leathers and Guy Hadley acted as floor manager and auctioneer.

The people of the Hardman community showed the proper spirit in their efforts to make the Red Cross Christmas membership drive a success. Those soliciting in Hardman were Mrs. J. P. Hadley, Nellie Wright and Mrs. Gaunt, and by Friday night they had obtained one hundred and seven members. Despite the bad weather, Sunday, Glen Farrens and Guy Hadley solicited the Burton Valley and Rood Canyon districts. These districts, together with the Reid Mill community, added fifty more members to the Hardman list.

OREGON RAILROAD COMMISSION OFFERS SERVICES TO GOVERNMENT

Will Continue to Handle Railroad Matters Until Other Instructions Are Received.

Salem Or., Jan. 2.—The Oregon public service commission tendered its services to William G. McAdoo, director general of railroads, in the following telegram sent Wednesday night.

"This commission tenders hearty co-operation and its gratuitous services in any capacity connected with railroad management and supervision in Oregon. Shall be glad to have you indicate in what manner we can best serve."

The commission also sent a telegram to Edwin C. Niles, president of the National Association of Railroad and Public Utility commissions, suggesting that a similar tender of services be made by the national association.

Since the government has taken over control of the railroads, the part that state commissions may have in railroad regulation is uncertain. Chairman Frank J. Miller and other members of the Oregon commission, however, stated that the commission

MORROW COUNTY LEADS THE UNITED STATES IN BIG CHRISTMAS DRIVE

The unattainable for once has seemingly been attained. Morrow county has beaten Umatilla county in the big Red Cross Membership Drive which closed last Monday night, and leads the entire United States with a percentage of 175.

The challenge which was issued a few days ago to any county in the country to equal or excel the record made by Morrow county, remains to this minute unanswered. And as the final returns roll into National headquarters, it is not likely that the record of this county will be beaten.

The total membership enrolled in the campaign by the Morrow county workers is 2625. County chairman, S. E. Van Vactor says that it will be next week before he will have a detailed report ready for publication.

LEXINGTON STATE BANK WILL BUILD NEW HOME

Lexington State Bank has purchased the corner property of Mrs. E. J. McAllister at Lexington, where the postoffice is now located, and will begin the erection of a modern banking building in the spring. This property is nicely located and the bank management have in view the building of a substantial brick structure that will be an ornament to the little city. The bank, itself, is making splendid progress and gives promise of soon becoming one of the leading financial institutions of the county. Cashier Hill informs us that he is well pleased with the increase in the business for the past two months, and has found it necessary to employ an assistant to help in the book work. We are pleased to note the growth made by this new institution and to announce that they are a wide awake institution interested in the upbuilding of their community.

W. W. Smead announces that Bowker's orchestra of Portland has been engaged to furnish music for two dances next month, in the Fair Pavilion. One will be held on the 14th of February and the other will be on Washington's birthday, February 22.

will continue to handle railroad matters presented to it, as it has done in the past, until some order or instruction to the contrary is received from the federal government.

So far, they point out, the Oregon commission has had no word from the director general or the government advising to what extent, if any, the jurisdiction of the state public utility commissions is to be curtailed.

Try a rye-bread cottage cheese and tomato catsup sandwich. It will give your palate a thrill one you'll probably repeat.

Only a pro-German or a misinformed American will scoff at the efforts of the Government to conserve the food supply of the nation.

Honey and syrups instead of sugar will make victory just as sweet and bring it sooner.

BEANS.

Housekeepers ought to appreciate more the food value of beans, which should be a popular meat substitute. Beans and peas are "heartly" foods and they should appear in combination with starchy vegetables and fresh salads. Try beans and baked potatoes, with cold slaw on the side next Meatless Day.

Cuts Self With Axe.

Hiram Tash was busy taking a big limb off of a tree at his place one day the past week, when he hooked the axe over the clothesline. That object "kicked back" and Hiram received a swat over the left eye that came near knocking him out and made an opening that required the attention of a physician. Mr. Tash let go of the axe in a jiffy and the next morning he found the implement had buried itself in the ground not far from where he had been working at the time of the mishap.

Luther Huston is carrying a lame wrist, the result of a "kick" he received while attempting to crank his Ford one day the past week. He came very near securing a broken wrist as a result.

ELKS DONATION TO RED CROSS WILL EXCEED \$400

The gift of the Heppner Lodge of Elks to the Morrow County Red Cross Chapter will exceed \$400, as a result of the grand ball which was held in the Fair Pavilion last Monday night.

Although not all tickets have yet been accounted for, S. W. Spencer, chairman of the finance committee, announced that after all expenses have been paid, the fund will still retain \$400, which will be given to the local chapter.

