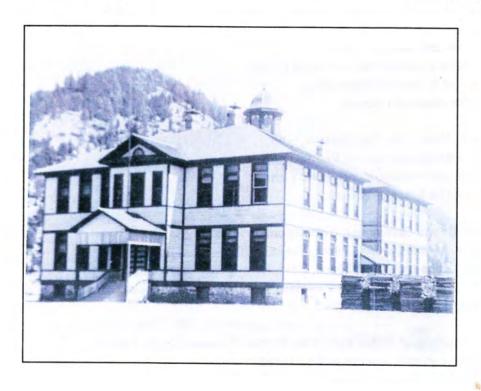
When Bonner Was Young

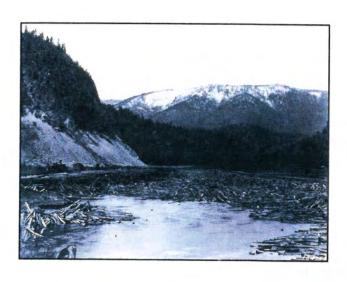
Week IV: March 25, 2009

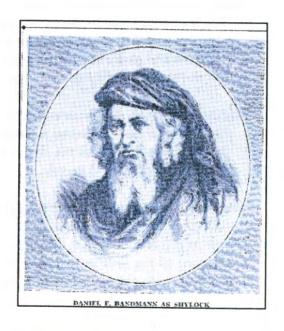
Bonner School



- School Days
- -Shakespeare in Bonner

- Log Drives
- Parting shots





The Song of Bonner

Well, you've got your:

Thibodeau, Cadieux, Cyr and Levesque. ... This is the song of Bonner. Heikkila, Bergseth, Karkanen, Hamma. ... Here is the song of Bonner.

The Suomi Club and George's Café.
Riverside Park, where the band used to play.
Painting the B, the old Engine Shay.
Join in the chorus to Bonner.

The Margaret Hotel, the Club Chateau -- oh, the Black Bridge and second Red Bridge, Blue Slide and Heaven, Marco Flats picnics. These are the lyrics of Bonner.

Akin and Beadle and Castonguay, Disbrow and Erkkila.

Fleming and Gendrow, Hill, Inman, Jones,

Kattelus, Labbe and Moe. Niemi, Otto, Petaja, and Ranstrom,

Secrist, Toivonen, Unger and V iolette. Wisherd, and ol' Arnold Zaugg:
the ABCs of Bonner.

A one-armed ballplayer named Kelly Pine; Ritchie Fontaine Fights Tonight. Log-rolling contests, workup and cutthroat, These are the games of Bonner.

Akerson, Anderson, Big Nels Abrahamson, Carlson, Dodson, Erickson, Gunderson, Hanson, Iverson, Jacobson, Johnson, Larson, Magnusson, Madsen and Matson, Mikkelson, Nelson, Olson and Otterson. Pearson, Peterson, Robinson. Salmonson, Sampson, Swanson and Thompson. Daughters and sons of Bonner.

Wood smoke wafts on a summer night's breeze.

The trail back home is coated with leaves.

Roars of an ice break on rivers upstream.

Tadpoles stir gladly in the frog pond ... these are the seasons and songs of Bonner.

Old Piltzville homes, Milltown's intrigues,
Pine Grove at night when the moon shines through,
Silk Stocking Row 'cross the street from the White House,
these are the heart of Bonner.

Leaving the Donkey House as the sun sets

Caulks crinkling on the Boom.

Pike pole in hand, peavy on shoulder,
the song of the river is disturbed by
the crescendo as another load of logs hits the water.

Soon he is dancing and prancing from log to log
the night upriver wind changes the tempo.
It takes two men to keep the logs in line
In the distance the whoosh, woosh of the debarker.
Then splash as clean logs hit the water
in the lower pond.

Mr. Fifield keeps logs lined for East and West slips.
Then caulks crinkling on the boom
Pike pole in hand, peavy on shoulder,
Back to the donkey shack and home.
We will leave that jackpot for dayshift.

Timberjacks sawed logs in the
Blackfoot Valley and beyond:
So Lumberjacks at Bonner could make
lumber with pride and precision:
Building a strong America was part of our mission.
God—Family-- Country

Bonner Bonner

Your history, not everyone knows, The Indians, the Mill & Harold's Club Hotel Margaret Buried under the snow.

