

NEWS FROM HOME

Volume 3 — No. 14

WHITINSVILLE, MASS.

December 1945

Finale . . .

Well, fellows, it has been an honor and privilege for this Committee to have done what little they could to make your stay away from home a little less grim.

We have been criticized by some pretty good people and also by some nitwits but we did the best we could.

It is a little sad winding up this little paper, and if it was no great shakes as a literary masterpiece we are convinced by the thousands of letters we received, for which we want to thank you, that it was appreciated by the folks it was intended for. Most of you boys are home now and, therefore, N.F.H. has served its purpose and now takes its bow.

It has been swell knowing you gals and guys and we are doing our best to get you ALL together in Album form. We hope all of you from Linwood, Northbridge and Whitinsville will very soon send in your photographs so that we can get started. The deadline for photos will have to be December 22, 1945.

In Appreciation

By the Editors

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who helped us so willingly with N.F.H.

To the Whitin Machine Works for their innumerable courtesies, to mention a few—paying for sending out-of-town employees N.F.H.; spending much time, patience and money for our many money-making pictures (shows, dances, etc.) A big thank you—They'll probably have to do it again as we need some more money for the Album;

To the Whitin Community Gym and Village Hall for their help in making our shows, etc., the success they were;

To the Buffum, Flagg and Lynch Drugstores and The Grille and Lavalley's Spa for selling so many of our papers;

To the Paul Whitin Mfg Co., Whitinsville Spinning Ring Co. and Kupfer Bros. go our thanks for the handling of N.F.H.;

A great share goes to that ever-patient Mr. John Magill of the Eagle Printing Co. and his sidekick, Mr. Metcalfe;

To Malcolm Pearson and Carl Dupre for their photographic help;

To all those folks who worked and acted in our plays;

AND, last but not least, thanks to the *individuals* who sold so many of our papers.

Acknowledging Letters from the Boys

By Lawrence Keeler

PVT. GORDON DORE (Uxbridge), Luzon, P. I., writes, "This Ordnance Depot was originally set up to supply the forces which were to invade Japan, but as the war ended so abruptly it was not needed. My job is checking inventory. Batonga was very badly damaged by the war. The place is about 80 miles from Manila. The Filipinos despise the Japs. Tell Mr. John Hey I was asking for him" . . . How about writing to JAMES B. DAVIS, Ward 64, Unit 1, Army Medical Center, Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D. C.? He used to work for the Traffic Dept. under JOHN WASIUK . . . PFC KURT HARDER is coming home and was on Okinawa. . . . JOE DEVANEY S 2/c is serving on the U.S.S. Oklahoma City which took part in the signing of the Japanese Peace Treaty. He won't be back for awhile as someone has to keep their eyes on the Japs. PFC BRENDON DEVANEY is on his way home. He has been overseas for 3 years and wears five battle stars. . . . JOE ROYER S 1/c is on the U.S.S. Boxer CV-21, V 3 P, FPO, San Francisco, Calif. . . . JOE HERBERT SC 2/c (Fisherville) U.S.S. L.S.M. (R) 516, FPO, New York, writes, "I hope to be home soon on leave." . . . DICK WILLIAMS PhM 1/c (Milford) U.S.S. Ruddevoir, FPO San Francisco, writes "On the whole, we have nothing to growl about for we do see a good many more places than the Army and Marines. Some of the fellows even dream of living on some of the Islands with their wives. One of the fellows had to toss his shoes over the side when the announcement of peace became official. Seems he bet they would not give up for another two weeks." . . . PVT. ALBERT GAGNE is at Co. C 4th Bn., Camp Wheeling, Ga. . . . Lt. BOB MULDONIAN? U.S.N.R., 5324 Rock Creek Church Rd., Washington, D. C., writes "Enclosed you will find a picture of myself. It is good to be in Washington again. Take it from me, Norfolk, Va., is no good for duty." . . . PFC GERRIT OPPEWALL, Munich, Germany, writes, "We are supposed to leave sometime the latter part of November. It's three years since I last was in good old Whitinsville. The past five weeks I haven't done any work—just sitting around waiting to get a boat." . . . PVT. JOE DA FONSECA, 244th Q.M. Depot Supply Co., APO 180, San Francisco, writes "Well, it won't be long before I'll be home. I'll be glad to get back into the shop. I don't do anything at all now. I'm still at the Club. Plenty of whiskey, but no women. Thanks for LANGLOIS address." . . . RALPH GILMORE MMS 1/c, Navy 157, Div. 6, FPO, New York, writes "I am at present serv-

(Continued on Next Page)

NEWS FROM HOME

Issued Monthly

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take off the olive drab for the last time, because with it goes the eternal inspections, the long hours of guard duty, the sessions with pots and pans in the kitchen, the necessity of eating beans, stew, hash and spam day after day, etc. I've learned that all the nice guys in the world don't live in Whitins. Congratulations to CARLTON BROWN and his bride—16 battle stars, whew! Right now, like most guys in the European Theatre, I'm sweating out that boat ride in the right direction." . . . HARMON MIEDEMA F 2/c, U.S.S. L.S.T. 486, Subic Bay, P. I. writes, "I was reluctant as hell to get up this morning when they wanted me to go on a working party ashore, but I went anyhow and we had been ashore about ten minutes and this truck came along and I recognized PICHETTE driving. I yelled at him and we yelled at each other and started talking like mad. I was on a working party so I ran up to the officer and asked permission and he refused so I went with him anyhow in his truck. I worked awhile and he went his way. Then right after noon chow I went to his barracks and picked up the N.F.H. I picked up quite a bit of news as we haven't received any mail on board this tub since the early part of September. We've been to Japan twice. I'd like to go to China just to say we've been there. Myself and the Skipper are the only two men on board from Mass. and I have a hellava time to make good the boasts of Mass. with him being as chicken as he is." . . . PFC MIKE JOHNSON, Bat. C 776th FA Bn. APO 562, Antwerp, Belgium, writes "We went to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Loch Lomond, Inverness and Aberdeen. We saw the King and Queen on their visit to Scotland. In Yorkshire we visited the famous moors you read about in Sherlock Holmes' stories, but we found it quite different. It is very beautiful and wild. As you can imagine we met quite a few quaint characters among whom was a young Irish coleen who had the unusual profession of being a professional wrestler. You never would guess by looking at her. Just how I found out is another story. Thanks a lot for RAY SCHAT'S and BOB PIERCE'S address. I was an M.P. on the docks here, but after much bucking on my part I landed this job in battalion headquarters and battery personnel. With only 38 points, I expect to be mayor of this town before I leave. Our new battalion enlisted man's club is really the swellest thing this side of the ocean. Beer and coke are five francs or ten cents. Only members and one guest are allowed—no officers. Girls cannot come in alone and in that way, we keep out a lot of the trash that roams the European streets. The orchestra is one of the best on the Continent." . . . T/4 RAY SCHAT, France, writes "I am now in the 89th Inf. Div. and it is rumored that it will sail the early part of December. I see Holy Cross had a very good football team. I sure hope I make it by Xmas. I've got 72 points and I sure wouldn't have any points at all if it wasn't for the five battle stars I received." . . . S/SGT. ANTHONY PLITOUKE, 194th QM 'GS' Co., APO 751 is at Bremen, Germany. . . . S/SGT STANLEY CIESIELSKI (Uxbridge), Honshu, Japan, writes "I'll be on my way home shortly. I've been a long way since I left home. I first came to Australia and finally to Japan. I'm stationed near Hiroshima, where the first atomic bomb dropped. It's unbelievable until one sees it with his own eyes!" . . . CPL CHRIST OSWALD, Co. B 726th Amph. Tractor Bn., APO 331, San Francisco, writes "I am now stationed on J. E.

Shima and not doing a darn thing only loafing around. The Army is sure slow about finding transportation to get the boys home. We have men with 90 points still here in my outfit. While I was in the hospital at Saipan, ARTHUR BROADHURST was there. I also heard FRANK BROWNING was on Tinian. We are expecting to move over to Okinawa. I guess by now the shop is very nearly reconverted." . . . PFC JOHNNY LAFLASH, Yamogata, Japan, writes "I am coming home. I hope that I will be able to get a job in the shop. I will surely be glad to get home to see my wife and my son. I have a Jap saber and rifle." . . . SGT GEORGE VINCENT, Okinawa Is., writes, "Guess you have heard about the typhoon that struck this place. I hope that's the last. I probably will have to go to Korea first, but expect to leave for the States about November 15th or 20th. Say, you aren't going to let SALLY JONES do that to you, are you? He sure knows how to catch fish. I personally want to thank every one who had anything to do with the N.F.H." . . . LT (jg) HENRY BAILEY, U.S.S. Santee, San Francisco, Calif., writes, "We've been back to Okinawa for passengers (350). That's a big step in the right direction. We are going to pick up another 125 passengers at Pearl Harbor. We're hoping to go around to Norfolk. We may turn around and make more passenger trips. The Santee has been to Formosa, Manila, Okinawa, Wakoyama and Yokosuka. We were ordered to go to Formosa to evacuate prisoners of war. Altogether 1500 prisoners were loaded in two days and we took them to Manila. You may have read about that in the papers. It was an experience I shan't forget. The typhoons get very dull after the tenth one." . . . CLINT WHITING Y 3/c (Millville), (Flag Allowance-Box 21), ComDesPac., Pacific, writes "Duty here (Pearl Harbor) is very good. Chow is very good. You probably read about the hoodlums out here beating up the servicemen with sticks, fists, and even robbing them of their personal belongings. It could be that they are taking their women away. My brother, Russell, should be on his way home from Te Shima!"