Besides the success of the ball itself, both socially and financially, the women from the local Red Cross chapter sold sandwiches to the amount of \$87.

The dance itself was well attended and enjoyed by everybody. Parson's Novelty Orchestra of Portland furnished the music. The affair reflects credit not only upon the lodge, but upon each individual member who worked to make it the success it was.

IRRIGON NEWS ITEMS

Mrs. H. Stockard and daughter returned home Monday after visiting with friends and relatives near Ione for a week.

Mr. McCoy and family returned from Imbler Friday last where they went to spend Christmas with Mrs. McCoy's parents.

Lee Graybeal was around selling pork a few days ago.

Mrs. Ricks has been furnishing the Irrigon people with beef for a few days.

Professor and Mrs. W. L. Suddarth came home on the early train Sunday from Portland where they went to attend the state teachers' association.

School opened again the second day of the New Year. Everyone was ready to take up their work again after the vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. Campbell and family returned to their home at Eugene last Monday.

C. J. Caldwell has started improvement of his property near town. He will move his house closer to the road and make other improvements.

Mrs. W. W. Caldwell is visiting with her parents west of town a few days this week.

A party of young folks had a regular old time watch party New Years and rang out the old and in the new year.

LEXINGTON "OVER THE TOP" IN GRAND STYLE

In the Red Cross membership drive the little city of Lexington went "over the top" in grand style. She is able to report a total membership of 385. This is in keeping with her established reputation of being one of the most patriotic little burghs on the face of the globe and we doubt if a community having a like population has done any better. Lexington has a population of about 185 within its corporate limits, and W. G. Scott states that he is quite sure that very few failed in their support of the Red Cross work in this big drive. It was not the intention to overlook anybody and Mr. Scott and his co-workers saw that every pupil of the Lexington school was made a member and the school placed in the 100-per cent list.

In the first Red Cross drive, Lexington came across with \$2200 in cash and pledges. The Liberty Loan was supported to the amount of \$10,600, and their donation to the Y. M. C. A. was \$400. This constitutes a record of which the community is very proud and certainly entitles them to be placed at the head of the list.

What is more, Lexington will continue to come to the front in all future demands for the support of the country in this hour of great stress. They are a community of liberal, patriotic givers and number among their citizens mighty few slackers.

Henry Vance Sells Interest in Oregon Garage.

Henry Vance has sold his interest in the Oregon Garage to Ray Ager and Mr. Ager took possession the first of the year. Mr. Vance has not yet decided what he will do, but after two months will go to the Willamette Valley with Mrs. Vance. He owns property at Astoria.

Mr. Ager, who is an accomplished mechanic, has been in the employ of the W. P. Scribner blacksmith shop since coming to Heppner several months ago. The new firm at the Oregon Garage will be Hall & Ager, Bert Hall still retaining his interests in the business.

MANY NEW IMPROVEMENTS IN PAST YEAR

The passing year of 1917 witnessed building activity in Heppner which may have been equaled in other years but to no great extent excelled. During the twelve months, three new buildings were erected for business purposes, the New First National Bank building, the Garrigues building and the new building for the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co., and Roberts on Willow street. Besides this, considerable remodeling work was done. The Heppner Farmers' Elevator Co. erected the first grain elevator in Morrow county on their property in this city, at a cost of \$21,000. The Palace hotel spent several thousand dollars in extensive improvements, as did Phill Cohn and Thomson Bros. in remodeling their Main street properties.

Some twenty thousand dollars were spent by citizens in building and improving residences. Dr. A. D. McMurdo erected a magnificent bungalow on his Chase street property at a cost of \$6,000. H. C. Githens has just completed his new home near the high school at a cost of \$3,000. Hanson Hughes built a modest little house costing \$1600 and Mike Kenny spent \$3200 erecting a bungalow for renting purposes on one of his west Heppner lots. Stacy Roberts built a fine home on Gale street and Henry Johnson replaced his old house with a modern residence.

Others who made extensive repairs to their residences were S. E. Van Vactor, Phill Cohn, George McDuffee, M. J. Bradford and E. R. Huston.

NOTICE FOR SEALED BIDS.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to an order by the county court of Morrow County, Oregon, sealed bids for the office of county physician for Morrow County, Oregon, for the year 1918, will be received up to 10 o'clock A. M., January 16, 1918. Dated this 3rd day of January, 1918.

