

# NO FIGHTING FOR MEDFORD BOYS UNTIL AUTUMN

**Captain Vance Writes of Experiences of Battery E, 65th Artillery, Formerly Company Seven—Members Scattered All Over World—Must Learn All Over Again on New Guns**

A letter full of interest to all relatives and friends of Medford and Jackson county soldiers in France, written in France on May 11, by Captain A. J. Vance, of Battery E, 65th artillery, in which so many former Seventh company members are members, has just been received by Mayor C. E. Gates. The captain not only tells of the doings of the company since it departed for France, but describes in words of praise the work of the Red Cross and army Y. M. C. A., and the American hospitals and physicians in service there.

According to Captain Vance the majority of members of Battery E are scattered everywhere in other organizations, having been transferred, and none of the Oregon boys will see service at the battle front until fall.

**Traveled Thru England**  
In part the letter is as follows:  
My dear Mr. Gates:

I promised to write you after arriving "over there," and to keep you posted on things generally. Well, we arrived without incident of any kind, as you know, of course, through George. Fortunately we were sent via England and got to see considerable of the country and two or three good sized cities. We landed in the north of England and crossed into France from a southern port, thus traversing practically the whole length of the country, and to make it all the better the whole trip was by daylight. England is a very beautiful country, much nicer than France, and everything is in perfect order. They do things just once in England, and do them exactly right. All roads in these countries are paved, or hard surfaced, which should make auto touring a great pleasure. There are no private cars to be seen in either country, as the governments have taken them all for military purposes. But as gasoline is over a dollar a gallon, I guess there would not be much touring by auto anyway. There are thousands of Fords here in France in the army service, as well as other cars. All the higher officers are furnished with the best American limousines. You never see any ordinary touring cars. They are all of the closed car type. You see more Dodge cars than any other, though there are Studebaker, Wintons and others. Really, the closed car style is best for this country as it rains nearly all the time and is very cold and chilly.

**Boys Scattered**  
We left about 95 men of Battery E, scattered all the way around the world, starting at Frisco, where 46 were left behind owing to a case of measles breaking out in one of the Pullmans en route from Fort Stevens. The whole car of men were kept behind. Then a case of something else developed in the upper floor of one of our ransoms at Camp Merritt, and that kept back 34 men. Then we left four or five at Liverpool and a few at other places with the grip or minor troubles. Our good reputation, however, keeps up as far as venereal troubles are concerned—absolutely a clean slate from the date we left Medford. And Battery E was posted as being the most efficient battery of the regiment, which made all of us feel that our efforts had been worth while. None of the men left behind have caught up with us, and the prospect of their rejoining the battery is very slim. All companies are being all torn to pieces after arriving over here. All officers and most of the men are sent off to schools of various kinds and few of them ever get back to their original companies.

**Engineers for Officers**  
It is quite certain that none of the officers that came over with the Oregon batteries will remain with them. We were unfortunate in being assigned to a type of battery which requires that the officers must be civil engineers, or who have a thorough knowledge of engineering, combined with higher mathematics, such as trigonometry, logarithms, calculus and astronomy—none of which any of our officers have had. I had a smattering of some of it 30 years ago, but it doesn't help any now. Practically all the work of setting up and aiming the guns is done with a transit, and the application of triangulation, etc., which none but engineers can do. Almost 150 officers were sent to one of the heavy artillery headquarters a short time ago, over

in eastern France, where we were given an opportunity to see what was required on the type of guns that had been assigned to the western troops, and not half of them felt that they could handle the technical work necessary in properly laying the guns.

**Just Out of Luck**

Of course, it just happened that any other type of gun would have been easy for us, and we could have used some of the knowledge gained in the coast defenses. We just played out of luck, that's all. Well, just so they put us on the front lines, as soon as possible, none of us care much what branch we are in. None of the Oregon boys will see service until late in the fall, at the earliest, and then not as the same organization that left the states. Only about 75 of the original Battery E is left. The company is being replaced with men who came over earlier and have gone through various schools, while our men are sent off to school, and they in turn will be returned to other organizations. I am expecting to be transferred to other duties any time now. Practically every officer in the regiment is a new man who has been through two or three of the schools, and who came over several months ago, so we can only expect to take our turn with the rest. Some officers have joined our regiment who have attended schools for 10 months and are still at it.

**Meets Former Medfordites**

Have met quite a number of officers over here that I knew back home, and who are in various branches of the service. The latest one is Lieutenant Eberly, who enlisted in the engineers. He was in the forest service office in Medford. I met him here in—two or three days ago. Have passed through Paris twice in my travels, and have been pretty much over the whole country. Was within 15 miles of the front lines and could hear the guns booming quite plainly. Another Oregon regiment that was spoken of frequently in the papers back there, is scattered from Egypt to England. One of the companies is here in this city on military police duty. The captain was on the governor's staff when we went to the Frisco fair, and had the big opening of the Seventh Co. armory, which you attended.

This country is very cold and wet practically all the time. There is a great deal of sickness, such as colds and grip, and a good many of our men have been in the hospital, though we have not lost any. Fuel in France is very scarce, and we do not have fires in the buildings, as we did in the states. We now appreciate the comfortable barracks our country provides for us back there.