Many old houses sitting

empty
Waiting to find their fate.
The one that
I remember is Blue 69.
The gardening & going fishing, we went many times
The mill yard now is empty everything so still
The smell of lumber still lingers
I guess it always will.

ADD YOUR STANZA(S) HERE. 14 of 86 complete

E-mail to Kim Briggeman at klbrig@aol.com or mail to 4250 Lochsa Lane, Missoula 59802



Some Bonner School highlights (1889-1976)

Jan. 16, 1889: Henry Hammond gives dance to celebrate completion of Masonic Lodge, or Bonner Hall. Served as first school until 1907.

1899 - Bonner School female principal, Mrs. Marion E. Jones.

1901 – Bonner School closed twice, in spring to smallpox and in November when Willie Newport, 10, came down with scarlet fever.

1906 - First school bond election to purchase site and build school.

1907 - September: New two-story school opened..

1911 – September: Bond issue passed to build four more rooms on the back of the school in anticipation of increased attendance from Western Lumber Co. Mill opening.

1911 – October: School trustees vote unanimously to pay streetcar fare for Bonner graduates to attend county high school in Missoula.

1912 - September: Bonner School began offering manual training.

1913 - William Akin begins 31 years as principal. Retires in 1945.

1918 - Polio (flu?) epidemic results in several deaths and closes school. Closed for that reason when World War I ended on Nov. 11.

1926 - Dec. 19: Sunday Missoulian includes feature story "Unique Institution Is Bonner Milltown School"

1930 - Guy Trenary begins 26-year career as school clerk.

1948 - School building finished: combination gym, auditorium, kitchen and dining room.

1949 - Sept. 16: First meeting of Bonner School PTA in gym. 70 charter members.

1952 - Band program started.

1957 - January: New brick school building opens for business, replacing two-story wooden school.

1957 - Walter Hook donates mural to school.

1958 - July: First school bus arrives. Driven over the years by Frank Anderson, Dennis Ruana, George Otto and Leo Dufresne.

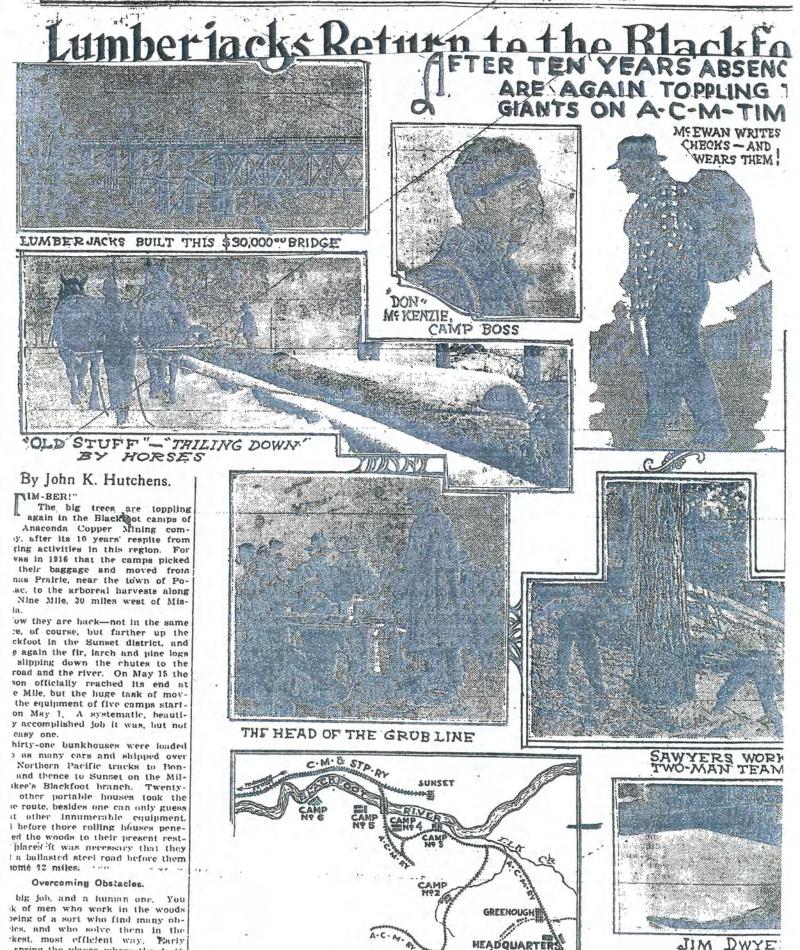
1962 – Maurice Darrington begins record 42-year career as third-grade teacher.

