

# Two More Soldier Boys Die

Fred Leroy and Raymond Fry Give  
Their Lives for Their  
Country.

## TWO OF GRINNELL'S BEST YOUNG SOLDIERS

Beautiful Testimonies to Their Character and Usefulness — Two Fine Men Gone.

It seems to have been the lot of Grinnell's soldier boys to meet misfortune in a bunch. Since enlistment and mobilization in April, 1917, no death has occurred among the Grinnell boys.



Fred Leroy.

well soldiers until a few days ago.

Before war broke out with Germany, there had been but one recent death, that of Frank W. Bradley, son of Mrs. Rose Bradley, who died May 21, 1917, on the Mexican border and was buried at Grinnell. Of him Capt. E. S. Evans once said to the writer, that he was one of the brainiest soldiers he knew and had his life been spared longer he would soon have won the bar of a commissioned officer.

The first in this vicinity to give his life for democracy was Dawson Peugh who died Sept. 21, at Camp Cody and was buried at Grinnell, Sept. 25. Of this manly soldier much had already been written, and of his good traits much more could be said.

The first life to go out, of the soldier boys who lived in the city of Grinnell, was Fred Leroy, who had lived here since he was nine years old, who was educated here in the public schools and who learned here the trade of a tailor, and was universally liked. He

had made good in his chosen occupation and seemed to have a prosperous future before him in civil life; and after the war broke out became a brave and true soldier.

Following these two deaths came that of Raymond Fry, one of our modest young men of winsome character, kind, courteous, and lovable. It was only last Thursday night that his mother, Mrs. M. G. Fry, started east in response to a telegram that he was seriously ill, but Friday afternoon before his mother could reach his bedside, the sad news came over the wire to his father that his manly son had done his duty by his country and died loving the flag he had gone into the army to protect.

### FRED LEROY.

It has been the good fortune of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Leroy to give two sons to their country, both fine manly fellows. The younger, C. H. Leroy, enlisted in the coast artillery two years ago, in Nov., 1916.

He had learned the profession of a baker at Moyle's bakery and was sent to Ft. Moultrie, S. C. Afterwards he was stationed at Ft. Logan H. Roots, Ark., where he bears the rank of Sergeant at the present time.

The older boy, Fred, learned the trade of cleaner and presser and was employed a couple of years by Clem Lisor. In the winter of 1917 he entered the employ of A. R. Longmeyer, where he stayed until his enlistment April 6, 1917. The day war was declared with Germany, he showed his love for his country by enlisting at Grinnell in the Grinnell company.

Fred Leroy was born at Springfield, Ill., Sept. 23, 1895. His death occurred Sept. 26, 1918, just as he had passed his 23rd birthday. His parents came to Grinnell in 1904 where Mr. Leroy entered the employ of D. A. Lores and Sons as foreman of the paint department. Here Fred entered the Methodist Sunday school, graduating first from the primary department presided over by Mrs. Geo. Armentrout, who speaks in highest praise of his days with her, a bright, happy boy, all could love.

Last Sunday this department honored his memory by arranging to dedicate a golden star to him which will be placed on the service flag of the primary department at an early day with an appropriate program.

More recently Fred entered the Sunday school class of J. J. Mullin whose words of praise are unending. "Fred," he says, "was the finest kind of a boy; everybody liked him." A. R. Longmeyer says: "Never saw a finer young fellow. He was everything that was good."

In his public school life he continued thru two years of the high school and from superintendent and teachers we hear the same kindly and expressive words: "Manly, courteous, lovable."

June 7, 1917, Pvt. Leroy was united in marriage to Miss Evangeline Olson Shoen. It was a very quiet wedding, the ceremony being performed

by Rev. E. W. Cross, who announced that the bride was Grinnell's "first war bride." And now the young and loving bride has become Grinnell's first war widow.

Fred stayed with the company here until they left for Camp Cody and has been with them thro all their fortunes since April, 1917.

The body of the dead soldier reached Grinnell Sunday afternoon accompanied by his friend, Pvt. Gus Larsen, a member of the same company E. 10th Ammunition Train, to which company Fred belonged, and which he served as a "First Class" baker. Gus says he was a fine soldier boy, and that all honored and respected him. He had taken a special course in baking at Camp Cody and had been placed in the "First Class." Pvt. Larsen says that he was always on the job, never did any kicking, obeyed instructions implicitly and thus won alike the admiration of officers and men. Pvt. Larsen says also that Capt. Carney sent word by him to tell Fred's friends that "he was one of his best men. He entered the army and left Grinnell morally clean and that he is returning to Grinnell a clean man and soldier; that at all times he had lived a true manly life and all his friends could be proud of him."