PVT. GENE KENNEDY is in the 3706th A.A.F. Sqd. A (Finance Office), Sheppard Field, Texas. . . . LEWIS BURNS, AMM 3/c, c/o Can. Air Trans., Ron. 6, Navy No. 3149, San Francisco, writes "I wonder if you would send me the addresses of the home town boys in Guam as I expect to be going to Guam in a few days. We were originally to start operations in Okinawa but the typhoons wrecked all of our installations. I have met JACK CAWLEY on Samar, Philippines. He expects to be going home soon." . . . PFC MURRAY KEELER, 373 Air. Sr. Sq., 23 Sr. Gr., A.P.O. 980, Seattle (The Aleutians), writes "The food is progressively worse and there are no new rumors. To top it off I bought a case of bootleg beer and found 8 bottles half full and flat. Nothing happens here but the place is deteriorating fast. So are the men. If you write LAURENCE FULLER tell him I have a Navy stove in my hut so am prepared for the worst weather, which is our usual kind." . . . LT. LAURANCE FULLER, U.S.N.R., 10528 Lindbrook Drive, Los Angeles, (24), Cal., writes "Sorry to hear that MURRAY is having such a hard time with points. I think they should count his time with the C.A.P.

(Continued on Next Page)

Acknowledging Letters—cont'd

ing my 18 months in Palermo, Sicily. I was fortunate in being able to leave on a tour to Switzerland. I had a very fine trip and stayed in the cities of Zurich, Bienne, Lucerne, and Bern. While in Zurich, I entered a large department store and what did I see but a Schweiter winder in operation. If I had had more time I would have enjoyed seeing how their methods compare with ours. I expect to be coming home soon."

PFC MAL WHITTEN, 54th Gen. Hospital, APO 503, Tokio, Japan, writes "I am here. I don't exactly know how I got here, but the Army provides people that think up things like this. If you could arrange to send some of those gals you print 'pics' of, the whole outfit would sit up and beg. We have taken over the DOAI Memorial Hospital, built after the Great Earthquake by American funds. It is located within the boundaries of the heart of Tokio and only a block from the Ginza. Today his nibs goes to pray to his ancestors and tries to explain away the war, also to view the Royal Carp, a rare form of fish that has steam heated swimming pools, cripes! We are presenting four movies a week, stage shows, etc. Say Hi to 'CHUB' CONOYER, 'BALDY' BALDWIN, my erstwhile stage son, and to all the G.I.'s that are coming in. Tell them I'm coming and to save one of FRED'S hamburgers for me. See you in March!" . . . T/5 BILL WEBSTER, Cr. C, 82nd Arm'd Ren. Bn., APO 252 Europe writes "It will be a great day when I can

Northbridge News—cont'd

within the past month. They are, Wilfred Bilodeau, Rene Auben, Clarence Roy, Leo Roy, Yvonne Perras of the WACs, Ferdinande Adam, John and Bernard Kuroski, Frank and John Rej, Jessie Brunneau, Charles Lavallee, Leo Paul Barette, George Shaw and John Beaugard. There may have been some more but I tried my best to get them all down.

As most of you boys can realize, here at home as we approach this Christmas of 1945 it is winter. The weather hasn't been too severely cold, but a week or so ago we had our first snow storm and it was a pip. Averaging eight to ten inches in this locality, and with high winds did some fancy drifting. It was a couple of days before we could get dug out, and although we had rain all day yesterday there is still considerable snow left. The morning after the storm we had rather a freak accident down home, when two servicemen from Providence driving to Fort Devens, one of them to get his discharge papers, skidded and failed to make the turn into the bridge down near the "Bungalow Rest", and their car went into the river. Both of the servicemen by using good judgment and remaining calm were able to get out of the machine, but they also had with them a G.I. dog which served in the Army, and had made four parachute jumps with one of the boys who was a paratrooper, and unfortunately the dog drowned. The soldiers were quite upset, and the irony of the situation made it more noticeable, wherein the dog had gone through so many dangerous situations and then died in that manner. Apparently one of the boys had been cautious while in the Army and accumulated a small fortune which he carried in a money belt. They say it was quite a sight up to Lavallee's Restaurant while the boys were getting dried out and drying out many hundreds of dollars. They both stated that it was their training they had received in the Army that gave them the presence of mind to get out of what was an extremely dangerous situation, but by cool thinking they managed, for which we are all very glad.

I guess it has reached close to the time where it is necessary to end this column by not saying "so long till next month", but rather to say "so long till I see you personally."

One word before I close in regard to the album, and again would like to remind you servicemen that we must have your picture to make this last gesture of the NEWS FROM HOME a successful one, so please see that it is sent to Larry Keeler.

So long till I see you.

A Letter from "The Night Owl"

To All the Boys in the Service and Friends—

This being the final issue of our little paper I wish to take this opportunity to thank all who have in anyway assisted me in the compiling of my monthly letter. It has been a very interesting period and I have made some very good friends which I hope to keep for a long, long time. It is

also a happy moment to know, the boys are beginning to arrive home in goodly numbers and that they are taking up where they left off, or going back to school for higher education. I sincerely pray, that the victory has been won for us across the seas will not be lost here at home as it was in World War I and that we shall not have to go out and do it all over again. For I am convinced that if this should happen most of the world would be absolutely destroyed. The people I have worked with on the NFH have been most kind in many ways, in fact I think our little group has become almost like a large family and discussions have been frank and enlightening and it seems too bad that it should break up and dissolve. Of course I am a little premature in saying this as we certainly have a final duty to perform and that is—To complete the album—Some job if I may be allowed to say so. Our Editor-in-Chief Lawrence Keeler has certainly put a lot of time, energy and patience into this undertaking and I wish for him a full measure of success. No one knows what the years may bring and I am sure this album will be read a good many times and many memories will be awakened, especially to those who have taken part in this world's latest tragic drama. The aftermath of war is a terrible thing to behold—the chaos that is around us has to be straightened out—it can only be straightened by practical application of sensible and honest dealings with ourselves, petty jealousies, hatreds, greeds must go if we are to practice the freedoms the boys have fought so hard for—yes—and died for. The Four Freedoms are a fine place to start from and if practiced honestly by ourselves it will be a fertile field for a long and lasting peace. So with this thought I will close hoping that the day is not far distant when all the boys and girls who are now in service will be at their homes following up their peaceful work and pleasures, happy in the thought that they did their duty well and with God's help they arrived home safely. Once again I thank you all and may your lives be long and happy.

From your friend,
James H. Jones

Notes For November

(By Arthur G. Clarke)

War veterans who enjoyed success in 1938-41 period of Top Semi-Professional Basketball have not as yet all returned but the hope is that by Christmas they will all be home to reorganize.

Among those discharged are Frank Lightbown, Fred Tattersall, John Magill, Bill Brosnahan and James Brosnahan.

Those yet to get their H.D.'s are Francis McCool, Jack Ratcliffe, Tom Cawley, Norman Lightbown, Paul Oliver, James Fitzgerald, Arthur Kershaw, James Mateer, John Lash, Roland Graves, Phil Dundas, Leo Martin and Tad Wallace.

Expect to start games after the New Year. Announcement will be made later.

Blackstone Valley Baseball League in 1946? Old-Timers will remember those days of red-hot games and big crowds at every game. There should be meetings

this winter to reorganize those leagues, such as Blackstone, Uxbridge, Northbridge, East Douglas, Fisherville, Millbury and Hopedale. Maybe we could have night games to draw the crowds.

Vail Field, our pride and joy, is still to be improved and it will be one of the finest diamonds around here. We sport-loving fans sure appreciate what the officials of the Whitin Machine Works have done for us on this field.

The Ice Rinks are being prepared by the Kiwanis Club. There is great interest in this project. Young athletes are organizing a Northbridge Hockey Team. We thank the Kiwanis Club for their interest in this sport.