1969 – September: Middle addition to Bonner School opens. Six classrooms, office, library, band room, typing room and science rooms included. School enrollment nearly 375.

1976 – April: Bicentennial and open house to celebrate publication of "A Grass Roots Tribute: the Story of Bonner, Montana" largely conceived, written and edited by school personnel.



Ella Falligan



spring the places where the A. C. five camps now rest were quiet peaceful. Now there are 17,000,-

BLACKFOOT DRIVE IS COMPLETED

TWENTY-TWO MILLION FEET OF SAWLOGS IN MILL PONDS AT BONNER.

The drive on the Blackfoot river is completed with the exception of that on Salmon lake and the drive at that place is expected to commence in a few weeks.

Jack Shoblom, who has charge of the drive this spring for the Big Blackfoot Milling company, arrived in the city yesterday and states that all of the landings in the Clearwater, Camas Prairie. McNamaru's and the railroad landings have all been floated and nearly 22,000,000 feet of logs are ready to be cut in the mill pond at Bonner. About 10,000,000 feet are tied up in Salmon lake and it is not known definitely whether they will be driven to the mill or not. It would be impossible to make the drive at present on account of the low water, but Mr. Shoblom says that if the water rises he will at once start the drive. The drive this year has been made under great disadvantages, as there has been a scarcity of water, which is absolutely necessary to the lumbermen when they depend upon getting the logs to the mill pond by that means. Mr. Shoblom states that if the company had not been equipped with the railroad facilities which were put in last year, the drive this spring could never have been made. The company have at least 12 miles of railroad running back into the deeply timbered section of the country and the saw logs are hauled from the stumps to the landings along the river, a dis-tance of amout 15 miles from the mili From the landings the logs at Bonner. are shot into the river and driven to the mill. The river is quite deep direct. ly below the McNamara landing and with the exception of two or three shallow places, known as the "Blue shallow places, known as the "Blue Slide," "Bad Man's Island," and Slide." Quirk LaFrey's," the drive can always be made. The mill is running full blast at present and it is the order that it will be in operation throughout the season.

The mill has a capacity of about 250,000 a day and it takes many million feet of logs in the pond to insure a season's cut. Nearly all of the rivermen are in from the drive and will spend several days taking in the sights before returning for the Salmon lake drive. Mr. Shoblom states that the company does not necessarily need the longs on Salmon lake, but if the water rises the drive will be made. The railroad bed is in fine shaps and train loads of logs are daily hauled.

to the landings and piled.

J. R. Toole, president of the Big Blackfoot company arrived in the city yesterday afternoon from Bonner and says that he is more than pleased with the fact that the drive is in and that a good season's cut will be made. Mill, platter and hox factory are running fulblast and about 15 carloads of lumber per day are being shipped to eastern market

LOG LOADING RECORD IS BROKEN

BIG BLACKFOOT CREW PUTS 210,-150 FEET ON TRAIN IN EIGHT HOURS.

George Fox, a scaler in the employ of the Big Blackfoot Milling company, was in the city yesterday and tells of a record breaking feat accomplished by the loaders of a logging train on the Big Blackfoot railroad a day or two ago. Forty-five cars were loaded in eight hours with a steam log loader and a crew of seven men. There were 1,265 logs in the load and they scaled 210.150 feet by accurate measurement. Some of the cars contained as many as 47 logs. Under ordinary circumstances from 130,000 to 140,000 feet represents eight hours' work and the work of the crew makes it the record for the entire logging country. Throughout the logging district there is keen rivalry among the lumberjacks as to the championship of the loaders and the belt is now rightly the property of the Big Blackfoot boys, provided such a trophy was offered for log loaders.

Practically everything depends on the engineer in the successful loading of a logging train and Engineer Clem Henry had charge of the operations when the record was made. William Engalls is the head loader of the crew and every member was expert at the particular place to which he was assigned.

