

### History of Medford's Company A

The history of the local military organization Company A 186th Infantry dates back to the year 1818. Out of the old National Rifle Association of Medford was organized a company for the purpose of studying military tactics and out of this organization there was formed the old Company F of the state militia at Medford, Oregon, which was organized under the war time provisions of the state of Oregon, and was solely a state organization.

On the 15th day of May, 1918, Company F, Oregon state militia was mustered in with a membership of about eighty-three men and were sworn in by Adjutant General Williams.

**The First Officers**  
The officers elected to the old company were H. A. Canaday, captain, Fred S. Stripp, 1st lieutenant, and F. E. Redden, 2nd lieutenant, and the regular drilling and training of the company was kept under the directions of the military department of Oregon until March, 1919, when the new Federal National Guard regulations had been adopted by congress and at this time there was formed a new military company made up principally from the young men of the old state militia all of whom re-enlisted in the Federal National Guard and the company for a time, while the military department of the state was building a real military department under the federal regulations was designated as Company F, C, E and D and at one time for a few days was an artillery company, but as the military organization of the Federal National Guard of the state of Oregon developed into a real military regiment and then into a brigade of the Federal National Guard, the Medford company was given its final designation as Company A 186th Infantry.

**Company Transferred**  
However, the company for a time was a part of the 162nd Infantry but as the military companies in the state developed rapidly under the general supervision of General George A. White, adjutant general of the state of Oregon, Company A was transferred from the 162nd Infantry and made the first company of the first battalion in the new regiment, being designated as the 186th regiment, Infantry, of which it is now a part.

At first the company being in the 162nd Infantry was under the command of Col. Creede C. Hammond and

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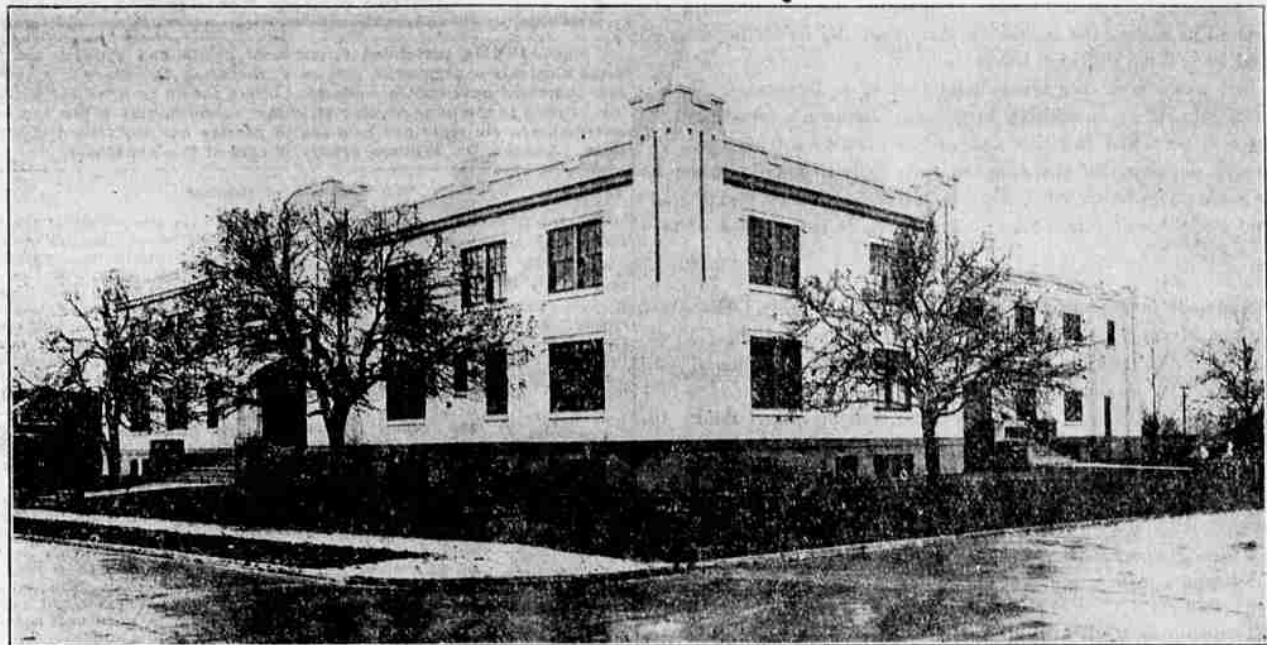
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Wool Union Suits	\$5.00	\$4.45
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MEDFORD, OREGON

### Medford's New Armory, a Monument to Medford Enterprise



At the regular session in 1921 the Oregon legislature made an appropriation of \$40,000,000 for the erection of an armory in Medford. This appropriation was to be used only when the city of Medford and Jackson county had made an appropriation of a like amount. To this end the county levied taxes that would raise its quota of \$20,000 by the end of 1923. In the fall of 1922 it was discovered that there was only some \$12,000 available and that, in order to make the state money available before the next session of the legislature when it might be lost, the balance of the \$20,000 must be made up at once. The citizens then stepped in and made a drive among the business men of Medford where they obtained 120 notes for \$100 each, which were then put up for security on which they borrowed \$8000 from the banks of Medford to be repaid as money accumulated in the armory fund at Jacksonville.

Then the city council voted \$20,000 for the city's share and the state was notified that we were ready to proceed.