**Red Cross Work**

I believe you will be interested in hearing something about the Red Cross work over here, owing to your efforts in its behalf back there. First, I want to state that before leaving

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If you are troubled with pains or aches in the back, feel tired in the morning, headache, indigestion, insomnia, painful or too frequent passage of urine, irritation or stone in the bladder, you will almost certainly find quick relief in GOLD MEDAL Haarlom Oil Capsules. This is the good old remedy that has stood the test for hundreds of years, prepared in the proper quantity and convenient form to take. It is imported direct from Holland laboratories, and you can get it at any drug store. Your money promptly refunded if it does not relieve you. But be sure to get the genuine GOLD MEDAL brand in boxes, three sizes. Adv.

**Ladies' Wrist Watches**



**Gent's Service and Outing Watches**



We are showing the latest and newest thing in watches.  
**MARTIN J. REDDY**  
For Watches of Quality.  
Visitors Always Welcome  
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Fort Stevens every man in the regiment was furnished with a sweater (if he did not already have one), a helmet, wristlets, muffler and two pairs of heavy wool socks. These were donated by the Red Cross, absolutely without cost, and represented thousands of dollars in cost, and time almost beyond computation, by the noble women of Oregon. As stated before, I have already been pretty much all over the country of France, having traveled several hundred miles in different sections, and every where you go, you see the American Red Cross, with its ambulances, hospitals, serving coffee at the depots to traveling troops and doing those things to make more comfortable our American boys. I have written Mrs. Vance to do everything in her power, with both work and money, for the interest of the Red Cross and Y. M. C. A., which is doing just as much in its way as the Red Cross.

**Y. M. C. A.'s Fine Activity**

Every American camp in France of any size has its Y. M. C. A., furnishing a place of amusement and recreation for our boys. And only one who has been over here can know how essential this work is, where troops are stationed. Keep up your efforts for both the Red Cross and Y. M. C. A., and in doing so feel assured you are doing as great a work and performing as patriotic a service as those of us who enlisted to go into the firing line. It is indeed strange that there can be any one who opposes such work, if not contributing to it.

Hospital facilities seem to be adequate everywhere. Thousands of American doctors have enlisted in the military service and are over here undergoing hardships, and given up their business to do their part in the great war. I have learned to have a very high regard for the medical men who have come over with our army from America. We have in our regiment several of the most faithful and conscientious medical men you will meet in any community. In this city there is a very fine hospital in charge

of American doctors and American nurses, and you all may be assured that our soldiers are getting as good treatment as they would at home. You perhaps do not know that such noted men as the Ayos, and other equally eminent specialists are over here to serve their country? They are of course near the front where their services are most needed.

Well, this has developed into rather a lengthy letter. I hope everything is well with you and yours. Give my kind regards to all the good friends in Medford.

## CANYON ROAD IN GOOD CONDITION

ROSEBURG, June 6.—Assistant State Highway Engineer J. C. McCloud arrived here from Portland after an inspection of the improvement work being done on the Pacific Highway thru Pass Creek canyon. The greater part of the grading on sections of the road thru Pass Creek canyon is nearing completion, and McCloud says that no further trouble from that section of the highway will be feared the remainder of this season. He will remain in this section of the state for the rest of the season and inspect the work being done from here south.

At Dillard there are two bridges under construction over the South Umpqua river and the work of grading on the west side of the river is being rushed as fast as possible. This new section of the highway will eliminate the dreaded Roberts mountain, where several accidents have happened. The new road will have almost a water grade from this city to Riddle, a distance of 20 miles, and will probably be opened for travel late this fall. There are hundreds of tourists passing thru this section now and all report the roads good and have encountered comparatively little if any, trouble thru southern Oregon.

# 5c, 10c, 25c Sale

**We Are Firing the Shot that WILL DO THE BUSINESS**

**Hundreds of Articles Worth Up to a Dollar Going at 5c 10c or 50c**

**Saturday, June 8**

**Is The Big Day**

**One Overland Roadster Good Condition, New Tires, Cheap**

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# Notice to Public

57 BUSY STORES  
The Reason We SELL for LESS

**THIS STORE** will continue to open at 7:00 o'clock a. m., from Monday to Saturday; close at 6:00 o'clock p. m. from Monday to Friday; close Saturday at 9:30 o'clock p. m.

We do this, not to be contrary with our competitors, or other business factors of Medford, as they have a perfect right to close their places of business when they feel it their duty. We do this because we feel it our duty to our country, to Medford and to our customers, especially the farmers and laborers, whose hours are so essential and necessary at this time. Saturday night is about the only chance many of them have to do their trading without losing time from their work. Why should we close and force this trade to other towns or to mail order houses, or cause them to lose time?

The early closing hour is not a national move, neither have we been asked by our government to do so, but if we felt it a duty to our government, we are willing to close at any hour in the day or day in the week that our president might see fit. Sure it will force our clerks to work one hour longer than clerks working in stores that close at 5:00 o'clock. Knowing this, our clerks voted to continue at our regular time. We hereby notify our clerks and the public, for this hour's work, they will get an extra hour's pay in War Savings Stamps which we consider more patriotic move than an extra hour for pleasure for which many may use it.

**"WITH MEDFORD TRADE IS MEDFORD MADE"**

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The Reason We SELL for LESS