Fish Stories

(By Sally Jones)

Well, this is the end of the trail, but believe me, it has been a lot of fun. I shall miss Doc Barclay's good jokes. Gussie flying around trying to keep everyone busy. The "Old Editor" with his "CROSS IT OUT" or "LET IT GO, IT IS O.K." Trudy, looking for some one to have an argument with and Pat waiting his turn to read his "Shavings From The Pattern Shop". Sam Currie, with his politics, I'll be darned, if a person can tell if he is a Democrat or a Republican. Nora Carr coming up with choice bits of gossip. Tillie Marker smiling and ready to lend a helping hand at all times. Good "Old Mike Marker", serving the egg sandwiches after the meeting and always being the last one to get his. Gramp Case, with his "hang on". Flossie Pielisic, with her nifty news bits. Dan Duggan, usually late but just in time to read his news articles before the close of the meeting. Jimmie Jones, the "Old Night Owl", Ray Adams, who could not find any news after the Silver Rythum Band closed for the duration. Ray Barlow and Cookie Barnes the World War I GI's. Henry Bailey and Tommy Marshall who left the gang early in the war and did a swell job in the service of our country. Also Mrs. Tommy Marshall who did her bit with the hospitals. Bob Wilson was well represented by his good wife. Harold Baszner and his Linwood gossip. Jerry Gaudette, rabid Rockdale booster. Last, but not least, my old friend Gene "Scoops" Kennedy, who was also called into the service of his country. He who never had his story on time, and while the rest of the gang were reading their news, "Scoops," was in the parlor picking on the typewriter with one finger, getting his article ready. But to tell the truth Gene, "I love you like a brother."

Sally

PICTURES

Seropian's Alleys—Front Row—Alethea Hopkins, Catherine Hyland, Elizabeth Phoenix, Clara Hyland. Back Row—Norma Kane, Agnes Plante, Christine Thompson, Ethel McKee.

Sparetime Alleys—Sophie Ellsey, Helen Rymeski, Alice Ellsey, Flora Frieswick, Dot Tattersall, Grace Kazarian, Giggie Lettuccia, Eileen Reilly, Mary McDonald, Helen Duggan, Sharkey Muradian, Penny Egsigian.

Acknowledging Letters—cont'd

patrol as well as his time in the Army. The Navy has finally broken down and established a point system which should let me out January 1st. I'm teaching navigation and seamanship and in addition to other duties have been made Communication Officer and Transportation Officer for the School." . . . PFC LARRIE CHAUVIN, 126th Cml. Proc. Co., A.P.O. 718, Cebu, writes "Rumors around here have us scheduled to leave here for the States some time during the early part of November. I'm keeping my fingers crossed just for luck. I was honored by a visit from JIMMY FORSYTHE. He's the first person from home that I've met since I left the New Hebrides last May. Of course CONRAD ROY, EMILE GEURTIN, WILFRED LeFRANCIS and yours truly. We gabbed about everyone and everything. Had a few beers to help things along. He looks swell and by the looks of him the Army hasn't done him any harm either. He is looking forward to getting home shortly and with more than 70 points his wish should soon be a reality. I'm as hungry as a bear. Pork chops are on the fire and how I love those porkies. I suppose GUSSIE'S little pigs made tender pork chops for someone. The N.F.H. always gets to me on time, for which I'm mighty grateful. Will you please tell HAROLD BASZNER that if he will contact my folks they will be glad to give him whatever picture he desires for the Album. Have a date to go to a dance tonight. Just hope it turns out to be a real good shindig and not a too goody-goody affair. Got a letter from LEO MOORADIAN, who is still back in the New Hebrides. I wonder if he is having as much point trouble as he did with his cats?"

Comdr. FRANCIS BLOUIN, U.S.S. Ingersoll, San Francisco, writes "Now that it's all over you and your staff must be counting up points toward release. The N.F.H. brought me back home so many times." . . . Cpl. BENNIE LEMIEUX (Webster), Brisbane, Queensland, writes "I'll be leaving for home next week after nearly 3 years in this theatre." . . . Cpl. BERNELL JORDAN (Woonsocket) Btry. A, 208 F.A. Bn., A.P.O. 403 (Central Europe), writes "I just came back from the Riviera and I missed the E.T.O. and M.T.O. Baseball Championship. They have quite a few good football teams around here. Our Battery's team won 12 and lost 5 for the season." . . . Cpl. JACK KOOSTRA, Co. F, 5th Inf., A.P.O. 360, 71st Div., writes "Am sweating out a boat. Tandsburg is the city where Hitler was imprisoned and wrote the book 'Mein Kampf.' Seen quite a bit of Germany. Have been stationed in the sports playground—the Prison Camp at Dachau. Give my regards to all the staff and to all the fellows in the Drafting Room." . . . JOE BURROUGHS, Cox, U.S.S., LCS (L) (3) 107, Sasebo, Kyushu, Japan, writes "I've been here since September 23rd and did some patrol duty at Nagasaki. That's the place where the atomic bomb hit. This place looks like a city dump, the way it's flattened. We are getting liberty here in Sasebo but there isn't a thing to do. The shrines are about the most interesting thing to see. I went to a Jap-Catholic Church and it was something:—take off your shoes when entering and kneel down on the straw matting—no pews. Plenty of scuttlebutt about going to China—don't know how true it

is. I've got 70 days more in this outfit. I haven't got a picture of my mug for the Album but I asked my mother to send you one." . . . Sgt. ABIE ASADOORIAN, Saipan, writes "I'm leaving this damned rock for the 'New World'—good old U.S.A. I have 62 points and I'm eligible for a discharge. I've spent almost 4 years in this man's army."

DON WALKER, S 1/c, Box 12, W.S.N.-B., Bremerton, Wash., writes "I met my old pal VERON SKILLARD, EM 2/c aboard his ship, the U.S.S. Penn. He just pulled into Washington a short while ago after seeing our old buddy, ED PARKER, R 2/c, on Guam. We'll all get together some day, Ed, so chin up!" . . . T/5 BILL LYMAN, 1470 Eng. Mt. Co., Camp Gruber, Okla., writes "I've 57 points. I'm feeling just fine now. JAKE SOHIGIAN was telling me he hasn't received any N.F.H. papers since the first of the year. I'm now listening to the Notre Dame-Navy game. It looks bad for the Navy right now. I've just had a letter from the wife and she was telling me the little fellow was asking when I was coming home again. That's the \$64. question." Pfc. JAKE SOHIGIAN, War Dept. Theatre, Camp Gruber, Okla., writes "I expect to be getting home soon for I've been in the service about 4 years. My wife is just as anxious to get home as I am." . . . FRANCIS BURNHAM, MM 3/c, U. S. Naval Hospital, Ward 35, Seattle, Wash., writes "I was at Pt. Barrow, Alaska, right on the Arctic Ocean. Only Eskimos and CB's up there and, of course, polar bears, walrus, seals and whale. The duck hunting was swell. One day I got four out of the air with one shot. I expect to be going east in a few weeks. What are the sportsmen doing back there—shooting ducks or fishing through the ice? If you see JOE BASSETT, let him know I'm still kicking." . . . HATTIE JANE HAMILTON, SK 3/c, Wave Quarters A, Apt. 817, 1809 G St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C., writes "I am sending you my photograph for the Album. I understand my parents have sent you ROY's picture. Will see what I can do about having ALVIN's picture sent to you." . . . 2nd Lt. MURIEL CUMMINGS, 317th Stat. Hosp., A.P.O. 758, writes "I have now arrived in Weisbaden, Germany. It is the nicest hospital I have worked in since coming overseas. As yet I haven't been able to get a picture to send to you. Remember me to GUSSIE."

LEO GUERTIN, 409 No. Fulton, Fresno, 3, Cal., writes "I'm a civilian now. Received my discharge in Boston and now living in California, but will be a Linwood resident again in about a year." . . . RUSS BLAINE, S 1/c (RM) is in U. S. Navy Yard Annex, Pur., c/p Personnel Records Office, Tomkinsville, S. I., N. Y. . . . Pfc. LEO D'ARCANGELO (Milford) is in the western Pacific. . . . RAY CHAUVIN, Ph.M. 3/c, Bldg. 59, U.S.N. Hospital, Chelsea, Mass., writes "I consider myself quite lucky to be stationed near home. My brother, LARRIE, is still overseas. I haven't seen him in nearly two years." . . . Pfc. CROCKY GARABEDIAN, Cp. M, 329th Inf., A.P.O. 83, Raab, Austria, writes "Today the Yankee Division started its first step toward home. Everyone above 60 points was able to go home. We fellows with low points stay and join in with the 83rd. I only wish I was one of them. If things go right I should be home in June. Give my regards to the fellows." . . . Capt. ALBERT ZUIDEMA is in the Thomas England General Hospital, Atlantic City, N. J. . . . PHILIP DION, S 2/c,

27th Spec. N.C.B., Co. B, Okinawa, writes "I see from SALLY JONES' fish stories that the Meadow Pond is still giving up those nice big bass. The last typhoon we had was very bad. It wrecked most of the planes and ruined many shore installations."

Pfc. ROSS RAJOTTE, 714th Eng. Depot Co., A.P.O. 562, France, writes "My wife is getting her papers ready to go to America. I guess I'll be getting a furlough again to Switzerland." . . . Pfc. STOCKROOM BOB THERRIEN (No. Uxbridge), Hq. Hq. Sqdn., Prov. Fire Fighters Div., 315 Bomb Wing, A.P.O. 182, Guam, writes "I sure did enjoy reading HAROLD CASE'S write-up about 'Construction Will Follow Destruction.' He sure did not overlook a single thing. Great changes are following in the wave of peace. Even more so on an island like this, where each day what used to be a patch of thick jungle now displays to the human eye roads, buildings and new and better runways built by men and young men who probably never cared or fully realized just how much he could do if he really wanted to until the U. S. gave him the chance to better himself. It's a great world but it never can be any greater than what the individual person so desires to make it for himself. LT. RILEY is one hard boy to get in touch with."

