

LATEST WAR NEWS

Recent Comment From the Firing Line.

Alleged Correspondents Tell of Victories and Defeats in Glowing Terms.

The London Daily Mail prints many letters from soldiers at the front, a few of them being printed below:—

Another British Victory.

(From a motor-cycle despatch rider to a friend.)

You are right, we all had a hell of a time out there. There are ucl millions of the devils, but we're fairly soaking it to them now and there back is broken at last.

I don't want to say too much about myself because I did nothing in comparison to some of those plucky devils who have paid the bill. But there was one little incident which was a trifle amusing, although it might have proved extremely serious for me. I was told to take a despatch from a place called — to a place called —, where the artillery was posted. I started off on my motor-bike and had gone about half-way when on rounding a corner I saw another motor-bike coming up at me and a great German on top of it.

Before I could do anything he was into me, broadside, and of course it knocked me head over heels into the road. When I was on the ground the beggar fired at me twice with a revolver, but I managed to unslung my rifle, and, believe me, he didn't fire again. Naturally he didn't hit me, as I've said he was a German, and they can't shoot for toffee. But he put a hole through my cap, which I will show you when you come down down, and I thought he'd got me in the head. However, his bike was smashed up and mine wasn't damaged much.

The funny part was that one of our officers happened to come up just then on a motor bike, and when he saw the smashed bike and the German on the ground he made me howl with laughter and I think saved me from fainting by saying, "Good luck Another British victory."

W-H, between us we managed to get the German into a house near by and I can promise you that everything humanely possible was done for him, but he only lingered overnight, as my bullet, more by good luck than good shooting, got him through the left wing.

Every Indian a Young King.

(An officer in the Royal Engineers writes to his mother some opinions of the various troops he has come across.)

I saw our Indian troops the other day. I take back humbly everything derogatory I have said. I get down and apologize to them, black, brown, or anything else. They look like young kings every one of them.

The street was full of gesticulating, yelling French people. The men as they marched past, might have been in an empty street or lonely country road.

I must say the French peasant is a stoic, particularly the old ladies of about sixty, who are charming.

The French gunners are fine and the cavalry are a fine body of men physically, with absolutely no knowledge of horses.

The Germans I have come a ross are fine fellows physically, but dead tired, poor devils.

Not a Leg to Stand On.

(A soldier at the front sends home the following anecdotes from the trenches.)

During the battle of the Aisne River a man was bringing the mail up to the men. A sergeant had just put his hand up to receive a parcel from home containing some cigarettes when a kind German friend sent a souvenir across in the shape of a bullet. The sergeant readily accepted it and received both parcel and bullet in the same hand together.

Two chums were discussing the relative values of their birthplaces. The Cockney was evidently having the best of the argument, when a shrapnel shell burst above them and the Londoner received a bullet in each leg, while the Birmingham man escaped unhurt.

"I should think you'll give way now" said the man from Birmingham.

"Why?" asked the Cockney.

"Well, you haven't a leg to stand on," was the reply.

Belgium is Still Alive.

(A soldier writes home.)

The other day several men of my company saw a big placard placed about 200 yards in front of the German trenches and which did not seem

to have been there before. They made the remark to one of my lieutenants, who, in spite of very good glasses, could not read what was on it.

A few plucky men decided to go at night to see what it was. They went, and brought back a big placard, in a corner of which was a German flag and in the centre in large letters, "Auvers has fallen. Hurrah." And then the date of the fall of Antwerp.

We decided to reply in German and immediately prepared another placard, in the corners of which we put the four flags of the Allies and in the centre in German, "Thank you, we have known it for six days, but we also know that Belgium is still alive," and last night we went to put it in the place of the one they had put for us.

For ten days we have been occupying the village of —. For several hours a day the Germans shelled the village, at the beginning, without even hitting one of us. The other day they resumed their fighting with more energy than ever, and succeeded in wounding one soldier—a German.

This is how they did it. A shell burst in the house where our major was, and passing through the roof fell in the barn full of straw. There were in the barn a few soldiers who were not hurt, but who suddenly saw a man falling from the roof, as from the sky. It was a German.

His regiment had left him behind ten days before, and he had carefully hidden himself in the straw, and had spent ten days there without eating anything.

He was of the reserve, father of nine children, and had been wounded in the arm by that German shell. Falling like Cyrano from the moon he found himself to his terror among a group of French soldiers and prayed them not to kill him. He was taken to the major, who gave him some brandy, and then to the doctor, who nursed him.

OIL DEVELOPMENTS IN CLATSOP

MUCH "GAS" IS THE RESULT.

Company Being Organized to Promote the Matter.

Astoria is soon to enter upon a new era of development which will bring out one of the richest natural resources of the west—the oil and gas possibilities.