J. A. WATERS, County Clerk.

Miss Harper, a graduate of the State Normal at Monmouth, and Miss Norris, graduate of an Eastern school arrived on Tuesday evening, the former to take up the work of the second grade and the latter taking the place of Mrs. Wedding in the English department of the High School. Mrs. Raglan, on account of her health, has been compelled to hand her resignation to the school board and her place is now being filled, temporarily, by pupils from the High School. It is expected that a teacher for the third grade will be secured soon.

COUNTY AGENT FOR MORROW CO.

Agriculture Expert to be Appointed By O. A. C. to Take up Work Here Soon.—County Court Makes Appropriation of \$1500.

Morrow county will soon have an agricultural agent. This was decided by the county court at a meeting held Wednesday when W. L. Kaddery, a representative of the extension department of the Oregon Agricultural College and a number of local citizens called upon the court.

The government takes a strong lead in promoting county agent work and is making a special plea to all counties at this time to adopt the county agent plan to aid in the work of increasing agricultural production.

There will be available \$3000 to carry on the work in Morrow county each year. Of this amount, the county will pay \$1500 and the balance is paid by the state and government. The salary of the agent is \$1800 per year. He will be appointed by the men in charge of the extension work at the Oregon Agricultural College and will take up his duties here immediately after his appointment.

LYCEUM ENTERTAINMENT GOOD.

The second number of the lyceum course was rendered on Friday evening at the High School auditorium, when Baldy Strang and his company appeared before a Heppner audience. We are sorry to state that this very high class entertainment was not greeted with the crowd that the excellence of the program merited. Mr. Strang and his company are each and every one star performers in their line and their entertainment was one of the very best ever given in Heppner. In fact, the Midland Lyceum Bureau put forth none but the very best of talent and our people should show their appreciation of this class of entertainment by giving the succeeding numbers rousing support. The next number on the course, which is to appear in a short time, is the Swiss Alpine Yodlers, and while the first two numbers were excellent, it is promised that this attraction is better. Keep an eye open for the date.

WILL HOLD JOINT MEETING

The Oregon Irrigation Congress has accepted the invitation to hold a joint session with the State Drainage Association at Corvallis, January 4. Irrigation and drainage offer two chief means of extending our food producing area. Some large drainage districts are under way in the Western part of the state, while frequent dry years have increased the demand for irrigation in Eastern and Southern Oregon.

The Irrigation Congress meeting in Portland will adjourn Thursday, January 3 and go to Corvallis, by special train, where its members will be the guests of the State Drainage Association at the Annual College dinner. The following day will be devoted to a joint convention at which the drainage of irrigated lands and the Chamberlain Bill will be subjects to be considered. It is expected that Judge Will R. King, Chief Counsel of the U. S. Reclamation Service, W. G. Sloan of the Department of Agriculture and Mr. Griffin of California and other prominent speakers will address the joint session. (Continued on Page 8)

FEDERATED CHURCH

THE CHURCH SHOULD BE a community enterprise. Experience has proved that it is an institution upon which the permanent welfare of every community depends. It takes rank in public service with business, the public school, courts of law, and the fraternities, and is second to none of them in its contribution to the happiness, prosperity and moral development of our citizenship. Its ministry is to moral character. Its object is to promote the best type of manhood and womanhood. Although its labors are purely voluntary it always finds helping hands inspired by the word of its great Master, who said, "I am among you as one that serveth. What personal service are you offering to advance this community enterprise?" H. A. NOYES, Pastor.

WHAT 1917 DID

- Put the United States into war.
- Established a food and fuel administration.
- Sent prices to unprecedented heights.
- Brought price fixing by Government, notably on wheat, coal, iron and steel and other basic commodities.
- Saw an unparalleled demand for labor at highest wages known.
- Brought railroads under Government control.
- Started the construction of a vast fleet of merchant ships to counteract the ruthless U-boat warfare.
- Sent our foreign trade above the \$9,000,000,000 mark.
- Saw our favorable "balance of trade" in overseas commerce for the period since August, 1914, reach the vast total of more than \$8,000,000,000.
- Brought an embargo on exports, scientific direction of outgoing trade and licensing of shipments to foreign lands, all to help win the war.
- Saw a \$21,000,000,000 war Congress.
- Provided for a \$7,000,000,000 loan to our allies.
- Introduced selective military service and saw 10,000,000 men of military age registered in one day.
- Floated two liberty bond issues aggregating nearly \$6,000,000,000.
- Sent American soldiers and sailors to the fighting line.
- Set up rules for eating and drinking, buying and selling.
- Raised \$100,000,000 in one campaign for the Red Cross.
- Stopped the manufacture of hard liquors, reduced the alcohol content of beer and wines.
- Put a Nation-wide dry amendment through Congress and up to the states for ratification.
- Organized America's forces and resources for war.