"WHITEY" WHITE, GM3/c, Armed Guard Unit, SS. Andreas, Honchorenko, writes "I met Sgt. Joe Laverdiere at Iwo Jima. We are all hoping the ship returns to the States from Saipan. I'll be eligible for discharge February." JOE POYER PhM 3/c, USS Boxer, writes "Could you get me any information on how the camera club is coming along?" Cpl. GEORGE TUPPER 234 Gen. Hosp. APO 629, N.Y. writes "I'm sending you a few pictures. We had a nice Thanksgiving in India, but not as good as home. We didn't see much sun for four months. I expect to be in the States again soon." JOHNNIE DEMARS S 1/c, USS Portsmouth (CL-102) N.Y. writes "We are due to pull out for Liverpool, Eng. in the morning." ED RILEY PhM 3/c, Co. I 3rd Bn. 2nd Marines writes "I was on Saipan until Sept. 23, and met Art Broadhurst, Abie Asadoorian and Bob Smith there. I was in Nagasaki for 6 weeks, the atom bomb rather flattened the place out. I came to Miyakamajo last week and met Charlie Reneau on the LST." Pvt. HATTIE AMES writes "I was married Nov. 10 in California." Mrs. GALE R. DUNBAR, 638 - 31st St., Des Moines, Ia., "You couldn't get me out of the army on a bet if I wasn't married."

"Shavings" from the Pattern Shop

(By Patrick A. McGovern)

In last month's issue I told you about a new certain make automobile that had appeared in a showroom on Church St. Have I been taken for a ride ever since. I was accused of advertising said make of car and even told I was either in with the dealer or trying to get in right with him. And the funny part of it is I drive a car made by an entirely different company. B-o-y, a fellow must be careful about what he says (or writes) these days. Oh, well! such is life.

(Continued on next page)

"Shavings"—cont'd

I also told you about seeing turkeys, sheep and horses on various Church Street grounds. Well, sir, Sunday last old Dobbin got all hitched up for as I walked down town I heard all these sleigh bells ringing. Around the corner in a full dress winter sleigh came our town official—Counsel Barry. Who said we weren't still in a "country" town? These are the things that make our town "home"—just a bit different from the rest. Did the boys in the Pattern Shop get a great big thrill recently when Sgt. Raymond Remillard of the famous "six" star family walked in! Ray has been in Iran for two and a half years. He had much to tell us of course. He visited the Holy Land and its places of interest. On a visit to Rome he had an audience with the Pope. Ray managed to put on a little weight and certainly looks wonderful. Handsome Bill Allen of Milford (take note—bachelor girls) returned to work with us. He spent his time in service in Italy as an engineer in the 15th Air Force. The Granite Street "Hen Coup Club" has its members returning. Jimmie Graham is back looking perfectly fine. Eddie Helland will be detained in service for a while with a shattered foot bone which he received in E.T.O. Otherwise he's fine and expects his foot will come along OK.

Jack Foley, a third member of the gang (remember I wrote about them a long time back being scattered all over the world), is also a full fledged civilian. It's certainly fine to see them all again and listen to their experiences in the far off lands.

It's Merry Christmas again and Sir Editor says it's the last time we'll be saying it to you all. Here's hoping it will be the Merriest of All. It will be for many, I know, who will be here at home and for those of you still counting points or waiting for boats. Make it Merry and I'll be SEEING you at the next one.

Society Column

(By the Society Editors)

Here's our first post-war Xmas and a very merry one it will be for many, we have all the "go-with-its" too, plenty of snow—winter came in with a rush on Nov. 30th—nice frosty mornings when everyone LOVES to get up and the he-man shovels the coal inside and the snow outside—and the shopping crowds which are truly SOMETHING—everyone running around trying to get what hasn't been re-converted yet. Someone says "Nylon" and there's a mad rush, no one knows whether it's for stockings, hair-brushes or raincoats—but it sounds good anyway and p'raps we can say "Merry Christmas" just the same even if we don't reach the front of the line.

Many were the weddings of the past few weeks—Miss Rita Docharme of Fisherville became the bride of William O'Brien of Border Street; Miss Pauline Alice Jones of Uxbridge, a member of the W.M.W. secretarial staff was married on Nov. 24th to Lt. Eugene Allan Powers of Evanston, Illinois. At a 4 o'clock ceremony at Village Congregational Church on Nov. 24th Miss Alice Lois Reed Browning and Chief Commissary Steward John Jessen, Jr., were married by Rev. Horace G. Robson—on the same day, Nov. 24th,

Rev. Glenn D. Glazier united Miss Isabelle May Robertson and Howard Kenneth Anderson of Grafton. Miss Elveena Lafleur became the bride of Albert Kostelyk of Chicago at a ceremony in Christian Reformed Church on Nov. 28th. In Washington, D. C., Miss Sadie Ann DeBoer of B Street was married to AerM 3/c Richard Stewart, U.S.N.R., by Rev. George L. Conner at the Methodist parsonage. Rev. Walter Hogan of Uxbridge united Miss Ida Tabor of that town and Frank De Jong of D Street. At St. Patrick's Church on Dec. 10th Miss Mary Driscoll became the bride of Mr. Bernard Smith of Hartford, Conn.

Mr. and Mrs. Ysbrand Fappema of Prospect Street had a fiftieth wedding anniversary on Thanksgiving Day which they celebrated with open house. Nov. 24th was the 25th wedding anniversary date for Mr. and Mrs. Herman Oppewall of Providence Road. Mr. and Mrs. John M. Murphy of East Douglas have announced the engagement of their daughter Geraldine E. Murphy to John K. Foley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah J. Foley of Linwood Avenue.

This is the FOURTH Merry Christmas that NEWS FROM HOME has wished you. At least there's no shootin' this year and to those of you yet in the far-off places we hope it will be your turn to join the fortunate ones who are home for this Xmas soon—this DURATION is a long lasting thing isn't it? Here's to all of you from all of us A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

This and That

(By Augusta Winchell Lorenz)

This is it! The finis to N.F.H.

I thought it was going to be great fun writing this last article. I was going to razz people and be as fresh as only I can be but somehow the wind has been taken out of my sails. It doesn't seem to matter any more whether people objected to our sense of humor, or our language, or what have you. The main thing is the War is over and the majority of the boys and girls are back home.

To what? I believe to a reasonably happy community. Let's try and make it so. No one is more aware of the fact that everything isn't sunshine and roses around here any more than any other place but that can all be straightened out. Let's do it. If something is slightly odiferous let's find out where the odor comes from and go to the proper people and clean it up. Why should the community suffer for things that could be straightened out by a little talk by everybody concerned.

I've lived in this town for nine years and I like it, and I like the people I've worked for. True, they are not perfect, but neither am I. They don't see eye to eye with me in some things, nor do I with them, but I make my living by them and I try to give something in return. It's got to be that way or the most unhappy time is ahead for everybody. So, let's find out what is wrong and rectify it quick before we are in a mess.

Don't just say "Oh! it's the Times, it's in the air, this unrest." All you fellows who have fought so gallantly in this War deserve the best of things when you get back and I hope you won't be disillusioned.

Plummers News

(By Florence Pieliski)

Well, here we go on our last edition. Somehow it's hard to write finis to this monthly scrimmage for the dead line as Plummers still has some 70-odd boys scattered around the globe, I don't know the exact number discharged but my guess is about 30, and all of us, I know, in our own way often think of the 6 boys from our neighborhood who will not return.

This has been an active month for discharges and here there are: Jimmy Guyette left his C.B. worries behind at Davisville, R. I.

Sgt. Pee Wee Lachapelle who served several years in E.T.O. is enjoying a rest period before resuming work. T/4 Pete Zayonc after much delay and transfers is sporting civvies and catching up on sleep. Pete can't seem to believe he's really home. It's really true, Pete, for I was no dream you were talking to, that was me in the flesh, ouch! Sgt. Bob Brown is home for keeps according to the government but his wife worries how to keep him home nights—it seems that the boys have a lot to say to each other and every fellow is toasted back to civvies.

Sgt. Johnny Chiras with 5 years service is busy visiting with the old gang and the old familiar places. Eddie Norian has accepted his discharge with pleasure and is now a college Joe, good luck Ed. and remember the buck privates won't do your home work for you. Sgt. Archie Gigarjian, a veteran of several years is gradually understanding the art of vacationing. Sgt. Abraham Asadoorian spent several years island hopping in the Pacific and undoubtedly will have many a tale to swap with his two discharged brothers. His brother Lt. Leo is still in Italy, wonder if Leo is going into the wine business—any samples? John Romanoski of the Navy and Chet Rymeski of the C.B.s are both out. I thought Craggy Peak was a little livelier lately, must be their neighborly dickerings on who won the war. Cpl. Tony Rymeski, an E.T.O. vet. and 3 year man, received his discharge. It seems good to see Frank Boratyn sporting a—oh so trim—mustache and a new car. Frank was in the Pacific for several years with the C.B.s and plans to be a college boy come January—who's books you gonna carry? That former rate setter, former athletic director in Jap land and former C.B. Art Broadhurst is now a civilian. Broady no doubt will visit the corner to join in the chorus of "Back Home For Keeps" and wash it down with a coke—say I never did hear if you got your bottle of soda water back, huh?