Steps toward this direction have been taken many times in the past few years, but nothing has ever been presented that proves so tangible as the plan offered by George Chew of the Chew Investment Co.

Mr. Chew, it will be recalled, first offered to subscribe the first \$2,000 toward the organization of a company to prospect for oil and gas in Clatsop county. Today Mr. Chew has a circle of friends around him who are urging immediate organization of such a company. All this has developed since the discovery of oil and gas in Washington state near Tenino, about 50 miles from Astoria.

The Tacoma newspapers have fully set forth the future possibilities of the strike at Tenino and predict that within 30 days several wells will be going down to further prove the practicability of the undertaking.

"There are no better indications for oil and gas anywhere in the country than right here at the mouth of the Columbia river," said Mr. Chew this morning while conversing with some friends. "All we have to do, of course, is to prove it by sinking a good sized hole. That should be done without much delay because there is nothing that will stimulate trade and rehabilitate our commercial interests more than the discovery of natural gas and oil.

"My purpose is to organize a company with \$25,000 of real money in the bank. Home people are to be the investors, thus eliminating the wild cat features.

"There is sufficient interests in Astoria and the west side to make the project a success. Men who have large holdings will see the logic of the movement and support it if they know the money subscribed will be spent in sinking the well."

Manager Struble of the Commercial club has taken up the work and will promote the sentiment through the county to secure the oil leases. A feature will be made of the new development at the noon-day luncheon; December 10, when Mr. Chew has consented to act as chairman. The speakers will deal entirely with the prospects found locally in the oil and gas deposits, and illustrate the necessity of its present development.

If this work is successfully carried out, which there is every reason to believe that it can be, one of the greatest movements for the building of a Greater Astoria will have been started.—Budget.

SCHOOL NECESSITIES

Requirements Not Difficult to Comply With.

Warren School the Only One in the County to Fulfill all the Demands.

Flag—Must be flying, weather permitting.

Schoolhouse—Properly lighted.

Equipment—Teacher's desk and chair; desks for pupils properly adapted and placed; suitable blackboards; windows shaded in good condition.

Heating and Ventilating—Jacketed stove properly situated, minimum requirement; window boards or some other approved method of ventilating.

Rooms—Attractive.

Standard Picture—One new one, unless three are already in the room, framed.

Grounds—To be clean, free from paper, etc. At least three features of play apparatus. Walks, if necessary.

Sanitation—Pure drinking water, either drinking fountain or covered tank and individual drinking cups; individual, family or paper towels. Outbuildings—At least two good ones, to be sanitary at all times and free from marks.

Teacher—Must maintain good order at all times, supervise the playground; have her work well prepared; follow state course of study; take at least one educational journal; have program posted in room; keep register in good condition; be neat in attire.

Library—Good selection of books from state list. Case for the books. Books kept upright in good condition and recorded according to rules specified by Oregon State Library and required by law.

Attendance—Average 92 per cent for year and not to exceed two per cent in tardiness for year.

Length of Term—Not less than eight months of school each year.

As soon as a district fulfills any requirement it will be marked with a star. When all the requirements are fulfilled a suitable pennant or certificate will be awarded by the County Superintendent.

Adopted by the State Board of Education, August 5, 1914.

The above are the requirements for a Standard School in Oregon. These requirements are all so simple and apparently so easy to comply with that it seems that every school in the state would meet them. During the last school year in Columbia County, according to the records, there was just one school in the county that complied with all the requirements. That school was at Warren, and every requirement for a standard school was met. The school at Warren was up to date in every particular, and has earned the distinction of being one of the best of its kind in the state. It is alive to all the late methods and requirements. It comes to the county fair each year, and carries off either first or second prize all the time. The children of the district are in earnest. They take interest in all things which go to make up a successful school. The parents and school officers are also very much interested and lend every aid in making a successful school. The Warren school last year had as principal Prof. J. W. Allen, the present county superintendent, with C. E. Lake, Miss Mary Dahlgrm and Miss Mary Thomas, teacher. This year the same corps of teachers are employed, with the exception of the principal, Prof. Willis L. Duntón having taken the place of Prof. Allen. It is safe to say that Warren will be again one of the leading schools of the county, and unless some extra efforts are put forth by some of the others, will again carry off the honors of the county. There is a disposition, however, in the other schools this year to reach the standard set by the state for the schools, and doubtless others will come up to the requirements this year.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTES.

Wall Mottos Placed As a Means for Inspiration.

The Sophomores will take up the study of Webster's Bunker Hill Orations next week.

The Freshies are studying Washington's Farewell Address in connection with their English.

The Physical Culture girls have begun to take up work with their Indian clubs, which arrived Monday.

The Juniors have just finished Cooper's Spy, which they like very

much. (Not the Spy, but because they have finished it.)