The present personnel of Company I, 186th Infantry, Oregon National Guard is as follows:

**Officers**  
Captain, Hamill Canaday.  
First Lieutenant, Marion C. Wright.  
Second Lieutenant, Alvin J. Crose.

**Sergeants:** Clyde R. Richmond, Reuben H. Plitz, Weldon H. McBee, Ernel Ingram, Henry L. Van Demark.  
**Corporals:** Charles D. Wiley, Clifford B. Dally, Harry E. Hawk, Edwin James, Bruce W. Moffatt, Leonard Osborn, Sterling C. Richmond, Russel Wells.  
**First class privates:** Cyril R. Atkins, Warren H. Conrad, John R. Daly, Paul G. Holmer, Gordon K. Kershaw, Jack B. Lynch, Lewis C. Lyons, Lewis O. Parker, Elmer O. Peters, Paul E. Souther.

**Privates**  
Raymond L. Berry, Frank Boardman, Coy W. Brown, Henry E. Brown, William D. Brown, Harold B. Burnett, Harold C. Burnett, Milan R. Burnett, Elvis R. Cochran, Charles N. Davis, Jr., Harvey J. Dutton, Royce M. Finley, Carl Grege, Vance D. Hall, William N. Hall, Roy F. Hewitt, Harold W. Hubler, Ernest V. Hurt, Vernon D. Kennedy, Richard S. Law, Rupert B. Maddox, Billie L. Miller, Kenneth O. Miller, Sherman E. Musty, Noel Neergaard, Kenneth H. Nelson, Emmet R. Phillips, Ora V. Phillips, Willis A. Porter, Floyd A. Purves, Frank E. Redden, Robert C. Schleichert, Carl M. Seufert, Paul P. Seufert, Raymond J. Shoemaker, Orval L. Shore, Chester W. Sullivan, Richard H. Singler, Rudolph F. Singler, Ansel Y. Smith, Claude Sullivan, Merle R. Tedrick, Gale H. Vinson, Robert E. Welch, Clarence Williams.

**Plans Are Received.**  
Plans for the building were drawn by Mr. Hinsacker of Eugene and sent here for criticism. A committee composed of the various local organizations interested met and on inspection of the plans suggested some small changes which were embodied in the final plans and in the building. Bids were called for and the contracts were let in December, 1922 with the expectation that the building would be finished by June, 1923. With only a small part of the work done the general contractor who was erecting the building defaulted and his bondsmen were called upon to complete the building. This so delayed the work that the completion has only just been accomplished.

The property suggested by the city council and approved by the adjutant general of the state and his staff was a piece of ground containing seven lots and bounded by Jackson, Third and Bartlett streets. Apple street between Third street and Jackson street was vacated and included in the property as was the alley crossing the same block. This gives ample ground for parking around the building itself beside allowing a place for a tennis court. Dirt from the excavation of the basement was kept on the property and this raises the level of the grounds some three feet above the street.

In making the lawn this has been sloped from the property line up and leveled and seeded and when the grass comes on next year will make a beautiful yard.

The building fronts on Bartlett street with a side entrance on Third Street. It is 128 feet across the front and 190 feet deep and is T shaped with offices, club rooms, etc., in the front and the main auditorium in the rear. The entire building is of reinforced concrete with a full cement basement and is two stories in height. The basement contains the engine room, where two boilers will supply heat to the entire building, the kitchen and dining room, a rifle range space for a bowling alley to be installed later, showers and rest rooms, and under the stage three large dressing rooms. The front section on the first floor contains the captain's office, orderly room, the locker room where each man in the company has a separate locker for his equipment and the quartermaster room for the storage of all the spare supplies of the company; and on the second floor the inspectors office, a club room for the members of the company and a room to be used for meetings of the American Legion, G. A. R., Spanish American War Veterans and other organizations of this kind.

The drill hall and auditorium is a large room 82 by 121 feet all finished with a fine maple floor. Above this is a balcony and one end a large stage making this room suitable not only for drill room, but for dances, lectures, musical entertainments, plays and other entertainments of various kinds. Over three thousand people can be seated and state conventions or other large gatherings can be accommodated.

The first entertainment held in the armory was a dance by Company A, 186th Infantry, Oregon National Guard, the proceeds of which was used for the payment of the interest in the notes which were used to raise the money ahead of the tax collection. These notes together with the interest have all been paid and the notes returned to the signers. Now the armory is in almost constant use and the things going on vary from a road show to lodge initiation. The popularity of the building is assured and it is promised that the rental will be kept as low as possible at all times. All expenses of operation must be paid from the income of the building, and as this is a public building the support of the public is expected. R. L. Stuart of Medford was the general contractor and Architect Hinsacker of Eugene drew the plans.

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**Busy Corner Motor Co.**

**PORTLAND BANKER IS FOUND NOT GUILTY**  
PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 28.—Arthur Eckern, former vice-president of the defunct State bank of Portland, was found not guilty by a jury in circuit court late last night of the charge of receiving deposits knowing the bank to be insolvent.

The charges against Eckern grew out of the closing of the bank on February 6, 1922. He was tried last September but the jury disagreed, necessitating a second trial.

The continuance was taken by agreement after it was found that four jury trials were docketed for today.

**OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR'S ARRAIGNMENT DELAYED**  
OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Nov. 28.—(By Associated Press.) Arraignment of J. C. Walton, former governor, on six indictments charging diversion of public funds and dispersal of a meeting of the state legislature, was continued today until Monday.

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