Lt. Marg. Karoty arrived home and is enjoying her terminal leave, her automatic discharge will come thru Feb. 12. Marge spent one and a half years in E.T.O., previously she was stationed in the Pacific for 8 months. She's tickled pink to be home but glad that she was able to care for our boys over there. We know you did a swell job, Marge, and there must be many a soldier who was mighty glad to have a nurse as capable as you.

(Continued on Next Page)



In Memoriam

Oliver Ashton

Frank Berkowicz

Francis Bonoyer

Floyd Convent

Harvey Duquette

William Girard

Edward Haringa

Philip Hathaway

Douglas Henderson

Leonard Howard

Royal E. Jefferson

Andrew Keyes

Stanley Kmiotek

Donat Lachapelle

David Laflash

Edward Lafrancois

Roland Lalone

Wilfred Landry

Daniel McEndy

Paul J. McNeil

George Malboeuf

Charles Mantel

Christopher May

John Meadowcroft

Allan Middleton

Varonjian Mooradian

John Moran

Richard Moran

Kegham Nigohosian

Roland Nolet

Peter Ovian

Walter Paige

Eli Potty

Henry Prunier, Jr.

Charles L. Randall, Jr.

James D. Scott

Alfred Seagraves

Pryce O. Spencer

Edward Tebeau

Edward Terjanian

Stanley Thomas

Henry Trajanowski

Ernest Vaillancourt

Frank Volsick

John W. Lasell



Plummers News—cont'd

Sgt. James (Pucker) Kane is discharged. Pucker spent a long stretch in E.T.O. and is now serving time with the Production Dept. Sailors Red Bazinet and Pete Chiras are on leave and seem to be pretty busy. Red is with the submarine outfit and I'm inclined to believe the salty air, or was it the water, that made his hair curlier than ever, the envy of every gal and boy. Pete was with the C.B.s "honey-moon outfit" in the Pacific repairing and building for every branch of the service in need. He enjoys the "home div." more, even if there is less atmosphere here, there certainly is more glamour. I wonder—

Bob Caston MM 2/c a C.B. has arrived at Frisco and will be home for Xmas. Bob zig zagged around the Pacific for two and one-half years, are some people gonna celebrate! Abraham Damerjian MM 3/c is at Portsmouth, N. H., awaiting his release. He has three years service, six battle stars and a purple heart and, I understand, a Xmas present for his mom, all I'm saying is, that it ticks.

Capt. LeRoy Bohn after three years service in the air corps has re-enlisted for additional six months to two years. Roy is stationed at Chandler Field, Arizona. Marion and the babies have left by car to join him.

Eddie Rutana S 1/c was home for 10 days—he was assigned to a U.S.S. Patrol Craft No. 615 and plans to cruise around Cuba. The lucky guy.

Paul Rutana a sailor for three years is homeward bound and a discharge. Paul's ship has been at Okinawa for quite some time. If he still sports his mustache and goatee he can powder it up a little and be a perfect Santa Claus for his nephews and nieces.

Attention all sailors: C.P.O. George Colt is stationed at the Fargo Bldg., Boston, handing out discharge papers. George, a 24 year navy man, is proud of his record and if he gets a bit tough with those crucial papers just mention his lovely new baby daughter to him and watch for the results. Our congratulations to you George and Ann.

Clem Chiras of the Navy stationed in misty California is enjoying a 10 day leave and blizzard at home.

Capt. Emil Rosol is expected to bring his ship to the East coast in time to spend Xmas at home, nice.

Marine Joe Rosol, a casualty of Okinawa, is home for 30 days. Still under hospital care Joe will report to Newport, R. I.

Johnny (Red) Trajonowski is spending 30 days at home—then back to his boat and again the Pacific.

Al Trajonowski had his picture in the paper recently tinkering with a radio in Japan. Albert is a naval radio man and always was curious as to what made the Japs work, maybe by now he has pulled a few apart and found out. Kinda yellow, huh?

Willie Chiras our "Belgiun Bulge" vet is still recuperating from wounds at Framingham. Willie spends his free hours at the corner and we take our hats off to a swell soldier, he had plenty of patience, guts and humor.

Sgt. Joe Rutana writes home to say he has been classified as "excess" and will ship for home soon. He has been in the Pacific for several years.

Marine George Smith a veteran of many battles is discharged and keeps the girls laughing with his many humorous stories. His brother Bob, a Marine too, is now in Japan. Hope your getting a few pictures to display at the Camera Club.

Here's to the G.I.'s still hanging on, I'll mention as many as possible—Duffer Hayes, a Marine, is in the Pacific. Roland Lachapelle, Army, is studying something in Florida, I bet it's the beaches. Francis Lachapelle, Navy, is on the high seas out Pacific way.—Mickey Michalek, Army, is still in Germany sweating out a boat and guard duty.—As an enlisted man Walter Ellis is studying Radar at the Hertzl Radio School in Chicago.—Adam Chiras, Army, is at Fort Lewis, Washington, still mashing potatoes, a little milk, Adam?—Walt Hulitsky, Army, is in Czechoslovakia living like a king in a mansion with all the Pfc's catering to him, wait till I get my hands on you.—Ralph Smith, Navy, is at Atlantic City doing Aviation Ordnance work.—Albert Kapolka, Army, is in the Philippines.—Johnny Kapolka, Army, is in the States adding on a few points for his discharge, he is an E.T.O. vet.—Stanley Chiras, Army, is still in Germany kind of dreary after all his moving around, hope it won't be long now Stan.—Joe Sova and Johnny Konvent, Army, are homeward bound, brrr, are you two gonna freeze helping us shovel.

Jackie Campbell, Navy, is somewhere in the Pacific sailing the deep, deep blue waters, (ain't I poetic).—Mikey Beinema, Army, is still in Germany. Mike had a lot of baseball practice while over there and should be an asset to our ball team come spring—oh, will we shellac Joe Topps, AGAIN, Hi Pat!—Don Grignon, Army, is in on the occupation of Japan and in between patrols manages to pick up a lot of souvenirs.—Mike Prymak, Army, is in Europe waiting for his ticket to come up. Mike, I understand plans to start a chicken farm.—Joe Winoski, Army, hates writing letters so intensely that he sends the little woman an occasional cable to say alls well, this he usually backs up with a beautiful Parisian hat or jewelry or Schaperelli perfume, gee that G.I. loves shopping.—Chet Piesleski, Army, has ideas of spending the winter in Meinheim, now he wants some skates, OK brother, but if we don't receive more mail we'll send a bathing suit too!—Walt Piesleski, Navy, is still at Sampson Naval Hospital, he's doing nicely, thank you, in pestering the nurses.—Sammy Roorda, Navy, is a hospital apprentice somewhere in the Pacific.—Joe Fulasz, Army, has been in the South Pacific area for two years, coming home soon?

This is it, till we meet again, so-long, good luck and to each one of you as Merry as Xmas as possible and lets hope you'll all be home next year—early!

Riverdale News

(By Earle Barclay)

Relative numbers are becoming of such relationship that we will have to turn this

thing about, because there will be more at home than there are away from home, and the news will be News To Home.

We have welcomed back on Kupfer's payroll Leo Boulonger, Wop Opatka, George Poulin, Clarence Roy, and Tony Rymeski. Each of these boys has been assigned a job in the mill, and states that he is glad it is all over and is happy to be a civilian again.

Although this war is over and one would be tempted to think that the draft was ended, it isn't. Ray Duvernay is at Kessler Field, Miss., having left the first part of November. Now Roland Merchant has passed his physical and expects to leave in a few days to report for duty.

We understand that Dick Lemoine is in Guam, which puts him 1500 miles closer to home.

Ray Douville has been recently discharged, and he and his wife are spending part of his civilian introductory period at his father's home on Riverdale Street.

Lester Murry was home on a furlough and has re-enlisted in the Aviation Corps for a full hitch. Giggy Ashton has been home for the past two weeks, also on furlough, and Johnny Blair was home over the weekend.

We have no definite report to make, but the Railway Express truck had Booby Weinert's sea bag aboard this morning, which looks as though Booby is pretty near here. And, we hear, indefinitely also, that Jimmy Blair is in Boston to get his discharge and is expected home within the next few days.

December came in like a lion. Snow all over the place. A severe northeaster blew down on us and brought nearly two feet of snow, and this morning the sleet added greatly to the hazards of the road. During the snow storm we had a visitor from Cuba who had never seen snow before. He went from window to window saying in good english "Fantastic, fantastic." For yours truly, I wouldn't regret never seeing another one.