Mr. Fox stated last evening that the conditions for fast loading were not the most favorable when this record was made and that the crew intended making another effort in the next few days and they are confident that they will load at least a quarter of a million feet of logs at the next trial.

The steam loader has been in use by the Big Blackfoot company for the past two seasons and has greatly simplified the work of log loading. Under the most favorable circumstances when a team of horses and crew of men load in the old fashioned way. 50,000 feet of logs is an exceedingly good day's work.

Tonight-Grand Opening-Tonight.
"The Belvidere" saloon, formerly the

ANNUAL LOG DRIVE IS FINISHED

TWENTY-FIVE MILLION FEET ARE FLOATED 75 MILES TO THE BONNER MILL POND

After 50 days of hard work the crew of half a hundred men under Dominick Ferguson yesterday finished the annual log drive of the Big Blackfoot Lumber company and in the mill pond above the Bonner plant now repose about 35,000,000 feet of fine logs awaiting the saw. Of this jam 25,000,000 feet were in the last drive and represent the total cut of the last season. everything being cleaned up along the river that had been cut clear to the upper Blackfoot camps above Cedar and Salmon lakes, a distance of 75 miles. The logs now in the pond will be plenty perhaps too many - for the full season's run of the big plant.

The annual drive was completed in good season and although it required some days longer than was expected very little trouble was experienced, the water being at a good stage. A large portion of the logs had to be sluiced through both Cedar and Salmon lakes and on account of strong west winds that prevailed progress was slow across those bodies of water. Otherwise the logs came booming along fine and jammed up neatly against the 10,000,000 feet in the Bonner pond left over from last year's

With the finish of the annual drive the last two logging camps on the upper Blackfoot have been discontinued for the season and 250 lumberjacks came out of the woods to civilization. They were in much evidence about the city yesterday. However, a majority of them will be employed during the summer and fall at the mill at Bonner which is now running regular capacity.

Drive the River Down

For it's break the rollways* out, my boys, and let the big sticks slide!

And file your calks** and grease your boots and start upon the drive.

A hundred miles of water is the nearest way to town;

So tie into the tail of her and keep her hustling down.

There's some poor lads will never lift a peavey*** hook again.

Nor hear the trees crack with the frost, nor feel a warm spring rain.

'Twas falling timber, rolling logs, that handed them their time;

It was their luck to get it so, it may be yours or mine.

But break the rollways out, my lads, and let the big sticks slide.

For one man killed within the woods, ten drownded on the drive.

So make your peace before you take the nearest way to town,

While lads that are in heaven, watch the drive go down.

Old ballad

^{*} rollway - The landing where logs are piled during winter by the lumberjaks in preparation for the river drive.

^{**} calks - Sharp, pointed metal spikes protruding from the soles and heels of a riverman's boots to allow surer footing on logs

^{***} **peavey** – a stout wooden lever for rolling logs, equipped with a curved hook on the side and a spike in the end.

V MISSOTT

MISSOULA, MONTANA, FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 24, 1905.

TORE TO COMPLY RECUEST IC S AFFAIR.

New, 22.-The sultan made approving the nends of the newers control of the finances Whether the rejection additional less not been

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the first day, an strong wheel.

Apparently In the Best of Health Until Yesterday Afternoon When He Was Seized With a Severe Attack of Indigestion -Succumbs Before Physician Arrives.

he afternoon. Mr.) andwann had not been alling for any length of time, having been in Missoula only two days previous, when he looked hale note in re- and hearty and spent the greater part of the afternoon in conversing with by a former wife, who is a resident his triends in his characteristic way.

The news of his sudden death test night come as a great surprise to a complete of his friends. Early in the most prominent figures on the Amer-Terry afterward played the leading evening to Medall was summoned to ican store. His ability as an actor hap's pure with Sir Henry Irving. number of his friends. Early in the most prominent figures on the Ameroftend the patient. He was then surfering intensely from acute indigention, the shock proving so great that his heart bounds affected. He kept esteem of his audiences. gradually sinking coil) life sobled away, with his wife and four devoted thermany, in 1829. His ability as Tennyson although he dearly loved children by his bedside as he breathed hie last.

home at 10 o'clock last night, but it of 21 Daniel E. Bandmann was a star was not until 3 o'cleck this meening in Germany. So great was his suc- "Thanatonsis," which probably every body that he brought the news to town