Dr. Enna came down from Portland as usual Monday afternoon to instruct us in the vocal art. It looks like he might forget to come once in a while.

Several new mottos have been placed on the walls by our instructors in the hopes that we may gain some inspiration from them and study a little more.

The following people visited the high school last Wednesday afternoon to hear the program given by the O. N. O. Literary Society, Mesdames Isbister, Goin, Richardson and Cox and Mr. Perry.

Clarence Goin and James Adams, our representatives to the Older Boys' Conference, at McMinnville, arrived home Monday afternoon after a stay of three days. Tuesday morning each of them gave a fine report before the high school. Many well known men gave talks at the conference, which were both helpful and interesting. The boys report as having a fine time and were royally entertained by the citizens of McMinnville.

OLDER BOYS CONFERENCE.

Two St. Helens High School Pupils in Attendance.

The ninth annual State Older Boys' Conference was held at McMinnville on November 27th to 29th. About 260 delegates, representing the various Sunday schools, High schools, Y. M. C. A. Associations of the state, were present, there being 44 towns represented. Addresses were made by prominent men interested in the boys, among them being Rev. Henry Marcotte, of Portland, and Tracy Strong, of the Seattle Y. M. C. A. A unanimous vote was given by the boys against the use of intoxicating liquors and tobacco in any form. On Saturday afternoon several basket ball games were played at the armory and in the evening the ladies of the various churches served a banquet. The closing service was conducted Sunday evening in the Presbyterian church by President C. J. Bushnell, of Pacific University. Before disbanding for the year the boys all joined hands around the big Auditorium and sang "Blest be the Tie That Binds." The conference will be held next year at Salem. St. Helens High School was represented by Clarence Goin and James Adams. Veazie represented the M. E. church. The boys report a very enjoyable time and are loud in their praises of the treatment accorded them by the people of McMinnville.

TEACHER'S EXAMINATION.

Notice is hereby given that the County Superintendent of Columbia County, Oregon, will hold the regular examination of applicants for State Certificates at St. Helens, as follows:

Commencing Wednesday, December 16, 1914, at 9 o'clock a. m., and continuing until Saturday, December 19, 1914, at 4 o'clock p. m.

Wednesday Forenoon.

Writing, U. S. History, Physiology.

Wednesday Afternoon.

Physical Geography, Reading, Composition, Methods in Reading Methods in Arithmetic.

Thursday Forenoon.

Arithmetic, History of Education, Psychology, Methods in Geography.

Thursday Afternoon.

Grammar, Geography, American Literature, Physics, Methods in Language. Thesis for Primary Certificate.

Friday Forenoon.

Theory and Practice, Orthography, English Literature, Chemistry.

Friday Afternoon.

School Law, Geology, Algebra, Civil Government

Saturday Forenoon.

Geometry, Botany.

Saturday Afternoon.

General History, Bookkeeping.

J. W. ALLEN,
County Superintendent

TRENHOLM COMMENTS

Miss Ethel Smith spent Thanksgiving with friends in Portland.

Miss Esther Munurs, of Astoria, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John McAllister over Thanksgiving.

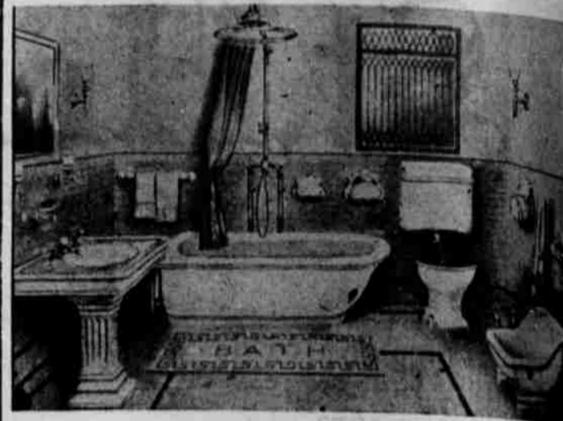
Mr. Morton McAllister, of Astoria, spent Thanksgiving with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Henry McAllister.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ketel were guests of Mrs. Ketel's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, of Houlton, over Thanksgiving.

Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Churchill entertained Mr. and Mrs. Coleen Crouse, of Houlton, and Marie and Loua Hein for Thanksgiving.

A dramatic club is being formed by the young people. Mr. Phill Holden having charge. It promises to be one of the winter features in our little settlement

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THE REXALL STORE

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respond quickly and inexpensively to our treatment. If your car rattles, or does not run smoothly, or jars, or makes too much noise, IT IS TIME TO BRING IT TO US if you want it to last. A dollar or two spent on that car today may save you ten tomorrow, and that is an INDISPUTABLE FACT.

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