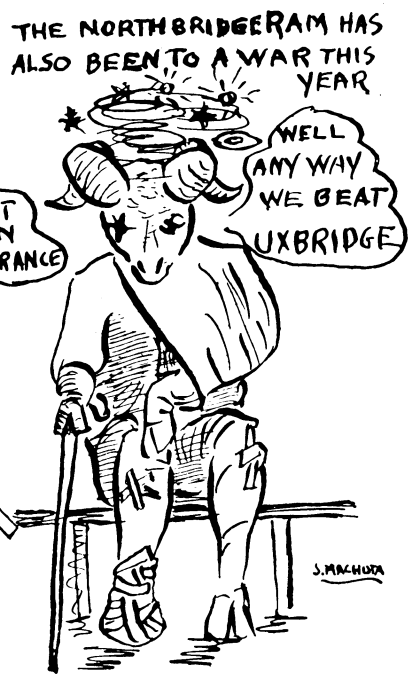
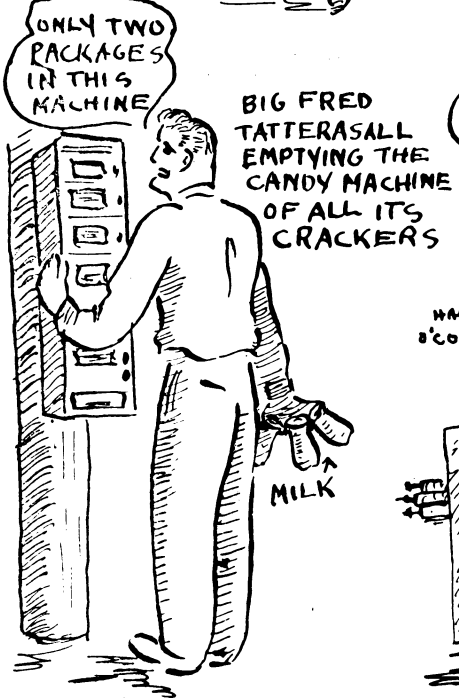
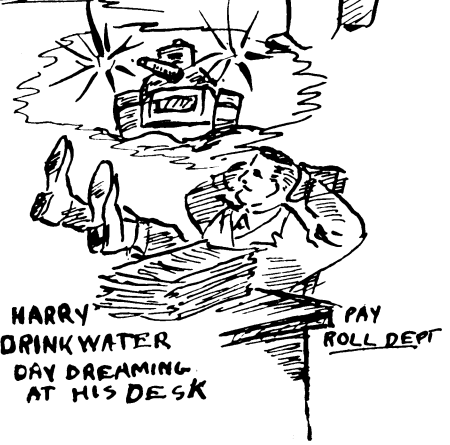
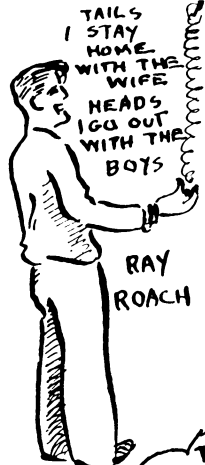
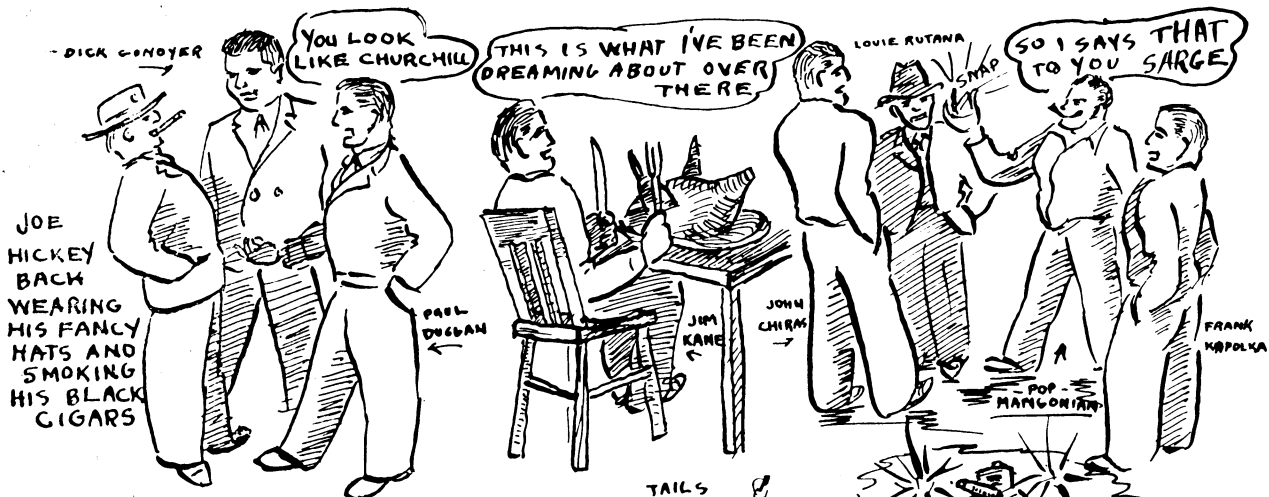
You boys who lived on Riverdale Street might be interested in knowing that we now have twenty-one ducks, intentionally on the pond. But the eight white ones are the only ones who stay there. The thirteen colored ones, who make no noise at all, go visiting around to all the houses. They even come down to the railroad watch box, and today one of them was on his way across the river. This may not be of any interest to a lot of you, but you boys from Riverdale can be on the lookout for them up at the bus stop when you get home.

The editor informs us that this will be the last issue of NEWS FROM HOME. We have enjoyed sending you those little bits that we could get which, we hope, helped to shorten your days away from home. It is our intention, but you know hell is paved with intentions, to mail to each Riverdalian a monthly report of the progress in and about Riverdale in particular.

On Saipan a private carrying ammunition cases shouted "Hey, Major, where will I put these?" The Major paled. "Don't you know better than to call me Major on the battlefield?" he snapped. "Jap snipers are just waiting to pick off officers. Call

(Continued on next page)





SOME OF THE VETERANS FROM TOWN

Riverdale News—cont'd

me anything but Major." The private smiled with satisfaction. "OK, stupid. Where'll I put this?"

A very tired, foggy-eyed soldier went into the USO center, where there are booths along the wall for theater tickets, coffee, food, and one for beds. What our hero wanted was a bed. But he got in the ticket line by mistake. "One," said he. "Don't you want to take a girl?" said the motherly lady. He hesitated. "You can if you want to," she urged. "You'll have more fun if you do."

Linwood News

(By J. Harold Baszner)

As this is our last edition of our NEWS FROM HOME we'll try to make it a Best seller, so here goes:

On November 3rd Miss Dorothy Dumais, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Dumais, was married to First Sgt. Roland Boutiette, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Boutiette, at the Church of the Good Shepherd. We all extend our Best Wishes to them both. Philip A. Dion, S 2/c on Okinawa, received leg and knee injuries when the roof of a mess hall collapsed during the typhoon early in October, according to word received by his parents. We sincerely hope that by this time Phil is well again and about his duties. T/4 Leon A. Gauthier, overseas 23 months, arrived home for a six day furlough and will return to Fort Devens for discharge.

Pfc Walter Pouliot has returned to Fort Terry, N. Y., following a furlough with his wife. Harry E. Remillard, first of the six sons of Mr. and Mrs. Philius Remillard in service has received his discharge and has arrived home after two years in Europe. Nobert Chausse, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Chausse of North Uxbridge, stationed in the Pacific, has been promoted to sergeant. Marcel Boileau, recently discharged from the Army, has left to join his wife and family in Smithville, Tenn. Henry U. Roy, husband of Mrs. Alice Roy, has been discharged from the Army having recently returned from the Pacific. Sgt. Alfred Matte, who recently arrived from three years in Europe, has received his discharge at Fort Devens and is now working at the Whitin Machine Works.

Roland J. Dion, SM 2/c has received his discharge after serving three years in Europe and the Pacific. He was recently married to the former Bertha Daoust of Northbridge. Pvt. John F. Finn, husband of Mrs. Loretta (Gervais) Finn, recently returned from a furlough, has been transferred to Camp Dickett, Va., from Camp Croft, S. C. Pvt. Raoul Poulin, undergoing treatment at Lovell General Hospital, Fort Devens, spent the weekend with his wife and daughter. S/Sgt. Paul E. Grenon, who recently returned from ten months in Europe has been discharged and is home with his parents. Sgt. Willie Boileau recently returned from E.T.O. has been discharged and is home with his parents.

First Lt. Albert Bouffard, holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross Air Medal

and twelve Oak Leaf Clusters with 130 missions, has received his discharge. Pfc. Raymond R. Pelland, who entered the Army in April, 1942, and served in Europe 27 months has received his discharge from Fort Myer, Va. Raymond also served some of this time in the Aleutians also. S/Sgt. Emory Pouliot, who was with the Fifth Armored Division overseas 16 months and twice wounded in Germany, has received his discharge. T/5 Marcial J. Trotter arrived home the past month. He is the husband of Mrs. Loretta (Marshall) Trotter.