Daniel II. Handmann came to Misula about 10 years are, having thed honors. of the stage in the old age. He purchases a sunch within the vicinity of roles Mr. Dandaishn ranked among to join that innumerable cardyan fold Bonder, where he has since resided, the first actors of the country. For the draperies of thy couch about these Propolity in ----

Ab- policitate, Nov. 3.449

o Mil Minner Sher Mar-

It spal witness called

ety so eventful

Daviel E. Pandmann, the once emi-nent tragedian, due at his ranch near culture and he had atways taken a Bonner shortly after a weight last most active and prominent part in the his American career in New York and h night of heart failure, brought on by deliberations of the state meetings came west, where he was redcomed an newto arrach of indigesten early in and has done touch for the tecomotion everywhere. of the cause of the farmer.

Daniel E. Bandmann leaves a Among his favorate plays of the East

Born in Germany.

gave up the stage as a career he had latter's death in England. won for himself a high place in the

his father had wen success on the Dr. McCall arrived at the Bandmann stage in the fatherland. At the age cess that he was induced to come to person in Missoula has had the pleas-

he state had a persons in the West who itself ber-

***** WILL MAKE THEIR

THREAT GOOD

years ago but have had the pleasure s of seeing aim at his best. He began

Shakespearean Scholer.

widow and four children in Missoula, "Hamlet," "Merchant of Venice," the youngest of whom is about four "Richelleu" and "Richard III." His months old, and a grown no daughter Shylock was counted to be among his

In the early days Mr Bandmann in the early days an ountries with the me made a cour of several countries with scarted Liberty Daniel E. Bandmann was one of the Ellen Terry as his leading lady. Efter was unquestioned and long before he and was with him at the time of the

Mr. Baudmann was a polished gentiomen, sind a profound student of Mr. Bandmann was born in Cassel, literature. His favorite poet was you an actor was inherited, for before him Longiellers, who when he was alive fire be often spoke of as one of his

One of his favorite recitations America, where he attained higher are of hearing him regite. He had the often stried that his purpose was to As an interpreter of Shukaspearean "so live but when thy summons come

ATAL SHOOTING AFFRAY OC CURS IN THE LITTLE NA-PLES DANCE HALL.

police to how

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body and whining.

The police say that the friend the Liberty game, whose name a made the pretent for the fight. John Batte, who was wounded at Little Nantes hast Tuesday morn. The police also believe that a quality over the division of election mowan the original enurs of the high

REQUISITION IS GEAMTE

Bismarck, N. D., Nov. 23, carles today granted the the Montana governor i addition of William H. Den-ith conspiracy with The governor 1

i.e.den .cov. ? .- The per-shient remeat of the Turkish amornment to accept European entrop of the revenues of the vet of Macedonic, notwith-time into attinatum present-tine allied powers, is about the terror persons. Special to The Tells Missesian. to the putting into en-

Special to 10 Tests Measures. Helena November of the potential of the meaning of the law. The first requisition for Denny from the potential of the potential

fraud in territory, som my, United States Attorney Rosell the commenced equity proceedings in the fallent sourt on beha, of the government on Hydr. 4. Penson of Stallforn Western Lumber company, the Millar company, school d

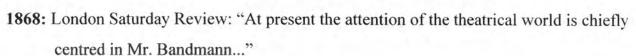
Daniel E. Bandmann (1837-1905)

1840: Born in Bettenhausen, Hessen, Germany

1855: Stage debut in Germany

1858: U.S. stage debut, at German theater in Bowery in New York

1863: Broadway and English theater debut; Niblos in New York as Shylock in "Merchant of Venice



1869: Married actress Millicent Palmer from Lancaster, England. Took troupe to Australia.

1879-1884: Toured with Louise Baudet and troupe to Australia, New Zealand, India, China, Singapore and Hawaii

1884: (June) Played in Missoula to help open of Maguire's Opera House, a remodeled livery stable on the south side of W. Main. Buys 80 acres near Florence and forms cattle parnership with Robert Childs of Florence.

1885: "An Actor's Tour, or Seventy Thousand Miles with Shakespeare" published.