The body on arrival was taken to the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Slater, the parents of the bride, where the coffin was open to be viewed by friends. No handsomer soldier ever adorned a soldier's uniform as he lay with a half smile on his face, as if pleased that he could give his life for the flag which draped the casket. That he was loved and honored by those near and dear to him was evidenced in every word and act.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Leroy say that Fred was always a good boy at home, considerate and obedient; a boy with hardly a fault so mindful was he of their needs and comfort, ready to ask and follow their advice. His mother-in-law adds her testimony with the words: "He was a dear boy."

The funeral services were held at the Methodist church Monday afternoon conducted by Rev. J. M. Brown who made a patriotic and comforting address. The music was by a quartet composed of Mrs. E. A. Black, Mrs. Chas. Stafford, R. W. Reynolds and H. S. Lowrey. They beautifully rendered "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere," "My Jesus As Thou Wilt," and "Abide With Me."

The floral tributes which lent fragrance and beauty to the casket were many and sweet, the gift of soldier boys at Camp Dix, of Captain Carney and of many kind Grinnell friends.

Bearers were soldier boys from the College—Buster Linn Smith and Corporals Ward May, Roscoe Taylor, Jack Heath, Roy Walls, Frank Wilcox and G. Weidz.

The service was a military one and was carried out with a beauty and precision due a brave soldier. The band sounded "taps" at the grave and the soldier boy was lowered to

his last resting place to await the new dawn.

### RAYMOND FRY.

Raymond Fry was born Feb. 21, 1893, in Grinnell, and died at Camp Dix, N. J., Sept. 27, 1918, after a brief illness of pneumonia. He leaves his loving wife, Mrs. Beulah Bond Fry, of Exline, Iowa. It was here, however, she lived for five years and here she met the young man for whom her love was so great that she went to Denning to fulfill the marriage vows, where on July 16, 1918, the words were spoken which made her the wife of this handsome and manly soldier boy.

The happy and cheerful home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mort. Fry, early instilled into Raymond a love for the best in life and his manly and unassuming character made him liked by all.

He learned the trade of a printer and



Raymond Fry.

worked in both shops in Grinnell, but mostly with the Herald where he was rapidly acquiring a proficiency which would ere now have placed him at the head of the profession.

Weak lungs, however, caused the physician who examined him to advise that he seek some other line of work, and to the regret of all in the office and expressing regret himself at the necessity for doing so, he severed his connection with the Herald and entered the clothing store of L. H. Runfort. His name last appears on the Herald payroll on Feb. 21, 1918. Since that date until he entered the army Sept. 19, 1917, he was an efficient salesman at the Runfort—later the McMurray Brothers' clothing store. He was cheerful, cordial and yet so quiet, modest and earnest in his manner that he made friends for himself and for his employer.

L. H. Runfort for whom he clocked the longest says: "He was a fine" (Continued on page 2.)

# Another Soldier's Funeral Held Wednesday Afternoon

Raymond Fry  
Grinnell Herald  
Oct 4 1918

(1 of 2)

The Obsequies of Raymond Fry Held  
Wednesday at the Methodist  
Church Largely Attended.

## A PASTOR'S HIGH TRIBUTE TO SOLDIER DEAD

Members of Masonic Lodge, Relief  
Corps, Pythians Sisters and Royal  
Neighbors Attend Enmasse.

The funeral of the late Raymond Fry was held Wednesday from the Methodist church at 3 o'clock. The esteem in which the young man was held in the community was attested by the large number of citizens who attended—so many that all could not get into the church.

Members of Hermon Masonic Lodge attended in a body as did the ladies representing the Relief Corps, the Pythian Sisters and Royal Neighbors and M. E. Sunday school. The flowers and wreaths sent by friends were profuse and beautiful, especially a flag, the gift of many citizens of Grinnell, composed of red, white and blue flowers. A quartet, composed of Messrs. H. S. Lowrey and M. V. Davis, Mrs. E. A. Black and Mrs. Chas. Stafford sang during the service old familiar hymns—"My Faith Looks Up to Thee," "Jesus Is Mine" and "Nearer My God to Thee."

The service was in charge of Rev. J. M. Brown, pastor of the church. He did not take a text nor preach a sermon. Instead he paid a high tribute to the young man they had come to bury and all the soldiers of America, as well as the ideals they are fighting for. Some of the thoughts expressed are epitomized below:

This war is uniting the people of our country, from the great lakes to the Gulf, as they have never been united before. In the end it will unite the peoples of the whole world closer than before. It means something that England has given a million of her best young men for the cause of freedom. It means something that France has given as many. It means something that our country, the richest and greatest on earth, has entered this great war to help free all the nations of the world from the great scourge that menaces them. Surely such sacrifices will bear results, the bettering of conditions for mankind. It has opened the eyes of the people of Europe that this nation has dedicated her men and resources to winning the war with no idea of reward in increased treasure or territory.

Our boys, whose dead bodies are being brought back to us, have not achieved their ambition as soldiers in fighting for their country, but they