Leo A. Guertin, Bkr. 1/c in the Navy four and a half years has received his discharge and is visiting his father, Alphonse Guertin, for several days and will leave to join his wife Comelia Dunca Guertin, S.P. of the WAVES in Fresno, Cal. S/Sgt. Edward P. Fournier, recently returned from the India-Burma area with the 12th Bomber Group has reported to Greensboro, N. C., following a furlough with his parents. I had a nice chat with Ed and he's looking fine. Probably by the time this goes to press he will have his discharge. Corp. Leo Hartshon, 22 months in Trinidad has received his discharge and is home with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Hartshon. He entered the Army in October, 1942. Roland Baillarger, recently returned from overseas has received his discharge and with his wife the former Irene Boileau and two children, will make their home in Norwich, Conn.

Corp. Cajeton R. Vermette, 25 months in the E.T.O. with the Ninth Air Force Service Group, has received his discharge at Westover Field and is home with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Philip Vermette. T/5 Emile Lalibertie, M.C. recently returned from the Pacific has received his discharge and is home with his brother, Homer Lalibertie. Many have asked if my brother-in-law, S/Sgt. Edward J. Fournier of Whitinsville has returned from the E.T.O. At present he is in Bastogne, working on Maps for the Quartermaster Corps, which is working on the Allied Cemeteries in Europe. We hope that he'll be home for Christmas this year. T/4 Gerard J. Baszner, with the Medical Corps, has returned home and at present is at the O'Reilly General Hospital, Springfield, Missouri. It will be probably after the first of the year before he receives his discharge. In the meantime both Eddie and Gerard want to be remembered to all of you fellows everywhere.

This being our last edition I just don't know how to end our past contacts with each other, in this paper and with your fine letters. I want most of all to thank all you fellows that wrote to me for the past few years while you were here in this country training and when you went overseas, whether it was in the Pacific or European Theatre. Those letters have meant a lot to me and as I mentioned before someday they'll be all pasted in a large scrap book for the future, so that whenever I run across you chaps I can refer back to my scrap book and look at the letters I received from you. Through this paper I've come to know many of you, and I want to say it was a pleasure to meet many of you chaps. Of course there are quite a few that I've still to meet, and I hope to do so. I suppose if I say right here that it has been a pleasant task to write for this paper, you probably will think—"He's just saying that," but honestly,

gathering material to write has been easy in many ways. People have left notes in my mail box and others have called me on the phone to tell me of different events pertaining to someone in the service. The only time consumed was sitting and typing this column. In contrast with the job you fellows had to do,—well there is no comparison and therefore all I can say I was thankful that this column was handed to me. Of course one can't just end abruptly and not mention the committee that has given its time and freely, to get this paper to you fellows. I don't think I have ever worked with a finer group of people, from the Editor-in-Chief down the line. Mr. Lawrence Keeler has done a splendid job, and I think everyone will rise with me as I say—"Well done!" So if there are any thanks to be given they are the ones to receive them. It has been an honor for me to work on the NEWS FROM HOME staff, and I'm truly grateful.

In closing this column my sincere hope is that many of you will be home for Christmas or soon afterward, and we'll all be waiting to say "Hello." Thank you again for reading my column—Good Luck and God Bless You All. So a very "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you All." So-Long!

Northbridge News

(By Gerry Gaudette)

From all reports received from my dear Editor-in-Chief it appears that this, the Christmas issue, our 37th consecutive monthly edition of NEWS FROM HOME is the last one.

I cannot say I am sorry, as the very purpose of this paper was to bring some comfort and cheer to the hundreds of boys from the town of Northbridge that were serving in places far from their home, and whose days were spent in the majority of instances wishing and craving to see some familiar face from amongst the hundreds and thousands of other people who came and went, but so few were lucky enough to do this, and through this paper we have tried to bring them a little touch of their home town at least once a month.

There is no question but that the paper has been a huge success judging from the hundreds of letters that have been received by the participants of the NFH. I know that the letters that I personally received have been more than ample reward for the time and effort that I personally have spent for putting my small contribution into the paper.

We know that there are still some who will be forced to spend several months before they are able to return to their civilian life, and we also know that some of these will be forced to spend these months in strange places on foreign soil. But as I am sure you can realize the boys have been returning home at a very fast rate, and each day sees new ones coming into town.

As I have done for the last three or four months, will list the ones who have received their discharge from Rockdale

(Continued on Next Page)

Northbridge News—cont'd

within the past month. They are, Wilfred Bilodeau, Rene Auben, Clarence Roy, Leo Roy, Yvonne Perras of the WACs, Ferinande Adam, John and Bernard Kuroski, Frank and John Rej, Jessie Brunneau, Charles Lavallee, Leo Paul Barette, George Shaw and John Beaugard. There may have been some more but I tried my best to get them all down.

As most of you boys can realize, here at home as we approach this Christmas of 1945 it is winter. The weather hasn't been too severely cold, but a week or so ago we had our first snow storm and it was a pip. Averaging eight to ten inches in this locality, and with high winds did some fancy drifting. It was a couple of days before we could get dug out, and although we had rain all day yesterday there is still considerable snow left. The morning after the storm we had rather a freak accident down home, when two servicemen from Providence driving to Fort Devens, one of them to get his discharge papers, skidded and failed to make the turn into the bridge down near the "Bungalow Rest", and their car went into the river. Both of the servicemen by using good judgment and remaining calm were able to get out of the machine, but they also had with them a G.I. dog which served in the Army, and had made four parachute jumps with one of the boys who was a paratrooper, and unfortunately the dog drowned. The soldiers were quite upset, and the irony of the situation made it more noticeable, wherein the dog had gone through so many dangerous situations and then died in that manner. Apparently one of the boys had been cautious while in the Army and accumulated a small fortune which he carried in a money belt. They say it was quite a sight up to Lavallee's Restaurant while the boys were getting dried out and drying out many hundreds of dollars. They both stated that it was their training they had received in the Army that gave them the presence of mind to get out of what was an extremely dangerous situation, but by cool thinking they managed, for which we are all very glad.

I guess it has reached close to the time where it is necessary to end this column by not saying "so long till next month", but rather to say "so long till I see you personally."

One word before I close in regard to the album, and again would like to remind you servicemen that we must have your picture to make this last gesture of the NEWS FROM HOME a successful one, so please see that it is sent to Larry Keeler.

So long till I see you.

A Letter from "The Night Owl"

To All the Boys in the Service and Friends—

This being the final issue of our little paper I wish to take this opportunity to thank all who have in anyway assisted me in the compiling of my monthly letter. It has been a very interesting period and I have made some very good friends which I hope to keep for a long, long time. It is

also a happy moment to know, the boys are beginning to arrive home in goodly numbers and that they are taking up where they left off, or going back to school for higher education. I sincerely pray, that the victory has been won for us across the seas will not be lost here at home as it was in World War I and that we shall not have to go out and do it all over again. For I am convinced that if this should happen most of the world would be absolutely destroyed. The people I have worked with on the NFH have been most kind in many ways, in fact I think our little group has become almost like a large family and discussions have been frank and enlightening and it seems too bad that it should break up and dissolve. Of course I am a little premature in saying this as we certainly have a final duty to perform and that is—To complete the album—Some job if I may be allowed to say so. Our Editor-in-Chief Lawrence Keeler has certainly put a lot of time, energy and patience into this undertaking and I wish for him a full measure of success. No one knows what the years may bring and I am sure this album will be read a good many times and many memories will be awakened, especially to those who have taken part in this world's latest tragic drama. The aftermath of war is a terrible thing to behold—the chaos that is around us has to be straightened out—it can only be straightened by practical application of sensible and honest dealings with ourselves, petty jealousies, hatreds, greeds must go if we are to practice the freedoms the boys have fought so hard for—yes—and died for. The Four Freedoms are a fine place to start from and if practiced honestly by ourselves it will be a fertile field for a long and lasting peace. So with this thought I will close hoping that the day is not far distant when all the boys and girls who are now in service will be at their homes following up their peaceful work and pleasures, happy in the thought that they did their duty well and with God's help they arrived home safely. Once again I thank you all and may your lives be long and happy.

From your friend,

James H. Jones

Notes For November

(By Arthur G. Clarke)

War veterans who enjoyed success in 1938-41 period of Top Semi-Professional Basketball have not as yet all returned but the hope is that by Christmas they will all be home to reorganize.

Among those discharged are Frank Lightbown, Fred Tattersall, John Magill, Bill Brosnahan and James Brosnahan.

Those yet to get their H.D.'s are Francis McCool, Jack Ratcliffe, Tom Cawley, Norman Lightbown, Paul Oliver, James Fitzgerald, Arthur Kershaw, James Mateer, John Lash, Roland Graves, Phil Dundas, Leo Martin and Tad Wallace.

Expect to start games after the New Year. Announcement will be made later.

Blackstone Valley Baseball League in 1946? Old-Timers will remember those days of red-hot games and big crowds at every game. There should be meetings

this winter to reorganize those leagues, such as Blackstone, Uxbridge, Northbridge, East Douglas, Fisherville, Millbury and Hopedale. Maybe we could have night games to draw the crowds.