1887: Buys first two of five ranches in Hellgate canyon; prepares to retire from professional acting. Raises Holsteins, horses, pigs, chickens and apples.

1892: Divorces Millicent and marries a student, Mary Kelly. Eva Bandmann born, first of four children with Mary. Followed by Susan (1893), Hebe (1895) and Daniel (1904).

1893: Suffers severe monetary losses in Great Panic of '93. Goes back to acting to pay bills.

1899: Declares war on San Jose scale bug that threatens Montana apples.

1900: Produces and stars in "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" at the Missoula Empire Theater

1905: Sells option for 20 acres to William A. Clark's interests to build hydroelectric dam.

Nov. 23 Dies unexpectedly at age 68 of heart failure at Bandmann ranch.

Nov. 26 Buried at Missoula Valley cemetery

1911: Feb. 24 fire destroys Bandmann house, including the late actor's writings and wardrobe. Family lived in town.



Making Certain It Goes On

At last the Big Blackfoot river
has risen high enough to again cover the stones
dry too many months. Trout return
from summer harbor deep in the waters
of the power company dam. High on the bank
where he knows the river won't reach
the drunk fisherman tries to focus on
a possible strike, and tries to ignore
the hymn coming from the white frame church.
The stone he leans against, bleached out dull gray,
underwater looked beautiful and blue.
The young minister had hoped for a better parish,
say one with bells that sound gold
and a congregation that doesn't stop coming
when the mill shuts down.

We love to imagine a giant bull trout or a lunker rainbow will grab the drunk fisherman's bait and shock the drunk fisherman out of his recurrent afternoon dream and into the world of real sky and real water. We love to imagine the drought has ended, the high water will stay, the excess irrigate crops, the mill reopen, the workers go back to work, lovers reassume plans to be married. One lover, also the son of the drunk fisherman, by now asleep on the bank for no trout worth imagining has come, will not invite his father to the happy occasion though his father will show up sober and properly dressed, and the son will no longer be sure of the source of the shame he has always rehearsed.

Next summer the river will recede, the stones bleach out to their dullest possible shade. The fisherman will slide bleary down the bank and trade in any chance he has of getting a strike for some old durable dream, a dream that will keep out the hymn coming again from the church. The workers will be back full shift. The power company will lower the water in the dam to make repairs, make repairs and raise rates. The drunk fisherman will wait for the day his son returns, divorced and bitter and swearing revenge on what the old man has come to believe is only water rising and falling on climatic schedule.

That summer came and is gone. And everything we predicted happened, including the death of the fisherman. We didn't mention that before, but we knew and we don't lie to look good. We didn't foresee the son would never return.

This brings us to us, and our set lines set deep on the bottom. We're going all out for the big ones. A new technology keeps the water level steady year round. The company dam is self cleaning.

In this dreamy summer air you and I dreamily plan a statue commemorating the unknown fisherman. The stone will bear no inscription and that deliberate anonymity will start enough rumors to keep the mill operating, big trout nosing the surface, the church reforming white frame into handsome blue stone, and this community going strong another hundred years.

- Richard Hugo

From "Making Certain It Goes On" 1983, W.W. Norton & Co.

Thanks everyone for coming, listening and sharing this month. Now that we're through, there's just one thing left to do:

Write it down.

Your memories and thoughts, poems, sketches, verses to "The Song of Bonner" ... the history that you have in your head ... any Bonner-related subject from the 19^{th} , 20^{th} or 21^{st} centuries will do

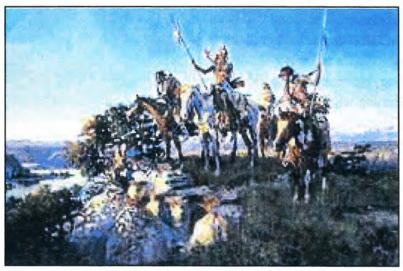
Get it on paper or it will be lost. Don't worry about form or style.

Write it down.

Imagine the collection we could produce together from these "When Bonner Was Young" forums.

Write it down. If you care to share what your writings, I'd be honored to collect them and some day (I'm not promising when) we'll put them together and publish them.

Send to me at klbrig@aol.com or Kim Briggeman, 4250 Lochsa Lane, Missoula, MT 59802. Phone: 549-7180



"The Fireboat" Charles M. Russell, 1918