Vail Field, our pride and joy, is still to be improved and it will be one of the finest diamonds around here. We sport-loving fans sure appreciate what the officials of the Whitin Machine Works have done for us on this field.

The Ice Rinks are being prepared by the Kiwanis Club. There is great interest in this project. Young athletes are organizing a Northbridge Hockey Team. We thank the Kiwanis Club for their interest in this sport.

Fish Stories

(By Sally Jones)

Well, this is the end of the trail, but believe me, it has been a lot of fun. I shall miss Doc Barclay's good jokes. Gussie flying around trying to keep everyone busy. The "Old Editor" with his "CROSS IT OUT" or "LET IT GO, IT IS O.K." Trudy, looking for some one to have an argument with and Pat waiting his turn to read his "Shavings From The Pattern Shop". Sam Currie, with his politics, I'll be darned, if a person can tell if he is a Democrat or a Republican. Nora Carr coming up with choice bits of gossip. Tillie Marker smiling and ready to lend a helping hand at all times. Good "Old Mike Marker", serving the egg sandwiches after the meeting and always being the last one to get his. Gramp Case, with his "hang on". Flossie Pieliske, with her nifty news bits. Dan Duggan, usually late but just in time to read his news articles before the close of the meeting. Jimmie Jones, the "Old Night Owl", Ray Adams, who could not find any news after the Silver Rythum Band closed for the duration. Ray Barlow and Cookie Barnes the World War I GI's. Henry Bailey and Tommy Marshall who left the gang early in the war and did a swell job in the service of our country. Also Mrs. Tommy Marshall who did her bit with the hospitals. Bob Wilson was well represented by his good wife, Harold Baszner and his Linwood gossip. Jerry Gaudette, rabid Rockdale booster. Last, but not least, my old friend Gene "Scoops" Kennedy, who was also called into the service of his country. He who never had his story on time, and while the rest of the gang were reading their news, "Scoops," was in the parlor picking on the typewriter with one finger, getting his article ready. But to tell the truth Gene, "I love you like a brother."

Sally

PICTURES

Seropian's Alleys—Front Row—Alethea Hopkins, Catherine Hyland, Elizabeth Phoenix, Clara Hyland. Back Row—Norma Kane, Agnes Plante, Christine Thompson, Ethel McKee.

Sparetime Alleys—Sophie Ellsey, Helen Rymeski, Alice Ellsey, Flora Frieswick, Dot Tattersall, Grace Kazarian, Giddie Lettuccia, Eileen Reilly, Mary McDonald, Helen Duggan, Sharkey Muradian, Penny Egsigian.



A

Merry Christmas

and

Happy New Year

to You



Sports Column

(By Harold Case, pseudo
Bill Cunningham)

Hiyah:

I am breaking all precedents in this last column. No—I haven't any news not yet released by the press associations—it's just that this is Tuesday and the news doesn't have to be in until Thursday. Two whole days ahead of time. Something is wrong.

Football is a thing of the past except for the bowl games. Army lived up to expectations all but for the Navy clash. The bookies took a licking on that one offering Navy and twenty-seven points. Holy Cross finally received and accepted a Bowl bid. The individual trophies are being awarded to the various sectional stars, most of whom were marked for outstanding performances at the beginning of the season. Stan Koslowski was given the Lowe trophy for the best in New England but a Boston paper disagreed, favoring Dartmouth's Meryl Frost. You can't satisfy every one. Half of the town went to Fitton Field to see the Temple-Cross game and Koz looked pretty tough that day but so did the entire team. The unexpected loss of the game made any Bowl bid hopes rather slim but after defeating B. C. the next week-end, Miami invited the Crusaders to come down South New Years Day and just yesterday Univ. of Miami was named their opponent. I assume that you know the dope on the other Bowl games so will let it ride.

Northbridge had a tough schedule this year and came out with a four and six record. The Rams hung one on Uxbridge and the game with Millbury ended up in a win. This last game was a turkey day affair but it rained so hard that it was played on Saturday. Almost every game in the East was postponed on that day. I never saw it rain so hard in November.

Smitty hasn't called out the basketball candidates yet but will in a few days. I haven't seen the '45-'46 schedule so can't tell you what teams will be here. I am sure that Nashua, N. H., will be here in a return game. Northbridge played there last year. If any of you old grads want news of the high school athletic activities drop me a line and I will try to give you all the news.

The Gym is going to have a team this year and some of the fellows out are Fred Tattersall, Ed Baldwin, the Brossies, Johnny Magill, Moss Murray and Fran Shugrue. There's still a lot of room for some more of you when you get back. This year looks like a big year for basketball. A lot of teams are being organized around the county. I hope we can have another tournament, around next March or early April so you can see it.

The hot stove league will have plenty of fodder to mull over this coming winter. Bob Quinn resigned as general manager of the Braves last week after being in organized baseball for more than fifty years. His son, John, was named to succeed him. As tho' that wasn't enough, a few days later the new manager announced that Billy Southworth would be the new manager. Southworth has led the

Cards to three straight pennants and it looks like Boston means business. Won't that be something, imagine being able to get tickets to a Series game within easy driving distance from Whitinsville! All the Braves need now are about nine good ball players.

From baseball I am going to jump back to two more football items. Ray Morrison, Temple coach and president of the American Football Coaches Association, has started a movement to organize the eastern colleges into a league similar to the midwest conference set-up. He thinks that maybe there could be two leagues formed with the winners playing for a real Eastern championship instead of the newspapers' mythical champions. Morrison feels that the game and players would gain by having colleges form groups. Sounds good and it certainly stimulates the game in other parts of the country.

Four senators sent a telegram to Gen. Eisenhower yesterday urging him to approve a game between Army and Indiana at Chicago for the promotion of Victory Bond sales. The Hoosiers won the Big Ten title this season but I think the pro leagues should pick an all-star team from their leagues and play Army. It would certainly be a much better game.

If you think that football is played under very adverse weather conditions in this country sometimes, how would you like to have purchased a ticket to a soccer game which you couldn't even see? It happened in London during a game between a British team and a touring Russian team. The fog became so thick that some of the 54,000 fans left to listen to the broadcast in nearby restaurants. Even these people were in the dark off and on as the announcer frequently declared, "And where the ball has gone now I'm hanged if I know." To add to the confusion one of the refs was a Russian who was unable to speak English. A postponement of the match was expected but officials said local rules required only that the referee be able to see the play.

The Olympics are going to be held again but too late for you fellows in Europe. The Winter Sports will be held in St. Moritz, Switzerland, and the remaining events will be in London. I don't know why I tell you this. I'm sure none of you are interested in seeing them—unless of course the track events were held in Fenway Park and the ski jumping in the White Mountains.

I always knew you couldn't beat the ponies and now I am sure of it. You can't even buy one nowadays and win. A woman in Baltimore put in a claim for a six-year-old before a claiming race, offering \$1300. The horse fell during the race and broke its neck. Under the racing rules she had to pay the \$1300 for the dead horse. They got you coming and going. A local fellow told me one day that he bet on a nag to win and the horse fell dead before circling the track. Probably so far behind it died of shame.

The deer season opened yesterday for a week and the hunters had a fair day. Thirty-three deer and one hunter, killed, three hunters wounded and one lost. Not a bad average for one county. Mike, Gordon Spence and I went over in the western part of the state and saw three hundred cars, eight hundred and forty-nine hunt-

ers and one dead deer. We had a lot of fun but the snow was very deep and we didn't even get a look at a deer. Mike was floundering around up to his rear and I gave up using snowshoes after walking up the side of a hill that went straight up. So help me, Gordon was using trees to get up and he had to practically chin himself each time he pulled himself a step upward.

In case you are wondering why Mike tramped all day thru snow so deep, it was because of a small bet he and Gussie have cooked up. Gussie bet him a ride in a wheelbarrow from Johnson Avenue to the Congregational Church if he didn't bag a deer during the season. The loser does the pushing. As I look at Gussie I think Mike should have gotten odds.

I have one more hunting story that I think you should hear. This will be my last chance to spread the tale. It seems that Mike and Sam Currie were out hunting birds and were having very poor luck. The only shot either of them had was at a squirrel in a tree. The guns fired and the little animal fell to the ground. Inspection showed not a mark on it. Scared to death. Giving up they got in the car and started driving home. Up near New Pond, Mike spied an object in the road and stopped for a closer look. The thing in the road proved to be a partridge, still warm and bleeding but without a head. Being a voracious meat-eater Mike took it home, cleaned it and his wife cooked it for supper, assuming that the bird had been acquired in the accepted manner. When the meal was almost completed Mike noticed two big pieces of white meat on his wife's plate. He was still a little hungry so he told how he bagged the bird. That did it! He got the two pieces of white meat.

Well, fellows, this is the end and I am kind of sorry I won't be writing this column any more. Some times the words came hard and some of the news was anything but news but I hope you did get a little enjoyment from it and a feeling of being a mite closer to home. I know you will drop in the Gym when you come home for good to say "hi and how you've been" so I won't say "so long" but just the usual,

Hang on,

Casey

